







Forest Carbon Partnership Facility REDD+ Capacity Building Program

Regional Dialogue of IPs and Southern CSOs – Africa

July 17-19, Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

















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List of Abbreviations

ACMA Adaptive Collaborative Management Approach
ACSEA Africa Civil Society Coalition for Energy Access
AMCEN African Ministerial Conference on Environment

AMISTAD Actions pour la mobilisation des initiatives et stratégies d'aide au développement

AU African Union

BDCP-C Bio resources Development and Conservation Program – Cameroon

CBP Capacity Building Program

CIRECK International Circle for Research and Civilization Studies

COMIFAC Central African Forest Commission

CSO Civil Society Organisation

DRC Democratic Republic of Congo

ECCAS Economic Community of Central African States

ERP Emission Reduction Program

ERPA Emission Reductions Payment Agreement

FCPF Forest Carbon Partnership Facility

FMT Fund Management Team

ILEPA Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners

IPs Indigenous Peoples

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

iTC Community Land Initiative

LC Local Communities

MHO Meseret Humanitarian Organisation

MPIDO Mainyoito Pastoralist Integrated Development Organization

NDCs Nationally Determined Contributions

OCDN Central African Organisation for the Conservation of Nature

OFD Other Forest Dwellers

PACJA Pan African Climate Justice Alliance

PC Participants Committee

PROBICOU Pro-biodiversity Conservationists in Uganda

REDD Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation

REDD+ Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, and foster

conservation, sustainable management of forests, and enhancement of forest

carbon stocks

REPALEAC Réseau des Populations Autochtones et Locales pour la Gestion Durable des

Ecosystèmes Forestiers d'Afrique Centrale

SAWA Sudan for Development and Humanitarian Aids Organization

UN United Nations

UNDP United National Development Program
UNEA United Nations Environmental Assembly

Executive Summary

Deforestation and forest degradation are jointly the second leading cause of global warming, accounting for up to 15 percent of all anthropogenic greenhouse gas emission. REDD+ seeks to create incentives to reduce emissions from forests sources, while fostering conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancing forest carbon stocks. The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) has been supporting REDD+ efforts for almost a decade. An FCPF Capacity Building Program (CBP) has provided forest-dependent indigenous peoples (IPs), other forest dwellers (OFDs) and southern civil society organizations (CSOs) with information, knowledge and awareness to enhance their understanding of REDD+, and by extension their ability to engage more meaningfully in the implementation of REDD+ readiness activities.

From July 17th to 19th 2019, African IPs and CSOs involved in FCPF CBP Phase 2 projects in Africa met in Nairobi, Kenya for a Regional Dialogue, aiming to: i) harvest regionally agreed key lessons learned from the CBP; ii) formulate regionally agreed recommendations on future REDD+ capacity building actions for forest-dependent IPs, OFDs and southern CSOs in Africa; and iii) strengthen IPs and CSO networks within the region.

Following rich discussions on the implementation experience of the CBP in Africa and other regions, governments' and donors' perspectives on CSOs' and IPs' engagement in REDD+ processes, and the gender aspects of REDD+, participants reflected on the main gaps and common challenges experienced in the context of REDD+ capacity building that should receive further attention; and on the key lessons learned and best practices coming out of the program.

Participants identified the following key challenges in REDD+ capacity building:

- Bridging knowledge and awareness-related gaps on foundational/baseline subjects that feed into and shape the design of REDD+
- Increasing the envelope size and time horizon of capacity building projects in order to address the vast demand in Africa
- Generating synergies and linkages between the FCPF CBP efforts and other REDD+ actors to enhance opportunities for further resource mobilization and a stronger impact.
- Putting a focus on peoples' livelihoods and access to climate change response strategies
- Reconciling carbon rights regimes with land tenure and tree rights to resolve the disconnect between local livelihood needs and REDD+ aspirations
- Increasing the price of carbon to reflect the actual and true cost of delivering emission reductions, including the hidden cost of enhanced carbon sequestration
- Incorporating sustainable management, conservation and enhancement of existing forest carbon stocks into REDD+ capacity building support

• Scaling up the support to IPOs and CSOs' institutional and governance capacities.

Identified **best practices** emerging from the FCPF CBP were gender mainstreaming strategies which resulted in considerable participation of women and other marginal groups in capacity development activities; the use of a diverse set of communication strategies which increased the reach and impact of sub-projects; and partnerships between IPOs, CSOs and governments which enhanced their visibility and participation in national REDD+-related decision making.

The following **lessons learned** were identified:

- REDD+ cannot succeed without the full and effective participation of communities, especially IPs, CSOs and other forest-dependent groups.
- REDD+ capacity building projects need to be underpinned by social inclusion principles to account for the intersecting issues affecting the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities.
- To be effective, REDD+ capacity building must consider national realities, such as stages at which participating countries are in the REDD+ process.
- REDD+ capacity building must mirror the full spectrum of REDD+ stages and key elements.
- Gender mainstreaming is vital for maximizing the effective participation of women in REDD+.
- IPs do not constitute a homogenous group as each group has unique ways of life that need to be considered in project design and implementation.
- Alternative livelihood sources need to be a key component in REDD+ programs within communities because of high levels of deprivation.
- The use of local languages and the translation of REDD+ concepts and principle into easy to understand concepts are cardinal to increasing IPs' and LC's participation.

Participants endorsed the following **recommendations**:

- i. Noting that Ghana, Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are leading the Emission Reductions Payment Agreements (ERPAs) under the Carbon Fund while other countries are less advanced; and to avoid the gap and interruption between the current and a future phase, the CBP should be extended to 2025, with additional components on emerging issues such as gender, youth, land tenure and forest rights and security, benefit-sharing models, participatory community-based monitoring, grievance redress mechanism and safeguards.
- ii. The design of a next phase CBP should take into consideration the robust consultation of IPs and civil society both in content and form.
- iii. Acknowledging and with intent to sustain successes facilitated by the existing FCPF CBP intermediaries in Africa, participants affirm their continued confidence and trust and mandate them to continue providing support/guidance for this program in line with the spirit and intent on the self-selection principle.

- iv. In order to respond effectively and timely to relevant policy and legal frameworks, and in view of expanded needs arising from the above-mentioned emerging issues, more resources should be allocated to the intermediaries.
- v. Consistent with Agenda 2063 of the AU, Agenda 2030 of the UN and the Paris Agreement, ensure scaled-up collaborations and partnerships cultivated among IPs, civil society and governments.
- vi. In readiness for the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation, which calls for strong non-state actor participation and local actions, build on bottom-up, national, regional and south-south exchange learning as practical ways of responding to emission reduction programs.
- vii. In addition to the existing two broad components of the CBP (national and regional capacity building actions), dedicate another component to livelihoods and comanagement of forest resources between community and governments, taking into consideration:
 - a. Participatory forest management;
 - b. Integrated community-based landscape restoration and decentralized, community-controlled, off-grid energy systems; and
 - c. Social forest enterprises and development of value chain of non-timber forest products, for example bamboo enterprises, honey, ecotourism, etc.

Following the presentation of a gender workshop's results, carried out by FCPF women CSOs and IPOs prior to the Dialogue, six overarching recommendations were proposed by MPIDO, PACJA and REPALEAC and endorsed by the participants. These are:

- i. Extend the FCPF CBP without interruption to 2025.
- ii. Maintain the regional intermediaries currently implementing the FCPF CBP.
- iii. Allocate specific funds in the CBP for gender issues.
- iv. Continue to strengthen the collaborations between women-led IPOs and CSOs and governments.
- v. Support south-south exchange learning as a tool for capacity building for women.
- vi. Mandate MPIDO to follow-up the recommendations of the gender workshop.



I. Introduction

Deforestation and forest degradation are jointly the second leading cause of global warming, accounting for up to 15 percent of all anthropogenic greenhouse gas emission. It is now widely acknowledged that effective climate change actions must, therefore, include reducing emissions from forest sources (REDD). The central idea of the REDD climate action approach is "to create an incentive for developing countries to protect, better manage and wisely use their forest resources, contributing to the global fight against climate change." In a more comprehensive and more widely applied understanding, REDD extends beyond reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation to include actions that foster conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhance forest carbon stocks (REDD+). REDD+ is consequently central to the actions that forest-dependent communities can undertake to contribute to mitigating climate change.

For almost a decade now, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) has been supporting REDD+ efforts, notably in the global south, as part of the shared need to tackle climate change. A key component of this work has been to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples (IPs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) in REDD+ activities. Since 2009, the FCPF Capacity Building Program (CBP) has helped dozens of projects engage with local communities across the Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions. The aim has been to provide forest-dependent IPs, other forest dwellers (OFDs) and southern CSOs with information, knowledge and awareness to enhance their understanding of REDD+, and by extension their ability to engage more meaningfully in the implementation of REDD+ readiness activities. The beneficiaries of the project in Africa are IPs, CSOs and local communities (LCs) in the 18 FCPF eligible countries, namely Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic

¹ United Nations. Frequently Asked Questions and Answers–The UN-REDD Programme and REDD+. 2010. http://www.unep.org/forests/Portals/142/docs/UN-REDD%20FAQs%20[11.10].pdf

of Congo (DRC), Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda.

There have been two CBP phases starting from 2009. In the second phase, which included additional financing to regional projects, three IPs organizations (IPOs) and three CSOs were empowered as intermediaries to distribute financial and technical support to selected CSOs and IPOs from FCPF countries to implement REDD+ capacity building sub-projects in the three regions. In Africa, a fourth IPO was added under the additional financing phase to separately finance capacity building sub-projects for IPOs in Central African FCPF countries.

The CBP is ending in December 2019 in the Asia-Pacific and Africa regions, and in June 2020 in the Latin America and the Caribbean region. Significant results have been achieved under this program, which were not only demonstrated in increased awareness of IPs and CSOs to REDD+, climate change and preparation of national Emission Reduction Programs (ERPs), but also in their higher visibility and participation in various country-level dialogues. In addition, discussions are ongoing on potential sources of further financing to the CBP program with a focus on promoting the REDD+ agenda in Carbon Finance countries. This calls for a regional dialogue on lessons learned and best practices from the CBP, and deliberations on needed future support.

From July 17th to 19th 2019, African IPs and CSOs involved in FCPF CBP Phase 2 projects in Africa met in Nairobi, Kenya for a Regional Dialogue. Representatives from governments, the World Bank and intermediaries from the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and Caribbean regions also attended the meeting (See Annex 2: List of Participants). The expected outcomes of the Regional Dialogue were:

- 1. Regionally agreed key lessons learned from the CBP
- 2. Regionally agreed recommendations on future REDD+ capacity building actions for forest-dependent IPs, OFD and southern CSOs in Africa
- 3. Strengthened IPs and CSO networks within the region

The main findings of the Dialogue are expected to be communicated to the FCPF 28th Participants Committee (PC28) meeting in support of discussing further contributions to forest-dependent IPs, southern CSOs and LC. As the key deliverable of the dialogue, this report summarizes key lessons learned and best practices at the regional level and recommendation for further support's focus and actions. The report also summarizes the Dialogue's proceedings and captures the essence of the discussions.

II. Structure and Methodology of the Dialogue

The goal of the Dialogue was to allow participants share experiences and promote cooperative learning. Following an opening ceremony, structured and semi-structured facilitation approaches

were used in alternation to maintain a focused discussion and allow participants to take full advantage of the gathering to share their experiences and learn from others. The Dialogue was a combination of panel and plenary discussions, plenary presentations², and marketplace sessions of multiple simultaneous presentations³. The Dialogue culminated with group work or *Boma* sessions⁴ - one for Anglophone participants and one for Francophone participants - with the aim of harvesting participants' outtakes from the Dialogue around two key questions:

- What are the <u>main gaps and common challenges</u> being experienced in the context of REDD+ capacity building that should receive further attention?
- What are the key lessons learned and best practices coming out of the presentations?

All sessions were deliberative and encouraged feedback from participants with the aim of increasing general understanding and allowing all to voice their views and listen to others. Deliberations where summarised in graphical presentations, which also served as daily recaps (see Annex 3: Info Graphical Presentations). Two facilitators led the sessions in French and English to facilitate understanding, and translators provided simultaneous translation to English, French and Portuguese to further facilitate understanding and participation. Sessions were spread over three days (see Annex 1: Agenda).

² Presentations are available at the following link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/17ydOnvk-8cbGn2iPD0V3NfXOP7t2HNZ2

³ Marketplaces took the form of mini exhibitions where selected FCPF participating countries set up stations to exhibit their work. Other participants toured the stations in groups to learn from participating countries' experiences.

⁴ Bomas are deliberative sessions modelled after Maasai courtyard meetings, where participants take turns to speak by picking up a staff and moving to the center of a complete circle. In these meetings, there are no hierarchies and the only source of authority is the staff. Only the participant with the staff can speak. The format encourages full participation by breaking power structures and preventing few from monopolizing the floor.



III. Opening Ceremony

Hon. Keriako Tobiko, the Kenya Minister of Environment and Forestry chaired the opening ceremony. In his opening speech, Hon. Tobiko, citing the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 1.5-Degree Report, noted that the occurrence of climate change was indisputable and the time to act to avert a climate catastrophe was running out.

With Africa contributing only about 4 percent to global greenhouse gas emissions, he said, it was a "moral and ethical" obligation for the largest polluters or industrialized nations to ensure that those who suffer most from climate change are compensated. "We are not demanding charity, it is our right," the minister said. Nonetheless, the minister acknowledged that African countries had a role to play in mitigating climate change, particularly because climate change disproportionately affected the most vulnerable in society.

Addressing the thematic issue of the day, the Minister said that forests were central to tackling climate change, yet forest cover remained on the decline around the world. As forest dwellers, he said, IPs and LCs remained among the best protectors of forests, which provided them not only with economic but unquantifiable cultural and spiritual values.

The Minister challenged participants to move past conference room discussions and undertake concrete climate actions on the ground. To make his case, he screened the film "Gazi Community Forest Reaping Big from Carbon Credit," which exemplified the impact of community-led landscape and forest restoration in Kenya. He also invited participants to undertake a tree planting



exercise at the Karura Forest Reserve on the outskirts of Nairobi. Led by the Minister, participants planted native tree species as part of a strategy to replace eucalyptus trees introduced during the colonial era.

Mr. Mithika Mwenda, the Executive Secretary of the Pan African Climate Change Alliance (PACJA) - the intermediary CSO of the FCPF CBP project in Africa and the organizer of the Dialogue – welcomed participants to the Dialogue. He said that the CBP was critical to a participatory REDD+ process in Africa, particularly because REDD+ remained difficult to unpack for many. The goal, he said, was to make the concept accessible to grassroot communities. REDD+ capacities were vital for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, which emphasized a approach to climate bottom-up action. As nature-based solutions become more mainstreamed in international climate change debates,

particularly on the eve of the UN Secretary-General's Summit on Climate Change in September 2019, Mwenda said it was important for grassroots voices to feed into the global-level climate change discourse and policy.

Mr. Joseph Ole Simel, the Executive Director of the Mainyoito Pastoralists Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO) — the intermediary IPO of the CBP project in Africa — re-emphasized the need for more representation of grassroot voices in global climate change debates and processes. He added that there had been increasing evidence from his work of the need to strengthen the effective participation of women in REDD+ processes, as well as build partnerships with IPs in order to formulate acceptable climate change solutions. Capacity building, he said, must prepare IPs beyond ERPs and include capacities in carbon accounting, carbon trade, benefit-sharing, gender mainstreaming, as well as resolve forest and land ownership issues.

Mr. Basiru Isa of the Réseau des Populations Autochtones et Locales pour la Gestion Durable des Ecosystèmes Forestiers d'Afrique Centrale (REPALEAC), the intermediary for Central African IPs and a co-organizer of the Dialogue, welcomed the constructive dialogue vocation of the gathering. He said that Africa was used to employing the term dialogue within the ambits of conflict resolution, but the Nairobi meeting was meant to strategize against climate change, a common problem for IPs and CSOs. He thanked the World Bank for supporting Africa IPOs and CSOs since 2009. However, he added, what had been done thus far was only the beginning, as IPOs and CSOs still needed support to expand the scope of their work.

Mr. Nicholas Meitaki Soikan, the World Bank Task Team Leader of the FCPF CBP project in Africa, said that the role of IPs and LC in REDD+ processes was critical in that while IPs and LC were the most vulnerable to climate change impacts, they controlled a significant amount of forests, which was central to climate change mitigation. He reiterated the need to place women at the forefront of the REDD+ process and expressed a desire that future mechanisms consider the fact that women are differently impacted by climate change. He said that the FCPF-funded projects allowed CSOs and IPs to access funding traditionally reserved for governments. Partnerships, he added, were fundamental to success, as IPs could not address climate change on their own. He concluded by saying that he looked forward to the lessons and opportunities that would emerge from the Dialogue.



IV. Discussion Points

1. Experience of the FCPF CBP intermediaries in Africa

The project coordinators from PACJA, MPIDO and REPALEAC presented their projects' overall achievements and lessons learned.

Mr. Charles Mwangi of PACJA said that the Pan-African Network had reported several successes achieved by the CSOs selected to carry out sub-projects. He singled out the cases of the *Réseau des Organisations de la Société Civile pour l'Economie Verte en Afrique Centrale* (ROSCEVAC) in Gabon, whose impressive implementation of the capacity building sub-project attracted an

⁵ PACJA supports capacity building and awareness raising activities for CSO networks, CSOs and LC representatives from ten FCPF countries, namely; Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Togo, Nigeria, Central Africa Republic, Republic of Congo, Burkina Faso and Gabon with a specific focus on women and youth. See project details at: https://www.pacja.org/index.php/featured-item-2/k2-category/item/436-forest-carbon-partnership-facility.

additional government grant of USD270, 000; and the Gasy Youth Up of Madagascar, which was nominated by the government to lead REDD+ engagement in the country following the successful implementation of its sub-project. PACJA also commissioned <u>a study</u> in several countries, which showed the need to involve more actors in REDD+ processes. PACJA's engagement with CSOs across Africa had been expanding, he said, and PACJA has been recognized as a key link between governments and CSOs by various intergovernmental bodies (Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), the AU and the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA), among others), with which it signed recently memoranda of understanding.

Mr. Daniel Salau of MPIDO said that REDD+ remained a new concept to IPs, who are welcoming the idea albeit slowly. However, he noted that the implementation of the FCPF capacity building project had improved the capacity of selected IPOs and communities addressed by them⁶, particularly in participating in REDD+ decision-making, increased gender mainstreaming, increased resource mobilization by the governments (for example in Uganda) and stronger trust and collaboration between REDD+ actors. Key lessons from the project showed that good results could be attained with limited resources if the implementation approach was suitable, that gender mainstreaming could maximize the impact of REDD+ activities and that working with IPOs was the best way of reaching grassroot IPs communities.

In his presentation, Mr. Basiru Isa said that REPALEAC's strategy included four main and one cross-cutting pillars, namely: i) securing indigenous people and local community (IPLC) lands, territories, and natural resources; ii) participation of IPLCs in decisions on access to - and sustainable management of lands, forests, and natural resources at local, national and international levels; iii) increasing sustainable economic benefits for IPLCs related to the sustainable management of natural resources and forests; iv) improvement of the living conditions of IPLCs; and v) defending the interests of IPLCs in Central Africa. REPALEAC received USD750,000 from the FCPF CBP to manage the project, and it is in the process of channelling funds to capacity building activities in five Central African countries: Cameroon, DRC, Congo, Gabon and Central African Republic.

2. Experience of organizations implementing FCPF CBP sub-projects

Sub-project implementing organizations from Côte d'Ivoire, Mozambique and Uganda, three countries who have in place ERPs and have advanced to the Carbon Finance stage of the FCPF, presented their REDD+ capacity building sub-projects financed by the FCPF:

Côte d'Ivoire: The CSO l'Action pour la Mobilisation des Initiatives et des Stratégies d'Aide au Développement (AMISTAD) presented the REDD+ capacity building sub-project, which started in

⁶ MPIDO implements sub-projects in Cameroon, Ethiopia, Liberia, Nigeria, Congo, Sudan and Uganda. See project details at: https://www.mpido.org/fcpf.html

November 2018 and is implemented in three regions: Gbèkè, N'Zi and Iffou for the benefit of local communities, CSOs and the media. Key sub-project activities include capacity building workshops, notably among CSOs, some of which had not heard about REDD+ prior to the sub-project, and women groups. AMISTAD has been using the media, notably radio, to create awareness and interest in REDD+ processes. It also has an active online presence. Key innovations of the project have been the use of local languages in media productions and supporting women to actively participate in forest conservation activities.

Mozambique. Community Land Initiative (CLI) has been implementing a sub-project which focuses on access to land rights; governance systems at the community level and business models for payments for environmental services. A Community-Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) Network has been established as a major outcome of the sub-project, serving as a learning platform and for monitoring the country's performance on REDD+ and other CBNRM initiatives. The network ensures that communities can represent themselves and take the lead in REDD+ initiatives. CLI has also been active in sensitizing communities on the implementation of Mozambique's REDD+ program.

Uganda: Pro-biodiversity Conservationists in Uganda (PROBICOU) under the auspices of the Civil Society Coalition on Indigenous Peoples in Uganda (CSCIPU) implemented a one-year sub-project, which contributed to fostering an enabling environment for the successful implementation of REDD+ in Uganda as reflected in the UN mandate under the UN Development Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples' Issues. The sub-project strengthened coordination mechanisms/strategies for increased participation of IPs in the design and implementation of REDD+ initiatives in Uganda and increased awareness and skills on the rights of IPs in the implementation of REDD+ initiatives. The sub-project had a special focus on women, as those most affected by the impacts of climate change.

The subsequent discussion generated the following observations:

- While it was understood that support was provided as a priority to CSO and IPs in REDD+ priority regions of the respective countries, and was limited by available resources, strategies were changing to address issues that were more pertinent to CSOs and IPs. For example, after succeeding in influencing policy as a result of its policy advocacy work, REPALEAC has secured the direct participation of IPs within ECCAS and COMIFAC and has been transitioning to implementing projects with direct impact on the livelihoods and welfare of IPs.
- Concerning the definition of IPs, there was consensus around the principle of self-definition. Given the heterogeneity of the global IPs community, it was left to each IPs group to self-determine what made it IPs.

Three marketplaces were held to enable additional CSOs and IPOs to share their experiences in implementing their respective FCPF CBP sub-projects. In all, ten organizations presented, namely Ethio Wetlands and Natural Resources Association (EWNRA) from Ethiopia, PROBICOU from Uganda, Wise Administration of Terrestrial Environment and Resources (WATER) from Nigeria, International Circle for Research and Civilization Studies (CIRECK) from Republic of Congo, AMISTAD from Côte d'Ivoire, Meseret Humanitarian Organisation (MHO) from Ethiopia, Sudan for Development and Humanitarian Aids Organization (SAWA) from Sudan, A2-E from Burkina Faso, Central African Organisation for the Conservation of Nature (OCDN) from the Central African Republic, and Gasy Youth Up from Madagascar. The IPOs and CSOs presented the key components of their sub-projects, focusing on REDD+ capacity gaps, lessons learned and next steps.

The main points arising from the marketplaces are summarized in the Lessons Learned and Recommendations sections bellow.

3. Governments' perspectives on CSOs' and IPs' engagement in REDD+ processes

The Dialogues was attended by government representatives from Mozambique, Gabon, Liberia and Sudan. Ms. Sonia Nordez of the National REDD+ Coordination Unit of Mozambique described the central role CSOs played in REDD+ programs in the country. She indicated that Mozambican authorities built a solid relationship with CSOs by having in place a permanent platform for exchange and sharing to enhance transparency and inclusiveness as central principles of the country's REDD+ Strategy. As a result of this partnership, CSOs made direct contributions in the development of the Strategy. In many ways, CSOs were leading REDD+ initiatives in the country, particularly building the capacity of local communities. Mr. Jean Pierre Tchoua, Vice President of the Economic and Social Council of Gabon, exemplified successful government-CSO partnerships, stressing that the Gabonese government's commitment to REDD+ programs had arisen mainly from the activities of PACJA-Gabon. Recently, with the support of the authorities, PACJA launched its first provincial office and the government was keen on strengthening its collaboration with the new office.

4. Reflection on gender integration in REDD+

Participants were encouraged to highlight the gender dimensions of their sub-projects, and the conclusions and recommendations of a gender workshop which took place during the preceding two days for women from IPOs and CSOs in the FCPF countries were presented by REPALEAC, which co-organized the workshop with MPIDO. The following observations emerged from the presentation:

- Across all countries participating in the FCPF CBP projects, both regional and national IPOs and CSOs devised different strategies to encourage women participation in capacity building activities. In Mozambique and Togo, for example, sub-project implementing organizations (iCT and *Groupement ED/ACDF*, respectively) made deliberate efforts to equalize the participation of men, women and youths. The

Association for Environment and Education (A-2E) from Burkina Faso reported over 60 percent participation of women in its sub-project thanks to concerted efforts made, while in Ethiopia, the authorities were in the process of establishing a gender policy specific to REDD+, thanks to the advocacy of CSOs and IPOs.

- Participants recognized that gender mainstreaming into REDD+ processes was vital for their success at all levels, in part because women were at the forefront of both climate change impacts and climate action, especially within forest settings. However, the full participation of women and other marginalized groups in REDD+ processes was constrained by a range of political, social and cultural factors. Women's access to land and other tenure-related rights emerged several times as a key constraint.

See Section VI below for the gender workshop's recommendations as also agreed to by the Regional Dialogue's participants.

5. Reflection on the role of multilateral organizations in supporting REDD+ in Africa

A panel discussion took place on the role of multilateral organizations in supporting REDD+ programs in Africa, with a representatives of the UN Development Program (UNDP) Kenya office and the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI).⁷

Ms. Judy Ndichu, Technical Coordinator for REDD+ at UNDP Kenya, which is the supporting agency of Kenya's REDD+ program, noted that UNDP had successful experience working with CSOs and IPOs in Africa, notably pastoralists and forest-dependent communities. UNDP was increasingly relying on African expertise, especially within the CSO community, to enhance its own performance. For example, UNDP worked with the Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners (ILEPA) to develop stakeholder engagement and free prior and informed consent guidelines now used across multiple forestry programs. In Kenya, the success of the REDD+ program depended on integrated efforts and contributions from all actors.

RRI President, Mr. Andy White, said that despite the promises of REDD+, the mechanism did not seem to have improved land tenure rights and community ownership impact in Africa at the rate seen in other parts of the world. The shift of land ownership from the State to communities has not made significant progress since 2008 despite advances in previous years and impressive strides in relevant policy reforms in the region. He invited participants to take an interest in new global initiatives for moving REDD+ from commitments to implementation. These include:

- the "Opportunity Framework" – identify opportunities for scaling up the recognition of IPLC rights in REDD+ countries – with FCPF;

⁷ RRI is a global Coalition of more than 200 organizations dedicated to advancing the forestland and resource rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and rural women. Read more at: https://rightsandresources.org/en/about-us/#.XVu7Fm5FzIU

- the "30x30" study - risks of reaching the target by expanding conventional



conservation, opportunities to reach targets by recognizing and strengthening IPLC land rights and governance; and

- "Gold Standard" — key principles that should be adopted for all conservation, restoration, and development organizations and projects.

6. Experiences from FCPF capacity building projects in the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions

Participants were provided with an opportunity to learn from the FCPF CBP intermediaries from the Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean regions on their respective projects and received feedback from them on the Regional Dialogue's discussions. In the panel were Mr. Puspa Ghimire of the Asia Network for Sustainable Agriculture and Bio resources (ANSAB) in Nepal, Ms. Yeshing Juliana of the Indigenous Peoples Rights of Sotz'il Association in Guatemala, Ms. Helen Valdez of the IPO Tebtebba in The Philippines, and Ms. Ema Yasmini from the Central American Community Agroforestry Indigenous and Peasant Coordinating Association (ACICAFOC) in Costa Rica. Also, on the panel was Mr. Onel Marsadule, the Executive Director of the Foundation for the Promotion of the Indigenous Knowledge (FPCI) in Panama who is also an IP Observer for Latin America.

Panellists shared the different capacity building strategies employed in their regions to address national realities. For example:

- In Vietnam, the strategy was to support cooperatives of ethnic minority groups and strengthen capacities for multi-level governance, including participation in land rights,

climate change and REDD+ programs. Two sub-projects in Vietnam piloted the Adaptive Collaborative Management Approach (ACMA) model for benefit-sharing, looking at how ethnic minorities — through a one-man, one-woman approach — could become part of the governing structures of benefit-sharing mechanisms.

- In Fiji, the mobilization of a faith-based organization was effective in reaching many people with limited sub-project resources.
- Latin American countries focused on developing regional training certification programs in collaboration with a Spanish university with experience in IPs rights and an intercultural and indigenous issues-focused university from Ecuador. The project has developed key training topics in the areas of IPs, REDD+, forests and international law, delivering useful skills, including general skills on proposal writing.
- In Honduras, one of the key outcomes of the CBP was cooperation between CSOs, LC and IPOs to align their goals with these of the national REDD+ Strategy. Women also gained a better understanding of their rights and were able to claim them.

Panellists also discussed key lessons emerging from their respective FCPF projects as follows:

Countries across the regions are at different knowledge levels and stages in the REDD+ process, requiring tailored, rather than blanket approaches. Pacific countries, for example, are mostly at the early stages of REDD+ readiness, where communicating the basics of REDD+ appear to be more useful than other interventions. Meanwhile, East Asian countries are more advanced, requiring different tools and strategies that foster collaboration of CSOs and IPOs with governments in the implementation stages of REDD+. Vietnam, for example, is already training IPs on carbon accounting and is preparing communities to estimate their carbon stocks and exercise more informed oversight over carbon transactions. In Latin America, there is also a need to align projects with the different stages at which countries are in the REDD+ process, as well as provide more support for dialogues with key actors and developing mechanisms that work in specific contexts.

There is a need to integrate REDD+ capacity building activities with alternative livelihood in places where limited livelihood sources constrain IPs and LC participation in REDD+ processes. In Bhutan, for example, where at least 60 percent of the total land surface is forested, ecotourism capacities have been built, including developing baselines of ecotourism products and developing district-level ecotourism plans. In Panama, organic farming certification schemes and marketing cooperatives have helped farmers compete globally.

Land rights need to be resolved to ensure that IPs and LC participate effectively in REDD+ and benefit from it. Capacity-building activities in Honduras and El Salvador have succeeded in changing policies around land rights for IPs. However, in many countries, land continues to be in the hands of the State, posing a problem globally in terms of determining carbon ownership and recipients of carbon mitigation benefits.

REDD+ is a mechanism which can be used to engage CSOs, IPs and LCs with governments. In many countries, capacity building programs have not only strengthened the participation of CSOs and



IPs in forest governance systems but also set an example for CSOs and IPO partnerships with governments.

V. Challenges, Best Practices and Lessons Learned

The *Boma* sessions discussed the following key points as outtakes from the previous days' discussions:

Challenges in REDD+ capacity building

- Bridging prevailing knowledge and awareness-related gaps: While appreciable knowledge and awareness have been generated on REDD+-related concepts and processes, more ground remains to be covered on foundational/baseline subjects feeding into and shaping the design of REDD+, such as legal and policy gaps analyses, analyses of tenure rights (land, tree and carbon rights), and knowledge of the economics of REDD+, carbon credits and the value of ecosystem services. In addition, as the REDD+ mechanism moves from Readiness to implementation, competencies, knowledge, strategies and actual engagement with the key elements of REDD+ become essential in efforts to give meaning and life to countries' aspirations. These elements include safeguards, grievance redress mechanisms, benefit sharing arrangements, monitoring and carbon accounting. Appreciating the requisite and pre-existing synergies between REDD+-specific safeguards elements and other relevant arrangements⁸ is critical to accommodating the aspirations of avoiding harm and doing good in REDD+ programming and implementation.
- Increasing the envelope size and time horizon of capacity building projects to address the vast demand: While the FCPF CBP has contributed over US\$11 million, and, notably, responded to REDD+-related capacity building needs within participating countries, the current approach is short-term and the envelope is insufficient to address the vast REDD+ capacity building needs in the African context and the long-term horizon of REDD+ as a climate change response action.
- Generating synergies and linkages between the FCPF CBP efforts and other REDD+ actors, such as private sector Corporate Social Responsibility entities, foundations, bilateral donors and national governments: Insufficient synergies and linkages result in lost opportunities for further resource mobilization and a stronger impact. Weak packaging and communication of REDD+ capacity needs and local communities' innovation and success stories also contribute to insufficient synergies.
- Putting focus on peoples' livelihoods and access to climate change response strategies: The immediate and direct impacts of climate change on IPs and LC with respect to the security of local livelihoods are intensifying each day, and poverty is still a stark reality. Climate

⁸ For example, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in Cancun, the World Bank Environmental Safeguard Standards #7, the International Finance Corporation safeguards, and the Green Climate Fund Environmental and Social Management Framework.

change complicates an already dire situation as in the case of Uganda, where 80 percent of livelihood activities are land-based, ultimately entrenching poverty and compromising IPs and LC capacity to engage in the national REDD+ dialogue. In parallel, access to climate change response strategies such as alternative energy sources and appropriate technologies is negligible. There is therefore a need to integrate support for climate friendly livelihood options into future capacity building initiatives.

- Reconciling carbon rights regimes with land tenure and tree rights: The disconnect between local livelihoods needs and REDD+ aspirations often generates conflict. In Mozambique, for example, local communities deprived of livelihood options continue to cut trees. Future capacity building efforts need to reflect and account for this concern through deliberate strategies targeted at exploring, settling and reconciling carbon rights regimes with land tenure and tree rights.
- Increasing the price of carbon: The current market price of about US\$5 per gigaton of carbon is far below the actual and true cost of delivering emission reductions. Emission reduction programs often fail to account for the hidden cost of enhanced carbon sequestration, which is often borne by IPs and LC.
- Building capacity for the "+" dimensions of REDD+: Sustainable management, conservation and enhancement of existing forest carbon stocks should inform future REDD+ capacity building support. Support should integrate countries' ERPs, for example by enhancing IPs' and CSOs' capacities to evaluate their countries' ERPs and ERPAs against non-carbon benefits aspirations. A window of opportunity exists in at least eight African countries preparing their ERPs.
- Scaling up the support to IPOs' and CSOs' institutional and governance capacities: While the CBP has been instrumental in strengthening recipients' governance structures, the pool of IPOs and CSOs with improved requisite capacities in areas of fiduciary competencies, negotiation skills, resource mobilization, advocacy, communication and reporting should increase in order to ensure sustainable REDD+ implementation and strong representation vis a vis governments.

Best practices

The presentations and *Boma* discussions revealed several best practices which can be replicated and inform future project designs:

 Sub-projects employed several strategies for gender mainstreaming in funded activities, leading to considerable participation of women and other marginal groups in capacity development activities;

- The integration of communication strategies, notably engagement with the media, the use of local languages, and edutainment/infotainment activities such as plays and songs, helped to increase the reach and impact of sub-projects.
- Sub-projects developed strong CSO and IPO-government partnerships thereby increasing political and institutional endorsement of CSO and IPOs' views and roles in society and increasing their participation in REDD+ -related decision making at the national level.

Lessons learned

Participants discussed the following key lessons:

- REDD+ cannot succeed without the full and effective participation of communities, especially IPs, CSOs and other forest-dependent groups.
- REDD+ capacity building projects need to be underpinned by social inclusion principles to
 account for the intersecting issues affecting the livelihoods of forest-dependent
 communities. Social inclusion helps to ensure inclusive and meaningful participation during
 decision-making and policy development processes, while promoting equity, fairness,
 transparency and justice during all phases of REDD+.
- To be effective, REDD+ capacity building must consider national realities, such stages at which participating countries are in the REDD+ process.
- REDD+ capacity building must mirror the full spectrum of REDD+ stages and key elements and receive synergistic support from a variety of sources.
- Gender mainstreaming is vital for maximizing the effective participation of women in REDD+.
- IPs do not constitute a homogenous group as each group has unique ways of life that need to be considered in project design and implementation.
- Alternative livelihood sources need to be a key component in REDD+ programs within communities.
- The use of local languages and the translation of REDD+ concepts and principle into easy to understand concepts are cardinal to increasing IPs and LC's participation.

VI. Concluding Remarks and Recommendations

Concluding remarks

Overall, participants agreed that the FCPF CBP has facilitated the identification of REDD+ Readiness- related capacity needs among forest dependent IPs, CSOs and LC of participating countries in Africa, and provided requisite response measures which should be upscaled and enhanced. A participant stated that the CBP "has given us legs to stand-on; let's raise our voice and look around for other opportunities".

The concept and processes of REDD+ were demystified and are better understood by both IPOs, CSOs and their sub-projects' beneficiaries, and institutional and governance-related capacities of IPOs and CSOs were enhanced. Still, much remains to be done to scale up these achievements to a larger group of national level participating IPOs and CSOs.

Looking ahead to the Implementation and Results phases of REDD+, several overarching principles were highlighted. First, the importance of sustained effective social inclusion measures for IPs, CSOs, LC, women and youth as the historically marginalized and most climate impacted segments of society. Social inclusion actions must be relevant to peoples' contexts and needs.

Second, capacity building approaches in the context of REDD+ should adopt a long-term vision of interventions and resource mobilization. Support must go beyond awareness creation on concepts and processes, and encompass sustained meaningful participation of IPs, CSOs and LC in the design, implementation and monitoring of REDD+. Support should be provided for the integration of Community Based Monitoring Information Systems, Baseline Studies and National Strategies, National Forest Monitoring Systems, Safeguards Information Systems, including Grievance Redress Mechanisms, and Benefit sharing. The vast capacity needs in the region should be met with a deliberate effort to increase the financial support through synergies with other related processes.

Despite the encouraging gains made in enhancing women voices and their participation in REDD+ related processes, the need to sustain, mainstream and scale-up gender affirmative actions and inclusion remains. Particular attention should be given to women's direct access to funds, policy engagement, skills and capacities, awareness on rights to access, own and control land and other natural resources, and addressing social and cultural barriers to women's participation.

Participants acknowledged the importance of studying IPs' and LC's land tenure status and mapping their areas to strategize efforts toward recognition of land tenure rights. Addressing livelihoods constraints associated with REDD+ implementation and supporting climate-friendly sustainable alternate livelihoods options were considered key in any future interventions.

Recommendations

Arising from the rich deliberations during Regional Dialogue, several recommendations were drafted and presented to the plenary for consideration and adoption. The following were unanimously endorsed by the participants:

- viii. Noting that Ghana, Mozambique and DRC are leading the ERPAs under the Carbon Fund while other countries are less advanced; and to avoid the gap and interruption between the current and a future phase, the CBP should be extended to 2025, with additional components on emerging issues such as gender, youth, land tenure and forest rights and security, benefit-sharing models, participatory community-based monitoring, grievance redress mechanism and safeguards.
- ix. The design of a next phase CBP should take into consideration the robust consultation of IPs and civil society both in content and form.
- x. Acknowledging and with intent to sustain successes facilitated by the existing FCPF CBP intermediaries in Africa, participants affirm their continued confidence and trust and mandate them to continue providing support/guidance for this program in line with the spirit and intent on the self-selection principle.
- xi. In order to respond effectively and timely to relevant policy and legal frameworks, and in view of expanded needs arising from the above-mentioned emerging issues, more resources should be allocated to the intermediaries.
- xii. Consistent with Agenda 2063 of the AU, Agenda 2030 of the UN and the Paris Agreement, ensure scaled-up collaborations and partnerships cultivated among IPs, civil society and governments.
- xiii. In readiness for the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) implementation, which calls for strong non-state actor participation and local actions, build on bottom-up, national, regional and south-south exchange learning as practical ways of responding to emission reduction programs.
- xiv. In addition to the existing two broad components of the CBP (national and regional capacity building actions), dedicate another component to livelihoods and comanagement of forest resources between community and governments, taking into consideration:
 - a. Participatory forest management;
 - b. Integrated community-based landscape restoration and decentralized, community-controlled, off-grid energy systems; and
 - c. Social forest enterprises and development of value chain of non-timber forest products, for example bamboo enterprises, honey, ecotourism, etc.

Following the presentation of the gender workshop's results to the Regional Dialogue's participants (several of whom also participated in the gender workshop), six overarching recommendations were proposed by MPIDO, PACJA and REPALEAC and endorsed by the participants. These are:

- i. Extend the FCPF CBP without interruption to 2025.
- ii. Maintain the regional intermediaries currently implementing the FCPF CBP.
- iii. Allocate specific funds in the CBP for gender issues.
- iv. Continue to strengthen the collaborations between women-led IPOs and CSOs and governments.
- v. Support south-south exchange learning as a tool for capacity building for women.
- vi. Mandate MPIDO to follow-up the recommendations of the workshop.

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Annex 2: Agenda

	Tuesday, July 16, 2019	
	Arrival of participants	
	Wednesday, July 17, 2019	
Time	Program item	Responsibility
8:00-8:30	Registration	MPIDO and PACJA
8:30-9:00	Introduction and introduction of workshop objectives and agenda	Facilitators
	SESSION 1- OPENING CEREMONY	
9:00-9:40	Welcoming remarks	Mithika Mwenda, Executive Director, PACJA
		Joseph Ole Simel, Executive Director, MPIDO
		Basiru Isa, Coordinator, REPALEAC
		World Bank representatives
	Official opening	Hon. Keriako Tobiko Minister of Environment and Forestry
9:40-10:00	Tea break and group photo	
	SESSION 2 - LESSONS FROM THE FCPF CAPACITY BUILDING PROGI	RAM IN AFRICA
10:00-10:45	At the regional level: Presentation of regional summaries from the FCPF REDD+ capacity building program for CSOs and IPs	Charles Mwangi, PACJA Daniel Salau, MPIDO Basiru Isa, REPALEAC
10:45-11:45	At the national level:	Cote d'Ivoire: AMISTAD

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	Examples of REDD+ capacity building sub-projects financed by the FCPF projects in Africa	Mozambique: iTC Uganda: PROBICOU				
	SESSION 3 –COUNTRIES' PERSPECTIVES ON CSOs' AND IPs' ENGAGE	MENT IN REDD+				
11:45-13:00	An open dialogue with countries' REDD+ focal points:	Panelists:				
	Topics: Experience working with CSOs & IPs on REDD+ The role of CSOs and IPs in REDD+ processes Enabling policies and resources for CSOs and IPs engagement Opportunities and challenges for CSOs' and IPs;	Countries' REDD+ focal points				
13:00-14:00	engagement Lunch					
	SESSION 4 - GENDER INTEGRATION IN REDD+					
14:00-14:30	Outcomes of the Africa REDD+ Gender Workshop carried out on July 15-16, 2019	Workshop participants				
14:30-15:15	Discussion of workshop outcomes	Facilitators				
SESS	ION 5 - THE ROLE OF MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORTI	NG REDD+ IN AFRICA				
15:15-16:00	Panel discussion on the role of multilateral partners in supporting REDD+ in Africa: partners' ongoing engagement in REDD+ in Africa and efforts toward capacity building of CSOs and IPs	Panelists: Judy Ndichu, UNDP Andy White, RRI				
CECCIONI C CI	LADING OF EXPEDIENCES BY CSOC AND IDOC IMPLEMENTING CADA					
3E33IUIV 0 - 3F	SESSION 6 - SHARING OF EXPERIENCES BY CSOs AND IPOS IMPLEMENTING CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-PROJECTS: ROUND 1					
16:00-17:30	Market Place 1 (Tea served)	Gabon: ROSCEVAC Ethiopia: Ethio Wetlands Togo: ED/ADCF Nigeria: WATER				
	End of Day 1					

Thursday, July 18, 2019

Time	Program item	Responsibility				
8:30-9:00	Recap of Day 1 and introduction of Day 2 agenda	Facilitators				
SESSION 1 - SHARI	SESSION 1 - SHARING OF EXPERIENCES BY CSOs AND IPOS IMPLEMENTING CAPACITY BUILDING SUB-PROJECTS: ROUND 2					
9:00-10:30	Market Place 2	Republic of Congo: CIRECK				
		Ivory Coast: CSDevNet				
	(Tea served)	Ethiopia: MHO				
		Sudan: SAWA SUDAN				
SESSION 2 - SHARI	ING OF EXPERIENCES BY CSOs AND IPOS IMPLEMENTING CAPACIT ROUND 3	Y BUILDING SUB-PROJECTS:				
10:30-11:30	Market Place 3	Burkina Faso: A2-E				
		Central African Republic: OCDN				
		Madagascar: Gasy Youth Up				
	SESSION 3- LEARNING FROM OTHER REGIONS					
11:30-12:30	Panel Discussion: sharing of experiences from the FCPF REDD+ Capacity Building projects in Asia-Pacific and in Latin America and the Caribbean	Onel Marsadule, FPCI Helen Valdez, Tebtebba Yeshing Juliana, Sotz'il Ema Yasmini, ACICAFOC Puspa Ghimire, ANSAB				
12:30-13:30	Lunch					
	SESSION 4 - OUTCOME HARVESTING					
13:30-15:00	"BOMA" discussions: group discussions on the presentations of days 1 and 2	Facilitators				
	Questions: What are the key lessons learned and best practices coming out of the presentations?					

	What are the main gaps and common challenges being experienced that should receive further attention?	
15:00-16:00	Reports from the BOMA discussions	Group representatives
16:00-17:00	Tea Break and unstructured bilateral engagements	
18:00-21:00	Wakanda Night and Nyama Choma	

Friday, July 19, 2019					
Time	Program item	Responsibility			
8:30-9:00	Recap of Day 2 and introduction of Day 3 agenda	Facilitators			
	SESSION 1 - CONSOLIDATING LESSONS LEARNED AND A WAY	FORWARD			
9:00-10:30	Group discussions on lessons learnt and recommendations on the way forward Questions for the way forward discussions: > What are the main capacity needs and remaining gaps of forest-dependent IPs, other forest dwellers and CSOs in ER processes and programs? > How can these needs be addressed? > How can capacity building activities be more closely aligned with ERPs and support their implementation? > How can the most vulnerable segments of communities (women, youth) be reached? Group 1: Countries in the REDD+ implementation stage Group 2: Countries in advanced stages of REDD+ Readiness Group 3: Countries in early stages of REDD+ Readiness	Facilitators			
10:30-10:45	Tea break				
SE	ESSION 2 - CONSOLIDATING LESSONS LEARNED AND A WAY FORWA	ARD (CONTINUED)			
10:45-11:45	Continuation of group discussions	Facilitators			
	SESSION 3 - KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION				

11:45-12:30	Documentation and communicating lessons learnt from project implementation How should we package lessons learnt from project? How should we communicate success stories? How should media be engaged?	Panelists: Shalindra Mylvaganam – World Bank Lynet Atieno- PACJA Elijah Toirai- MPIDO Mithika Mwenda- PACJA			
12:30-13:30	Lunch				
	SESSION 4 – REPORTING BACK				
13:30-16:00	Regional Dialogue outcomes: presentation, consolidation and agreement on key messages	Groups' rapporteurs and facilitators			
16:00-16:30	Concluding remarks and closing ceremony	Mithika Mwenda, PACJA Joseph Ole Simel, MPIDO Nicholas Soikan, World Bank			
	END OF REGIONAL DIALOGUE - AFRICA				

Annex 3: Infographic Recaps

Infographic recapitulations of each day's sessions are available at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XZGPpuwj-DM1BeJcXS6IVo4b_wKBR4Uh/view?usp=sharing