



A PLATFORM FOR STAKEHOLDERS IN AFRICAN FORESTRY

ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF FORESTRY ASSOCIATIONS IN WEST AFRICA



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Assessment of the status of forestry associations in West Africa

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Acronyms and abbreviations

AFF	African Forest Forum
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AWIFE	Association of Women in Forestry and Environment
BOT	Board of Trustees
CFA	Commonwealth Forestry Association
FAG	Forestry Association of Ghana
FAN	Forestry Association of Nigeria
FANAC	Forestry Association of Nigeria Afforestation Campaign
FFPS	Forests and Forest Products Society (Nigeria)
GIF	Ghana Institute of Foresters
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
ISTF	International Society of Tropical Foresters
NFDC	National Forestry Development Committee (Nigeria)
NFWA	National Forestry and Wildlife Association (Sierra Leone)
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
SOLF	Society of Liberian Foresters

Executive summary

Professional associations are needful for effective coordination of professional activities to enable them achieve the aims and objectives of setting the up. Such associations abound for most professions in Europe, America and Asia. They are gradually finding relevance in Africa. The prevalence of professional forestry associations in West Africa was investigated. The study covered Benin, Cameroon, the Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone. Indices examined include mission, governance, effectiveness, efficiency relevance, financial viability, leadership, strategic and programme planning, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation as well as networking/partnership/linkages. Of the eight countries studied, Benin and the Gambia did not have professional forestry associations. By far, the most established and active of the six associations examined in the sub-region is the Forestry Association of Nigeria (FAN) founded in October, 1970, followed by Forestry Association of Ghana (FAG) and The National Forestry and Wildlife Association (NFWA) of Sierra Leone. Though all the associations have governance structures, the relative strength of each of them determines their effectiveness, efficiency and financial viability. All the associations are resource-poor and need to be strengthened in terms of administration and funding to enable them accomplish their missions better. An umbrella forestry association is recommended for Africa, with nodes in sub-regions. The African Forest Forum is most suited to facilitate this.

CHAPTER 1 Introduction and approach

Professional associations are established by professionals, in specific discipline(s), who have common interest that drive the visions and missions of such associations. While some of these associations may eventually develop into regulatory associations, many are just assemblies that seek to promote professional interest in advisory but non-regulatory manner.

In this regard, the forestry profession is no exception. For example, Europe and America boast of several of such associations among which are American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA), Association of Consulting Foresters of America (ACFA), Ecological Society of America (ESA), Forest Products Society (FPS), International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), National Arborist Association (NAA), National Association of Professional Forestry Schools and Colleges (ACFA), National Community Forestry Center - Northern Forest Region (NCFC-NFR), Society of American Foresters (SAF) (ForestryUSA.com, 2011) Even in the United States, virtually every State has its own forestry association, which though distinct and autonomous, operates under the auspices of the National Association of State Foresters (NASF). In the Commonwealth of Nations, there is the Commonwealth Forestry Association (CFA), the world's longest established international forestry organization. Tracing its history back to 1921 the CFA seeks to promote the conservation and sustainable management of the world's forests and the contribution they make to peoples' livelihoods. CFA unites 1200 members in 78 Commonwealth of Nations and other countries in an international network that provides professional support to its members and forms a key element of civil society (CFA-International.Org, 2011).

Over the years, the objectives of the associations have recognized topical global issues and initiatives such as the Millennium Development Goals, in particular relating to the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger through the contribution of forests to livelihoods, and to the fundamental role that forests play in environmental stability. In West Africa, the history of forestry associations is chequered. Though a number of such associations exist, the status of many of them is not defined. They lack strong membership, are not visible in relevant national and international meetings and are not visible among the wider stakeholder community for which reason they are unable to contribute meaningfully to national, regional and global discourses and processes in forestry. This tends to undermine their influence on policy and practice of forestry and Africa's capacity in international and regional dialogues on forestry and related areas. There is therefore the need to examine the status of the forestry associations in the West African region with a view to identifying their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to inform policy and practice. In this regard the African Forest Forum (AFF) under its work on "Strengthening Africa in

international and regional dialogues on forestry and related areas” undertook this study on the status of forestry associations in respect of Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gambia, Cameroon, Senegal, and Benin, guided with the following terms of reference:

- 1) collect information on which countries have these professional associations/societies, how long they have been active, mode of establishment, their current state (including status, number of members, activities, influence/impact on forestry development);
- 2) identify their strengths and weaknesses and propose ways through which they could be strengthened;
- 3) advise on how to establish these organs in countries where they do not exist; basing recommendations on information from the relevant countries;
- 4) suggest how the professional associations can be firmly linked with the African Forest Forum.

The study explored the use of a questionnaire designed (Appendix 1) to elicit information which address the issues raised in the terms of reference. The sampling was purposive as pre-determined by the AFF. The questionnaire was tested for validity in Ibadan, Nigeria. Utilizing information, communication and technology tools, the consultant identified forestry professionals (Appendix 2) with adequate knowledge and experience in their home countries’ professional forestry associations with whom he worked to gather information through questionnaire surveys in the respective countries. Personal communications were also deployed to solicit information from key individuals to enrich the information used in this report.

CHAPTER 2 Results and discussion

KEY ISSUES INFLUENCING PERFORMANCE OF THE ASSOCIATIONS

This section of the report covers key issues that may determine the performance and success of the studied professional associations. Some of the issues are rooted in the history of the associations and especially how they were established and people and institutions behind them. Others include the vision or mission guiding them, the governance structures and leadership styles, the relevance of the associations in their countries, financial viability and how effective and efficient they are.

History

Of the eight countries surveyed, only two (Republic of Benin and The Gambia) did not have any professional forestry association. Table 1 shows the professional associations by country and year of establishment.

Table 1. Professional forestry associations in West Africa countries

Country	Name of main forestry association	Years of establishment
Benin	None in existence	NA
Cameroon	Forestry Association of Cameroon (FAC)	1988
The Gambia	None in existence	NA
Ghana	Ghana Institute of Foresters (GIF)	1992
Liberia	Society of Liberian Foresters (SOLF)	1998
Nigeria	Forestry Association of Nigeria (FAN)	1970
Senegal	Association des Ingénieurs des Eaux et Forêts du Sénégal (ASIF)	1996
Sierra Leone	National Forestry and Wildlife Association (NFWA) formerly known as Village Forest Association	1985

There were other smaller professional associations in some of the countries. For example, in Cameroon, there were the Forestry Technicians of Cameroon (FTC), Forestry Engineers of Cameroon (FEC), and Action Group for Cameroon Foresters (AGCF). Nigeria had the Forests and Forest Products Society (FFPS) and the Association of Women in Forestry and Environment (AWIFE). All the professional associations, where they existed were formed around forestry institutions such in university forestry departments and research institutes, and bringing together other practitioners in the government ministries departments and agencies as well as non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector organizations with interest in forestry. Such institutions have maintained the momentum of these associations. The oldest of all the associations is the Forestry Association of Nigeria (FAN), founded in 1970 while the youngest is Society of Liberian Foresters (SOLF) founded in 1998. Information on secretariat and contacts of the professional associations are contained in Appendix 3.

Mission

Vision and mission statements are like unique identifiers of organisations which encapsulate their values in few words. Apart from the statement of objectives, aims and goals most of the professional forestry associations in the sub-region do not have clearly defined vision or mission statements. The purpose of the associations covered in this study may be summarized as: "To promote social cohesion amongst people working in forestry and forestry related disciplines". Perhaps the only association with a clear mission statement is the Ghana Institute of Foresters which stated thus: "To advance the science, technology and practice of professional forestry in Ghana". Even the oldest and the most cohesive forestry association in the sub-region, the Forestry Association of Nigeria does not have clearly defined vision and mission statements other than objectives of the association as encapsulated in the 2001 revised constitution of the association. The implications of this are profound. Members may not have the visions and missions to drive their behaviours. In such circumstances, the activities of such associations become routine and bereft of key values and beliefs.

Governance

Where forestry associations exist in the sub-region they all have executives that are elected from time to time, with the best examples found in Ghana and Nigeria, as illustrated below.

GIF is governed by a constitution with bye - laws, moderately efficient, and is effective in its operations, despite certain constraints. It is a member of several associations including the Commonwealth Forestry Association. GIF also collaborates with several government agencies in Ghana to ensure sustainable development, conservation and management of the nation's forest and wildlife resources. GIF holds Council Meetings every quarter in the year, and an Annual General Meeting (AGM) once every year.

The FAN has a governance structure with the Board of Trustees (BOT) at the apex. The BOT is made up of very senior fellows of the Association with enviable professional accomplishments. According to the constitution of FAN (2001), the Association also has a Governing Council made up of all fellows, directors of forestry departments at the federal and state levels; heads of forestry institutions and the elected executives of the association. The Council meets quarterly. The AGM of FAN is the gathering of all registered members and coincides with the annual conference of the association.

With the exception of SOLF, none of the associations in the West African region is known to be chartered. “A charter is the grant of authority or rights, stating that the granter formally recognizes the prerogative of the recipient to exercise the rights specified. It is implicit that the granter retains superiority (or sovereignty), and that the recipient admits a limited (or inferior) status within the relationship, and it is within that sense that charters were historically granted, and that sense is retained in modern usage of the term” (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charter>). However, the FAN is in the process of doing so with the Nigerian National Assembly.

In both Ghana and Nigeria where there are clear governing structures, the associations have been relatively visible in national issues, often times initiating and responding to environmental trends and influences, particularly where they pose threats to sustainable forest management. The fact that many forestry associations in the sub-region have not been chartered tends to limit their abilities to enforce their positions against infractions and breaches on forestry issues by members and governments as has been positively achieved through professional associations like those in the fields of engineering, medicine, veterinary science/medicine, law, pharmacy, architecture and other professions.

Effectiveness

All the forestry associations in the sub-region consider themselves relatively effective, at least in the context of their status of not being chartered. This is to the extent that they are able to hold their periodic meetings. Though their level of effectiveness is qualitatively described as fair to very good, there are neither quantitative indicators of the level of effectiveness nor a system to assess the effectiveness. In the case of the Forestry Association of Nigeria, periodic state/local chapter reports are received from the states on issues of local and national importance. However, all the forestry associations expressed strong desires to improve on their levels of effectiveness towards achieving the stated objectives of the associations.

To a large extent, the effectiveness of these professional forest associations depends on the existence of champions or strongly committed members in leadership positions. Where such influential association leaders exist, they tend to place the associations closer to policy makers. Policy makers in turn provide needed financial and legal backing in exchange for

independent policy advice and linkage to stakeholders of the associations. However, the associations would need to maintain high level of credibility by adhering to principles of independence and neutrality. To this end deliberate exclusion of politics in the associations in handling of forestry issues can be helpful.

Efficiency

Most of the forestry associations in the sub-region are not numerically strong. With the exception of FAN which boasts of a membership strength of about 5,000 spread across 37 states (and the Federal Capital Territory) forestry departments, one forestry research institute, 30 universities and eight colleges of forestry and wildlife, all the other forestry associations put together have less than 1000 members (Cameroon- 76, Senegal- 58, Ghana-340, Liberia-150, Sierra Leone-179). Not too surprisingly, females constitute less than 10% of the total membership in all cases except in Sierra Leone which reported 25%.

The low numerical strength places some limitations on the revenue generation capacity of the associations, which mainly derives from annual dues/registration fees. In the case of Nigeria, being a voluntary professional association, FAN has not been able to turn its numerical strength into financial advantage as many members do not pay their dues regularly. All the associations are run on internally generated revenue, with occasional support from governments, which has never been found to be sustainable. This explains why none of the associations has its offices in owned buildings. Equipment is sparse, while high level administrative settings are rare. Notwithstanding this, the associations reported efficient use of their meagre financial resources.

However, staff members from institutions where the members reside, are used by the professional association to the best of their abilities. Members of the executives, particularly, the general secretaries, treasurers and other elected officers provide backstopping and see to the smooth running of the associations. Unlike the Commonwealth Forestry Association (CFA), the International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF) and others in America and UK, newsletters are not issued to members. The FAN however produces souvenirs and conference proceedings for registered members at the annual conference and AGM.

Relevance

None of the associations has been undergoing systematic programme revisions to reflect changing environment and capacities or regularly undertakes role analyses. However, to the extent that most of the forestry associations have been able to form centres/entities recognized by members in the profession, this is an indicator of potential relevance. Hence, the forestry associations need to address gaps in understanding of the continuously evolving link between forestry and livelihood as well as economic development of their respective countries in order to improve the political profile of the sector. They need to be a force to disseminate relevant information on best forest practices to stakeholders including

direct forest users and decision makers. Their relevance, therefore, largely depends on the extent they are able to influence the generation of high quality and evidence-based knowledge that supports decision making at both policy and implementation levels.

In Senegal and Ghana, the associations have consistently organized public discourses, seminars, and debates on the subject of sustainable forest management. GIF has embarked on a national campaign with the theme: "Science and Business of Growing Trees – an opportunity for short, medium and long term investments". In Sierra Leone, the Association has collaborated with land owners, traditional medicinal associations, community leaders and community-based organizations to establish plantations of fast growing species such as bamboo, *Pentadesma* and *Anisophylea* for poles, fuelwood and protection of threatened terrains. It has also encouraged domestication of cane rats and the establishment of zoological gardens to promote eco-tourism. As of the time of this assessment, the SOLF was implementing a project on the establishment of the Montserrado County Forest Forum (MCFF); and nearing completion of its first annual publication. The FAN initiated an annual tree planting campaign in 1980, which was later taken over by the Federal Government as a national event. The Association also initiated the FAN Afforestation Campaign (FANAC) through which model plantations are established in different localities in the country. The Associations have also stood up from time to time against policies inimical to sustainable forest management in various countries. In context, therefore, the associations are relevant, and could be better, if strengthened.

Financial viability

This is one of the major constraints forestry associations are facing. Most have not been able to come up with a broad range of strategies to mobilise resources, making them overly rely on membership fees. As noted in the fifth section of Chapter 3, the small size of membership to the associations and their inability to enforce the payment of membership dues set some limits for financial viability. Most of the members are employed in the public services of their respective countries and thus have limited capacities for fund generation. Potential sources of funding include bilateral and multilateral donors, governments, private sector and financial institutions, as well as paid consultancy services.

Unlike the CFA, ISTF and the national and state forestry associations in USA which receive funding support from donors/funders, none of the associations in West Africa reported sustained donor/funder support and thus are not influenced by donor/funders. All the associations either lack, or have weak mechanisms to access external funding support.

With the exception of FAN which has made a modest attempt at diversifying into business by establishing a business arm of the association known as FAN Consult, no other professional forestry association in the sub-region is involved in any form of business that may enhance its financial viability. FAN also has a four bedroom apartment donated to it in

the 1980s, which has been leased out for revenue generation. It also receives limited annual subventions from active corporate members.

Though the existing sources of funds are limited, all the forestry associations reported that they have been able to survive within their means. Accounts are properly kept and financial reports are given from time to time to the governing councils and AGMs. Good financial governance needs to be given emphasis in order to build credibility and trust by potential benefactors.

Stakeholder-environment issues

Virtually all the associations have some form of relationships with communities and other organizations, even though most of such relationships are not formalized.

In Sierra Leone for example, the association commenced originally as a Village Forest Association, operating with communities. In Ghana, GIF has links with several community associations. The FAN has corporate membership category that includes saw millers, tree growers, wood-based industries and NGOs. In some of the countries there are few other smaller forestry associations, which do not necessarily play complementary roles to the main forestry associations. As reported previously in this report, there exist three forestry associations in Cameroun. They include the Forestry Technicians of Cameroon, Forestry Engineers of Cameroon, and Action Group for Cameroon Foresters. In the case of Cameroon, the main reason for this is the problem of definition of who is a professional forester. The Forestry Association in Cameroon however, enjoys relationship with the National Forestry Development Agency (ANAFOR) and other organisations such as CIFOR and ICRAF. In Nigeria, there are the Association of Women in Forestry and Environment (AWIFE) and the Forests and Forest Products Society (FFPS). There is little evidence of “hand shake” between these two organizations and between both of them and the main forestry association, FAN, even though most of the members of AWIFE and FFPS are also members of FAN. The FAN is a statutory member of the National Forestry Development Committee (NFDC), Nigeria’s highest forest policy body, and so, to that extent it has the opportunity to contribute to governance issues in forestry.

Leadership

All the forestry associations in the sub-region have clearly defined leadership, with their presidents and general secretaries as the arrow heads of routine administration. The responsibilities for leadership and decision-making are known and distributed appropriately. The leaders are concerned with getting significant tasks done well. They are also generally respected; hence members freely contribute ideas to the smooth running of the associations. A good model here is the case of the FAN whose constitution clearly spells out the roles of all elected officers and their tenures. Though weak, there is a constant collaboration between the national leadership and the local and state chapter leaderships of

the association. Elections are freely conducted at AGM to evolve new leadership. The BOT, the council and the executive committee work in harmony. Leadership is generally flexible, and it welcomes change.

However, most of the forestry associations do not have influential decision makers within their membership that could firmly link them to context of national leaderships. The governance structure of these associations will need to be effective in guiding the policy directions of the associations as well as embody broad and balanced representations of key stakeholders to maintain strong link with the stakeholder community. Such governance structures will also pay adequate attention to matters of fostering key strategic partnerships with other institutions in order to leverage resources and exert influence in converting policy to action.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Strategic planning is an important process that helps to drive the vision and mission of modern organizations. None of the forestry associations in the sub-region reported a clear process of strategic planning. To that extent, none of the elements of strategic planning can be said to be in place. Most of the measures in the running of the associations are routine and on ad hoc basis. It is, therefore, key to assist these associations to consult their stakeholders and come up with clear and focused mission and mandate statement. The statement needs to be broad enough to include contribution to sustainable management and use of forest resources as well as fostering a competent and ethically sound forestry work force.

Programme planning

The main events reported by the associations are the council meetings, conventions/conferences and the annual general meetings. For each of these events roles and responsibilities are clearly defined, with the secretariats as the coordinating units. For example, for the annual conventions/conferences and AGMs, National Organizing Committees (NOCs) and Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) are constituted to work out appropriate themes, sub-themes, identify lead speakers and announce call for papers and contributions. The committees operate budgets that are subject to the approval of the respective councils. To a large extent ICT has been applied in the conduct of some of the associations' activities.

Programme implementation

Virtually all the associations have lean employed staff. They utilize the services of members who are employed forestry professionals to implement their programmes as a sacrifice to the sustenance of the associations. Largely, the staff members enjoy good working relationship. For example, SOLF is yet to establish chapters; and for its survival it relies on

contributions from its membership for implementation of pilot projects and minimum support from national and international organizations. The FAN similarly utilizes the skills of its members in planning its programmes, particularly, the annual conference which has only been held 33 times in the 40 years of existence of the association. The associations would need to employ their own administrative staff to enhance productivity and satisfactory service delivery. This will ensure their continued relevance and sustainability.

Monitoring and evaluation

Generally, monitoring and evaluation were found to be weak in all the associations. The evaluations carried out were generally for accountability purposes to review past performance and to determine the degree of success or failure and lessons learnt. They were generally self-evaluations and non-mandatory, and without an external input. The evaluation standards are thus generally weak, inaccurate and do not seek to reflect the reactions of stakeholders. There are instances that the evaluations were considered by stakeholders as partial and unacceptable. This calls for the strengthening of the associations to be run in line with current best practices.

Networking, joint-ventures, partnerships, and coalitions

A number of the associations have networks, though weak, with forestry associations in Europe and America, but strangely not with one another in the sub-region. They are not involved in joint ventures, partnerships and coalitions. This obviously limits to opportunities that would have benefitted the associations and their members.

Electronic linkage

GIF and FAN are present on the internet, though not very active. The importance of electronic linkage cannot be overemphasized. Since the associations' electronic linkages are either completely absent or very weak they are unable to optimally use electronic linkages to communicate information about their work to members as well as external stakeholders, including the general public. At the centre of forestry associations is the need for cooperation among committed members. One of the greatest obstacles is the difficulty of maintaining high level of personal interest and involvement of members. For this to happen, the forestry association will need to have impact on members at the individual level. Establishing and maintaining a regular platform of communication is therefore essential. To this end, a good and reliable website, among others, will be invaluable.

FACTORS MILITATING AGAINST NON-EXISTENCE OF PROFESSIONAL FORESTRY ASSOCIATIONS IN SOME COUNTRIES

As has been reported, the Republic of Benin and The Gambia did not have professional forestry associations. Neither of the countries reported any policy or political factor inhibiting the establishment of a professional forestry association, in as much as it is in tandem with national goals and aspirations. They however reported an institutional challenge of coordination in the forestry sector. In the case of the Republic of Benin, diverging focus of NGOs, public forest administration, and the private sector involved in forestry would require harmonization as it may be a potential source of conflict. Socio-culturally, any actions taken to establish forestry associations in both countries will have to focus on the benefits of local communities bordering forests areas in order for them to gain acceptability. The respondents from the two countries were of the opinion that to be operational, the association will need to develop strategies to mobilize funds from state, private sector, other associations, NGOs and individuals. The associations to be established could also mobilize international funds to support their action plans. However, the funds which will be raised have to be spent efficiently to prove their impact on the forestry sector. They believe that there are many actors in the countries' forestry sector that can contribute to creating and nurturing the associations in both countries. Creation of forestry associations in both countries is therefore desirable and urgent.

CHAPTER 3 Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

The countries covered in this study are those with significant forest resources. It is therefore to be expected that they should have strong forestry personnel, and hence strong professional forestry associations, even though countries with substantial area of dry forest with high density of population also exhibit strong stakeholder constituency. Though only two of the eight countries covered did not have professional forestry associations, those that have cannot be described as very strong in contemporary terms. The oldest and by far the best organized and sustained is the Forestry Association of Nigeria founded in 1970 while the most recent is the Society of Liberian Forester founded in 1998. The associations do not have any link among themselves and thus do not have a common platform to share experiences, collaborate and possibly embark on joint ventures. It may therefore, be concluded that the professional forestry associations in West Africa do not possess the strength to compete with peers in the developed parts of the world, yet they have the potential to play significant roles in the sustainable management of the forests in the sub-region.

The following recommendations are therefore, apposite:

- ▶ An urgent need for the convention of a summit of professional forestry associations, possibly of all African countries. The focus of such a summit should include the sensitization of all stakeholders on the need to have virile national professional associations, imbibe best practices in the running of such professional associations and contemporary approaches to networking, joint ventures and partnership among the continent's professional forestry association. The African Forest Forum is most suited to convene such a summit;
- ▶ One of the critical bottlenecks for professional forest associations is lack of adequate resource to implement their missions. Most do not have experience and knowhow of resource mobilization. A crucial capacity need is, therefore, the ability to develop strategies to mobilize funds from state, private sector, NGOs and international sources;
- ▶ The existing forestry associations would need to re-orientate themselves in tune with global best practices that will improve their relevance, service delivery and sustainability. To this end, they will need to be assisted to craft programmes tackling issues relevant to forests and foresters in their respective countries;

- ▶ Identify key forestry professionals in countries where forestry associations do not exist to form the nucleus of new forestry associations. This can be done with the active support of the African Forest Forum;
- ▶ Assist professional organizations to maintain objectivity and independence to ensure they will be independent sources of knowledge to guide policy decisions;
- ▶ Ultimately, the African Forest Forum would have to initiate the founding of a PanAfrican Forestry Convention/Association (PAFC/ PAFA), with nodes in the continent's sub-regions. A key aim of the convention/association should be a biennial conference to which all the national associations and sub-regional nodes would report and take stock of performance in the forestry sector at the various tiers.

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Appendix 1 Sample questionnaire used for the survey



African Forest Forum (AFF)

c/o World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri,
P.O. Box 30677 – 00100, Nairobi, Kenya.
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TRACKING PROFESSIONAL FORESTRY ASSOCIATIONS IN WEST AFRICA

The African Forestry Forum (AFF) whose office is located on the premises of the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), United Nations Avenue, Gigiri, Nairobi, KENYA, is undertaking a study to track Professional Forestry Associations in Africa with the view to strengthening their capacities where they exist and build capacities to encourage their establishment where they do not exist. The spatial scope of the current study in West Africa is: Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Gambia, Cameroon, Senegal and Benin. We will appreciate your assistance in moving this process forward. We encourage you to please use additional sheets if need be. Kindly send completed questionnaire (electronic and hard copies) directly to me at the contact address indicated below:

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This simple questionnaire is designed to elicit information on such Professional Associations:

- 1) Country:
- 2) Official Language:
- 3) List of forestry institutions by name:
 - a) Academic
 - b) Ministry/ Department
 - c) Agency
 - d) Others
- 4) Does a Forestry Association/Society exist in your country?.....
- 5) When was the Association/Society founded?
- 6) What was the original name at inception?
- 7) What is the current name?
- 8) What informed the change of name?
- 9) Is the organization registered with the appropriate national authorities?
- 10) Is the Organization Chartered.....
- 11) Were the founders from
 - a) University
 - b) Ministry/Department/Agency
 - c) Combination
 - d) None of the above
- 12) What was the original mission for the establishment of the organization?

Please provide the following information on the Association/Society:

- a) National Headquarters address:
- b) Name(s) of national contact person (s)
- c) Designation(s) of contact person(s) e.g. President of National/General Secretary
- d) Contact address(es) of the contact persons

e) Telephone numbers of the contact person(s)

f) Email addresses of the contact person(s)

13) Periodic and annual events (e.g. Council meetings/ Conventions/Conferences).....

14) What is the current status of the Organization in terms of activities/performance?

.....
.....

15) Kindly provide the total number of registered members

16) How many are male?How many are female?

17) Comment on specific impacts of the Organization on forestry, environmental and sustainable development
in your country

.....
.....

18) Please comment briefly on the following indicators

	Indicators	Comments
1	History of the association	
2	Mission	
3	Governance	
4	Effectiveness	
5	Efficiency	
6	Relevance	
7	Financial viability	
8	Strategy	

9	Program planning, implementation, and M&E	
10	Networking, joint-venture, partnership	
11	Sustainability measures: eg payment of annual dues by members, subvention from chapters, subvention from governments and other agencies	

19) Where a professional forestry organization does not exist kindly comment on the following issues (opportunities and threats) that are relevant to establishing one:

- a) Policy
- b) Institutional
- c) Political
- d) Socio-cultural
- e) Economic
- f) Stakeholders

20) Please comment generally

21) Person Administering Questionnaire

- a) Name:
- b) Date:
- c) City/Town:
- d) Country:
- e) Telephone no:

Appendix 2 List of professional colleagues with whom the study was conducted

1) Nigeria

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8) Liberia

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Monrovia, Liberia

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Appendix 3 Secretariat and contacts in the studied countries

1) Liberia

Society of Liberia

National Headquarters: Paynesville City, Montserrado County, Liberia

National contact person: Daniel F. Fumbah, Sr. President

C/O F.D.A.

P. O. Box 3010, Congo Town, Monrovia

Telephone number: +231-690714

Email address: solfiberia1998@yahoo.com

2) Ghana

Ghana Institute of Foresters

P.O. Box AH 4, Achimota, Accra, Ghana

Email: giforweb@yahoo.com

Name(s) of national contact person (s)

a) Dr. K.A. Adam- President

Ghana Institute of Foresters

P.O. Box AH 4, Achimota, Accra, Ghana

Mobile: +233 24 3512003

Email: kwmadam@yahoo.com

b) Mr. John C.K. Amuzu- Vice President

P.O. Box GP 527, Accra, Ghana

Mobile: + 233 24 4477948

Email: znfaf17@yahoo.com

3) Senegal

National contact person (s) :

- a) Mactar CISSE- President

Email: cissematar@orange.sn

Telephone : 221 77 644 96 93 ; 221 33 859 05 31

Directeur Général Grande Muraille Verte

- b) Alassane NGOM- General Secretary

Email address: alassangom@yahoo.fr

Telephone : 221 77 536 52 07 ; 221 33 832 51 95 ; 221 33 859 20 51

Coordinateur PROGEDE

BP 1831 DAKAR

4) Cameroon

National Headquarters address

C/o BP,11112 Yaounde Cameroon.

National contact person: Hon. Aka Amuam - President

Telephone number: +. 237 77 40 99 29

Email address: hondraka@yahoo.com

5) Nigeria

Forestry Association of Nigeria

Federal Department of Forestry Premises

Jericho Hills, Ibadan, Nigeria

Contact Person : Professor Labode Popoola

Telephone : +234-8060634089, + 234-8056853989

Email address : labopopoola@yahoo.com

6) Sierra Leone

National Forestry and Wildlife Association

C/o Forestry Divisional Office, Youyi Building, Freetown, Sierra Leone

Contact Person : Abdul-Abib F. Conteh - Executive Director

Telephone No: + 232 76444441

Email address: aaf_conteh@yahoo.co.uk

African Forest Forum



Contact us at:

African Forest Forum

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