

## South-South Knowledge Exchange for the FCPF Capacity Building Program on REDD+ for Forest-dependent Indigenous Peoples and Southern CSOs and Local Communities in the African Region, Sunland Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from the 29th-31st October 2017

# Monday October 30, 2017 session

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### Opening speeches

The first opening session speech was pronounced by the **Head Secretary of REDD+ Ethiopia** who welcomed the participants stating that together we can achieve conservation and restoration of our forests. He announced that Ethiopia has already finished the Readiness phase and is now preparing for the Implementation. The 1<sup>st</sup> phase was done with the collaboration on FAO. He insisted on the importance of engaging the civil society in the process (a REDD+ women platform is actually being implemented in the country) and added that effective channels and tools of communication around climate change issues are still a challenge.

**Mithika Mwenda, PACJA Secretary General** was next pronouncing a speech, he saluted the presence of partners and emphasized on the importance of Civil Society Organizations and local communities implication in the REDD+ process. Starting from the example of the Gulele botanic garden visited the day before by the team, he reminded the attendance the importance of less technical and easier understood communication tools to board more people in the mission of preservation of the indigenous livelihoods while protecting the forests in which they live.

**MPIDO Executive Director, Joseph Ole Simei** started his word by thanking the participants, the partners and especially Ethiopia for hosting the session. He reminded that climate change is still a real threat that needs to be addressed by everyone from local communities to governments and as it often touches that particular woman or young person who (most of times) has not been in school and depends on natural resources, he/she should be seen (as well as the Civil Society) by the authorities as partners. On an optimist note he added that this meeting will give us a unique opportunity to learn from each other through the work done on the ground and this will help in the implementation phase.

The last speech before the projects and sub projects presentations start was by **Nicholas Soikan, Social Development Specialist, WB, CB TTL** who expressed his joy to be in this session with his colleague in charge of Knowledge and Communication, Shalindra Mylvaganam. He first established the importance of these capacity building programs for civil society organizations and indigenous communities and expressed his hopes that at the end of this session we will be able to demystify the communication and also establish how we make the programs go side by side with national REDD+ implementation programs insisting it has to be a collaboration, moving forward. He finished by announcing that the project has received additional funds and that it is time to decide how to take it to the next level.

## **PACJA and MPIDO Capacity Building Projects presentations.**

### **1. Pan-African Forest-dependent Indigenous peoples Capacity Building Program on REDD+ by MPIDO Project coordinator by Daniel Ole Sapit**

- 7 Sub-grantees
  - Anglophones: Ethiopia, Uganda, Nigeria, Liberia, Sudan
  - Francophones: Republic of Congo, Cameroon
- Objectives
  1. Strengthen knowledge of indigenous dependent of forests
  2. Enhance the engagement of indigenous
- Activities
  - knowledge exchange,
  - support implementation of knowledge,
  - institutional support Regional Recipient Organizations (RROs)
- challenges
  - limited funding,
  - disparity in capacities,
  - varying needs of Indigenous People Organizations (IPOs),
  - the software nature of eligible activities against hardware needs of IPOs,
  - gathering of all stakeholders in the gap-policies and governance
- Highlights of results
  - strengthen linkages and engagement with national REDD+ programs for the IPOs,
  - lessons on gender inclusion
  - Raise of IPOs capacity
- Next steps
  - engagement with the Carbon Fund,
  - follow up on assessments under FCPF on the engagement of IP with the REDD+ processes at national, regional and global levels,
  - strengthen sub-regional initiatives

### **2. Pan-African Civil Society Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Capacity Building Program On REDD+ Project by PACJA Project Coordinator Obed Koringo**

- 5 sub grantees
  - Ethiopia,
  - Cote d'Ivoire,
  - Togo,
  - Madagascar,
  - Mozambique
- Key objectives

- The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to strengthen:
- the knowledge of targeted southern civil society organizations and local communities of REDD+ Readiness at the national level and
- knowledge exchange at the regional level
  
- Key Activities
  - capacity building,
  - national level dialogues,
  - awareness sensitizations
  
- Key results
  - improved capacity,
  - strengthened collaboration between national REDD+ secretariats and other stakeholders,
  - Mass awareness through media campaigns
  
- Challenges
  - Limited Scope of Project activities as a result of limited funding. The project could make a huge impact through engaging more countries as well as more regional engagements with the relevant stakeholders.
  - Language barrier especially in countries speaking French and Portuguese. This has however been addressed by hiring a bi-lingual communication officer
  - Limited technical capacity and engagement of CSOs on national REDD+ processes
  - Weak or non-existent national REDD+ CSO platforms in the beneficiary countries

QUESTIONS and OBSERVATIONS:

- How the communication tools are simplified? → Example in Ethiopia, there were radio programs to address particular subjects.
- Linkage with sub regional level? → Not all the countries are participants in this project, the linkage is mostly done with countries included, but it's important that trans boundaries protocol be respected. However PACJA participates in several regional meetings to encourage regional collaborations
- Proposition to organize sub grantees meetings more regularly like quarterly
- Observation: an implemented and well tailored communication plan is primordial

## SUB GRANTEES PRESENTATIONS

### 1. NIGERIA

***Community based capacity building on climate change in indigenous communities OF AGOI EKPO, AGOI IBAMI, ETARA, EKURI EYEYENG AND OKOKORI IN CROSS RIVER STATE OF NIGERIA by CHIEF EDWIN OGAR (PROGRAM COORDINATOR)***

- activities
  - 925 IP trained on CC,
  - demystification of CC initially conceived as result of witch craft,
  - women inclusion
- challenges
  - low numbers of women participation linked to the social cultural reality,
  - communities complains that the project does not impact directly their livelihoods
  - technical and financial reports (now been addressed)
- success story

Government disapproval of a super highway project that was planned to pass through the last rain forest of Nigeria after the work of advocacy conducted by local trained organizations.

### 2. ETHIOPIA

***Institutional and Community Capacity Development on the Design and Implementation of REDD+ actions in Ethiopia by Institute of Sustainable Development***

- activities
  - Training of Trainers sessions
- Challenges
  - deforestation and forest degradation
  - Knowledge and skills of CSOs to support local communities(CBOs) and forest dependent people is very limited
  - Very few Ethiopian NGOs/CSOs involved with forest issues

### 3. ***Initiative for Living Community Action (ILCA) by Darout Guma***

- activities
  - knowledge increase on FCPF and REDD+ project in 3 regions
  - 200.000 persons reached through radio transmission
  - video screenings and games (Q&A) through phones
  - stakeholders conversation platforms

- establishment of 5 IP PFM cooperatives with members attending the sessions
- challenges
  - gender issues patriarch culture related,
  - financial reporting still complicated
- Successes
  - comprehensive awareness well translated in popular language accompanied with radio transmission, forums with a multi-stakeholder approach – government, universities, communities
  - A listener of one of the above radio programs was included in dialogue forums and is now spreading the message in schools of her areas.

#### 4. COTE DIVOIRE

***Technical capacity development of civil society organizations, communities and local authorities in the process of REDD + by Davy Wohary from Actions en faveur de l'Homme et de la Nature (AFHON Côte d'Ivoire)***

- Activities
  - meetings with national REDD+ coordination,
  - development of modules,
  - trainings of local communities and civil society (government and religious leaders included),
  - awareness caravan – 6000flyers, 2000tshirts and a team reaching to people and environment ministry officers,
  - musical album in preparation to reach a wider audience,
  - monitoring and evaluation,
  - radio and social media transmission
- Challenges
  - too technical terms in communication tools,
  - lack of knowledge of REDD+ focal point)
- success story
  - Engagement of celebrities like afro-pop group Magic System in the REDD+ process with an music album in production.

#### 5. REPUBLIC OF CONGO

***Capacity building and partnership with Indigenous People (RGIPAC) - Experience in Congo Brazzaville by Carine ZERE NZIMBA***

- Activities ( mostly oriented in a better inclusion of indigenous people)
  - study of strengths and weaknesses,

- creation of a platform for indigenous autonomy and effective inclusion
- Challenges
  - funding managed partly by the government through REDD+ national platform which limits IP involvement,
  - incoherence between planned activities and budget

## 6. TOGO

### ***Strengthening the participation of civil society and local communities in forest protection in Togo by Memen M. Abourazakou***

- Activities
  - meeting with REDD+ National coordination and CSOs,
  - advertisement campaigns in 4 languages,
  - official launch ceremony,
  - pilot committee meeting with work frame adoption,
  - training of actors
- Challenges
  - social political climate with a lot of strikes which jeopardize the movement to the different areas of the country and internet cuts as well as several medias being closed the sensitization campaigns

## 7. MOZAMBIQUE

### ***Strengthening the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and local communities in Zambezia Province on REDD+, climate change and community forest concession practices by Alberto Chirindza***

- Activities
  - Rural development with a focus on forest related matters advocacy to government leadership,
  - community reaching outs (in 25villages),
  - engagement with the national platforms CC oriented disseminated in all provinces,
  - message spread through radio programs,
  - decrease of forest degradation behavior and increase of eco friendly agriculture

## 8. SUDAN

## **SAWA SUDAN FOR DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AIDS**

- ACTIVITIES (still waiting for the funds)
  - consulting communities through workshop and networking,
  - sensitization activities through art (music and drama), media channels and small competitions in schools
- propositions
  - creation of a REDD+ CSOs platform
  - a face book page for the projects achievements

### 9. MADAGASCAR

#### ***Protecting and conserving the environment together (Miara- Mika jyny Tontolo by Lana Razafimanantsoa from GASYS YOUTH***

- Activities
  - trainings,
  - videos productions and projections,
  - CSOs collaboration,
  - youth empowerment skills,
  - interactive sessions with young leaders,
  - youth leaders platforms established,
  - collaboration with REDD+ CN and PACJA National Chapter
- Challenges
  - communication tools not simple
  - forest burns
- Successes
  - discussion sessions between young people with the REDD+ and government representatives,
  - radio programs started with one radio station are now more stations are interesting
  - One young man from REDD+ covered forest traveled two hours to attend one of our sessions, he listened from a tree as he registered too late and now has become a member of our youth platforms and he is already implementing a sensitization campaign in his area)

### 10. UGANDA

#### ***building THE CAPACITY OF INDEGINOUS PEOPLE TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE AND PARTICIPATE IN redd+ Processes (Readiness and implementation) by Makuregye Nathan***

- Activities
  - community meetings,
  - survey on all stakeholders on REDD+ processes - report available,
  - 2000 flyers distributed,
  - Trainings Of Trainers for Indigenous People representatives,
  - live phone radio talk shows,
  - genre equality oriented activities and inclusion of women and youth in activities,
  - consultations and health sensitization
  
- Challenges
  - constitution doesn't recognize the indigenous,
  - health issues especially HIV in batwa community,
  - reporting financially and narrative (now improving with the help of MPIDO),
  - language barrier (addressed with translators involved),
  - trans boarder issues
  
- Success
  - the Batwa of Nyabaremura once marginalized are now benefitting from the Batwa Forest Experience, an ecotourism government initiative

## 11. LIBERIA

- Activities
  - radio talk show estimated 40.000+ people reached,
  - community need assessment,
  - communities small groups of sensitization and action established,
  - engagement with the national REDD+ implementing unit in putting in place a campaign of awareness raise

## 12. CAMEROUN

### ***KNOWLEDGE AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR INDIGENOUS GIRLS AND WOMEN FROM CAMEROON PROGRAM by SANGOU MVUH Erick Leo***

- Activities
  - meetings and workshops reached 28 organizatins, 106 men, 286 women,
  - gender REDD+ platform established,
  - engaging with REDD+ National Chapter and the government,



- posters on REDD+ Processes and 400 bilingual guides distributed,
- partnership with other stakeholders as GIZ, UICN
- Challenges
- lack of gender equality strategies, indigenous people isolation and nomade style of life make them hard to reach,
- reporting process,
- financial statements (proof of receipt among others) do not take into account the realities of the field
  
- Successes
- the national coordinator of the project is soon awarded in London for her work in CS work