

January 2012



منظمة الأغذية  
والزراعة  
للأمم المتحدة

联合国  
粮食及  
农业组织

Food  
and  
Agriculture  
Organization  
of  
the  
United  
Nations

Organisation  
des  
Nations  
Unies  
pour  
l'alimentation  
et  
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и  
сельскохозяйственная  
организация  
Объединенных  
Наций

Organización  
de las  
Naciones  
Unidas  
para la  
Agricultura  
y la  
Alimentación

## AFRICAN FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

### EIGHTEENTH SESSION

### SECOND AFRICAN FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE WEEK

Cotonou, Republic of Benin, 16 to 20 January 2012

### THE IMPORTANCE OF GOVERNANCE AND BENEFIT SHARING IN THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF AFRICA'S FORESTS, TREES AND WILDLIFE

*Secretariat Report on FAO Responses to the Requests from the Seventeenth Session of the  
African Forestry and Wildlife Commission and Other FAO Activities in the Region*

1. The Seventeenth Session of the Commission made many requests/recommendations for the attention of members, FAO and the Committee for Forestry (COFO). Below are those directed to FAO/COFO and the actions that FAO has taken to address them during the past two years since the Session. Furthermore, some account of other FAO activities in the Africa region, that may not be in direct response to the requests/recommendation have also been provided towards the end of the document. In-depth account of the activities can be obtained from FAO Forestry Department in Rome and the Regional Office for Africa in Accra, Ghana.

The Commission requested FAO to:

***I. Continue to facilitate capacity building and information exchange in protected areas management***

2. Through the sub-regional office for Eastern Africa (SFE), FAO accomplished a number of activities in the Eastern Africa sub-region, including: training workshops on bush and forest fire management; a study of the situation and potential effects of Eucalyptus plantations in Eastern Africa; a review of the status of forest policy in Ethiopia; a developed framework on centres of excellence focusing on forestry and related sectors. A review of the status of participatory forest management (PFM) in Ethiopia was also undertaken. This review is to date the most extended effort to assess and report on PFM in the country.

3. FAO also facilitated experiences sharing on human and wildlife conflict (HWC) mitigation amongst countries in Southern Africa. The countries that benefited from this activity included Zimbabwe, Congo Mozambique and Angola. In addition, FAO has published a study on *Wildlife Law in the Southern*

*African Development Community* to help the SADC countries with the analysis and redrafting of their wildlife laws.

4. In further attempt to support member capacity building, FAO, in 2010, commissioned the development of a guideline for the institutionalization and implementation of community-based forest management in sub-Saharan Africa. The guidelines, which was compiled through an extensive consultative process amongst experts in the region, has been completed and will be made available, during 2012, to members to serve as a reference document for the implementation of community-based forest and related natural resources management activities.

## **II. Disseminate widely the methodology on inventories of non-wood forest products (NWFP) to enable its adoption by African countries**

5. The Regional coordination of FAO project GCP/RAF/441/GER has disseminated the PDF file of the manual “The biometrics of Non Wood Forest Products resource assessment: a review of current methodology”, produced by Jenny L. G. Wong to interested students and personnel of ministries of forests in Central African. Hard copies have also been distributed to few individuals who visited the project office.

6. English, French and Spanish versions of NWFP Series 13: *Resource assessment of non-wood forest products* was produced and widely disseminated in hard copies. The purpose of the publication is to contribute to sustainable forest management in African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries by developing and testing practical guidelines for the assessment of forest resources providing NWFP. Such guidelines enable national forestry administrations to implement improved and regular monitoring of the NWFP resource base and develop sustainable harvesting regimes in partnership with local and indigenous communities. The publication is also downloadable free at: <http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/004/Y1457e/Y1457e00.HTM>. Other related publications include FAO. 2008. Forest harvesting case-study - 24. *Gestion durable des produits non ligneux dans la concession forestière de Pallisco* (available in French only). This can be accessed at <http://www.fao.org/docrep/011/k3611f/k3611f00.htm>. Both documents on NWFP inventory methodologies were widely distributed by FAO staff at HQ and in the Regional/ Subregional Offices.

7. In addition, supplementary dissemination and further field testing is assured through (FAO implemented and other) projects in Africa with a NWFP component (main NWFP related projects are described in : <http://www.fao.org/forestry/nwfp/50270/en/> and <http://www.fao.org/forestry/enterprises/25494/en/>).

## **III. Facilitate technology transfer in wood-based energies and foster the dissemination of bioenergy technologies**

8. FAO support was requested to prepare a national bioenergy strategy for the Republic of Congo. The draft of the document is ready and a national validation workshop will be organized before adoption by the government. FAO also facilitated training on charcoal production for 100 women in 8 regions of Togo. Furthermore, FAO provided support related to wood energy assessment and/or policy support to Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, city of N'Djamena, Darfour (camps of internally displaced people) and Zambia. More details can be found under: [www.nfp-facility.org/achievements/en](http://www.nfp-facility.org/achievements/en).

9. FAO has updated the wood energy website ([www.fao.org/forestry/energy](http://www.fao.org/forestry/energy)). AFWC members can use the information found there for:

- Raising awareness of the importance of wood energy
- Collecting, improving and sharing accurate data
- Formulating, implementing and monitoring of sound wood energy policies
- Facilitating cross-sectoral communication and collaboration
- Applying sustainable and resource efficient production and consumption

10. FAO contributes to two working groups of the Clean Cooking Stove Initiative ([www.cleancookstoves.org](http://www.cleancookstoves.org)) on “*fuels and technology*” and “*monitoring and evaluation*” and has been involved with an Energy TCP in Rwanda which was terminated in April 2010. Furthermore, the NFP Facility partnership with Togo included training of ten feminine groups on improved charcoal making techniques;

***IV. Assist countries in awareness raising and capacity building in the areas of human-wildlife conflict mitigation (HWC) and to provide, upon request, relevant technical advice for the participatory development of policies and strategies on HWC and their effective implementation. It further invited FAO to facilitate experience sharing between member countries.***

11. Support was provided to the Government of Gabon through the TCP Facility with the aim of improving the management of human-wildlife conflicts. A National human-wildlife conflicts management strategy was prepared and validated, and a project proposal on community-based approach to resolve human-wildlife conflicts was formulated. A study tour to Zimbabwe was organized for Gabonese experts in collaboration with the FAO Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa (SFS).

12. FAO implemented a technical cooperation project (TCP/ZIM/3301): “*Securing farming systems and livelihoods (in communal lands adjacent to protected areas) through Human-Wildlife Conflict Management*” in Zimbabwe. In Mozambique, a National Strategy for HWC mitigation was developed and implemented (with FAO support) through a TCP project, TCP/MOZ/3301 “*Support to the implementation of the national strategy on Human-Wildlife Conflict mitigation*”, as per the Government’s request.

13. FAO published a press release on the HWC Toolkit on its website in July 2010. It also granted interviews and provided information to media and interested professionals on the toolkit. The HWC Toolkit was presented at the African Wildlife Consultative Forum (Victoria Falls, November 2010).

14. Experiences in mitigation techniques and the HWC cases reporting via SMS was shared between Zimbabwe and Mozambique. FAO work on HWC, the HWC Toolkit and newly developed system for HWC cases monitoring and reporting were presented at the Southern African Wildlife Management Association’s symposium on “*The Human-Natural Resource Interface: Reconciling Conflicting Trade-offs?*” in George, South Africa, in September 2011. The HWC Toolkit was presented at the meeting of the African carnivore group in Nairobi. The further developed HWC Toolkit is available in English version in hard copies, and in French and Portuguese version in soft copy. Production of the Portuguese version of the toolkit in hard copy is underway. Distribution of Human-Elephant conflict technical and farmers’ manuals (English and French) has continued throughout the West African sub-region.

***V. Compile, promote and disseminate good practices in invasive species management***

15. Successful protection of the world’s plants, including trees, from pests requires coordinated international action. This coordination occurs through the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), which is an international agreement between countries to control pests and prevent their spread while minimizing interference with the international movement of goods and people. Recognizing the importance of engaging the forest sector in preventing pest spread, FAO in cooperation with the IPPC undertook an international multi-stakeholder process to develop a Guide to implementation of phytosanitary standards in forestry. The Guide offers clear and concise guidance on forest health practices with suggestions for improved national implementation. FAO and partners, including the IPPC, forest protection authorities and forest managers, are now focusing on strengthening country capacity to minimize pest presence and to prevent pest spread using the Guide as the information base for workshops and training courses. FAO has developed a project to support control and management of Prosopis tree species in Djibouti. Technical support was provided on demonstrating the success of biological control against aphids in Ethiopian highlands through releases of the parasite wasp, *Pauesia Juniperorum* on Cypress and Junipers forest plantations in Ethiopian highlands.

**VI. Requested FAO to place greater emphasis on the issues of agro-forestry technology approaches and application**

16. In collaboration with the ministries in charge of forests in Gabon, Congo and the Central African Republic, FAO implemented the project GCP/RAF/441/GER “Enhancing the contribution of non-wood forest products to poverty alleviation and food security in Central African countries”, which was financed by the German Government. Three training workshops involving over 80 participants, were organized focusing on sustainable harvesting techniques, construction, maintenance of propagators and tree nurseries and marketing of *Gnetum* spp. The follow-up of these trainings is done by local organizations that profited from an in-depth training on entrepreneurial development in the frame of *Gnetum* spp. domestication.

17. An FAO TCP project on urban and peri-urban forestry (including agro-forestry approaches) has been formulated and approved for Niger. Another one formulated for Cape Verde is awaiting approval.

18. Guidelines for decision making “Putting Agroforestry High on the Policy Agenda” are being developed by FAO Forest Conservation Team and should be validated and made available by July 2012.

**VII. Requested FAO to increase its support to members to develop their capacities in research and education through the strengthening of forestry training institutions**

19. FAO support was provided to the Network of Central African Forestry and Environmental Training Institutes (RIFFEAC), particularly on team facilitation and project formulation. A training programme for forestry schools on sustainable management of non-wood forest products is under development by RIFFEAC with the support from the project GCP/RAF/441/GER “Enhancing the contribution of non-wood forest products to poverty alleviation and food security in Central African countries”.

20. FAO also provided support to the Government of Angola for development of a training programme for forestry workers and technicians under the auspices of the Angolan Institute for Forestry Development, preparation of curricula and training of trainers.

21. Research activities on non-wood forest products are sponsored by FAO through the project GCP/RAF/441/GER. A first call for research grants was launched in January 2011.

22. A natural resource geo-database has been established for the Eastern African sub-region to support the FAO sub-regional office for Eastern Africa (SFE) activities that are targeted towards enhancing agricultural productivity in the sub-region. The database provides information on areas of land degradation, degraded areas, water points, biodiversity hotspots and wildlife corridors, agro-ecological zones, main farming systems, transhumance/livestock corridors, foreign land acquisition locations, etc. in Eastern African countries.

**VIII. Requested FAO to:**

**(i) undertake a regional analysis of all Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) variables to present a complete assessment of the forest situation;**

**(ii) develop a global methodology for the evaluation of trees outside forests, forest degradation and afforestation;**

**(iii) continue its support to countries to conduct national forest monitoring and assessments (NFMAs) to improve forest resources information and analysis and in the development of NFMA project proposals; and**

**(iv) continue to support countries in the implementation of reducing emissions for deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) in all its forms and, in so doing, to assist them to incorporate all types of land uses, including agriculture, agro-forestry and other land uses (AFOLU) and to draw lessons from the evolution of the Clean Development Mechanism.**

23. In collaboration with ITTO, a report on “The State of Forests in the Amazon Basin, Congo Basin and Southeast Asia” was prepared by FAO as a background document for the Summit of the Three Rainforest Basins, held in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, from 31 May to 3 June 2011.
24. Through the UN-REDD Programme, DRC receives support from FAO to establish a monitoring system of deforestation and forest degradation. FAO is also promoting the development of a regional approach in establishing Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system in the Congo Basin. In collaboration with COMIFAC, a sub-regional project proposal was formulated and submitted for funding to the Congo Basin Forest Fund. FRA 2015 will also contain an analysis of the forest situation in Africa based on data provided through the country reporting process.
25. FAO has published and released its Global Forest Resource Assessment (FRA) 2010 report, which contains assessment of the forest resource situation in Africa. Furthermore, in 2011 a State of the World’s Forest (SOFO) report was released giving an in-depth analysis of the physical, social and economic aspects of forestry in the African Region.
26. FAO provided support to DRC, Tanzania, Zambia, Nigeria and Cote d’Ivoire to implement REDD activities. It continues to do so in these countries.

***IX. The Commission noted the utility of the ‘Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Dry Lands of sub-Saharan Africa’ and requested that, once translated, FAO should disseminate it amongst members for their use.***

27. The publication on *Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management Practices in Dry Lands of sub-Saharan Africa* was published and printed in English and French under the Arid Zone Forests and Forestry Working Paper Series. It was disseminated to the members through different channels including FAO representation offices in Drylands Africa countries, the regional and subregional offices (RAF and SFE), at COFO in Rome (Italy) in October 2010 and during the first Africa Drylands Week in Dakar (Senegal) in June 2011. The publications are also available on the FAO arid zone forests and forestry website: <http://www.fao.org/forestry/aridzone/60843/en/>

### **Other FAO Activities in the Region**

28. In addition to activities corresponding to the AFWC recommendations, FAO continues to undertake many other activities in Africa to support sustainable management of forests and wildlife resources.

- *Community forestry*

29. FAO provided technical assistance to the Forestry Department in Swaziland for the formulation of a project on community-based wildfire management. Support was provided to the Government of Madagascar to formulate and implement a project on forest governance, economy and trade. Similarly, Kenya was supported to strengthen smallholder forest communities and community forestry associations to come together and exchange experiences and to plan better engagement with decision-makers and other service providers. This work was a joint initiative also involving the Swedish Forest Owners Association. The Community Forest Associations were also supported to develop business plans for the forests they own.

A publication on Participatory Forest Management (PFM) in Ethiopia was issued as well as Databases in Forestry and Participatory Forest Management in East African countries.

- *National Forest Programmes*

30. The FAO-hosted National Forest programme Facility has (since AFWC 17) been active in 30 African countries providing almost 200 small grants to civil society (70%) and government organizations

(30%). Detailed info on country activities are available at <http://www.nfp-facility.org>. In addition several regional initiatives have been supported including:

- i) ANAFE – revitalizing Forest Education in East Africa and training of teachers of Anglophone and Francophone forest training institutions in conflict management;
- ii) training of trainers on Enhancing Participation in both English and French speaking countries;
- iii) training of trainers from Francophone countries on Conflict management;
- iv) AFF – Strengthen capacities to implement and monitor NFPs; and
- v) development of National Forest Financing Strategies and Instruments in West Africa.

31. Zimbabwe was assisted in the development of a National Forest Programme and in a thematic study and analysis of the forest sector. In addition, Zimbabwe benefited from FAO-supported training on participatory forest policy formulation and in national forest genetic resources assessment.

32. Uganda was supported to review and conclusively update the National forest plan of 2002, which has now been finalized. It was also supported to develop a forest financing strategy through a participatory process that involved private sector, civil society and the government. In Zambia, support was extended for non-state actors working with the Government Forest Department to undertake studies that support the implementation of the new National Forest Policy. Technical assistance was provided to the Government of Rwanda for the formulation of a TCP project on Bamboo promotion and utilization.

33. FAO provided technical assistance to the Forestry Department of Swaziland to formulate a TCP project on community-based wildfire management and supported the Government of Madagascar to formulate and implement a TCP project on forest governance, economy and trade.

34. FAO has supported Mau Escarpment Agroforestry /Livelihood riverine population project in Kenya and a forest management capacity and institution strengthening in Northern Uganda. A publication on Eucalyptus Policies in Eastern Africa: A Result of Shifting Scientific Stand was produced and issued

- *Climate Change*

35. The Sub-regional office for Eastern Africa has developed a first version of the Subregional Climate Change Strategy, aimed at improving the capacity of SFE and countries to understand and integrate climate change in their vision and to mainstream it into their work. Most of these documents were shared with policy makers, government institutions, experts and other forestry stakeholders in the subregion.

- *Wildlife*

36. In collaboration with the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), FAO published several technical papers on wildlife management (<http://www.cic-wildlife.org/?id=412>), namely:

- a) a Practical Summary of Experiences after Three Decades of Community-based Wildlife Conservation in Africa “What are the Lessons Learnt?”;
- b) the Selous – Niassa Wildlife Corridor in Tanzania: Biodiversity Conservation from the Grassroots (Practical Experiences and Lessons from Integrating Local Communities into Trans-boundary Natural Resources Management);
- c) a Comparison of the Prices of Hunting Tourism in Southern and Eastern Africa;
- d) contribution of Wildlife to National Economies; and
- e) Wildlife Law in the Southern African Development Community.

- *National, Regional and International Consultations*

37. FAO also supported the preparations and proceedings of the World Wildfire Conference which took place in early May 2011 in Sun City, South Africa. Two representatives from Zimbabwe and Botswana were supported to attend the meeting and to present FAO implemented fire projects in their respective countries. Technical support was provided for the preparation of the community-based natural resources management (CBNRM) and CITES Conference in Vienna. Four experts were supported from the region to attend the event and represent Southern Africa in the deliberations. In collaboration with GIZ, SAFNET and other partners, SADC was supported to organize a meeting on forest fires and on cross border fire management as well as for the preparation of a SADC fire programme.

38. As part of the EU-funded project on Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel (GGWSSI), FAO organized, in collaboration with over 17 partners including the UNCCD Secretariat, the Millennium Development Goals Center for West and Central Africa, the Earth Institute, the Government of Senegal, the European Union, the Walloon Region – Wallonie Bruxelles International, the First Africa Drylands Week, in Dakar (Senegal), under the theme “**Towards a global vision and partnership on sustainable land and climate risk management for the Sahara and the Sahel**”. This Week brought together over 200 scientists, technical specialists, development actors, NGOs, policy makers, and donors to explore the challenges posed by land degradation, desertification, climate change and poverty in the Circum-Saharan region

Support was given to Kenya Forestry Association for their annual meeting. Support was also given to the UFA (Uganda Forestry Association) for their annual meeting that focuses on Climate Change.

- *Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT)*

39. FAO is implementing a European Commission (EC) -funded support programme for African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries on forest law enforcement, governance and trade (FLEGT). Many African countries, institutions and non-governmental organizations are benefiting from this programme.

- *Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel*

40. A total of EUR 1,750,000 was mobilized from the European Commission and a co-financing partner (GM-UNCCD) to support the African Union in the implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative (GGWSSI) in 8 countries (Algeria, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Mauritania, Nigeria, The Gambia, Senegal and Sudan) as well as in regional cross-cutting activities. This was in addition to the ongoing TCP support to the African Union Commission - TCP/RAF/3212 (D) "Assistance for the Implementation of the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative – GGWSSI", which was started in June 2010. The TCP involves 5 selected countries (Chad, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Mali and Niger).