



# African Forest Forum

A platform for stakeholders in African forestry

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## AFF launches a Strategic Plan

The African Forest Forum has set out a strategy in a document entitled 'African Forest Forum Strategy 2009 – 2014', that will guide its activities at least for the next five years.

The document is based on a strategy development workshop held by the Governing Council at its meeting in Kigali, Rwanda on October 29, 2008. It was subsequently subjected to review and commentary by members of AFF and selected individuals for an additional period of 3 months.

A PDF version of the Strategic Plan is available [here](#).

## Workshops tackle climate change, forests, wildlife

The AFF has implemented two workshops, one for eastern Africa on climate change and African forests and trees, and another on a pan-African level on climate change and African forest and wildlife resources. The objectives of the workshops were:

- Share lessons and experiences on how climate change features/manifests in African forests and wildlife areas.
- Develop a shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities related to climate change in the African forestry and wildlife sectors.
- Identify key issues/lessons of relevance to the forestry and wildlife sectors in Africa and way forward with them.

Please click [here](#) for reports on the workshops.

## African-Swedish forestry collaboration gets a boost

The African Forest Forum (AFF) and the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA) are collaborating on a project aiming at developing concrete and operational programme ideas on how experiences from successful management, use and conservation of forest resources in Sweden and elsewhere in the North might be initiated in Africa. To that end AFF and KSLA organised two workshops in Nairobi, Kenya, and Lusaka, Zambia in April 2010.

Please click [here](#) for reports on the workshops.

## AFF signs MoU with African Union Commission

The African Forest Forum signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the African Union Commission on 12 February 2010. The signing ceremony took place at the AU headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The MoU was signed by Prof Godwin Kowero, Executive Secretary of the African Forest Forum and Mrs. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union Commission.

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The MoU aims to promote cooperation on the management and sustainable use of forest resources in Africa.

## **AFF assists Djibouti kick start the GGWSSI process**

The Government of Djibouti solicited and obtained technical assistance from the African Forest Forum (AFF) to kick start activities under the Great Green Wall for the Sahel and the Sahara Initiative (GGWSSI). The initial activity was to conduct a baseline study in all the sites along the Great Green Wall band within the framework of implementation of the national component. This baseline study will give a broad view of the current situation of the sites and set up a database of sectoral information.

The expected results of this study are sectoral reports on the water resources, agro-sylvo-pastoralism (forestry, agriculture and pastoralism), energy and the socio-economic aspects. These reports will be synthesized into a document that will be used as reference material in terms of characteristics, constraints and potentials of the sites as well as proposed actions. Also on the basis of these results, a project document will be elaborated for funding the implementation of the proposed actions.

This study is almost finished and a validation workshop will be organized very soon.

## **Governing Council meets in Nairobi**

The Governing Council (GC) of the African Forest Forum (AFF) held its sixth meeting on **April 14-15, 2010**. The Governing Council has met six times and the Executive Committee (EC) nine times since the AFF became operational in October 2007. In all these meetings several decisions were made to facilitate the work of the AFF. The key decisions from these meetings demonstrate progress made in the administration and management of the affairs of the AFF through the GC.

Please click [here](#) for a detailed report on decisions made by the GC.

## **Communication and Events**

**Call for Papers:** An international conference to address the challenges faced in embracing Payment for Environmental Services in the eastern African region is planned for 20- 22 October 2010 in Jinja, Uganda. Direct all queries on this to: [deanses@mu.ac.ke](mailto:deanses@mu.ac.ke), and copied to: [akkipkoech@yahoo.com](mailto:akkipkoech@yahoo.com),

**18th Commonwealth Forestry Congress.** Theme: Restoring the Commonwealth's Forests: Tackling Climate Change. Edinburgh, UK, 28 June - 2 July 2010. For details visit: <http://www.cfc2010.org>

**XXIII IUFRO World Congress.** Theme: Forests for the Future: Sustaining Society and the Environment. 23-28 August 2010, Seoul, Republic of Korea. For details visit: <http://www.iufro2010.com/>

**Open-ended Intergovernmental Ad Hoc Expert Group on SFM Financing Strategy (ies) (AHEG) Meeting.** September 13-17, 2010, Nairobi, Kenya. For more information visit: <http://www.un.org/desa/forests>

*This newsletter is a mechanism for distribution and exchange of information relevant to forestry to a broad audience within and outside Africa. It is being sent to you as AFF's stakeholder. We want to respect your privacy and desire not to have your e-mail inbox filled with unwanted correspondence. If you do not want to receive this newsletter please send us a note at <exec.sec@afforum.org>, and we will remove your name from the distribution list.*

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