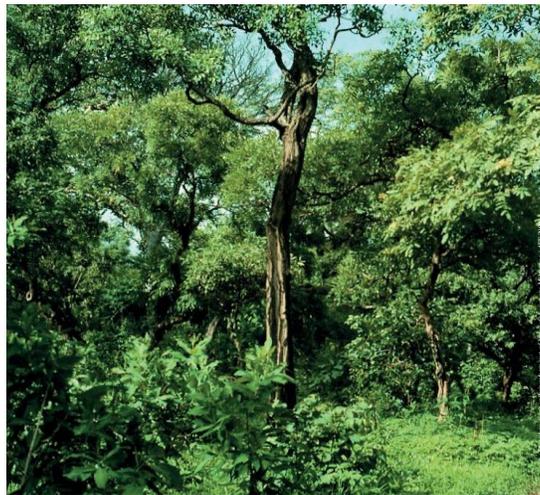# African Forest Forum

A platform for stakeholders in African forestry

Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management in Africa

Final project report (April 2014 to July 2019), submitted to the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) on 30 November 2019

Sida Contribution ID 51000123

About AFF
Established in 2007 as a non-political, non-governmental, objective, independent and not for profit international organisation, the African Forest Forum (AFF) is an association of individuals with a commitment to the sustainable management, wise use and conservation of Africa's forest and tree resources for the socio-economic well-being of its peoples and for the stability and improvement of its environment.

AFF exists to voice the concerns of African forestry stakeholders, and to use science, indigenous knowledge, and experience to advocate for the increasing relevance of forests and trees outside forests to peoples' livelihoods, national economies and the stability of the environment.

In this regard, AFF provides independent analysis and advice to national, regional and international institutions and actors on how economic, food security and environmental issues can be addressed through the sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests. Operationally, AFF mobilises resources to address forestry and related issues that cut across countries and different African sub-regions with a view of enhancing the relevance and contribution of forests and trees outside forests to the livelihoods of the people of Africa and stability of their environment.

Vision
The leading forum that unites all stakeholders in African forestry

Mission
To contribute to the improvement of the livelihoods of the people of Africa and the environment they live in through the sustainable management and use of tree and forest resources on the African continent.

Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management in Africa

Final project report (April 2014 to July 2019), submitted to the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) on 30 November 2019

Sida Contribution ID 51000123

Table of Contents

List of Figures

List of Tables

Acronyms and abbreviations

AFF	African Forest Forum
AFLEG	Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
AUC	African Union Commission
CAMECO	Cameron Ecology
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CDM	Clean Development Mechanism
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade
FORNESSA	Forest Research Network of Sub-Saharan Africa
GFFFN	Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
IAF	International Arrangement on Forests
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
LULUCF	Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry
MEAs	Multilateral Environmental Agreements
NDCS	Nationally Determined Contributions)
PFAS	Professional Forestry Associations
PFAEA	Professional Forestry Association of Eastern Africa
RBM	Results Based Management
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
NGARA	Network for Gums and Resins in Africa
PMER	Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting
QPOW	Quadrennial Programme of Work
TST	Technical Support Team to Raise the Profile of Forestry in Africa
UNCCD	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
UNSPF	United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests

Acknowledgements

Executive Summary

This report presents achievements of the Sida supported project entitled *Strengthening sustainable forest management in Africa* over the project life from April 2014 to July 2019. The report presents an overview of project performance in the key intervention areas that were designed to complement African countries in their efforts to address deforestation and forest degradation, and especially challenges that significantly impact on their ability to address poverty in the African region. Specifically, the interventions aimed to contribute to improved forest compatible development in Africa through improved sustainable management of forest and tree resources. To this end the project improved access to information and knowledge required to strengthen the management of African forest and tree resources, in addition to exploring opportunities to enhance the contribution of forests and tree resources to livelihoods and environmental sustainability. Further, the project also improved the capacities of institutions that support forestry, enhanced quality engagement of stakeholders on forestry issues, and contributed to improved forestry and related policies and practices.

The overall project objective was to generate and share high quality, up-to-date information on forestry, and to explore collaborative opportunities related to African forests and trees to support evidence-based decisions in forestry. To fulfil this objective AFF conducted various independent and objective analyses on six prioritised intervention areas on how economic, food security and environmental issues could be addressed through sustainable forest and tree management in the context of poverty eradication and environmental stability. The generated scientific information brokered through an established knowledge system framework was valuable in informing decision making for policy action and possible impacts on livelihoods, national economies and the environment.

AFF targeted the project's interventions to influence all players in forest conservation and management that impact on forest management issues, including policy actors comprised of government agencies, land managers (private, community and commercial forestry companies), civil society actors, academic and other training and research institutions, media, regional and sub-regional organisations.

The increased access by stakeholders to knowledge and information critical for sustainable forest management generated by the project enhanced their awareness on the contribution of forest resources, and actions that need to be taken to achieve sustainable forest management, leading to achievement of various project outcomes. In this report the impact of the project's interventions is analysed to demonstrate their contribution to the expected project outcomes. Analyses of results show that a number of outcomes have been achieved while intermediate outcomes indicate that momentum towards the expected outcomes has been generated to the extent that ultimate project outcomes would be achieved in the long run.

1.0 Introduction

This project aimed to complement African countries in their efforts to address deforestation and forest degradation, and especially challenges that significantly impact on their ability to address poverty; as well as explored opportunities to enhance the contribution of forests and tree resources to livelihoods and environmental sustainability. In this regard, the overall objective of this project was to generate and share high quality, up-to-date information generated through the project, and to explore collaborative opportunities related to African forests and trees outside forests, in order to support making evidence-based decisions in forestry, as well as updating stakeholders on developments in the forestry and related sectors.

The objective was to be achieved through the implementation of six project components, each addressing some critical issues of a corresponding objective, but all of which are intricately inter-related. The six components and respective objectives were:

1. **Component 1**: Partnership platform for catalysing institutional change (*Partnership Platform*)
   Objective 1: To facilitate the emergence of a strong partnership platform through which stakeholders identify challenges related to sustainable management of forest and tree resources and co-create solutions.

2. **Component 2**: Knowledge management and brokerage for enhanced management of forest resources in Africa (*Knowledge Management*)
   Objective 2: To facilitate the collation, synthesis, provision of access to, exchange and management of critical information and knowledge demanded by stakeholders in African forestry for forest compatible development.

3. **Component 3:** Forest and tree resources management for enhanced human livelihoods (*SFM & Livelihoods*)
   Objective 3: To catalyse efforts to enhance sustainable management practices that have potential to improve resilience of forests and trees to adverse effects of climate change, and up-scale promising approaches that support livelihoods.

4. **Component 4**: Forest policy, regulation, governance and trade in forest and tree products (*Policy & FLEGT*)
   Objective 4: To facilitate the formulation and harmonization of evidence-based policies, regulations and governance mechanisms to strengthen public and private institutions to effectively support SFM and transparent trade.

5. **Component 5**: Strengthening Africa's capacity for sustainable management and use of forest and tree resources (*Capacity Strengthening*)

Objective 5: To enhance capacity of institutions and individuals – including farmers and farmer organizations, and other private sector actors, professional organisations, and public-sector organizations - to achieve forest compatible development

6. **Component 6**: Supporting Africa's engagement in global and regional forestry processes and implementation of agreements (*Enhanced International Engagement*)
Objective 6: To strengthen participation in regional and international debates and negotiations related to forestry and enhance informed country adoption and implementation of international and regional forest and related agreements.

In addressing these six components and their objectives, AFF sought to influence and facilitate organisations (governmental and non-governmental) and individual stakeholders to take actions that would lead to sustainable forest management in ways that would eventually enhance livelihoods and environmental stability; these are the critical conditions or prerequisites for eradicating poverty. This was done through strengthening convening power of AFF, advocacy, and partnerships (Component 1), knowledge brokerage (Component 2), facilitating capacity development (Components 5 and 6) and catalysing research and development (activities implicit in Components 3 and 4); all of which support sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests. To this end AFF directed its efforts to undertaking independent and objective analyses (with respect to activities comprising these components) and provided evidence-based advice (based on outputs from the work done through these components) to national, regional and international institutions and other actors, on how economic, food security and environmental issues can be addressed through sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests; and, within the context or framework of poverty eradication and environmental stability.

Implementation of various activities in pursuant of these six components were aimed to yield the following six main outcomes by the end of the project.

Outcome 1: *Institutional change enhanced through effective partnership platforms for catalysing institutional innovation.*
Outcome 2: *Access to information and knowledge, enhanced evidence-based policy formulation, and increased awareness of the contribution of forest resources.*
Outcome 3: *African forestry institutions are catalysed to take actions that address SFM and its interface with sustainable livelihoods and environment.*
Outcome 4: *African countries use evidence to review and/or develop forest policies and governance structures that support sustainable management of forest and tree resources and facilitate transparent trade.*
Outcome 5: *Africa's forestry stakeholders, leaders and practitioners, are more aware of the benefits of sustainable forest management, the actions that need to be taken to achieve this, and have the capacity (tools and knowledge) to make the necessary interventions;*
Outcome 6: *African participation in international forestry discourses is effective, well-coordinated, and agreements signed are implemented.*

AFF addressed cross cutting issues like gender as they related to the project components. The project identified activities that specifically targeted women and youth, and these were clarified in detailed activities developed for annual plans of work. To AFF gender is not only having sufficient numbers of women in activities but also putting emphasis on policies and actions whose outputs increase benefits to women. Suffice to add that 56% staff at the Secretariat are female and the other 44% are male.

AFF has over the years built its capacity to mainstream gender into its work. More specifically gender has been mainstreamed through the following:
– gender situational analyses and documentation of gender practices
– integration of gender specific issues in the terms of reference developed for various studies and response analysed output
– collecting gender disaggregated data sets on project activities including meetings and capacity building workshops
– gender indicators and information targets developed to track and monitor gender perspectives on expected outcomes
– gender criteria included in the selection of experts and students for research consultancies and grants respectively

In executing its work, and with the involvement of many of its members, AFF's interventions have been primarily through:

a) The creation of strategic expert teams tasked to generate scalable solutions to specific challenges. This is done by packaging specific tasks identified in the project components and recruiting experts who can work on those issues, in many cases as teams and with team leaders. Some work is also undertaken in this manner through postgraduate student research that is in line with project activities.

b) Convenings on specific issues, including on-going sharing, learning and co-creation of solutions among the AFF membership and others, at continental, regional and national levels. This approach is mainly employed to share outputs from the work undertaken by expert teams and individual experts that work on the tasks identified in the project components. Also, specific convenings that are strategic to AFF have also been identified in the project components, like those on international negotiations related to various multilateral environmental agreements and other key global and continental initiatives.

c) A knowledge system framework for brokering knowledge and scientific evidence among AFF membership and organisations at national, regional and global levels through web-based platforms that include electronic and social media. A broad communications sphere of influence aims to increase the reach of AFF for its knowledge and research evidence on priority issues critical for the development of the forest sector's policy, practice and investment.

d) Brokering collaboration through 'match-making' to create partnerships that bring together complementary resources and/or skills and enhance effectiveness and probability of success in joint delivery of interventions at regional or continental levels. AFF partners with many institutions, global and continental, in executing its agenda.

2.0 Context within which the project was implemented

Following the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment (UNCED) was the establishment of three environment related conventions namely the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The work of these three conventions is also in areas related to forests and trees. Since then, there has been a considerable growing global interest in sustainable forest management (SFM), especially following the Rio+20 Summit in June 2012. Sustainable Development Goal 15, adopted in 2015, is the most explicit on the importance of sustainable management of forests to support inclusive economic and human growth. Added to this, the global community is now turning its attention towards a green growth pathway.

Figure 1: A moist forested gulley at Pemba Mozambique - photo credits - Ton Rulkens via Wikimedia Commons

The implication is that the sustainable utilization and conservation of forests to maintain and/or enhance the sustainable supply of forest ecosystem services is now part of the green growth pathway, largely because these two activities generate co-benefits such as those arising from the conservation of biodiversity as well as securing availability of forest-based livelihoods to local communities in a sustainable manner. This strengthens the case for a holistic approach to the management of African forests. The increased global interest in forestry management and in the context of green economy presents challenges that require increased public and private sector support to sustainable forest management. In this regard the advocacy for effective sustainable forest management policies that are in tandem with green growth is now driven mainly by a strong and vibrant civil society and an increasingly informed population.

In addition to civil society organisations, the institutional landscape for forest conservation and management is occupied by different players that influence proximate drivers of forest change. The main players in the forest sector or that impact on forestry management issues include policy actors, mainly comprised of land managers (private, community and commercial forestry companies); government agencies, including those responsible for forest management; protected area authorities and other environmental and energy regulatory agencies; research institutions at national and international levels; the private sector; financing agencies, including commercial banks; development partners (both bilateral and multilateral); all playing different roles in the African forest sector and at various levels. Essentially all these players are dealing, in many cases, with issues that relate to deforestation and forest degradation.

It is generally accepted that deforestation and forest degradation are caused by both direct (i.e. proximate) and indirect drivers. The direct causes are human activities or immediate actions that directly impact forest cover and are grouped into three categories: a) agricultural expansion for commercial and subsistence purposes; b) timber and wood extraction; and c) infrastructure expansion, including mining and urban expansion. The indirect drivers of deforestation and degradation are fundamental social processes, such as human population dynamics or agricultural and other land use-based policies that underpin the direct drivers and either operate at the local level or have an indirect impact from the national or global levels. These indirect drivers fall into five broad categories: economic, policy and institutional, technological, cultural/socio-political, and demographic.

While deforestation and forest degradation are undesirable, the activities that are associated with these two processes make significant contributions to socio-economic well-being of many people and nations.

Figure 2: Timber harvesting in a Ghanaian forest. Photo credits: Prof Godwin Kowero/AFF

In the context of SFM it is therefore necessary to balance harvesting forests for both timber and non-timber products and services with the sustainability of supplies of these products and services from the same forest estates. In this regard, this project sought to contribute to the strengthening of sustainable forest management on the African continent by carefully exploiting the opportunities these resources present for the well-being of the people and socio-economic development of countries in the continent, as well as protecting the environment. Further, all these achievements are to be realized without compromising the sustainable supply of forest products and other ecosystem services. Essentially this is about how to best relate people and their needs to the forests in ways that the forests are used to meet their needs while at the same time sustaining their capacity for delivery of all its products and services.

In implementing this project AFF also aimed to influence policies, practices and investments in forestry and related sectors through:
– generating and linking knowledge production and use for enhanced evidence-based decision-making processes;
– mobilising partnerships with strategic actors to explore opportunities for synergistic efforts with other projects and programmes within and outside AFF on strategic interventions that have potential for greater impact; and
– facilitating capacity building at all levels, including that of African countries to effectively participate in international forums. This included provision of crucial technical information, mentoring, and better coordination of participation, all designed to facilitate Africa to speak with one informed voice on common positions.

3.0 Project Management

3.1 Project management

The project was managed through a project management team at the AFF Secretariat that was responsible for the day-to-day running of the project to deliver on the project's outputs and outcomes, and guided by annual plans of work and budgets.

The delivery of the project comprised commissioning of experts' studies on prioritised forestry themes, and stakeholders' engagement through partnership activities with national, regional and international organisations. The experts included national, regional and international consultants, as well as postgraduate students mainly drawn from the AFF membership while taking into account geographical representation and gender considerations, among others. The partnership activities were executed through interactive stakeholder forums that included capacity building workshops and knowledge sharing workshops to deliberate on the project outputs as well as making recommendations and decisions on best practices for improved sustainable forest management that would, in the long term, lead to the desired project impacts as depicted by the diagram (Figure 3.1) below.

K* -Knowledge Management; Knowledge Transfer; Knowledge Translation; Knowledge Exchange; Knowledge Brokering; Knowledge Mobilization.
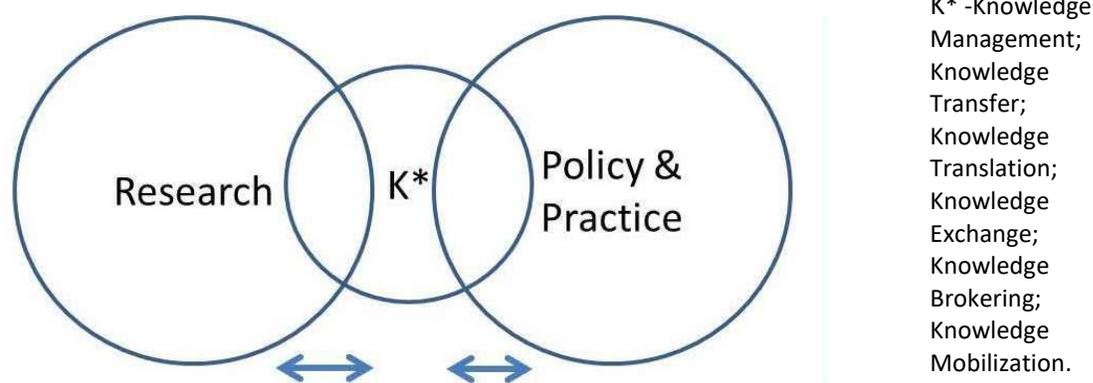
Figure 3: Link between research and policy and practice

A Project Steering and Advisory Committee (PSAC) was established to provide strategic guidance on the implementation of the project. The Steering Committee held annual meetings to review and endorse annual progress reports and work plans, and to provide scientific quality assurance and financial oversight. All these contributed to ensuring that project implementation stayed on course and that all practices reflected AFF's values of quality participation and inclusivity and passed the threshold of international standards.

3.2 Project monitoring

The monitoring system for the project was based on the results-based management system (RBM). This is the main approach employed by AFF, and it calls for managing both performance and results and it links planning, implementation and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) together in the management system. Annual planning was undertaken to map out activities to be undertaken each year as guided by the project's Five-Year Masterplan. A Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) strategy based on RBM was developed in 2014 to guide monitoring and evaluation activities within the AFF Secretariat. A results tracking framework was prepared from the project's log frame which showed specific indicators (including gender related indicators), assumptions and risks for all levels of results (outputs and outcomes).

Process monitoring, which is a key component in RBM was also undertaken by the project to monitor and improve on performance. It involved monitoring activities against relevance, quality and time through project progress monitoring reports. Knowledge management and learning were also incorporated into the project management system. Knowledge management together with findings from monitoring and evaluation aided to put together information for organisational history and learning.

Assessment of project outcomes was conducted to establish the extent to which the project outputs had generated the expected outcomes among the target audiences. These were conducted through workshops' evaluations, follow up surveys after six and twelve months, and general surveys on information access and use. A performance monitoring plan for the project was valuable in tracking achievements of targets as seen in Annex 1 that indicates the achieved targets per outcome.

3.3 Focus on gender

The African Forest Forum made deliberate efforts to mainstream gender into its programmes and projects and related analyses. A staff seminar on gender was organised in 2015 aimed at achieving a common understanding of gender responsive research. Gender responsive research is achieved through documentation of gender practices; making the determinants for participation in activities to be gender sensitive. This approach allows for undertaking gender situational analysis for the forestry sector, clarifying gender roles and relationships, creating opportunities and exploring ways to address disparities to ensure sustainable management of forests and tree resources.

To guide the evolution of gender in its work, AFF engaged a gender specialist, at Programme Officer level in 2014 (she is now with ICRISAT), to strengthen its initiatives on gender in forestry. Subsequent, to the staff seminar, the staff reworked the plans of work and budgets and redesigned projects activities to ensure gender sensitivity and responsiveness in the selected studies as was practicable for a clearer focus on women and youth.

Through these efforts AFF progressively integrated gender specific elements in projects interventions including:

(i) Post-graduate research fellowships on Land use, Land use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) linked to climate change that included in-depth studies that sought to understand changes in land use in relation to livelihoods, with considerations for gender and the environment through a broad analysis of (LULUCF) in the context of changing climate.

(ii) Development of private sector in forestry in 22 countries through:

- Mapping out of the key actors and identifying the gender groups' representation in wood processing, marketing and trade, including SMEs operating in all forest types in Africa; and
- Evaluating the scope for public-private-partnership (PPP) in forestry, including the identification of promising models/approaches that could enhance social inclusion, gender equitable practices, and forest compatible livelihoods development.

(iii) Training needs assessment on forestry in Anglophone and francophone African countries at various levels, including local community, national, sub-regional and regional. The assessment included analysis of specific gender disaggregated training needs and gaps, and especially related to new and emerging issues like climate change, and initiatives like climate smart agriculture, sustainable development goals, green economy, blue economy, among others.

(iv) Increasing gender representation in meetings, capacity building workshops and consultancies to the extent possible. Gender disaggregation of participants in studies commissioned by AFF, meetings and trainings organized through the project revealed a distribution as follows.

- Of the experts engaged in consultancies 18.4% were female while 81.6% were male;
- Of participants to training sessions and workshops 21.5% were women while 78.5% were male;

The low representation of women is also exemplified among the AFF membership which currently stands at 22%, while men represent 78%. Recently AFF created 'Women in Forestry' and 'Youth in Forestry' chapters, both represented at the Governing Council, to provide policy guidance and related support on gender representation in African forestry. Future efforts include developing an AFF gender strategy.

4.0 Partnerships

Partnership is AFF's 'way of working' and is embedded in all its interventions, primarily through convenings on specific issues as well as for on-going sharing, learning and co-creation of solutions among the AFF membership – at continental, regional and national levels. The implementation of the project involved a wide range of partners who were already addressing issues related to the components of this project, and also other relevant and complimentary forestry issues.

4.1 National, regional and international partnerships

The project activities were implemented through new and established working relationships with various actors in forestry development at national, regional and global levels as presented below:

a) National partnerships
- o Convenings organised for the project were executed in partnership with governments, national research and academic institutes in Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

- o Research fellowships through signed MoUs and Research Agreements with 6 African universities including: University of Stellenbosch, South Africa; University of Buea, Republic of Cameroon; Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources, Ethiopia; Egerton University, Kenya; Moshi Co-operative University, Tanzania and University of Pretoria, South Africa.

Figure 4: Moussa Massaoudou, recipient of a research fellowship by AFF

b) Regional partnerships
- o AFF – African Union Commission (AUC) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Development of the SFM Framework for Africa, that facilitated development of African common positions in multilateral environmental negotiations and debates
- o AFF-Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) partnership that was executed within the framework of the "ECOWAS Forest Convergence Plan" on Intervention Area No. 7- "Information, Education, and Communication" for which AFF is the lead implementing institution for ECOWAS.

o AFF- East African Community (EAC) technical input in the development of the East Africa Community Forest Conservation and Protection Act of 2015.

o AFF-Network for Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA) on development of gums and resins sector in Africa in contributing to socio-economic development of arid and semi-arid lands of Africa simultaneously empowering women; a request that was made to AFF by the African Union Commission.

c) *Global level partnerships*
   o AFF collaborated with the Department of Forestry at FAO on strengthening forest governance.
   o AFF worked with UNFF, especially with regard to inputs into background documents for UNFF sessions and support to and involvement of African delegates to sessions of UNFF, (as exemplified in Figure 4.2 below) as well as on joint capacity building activities on the continent. AFF is accredited to UNFF sessions, the UN Environment Assembly and COPs of UNCCD and UNFCCC.
   o AFF is partnering with the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) on research on sustainable business models for tree- based value chains in Sub Saharan Africa whose results would be valuable in strengthening the private sector, particularly rural small holders and their associations.

Figure 5: AFF's side event at the UNFF 14, (May 06, 2019) New York, USA on the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCS) in African Countries

4.2 Synergies between Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation support to AFF

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) supported project entitled *African Forests, People and Climate Change* addresses a few issues relevant to the Sida supported project and offered a good opportunity to partner through joint implementation of common activities. Specifically, the following project objectives were in synergy with the SDC supported project:

a) **Specific objective 3** targeted sustainable management practices and resilience to effects of climate change to upscale promising livelihoods models, and the SDC supported project's focused on the relationship between climate change and forest and trees outside forests, both projects point to a mutual goal of strengthening stakeholders' capacities to adapt to climate change effects and mitigate the same while improving livelihoods and environmental stability. Activities contributing to this from the two projects included joint coordination of post-graduate studies on climate change and forestry, co-hosting four stakeholders' workshops to share findings from the postgraduate students and from other experts, and joint publishing of key findings through special issues of two journals.

b) **Specific objective 4** aimed to facilitate the formulation and harmonization of evidence-based policies, regulations and governance mechanisms to strengthen public and private institutions to effectively support SFM and transparent trade in forest products, while SDC's supported project focused on strengthening governance mechanisms for SFM. Activities contributing to this from the two projects included joint coordination of convenings of national professional forestry associations and providing technical support to initiate the development of professional forestry regional associations.

c) **Specific objective 6** aimed at strengthening Africa's participation in regional and international debates and negotiations related to forestry and implementation of international forest and related agreements, while the SDC supported project focused on support to African negotiators to climate change international processes; both projects provided the much-needed support to build a critical mass of people knowledgeable on international processes. Activities contributing to this from both projects included co-hosting preparatory meetings for African delegates in advance to their participation in the global processes and negotiations, preparation of three common African positions for such meetings, and provision of technical backstopping to African delegates during the global meetings/negotiations for UNFF11, UNFF12, UNFF13 and UNFF14. The latter was through the AFF Technical Support Team (TSTS) to Raise the Profile of Forestry, a committee of AFF Governing Council.

d) **Specific objective 2** targeted provision of access to, exchange and management of critical information and knowledge demanded by stakeholders in African forestry for forest compatible development and SDC supported project's focused on the same; making it possible for both projects to share considerable critical knowledge to a much broader audience in Africa and beyond than would have been by one project. Related activities included co-hosting four stakeholders' meetings for sharing information and experiences as a way of disseminating the findings from both projects. Other joint activities were related to generation of knowledge products on private sector in forestry.

The two projects therefore facilitated the successful achievements of each project's objectives through joint implementation of complementary activities on common broad areas of work, as well as increasing the scope or reach of the knowledge products created as well as the impact that AFF can eventually achieve through these synergistic efforts.

5.0 Achievements

AFF's efforts to contribute to improved sustainable management of forests and trees outside forests, the project addressed the identified key priority issues in African forestry through the six project intervention areas as already mentioned; firstly, through delivery of high quality up to date scientific information on the identified issue, subsequent to which the outputs generated were linked to respective stakeholders for policy action and impact on practice. The achievements made for each expected project outcome are described below. Details on achievement of the project's Performance Monitoring Plan targets are presented in Annex 1.

COMPONENT 1: PARTNERSHIP PLATFORMS

5.1 Project outcome 1: Institutional change through effective partnership platforms for catalysing institutional innovation

The main project objective that guided activities to realise this outcome was to *facilitate the emergence of strong partnership platforms through which stakeholders identify challenges related to sustainable management of forest and tree resources and co-create solutions.* This was to be achieved through establishing and/or facilitating the running of innovation platforms that engage several organizations and initiatives working on forest and tree resources in Africa, among themselves or even with relevant global partners, to tackle identified priority challenges in African forestry.

Achievements made towards this outcome include:
a) Institutional platforms for catalyzing innovation in African forestry established, and
b) Declarations or resolutions generated through consensus building among key players.

Each of these are described below:

5.1.1. Institutional platforms established

Four platforms, including one pan-African and 3 sub-regional platforms, have been established through the project. Further, one pan-African WhatsApp group for Anglophone Africa on private sector in forestry was established. A brief on each outcome is as follows:

1. *A pan African institution, namely Natural Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA), actively coordinating in a better way, the production and marketing of gums and resins based on recommendations derived from a research and development partnership platform organized by AFF, AUC, FAO and NGARA during the Second Africa Drylands Week*. The Africa Drylands Week is an outcome of earlier Sida support to AFF, currently housed at the African Union Commission; that is focused on development of arid and semi-arid areas of Africa. Further, support through this project strengthened NGARA which now has further support from FAO and is working together with the SDC supported project to strengthen its activities on production, utilization and trade in gums and resins in a continental effort to empower women in countries where they are produced, as well as improve economies of these countries. This work will involve exploring opportunities to improve value chains for gums and resins.

2. *Professionalism and ethics in the forestry sector better addressed in the Eastern African region through the* Professional Forestry Association of Eastern Africa (PFAEA) *established by the project's work on forest law enforcement, good forest governance and fair trade in forest products*. The association, that still needs strengthening, brings together seven national forestry associations in Eastern Africa comprising of over 2000 members. The platform (association in this case) will harness the potential capacity of the national forestry associations in the member countries for improved forest governance in the region through better articulation of the voice of the professional foresters in the region on several issues including trans-boundary forestry issues like fair trade in forest products; illegal cross border timber trade; handling pests, diseases and wildfires across national boundaries; national issues that require broader support like politically motivated forest excisions and other controversial forestry issues that national associations cannot handle alone; and securing of ethics and professionalism in the forestry sector. The establishment of the association was achieved through a regional workshop on forest governance, law enforcement and fair trade organised in partnership with the FAO and the Forest Society of Kenya on 8-10 July 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya.

3. *Professionalism and ethics in the forestry sector better addressed in the ECOWAS sub-region by the Union of Forestry Professionals in West Africa*. This association was created through the project's work on forest law enforcement, good forest governance and fair trade in forest products (FLEGT). The association was established at a workshop for forestry practitioners organised in Osun State, Nigeria on 9 to 13 April 2018 in response to a resolution made in 2016 by professional

forestry associations in West Africa at a workshop organised by AFF and the ECOWAS Secretariat. The Union will play a crucial role in the development of the forestry sector professionally through strengthening forest governance and eventually sustainable forest management in the West African region.

4. *Professionalism and ethics in the forestry sector better addressed in the ECOWAS sub-region by a forest products association Association sous-regionale sur le commerce des produits forestiers*. This association was established through the project's work on forest law enforcement, good forest governance and fair trade in forest products at a workshop for forestry practitioners organised in Osun State, Nigeria on 9 to 13 April 2018 in response to a resolution made in 2016 by professional forestry associations in West Africa at a workshop organised by AFF and the ECOWAS Secretariat. The forests products association will play a crucial role in improving trade and marketing of forest products and thus complement governments' efforts towards sustainable forest management.

The establishment documents for the associations discussed in paragraph 3 and 4 above will be transmitted to the ECOWAS Secretariat for support in registration of the associations and also to facilitate support for their operation.

5. *A WhatsApp group for private sector actors in forestry in Africa entitled AFF Private Sector Forum established and operational*. This group is using this platform to share public-private-partnerships (PPP) strategies, knowledge and experiences in trade in forest products at global, sub-regional and national levels. This was achieved through a regional sharing workshop on private sector in forestry organised by the project. The knowledge and experiences from the WhatsApp group members could be used for improving forest governance and eventually achievement of SFM in the region, in addition to improving marketing and trade in forest products from the region. The private sector in forestry in West Africa is very interested and active in AFF events.

2.1.2 Resolution/declarations/common positions related to sustainable forest management generated.

Five resolutions/declarations/common positions and four outcome statements as a result of deliberations on sustainable forest management themes were developed through various convenings as follows:

Resolutions:

1. "*Mombasa Declaration*": the African Group position to the Eleventh session of the UNFF resulting from the UNFF 11 Preparatory Meeting on 13 to 15 April 2015 Mombasa, Kenya; organized by AFF's Technical Support Team to Raise the Profile of Forestry (TST). This was achieved through technical support provided by AFF to the negotiators. The Mombasa Declaration was critical in guiding Africa's input to the negotiations at UNFF11. Consequently, the negotiators were effective in articulating Africa's position leading to most of the elements proposed by Africa integrated into the UNFF11 *Resolution* and *Ministerial Declaration*. The UNFF11 outcome documents reflected Africa's position leading to ownership of the decisions by African governments and increased probability of implementing the agreement.

2. *Common position for the 12th Session*: made at the Nairobi Safari Club, Nairobi, Kenya during the preparatory meeting of the African delegates to the Twelfth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF-12) held in New York, United States of America from 01 to 05 May 2017. The position was achieved through technical support by TST during the UNFF12 preparatory meeting organized by AFF on 18 to 21 April 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya. The consensus document was instrumental in the effective articulation of Africa's position in UNFF12 intergovernmental dialogue on the implementation of the adopted United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSPF) 2017-2030 and Quadrennial Programme of Work (QPOW) 2017-2020. Consequently, some of the elements proposed by the African Group were integrated into the UNFF12 *Omnibus Resolution*.

3. *The Common Position for the 13th Session*: developed by AFF's Technical Support Team to Raise the Profile of Forestry (TST) and accepted by African delegates (African Group) to UNFF13 held in New York on 7 to 11 May 2018. The document was key in guiding Africa's input to the UNFF13 discussions and was instrumental in the effective articulation of Africa's position in UNFF13's intergovernmental dialogue on the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSPF) 2017-2030, Quadrennial Programme of Work (QPOW) 2017-2020 and the forestry related UN Sustainable Development Agenda. Consequently, some of the elements proposed by the African Group were integrated into the UNFF13 *Omnibus Resolution*.

4. The *Durban Declaration*: from the XIV World Forestry Congress (WFC) included input from an AFF Pre-XIV WFC Workshop. The input was achieved through deliberations at a pan-African research and development platform organised by AFF and research institutions that resulted in 11 key messages that were communicated to the global forest community during various sessions of the XIV World Forestry Congress. The messages formed part of the *Durban Declaration*, in particular recommendations: on climate change and REDD+ projects; role of

traditional institutions in forest governance; engagement of youth in forest business; and development of guidelines for access and benefit sharing from forest products.

5. *Resolution:* by professional forestry associations of West Africa to form two sub-regional associations resulting from the sub-regional workshop on forest governance. As reported in the section above subsequent to the resolution two sub-regional platforms on professional forestry and on forest products trade in West Africa have been created.

Figure 6: Participants of the pre-XIV World Forestry Congress workshop organised by AFF and held from 4 to 5 September 2015 at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre in Durban, South Africa. Photo © AFF 2015

Outcome statements:

1. An *outcome statement* on the role and niche of Eastern Africa professional forestry associations in sustainable forest management resulting from the sub-regional workshop for Professional Forestry Associations (PFAs) in Eastern Africa. As reported in the section above subsequent to the statement the sub-regional platform on professional forestry in Eastern Africa has been established.

2. *Outcome statement* by ECOWAS member states on how to address illegalities in forestry, among other things, resulting from the sub-regional workshop on forest governance. As reported in the section above as a result of this outcome two sub-regional associations have been created.

3. *Outcome statement* to establish a network of trained tree seed managers to exchange ideas, information, technologies on best practice to safeguard sustainable production of quality tree planting materials for more successful afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration programs in eastern and southern African countries.

4. *Outcome statement* to establish a network of trained tree seed managers to exchange ideas, information, technologies on best practice to safeguard sustainable production of quality tree planting materials for more successful afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration programs in West and Central African countries.

COMPONENT 2: KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

5.2 Project outcome 2: Access to information and knowledge, enhanced evidence-based policy formulation, and increased awareness of the contribution of forest resources

The project objective that guided activities to realise this outcome was to facilitate the collation, synthesis and provision of access to critical information and knowledge demanded by stakeholders in African forestry, as well as create space for on-going exchange to support decision-making for enhancing sustainable forest management. This was to be achieved through the following AFF activities:

a) collecting, analysing, synthesising, and archiving information;
b) facilitating generation of new information critical for sustainable forest management;
c) establishing new networks and strengthening collaboration with existing networks to facilitate sharing information on forest resources;
d) establishing and maintaining links with key databases to facilitate access and sharing of data and for knowledge management; and;
e) regular monitoring and evaluation of project activities.

All these activities will continue to feature in future AFF activities as core activities of the institution, given its strong emphasis on knowledge brokerage and assessment of impacts. Figure 5.2.1 below illustrates the flow in the dissemination of knowledge from producers to users and associated interactive processes.
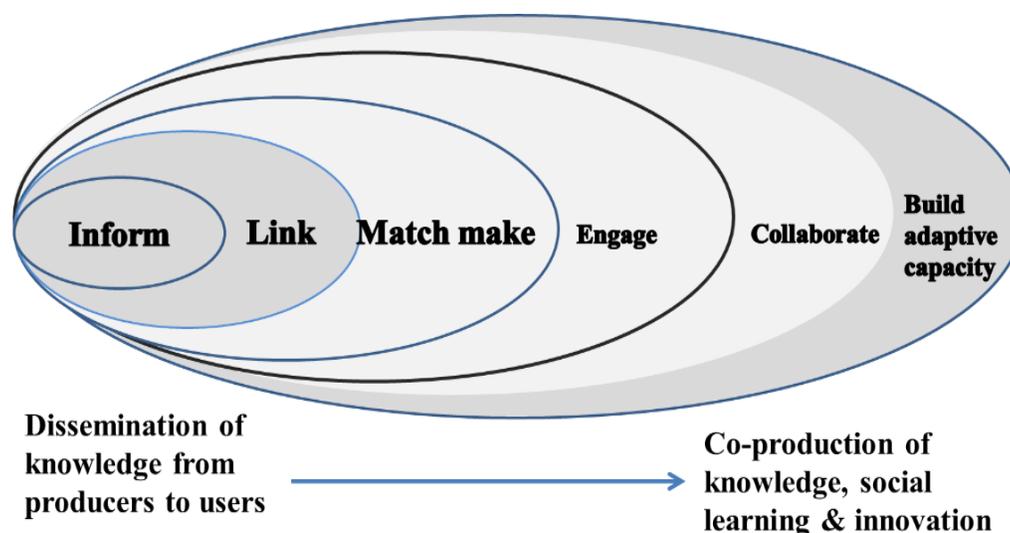
Figure 7: Dissemination of knowledge from producers to users

Achievements made towards the outcome include:
  a) Increased access to information and knowledge products through interaction stakeholders' forums
  b) Impact of knowledge accessed through interactive stakeholders' forums
  c) Policies reviewed and improved
  d) Increased knowledge and information shared and accessed through web-based and journal platforms

Each of these is described as follows:

5.2.1 Increased access to information and knowledge products through interactive stakeholders' forums

Forty-six knowledge products developed and produced by AFF on eleven themes on sustainable forest management through project components 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, were shared with over 1000 stakeholders from 48 African countries in various forums, including 12 stakeholders' workshops and 12 capacity building workshops organised by the project in partnership with various governments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), universities, research institutions, forestry associations, regional and international organisations, as well as in synergy with the SDC supported project *African Forests, People and Climate Change*. A pie presentation on the number of participants and countries is as in Figure 5.2.2. The stakeholders included representatives of governments, civil society, research and academia, private sector and media.

The forums provided up-to-date information on the following themes:
1. Developing and managing the forestry sector in the context of green economy;
2. Developing effective public private partnerships in forestry;
3. Marketing and trade in forest products;
4. Supply of quality tree germplasm;
5. Surveillance on forest pests and diseases;
6. Managing transboundary forest resources;
7. Land use, land use change, and forestry (LULUCF) in the context of climate change;
8. Forest law enforcement and good forest governance;
9. Forest certification for responsible forest management;
10. Forestry education in the context of new and emerging issues; and
11. Participation in international multilateral processes and domestication of corresponding agreements and resolutions
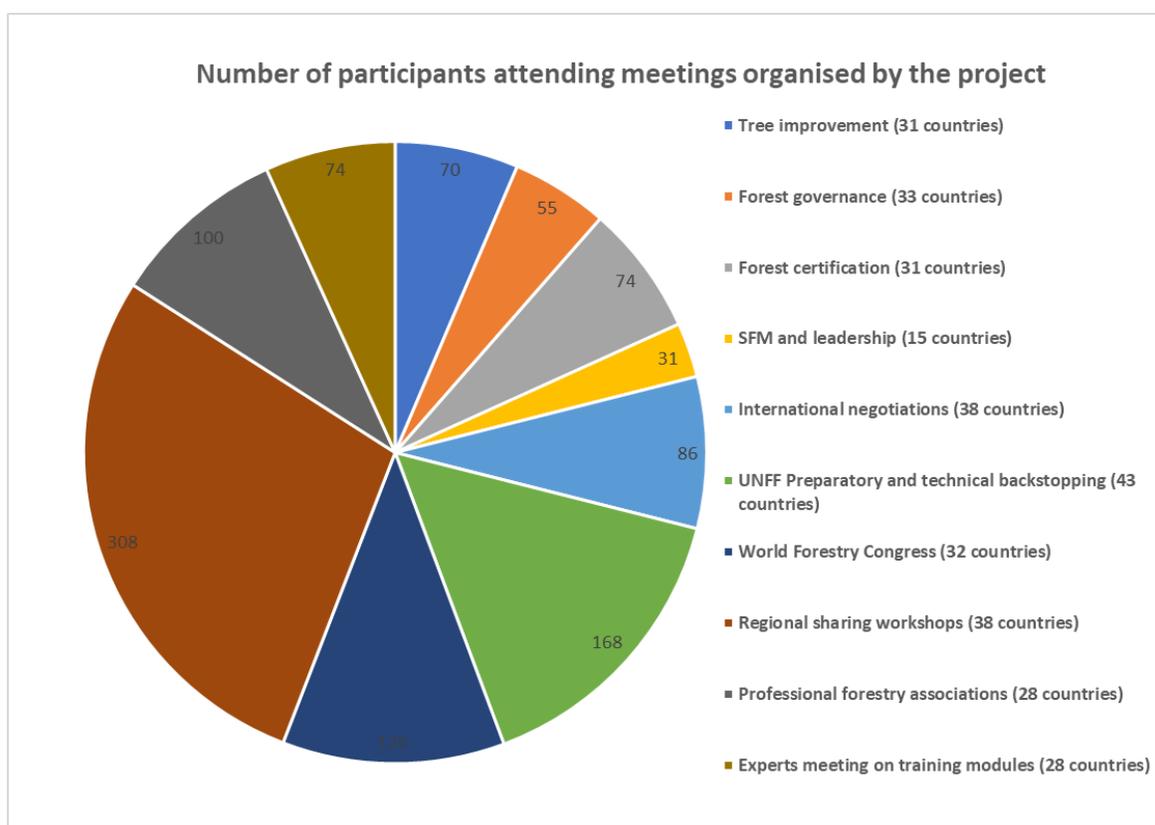
Figure 8: A pie chart presenting proportion of participants that attended meetings organised by the project during 2015 to 2019

The forums were organized in response to demands by forestry stakeholders for information and knowledge critical to forest compatible development.

Further, the knowledge products were developed into eight sub-regional and regional syntheses reports for dissemination as documents for AFF Working Paper Series and reports and shared through the AFF website. This is in addition to 5 training modules that were developed to address the identified capacity gaps on the respective themes to support capacity building efforts for SFM in Africa.

Three of the synthesis reports have been incorporated as chapters in the book "*The state of forestry in Africa: Opportunities and challenges"* published in 2019. A special issue of the *African Journal of Rural Development* features nine journal papers developed by the project has also been produced in 2019.
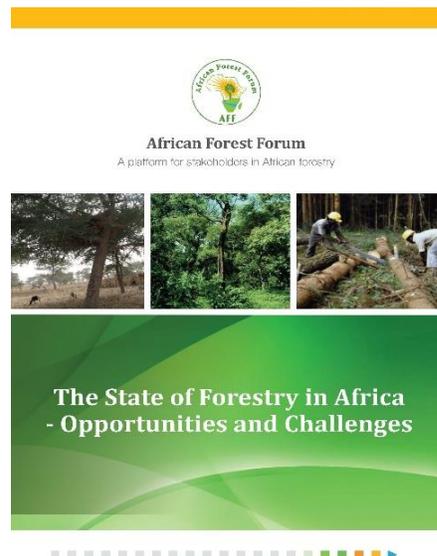
5.2.2 Impact of knowledge accessed through interactive stakeholders' forums

The project has facilitated access to information that has equipped stakeholders with skills and tools to improve management of their forests sustainably, and also catalyzed the development of the following:

o Professional networks in eastern and ECOWAS sub-regions to improve forest governance and surveillance of pests, diseases and fires within national and transboundary spaces
o WhatsApp for private sector group for sharing public-private-partnership strategies, knowledge and experiences in forest products marketing and trade at global, sub-regional and national levels
o African common positions that successfully leveraged policy influence at global intergovernmental dialogues
o Resolutions by forestry practitioners to better coordinate supply of quality tree germplasm to secure successful tree planting programmes

Figure 9: Regional workshop on sharing knowledge and experiences on public and private sector developments in forestry and response to climate change and transboundary forestry issues. 10-14 July 2017, Accra, Ghana.

Further, the stakeholders are better informed on actions that need to be undertaken to support forest compatible development and have taken actions as follows:

- Seven institutions in seven countries have created awareness to promote good forest governance and fair trade in forest products. The institutions that have reported this action are: Tanzania Association of Foresters in Tanzania, Uganda Forestry Association in Uganda, Forestry Society of Kenya in Kenya, The Actors Forum for Integrated Development (AFID) in Burundi, Sudanese Forest Society in Sudan, Department of Forest Resources in Togo, the Government of Niger, Association d'Exploitants du Bois (ANEB) in Niger.

- Six institutions in five countries have conducted awareness creation sessions among stakeholder groups on the significance of Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEA) processes. The Institutions that have reported this action are: University of Eldoret, Kenya; Kenya Forestry Research Institute; Mwatate District Stakeholders' Forum, Kenya; Makerere University, Uganda; Njala University, Sierra Leone; and Department of Forestry, Lesotho.

- Two institutions in two countries have incorporated MEAs processes and negotiations into forestry training programs. The institutions that have reported this action are the University of Eldoret, Kenya, and Botswana College of Agriculture, Botswana.

- One institution in Kenya is conducting research studies related to MEAs. The institution that has reported this action is Kenya Forestry Research Institute.

- One institution in Kenya is fundraising for projects to implement targets and resolutions from MEAs. The institution that has reported this action is Mwatate District Stakeholders' Forum, Kenya.

- Three institutions in three countries have integrated forest certification in their training curricula. The institutions that have reported this action are: University of Ibadan, Nigeria, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania and University of Eldoret in Kenya

- Five institutions in 4 countries have incorporated forest certification into research and programmes of work. The institutions that have reported this action are: Kenya Forestry Research Institute in Kenya, Ethiopian Environment and Forestry Research Institute in Ethiopia, Environmental Alert, Uganda; Kenya Forest Society in Kenya, and the Department of Forest Resources in Togo.

5.2.3 Policies reviewed and improved

Surveys conducted by AFF to track the uptake and impact of knowledge shared through stakeholders' forums revealed that forest policies and governance structures were reviewed and/or developed as a result of initiatives by beneficiaries of the projects' capacity building workshops and stakeholders' workshops. Institutions in five countries and 2 regional economic communities have developed or improved forestry policies and governance mechanisms. More details on this are presented in section 5.4.7 on forest governance.

The reform and development of policies is a long-term process that is also dependent on other in-country processes (including political processes) and is beyond the project's control in terms of timing and what input is taken from the project's outputs. This aspect will therefore be monitored over time.

5.2.4 Increased knowledge and information shared and accessed through web-based and journal platforms

Knowledge and information generated from AFF activities is further disseminated through AFF's Knowledge Management and Communications Unit that has brought in new momentum to the way AFF is operating. The African Forest Forum (AFF)'s Communication Strategy, designed to connect with key audiences, has been instrumental in the increased engagement of forestry stakeholders and commitment to the sustainable management of forestry resources in Africa. These audiences include governments, United Nations entities, international organisations, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), research institutions, civil society, private sector, youth groups and other stakeholders, and is also guided by AFF's Short- and Medium-Term Strategic Plan (2015-2020).

A functional and robust portal for sharing information was established in 2015 and linked to 118 global forest related databases and networks and has crosslinks to 48 third party and partner organisations. It has been instrumental in collecting and sharing over 99,370 articles on recent developments in forestry, key publications, important events and outcomes, training opportunities, job opportunities, and research funding opportunities, among AFF membership through a listserv and the wider society.
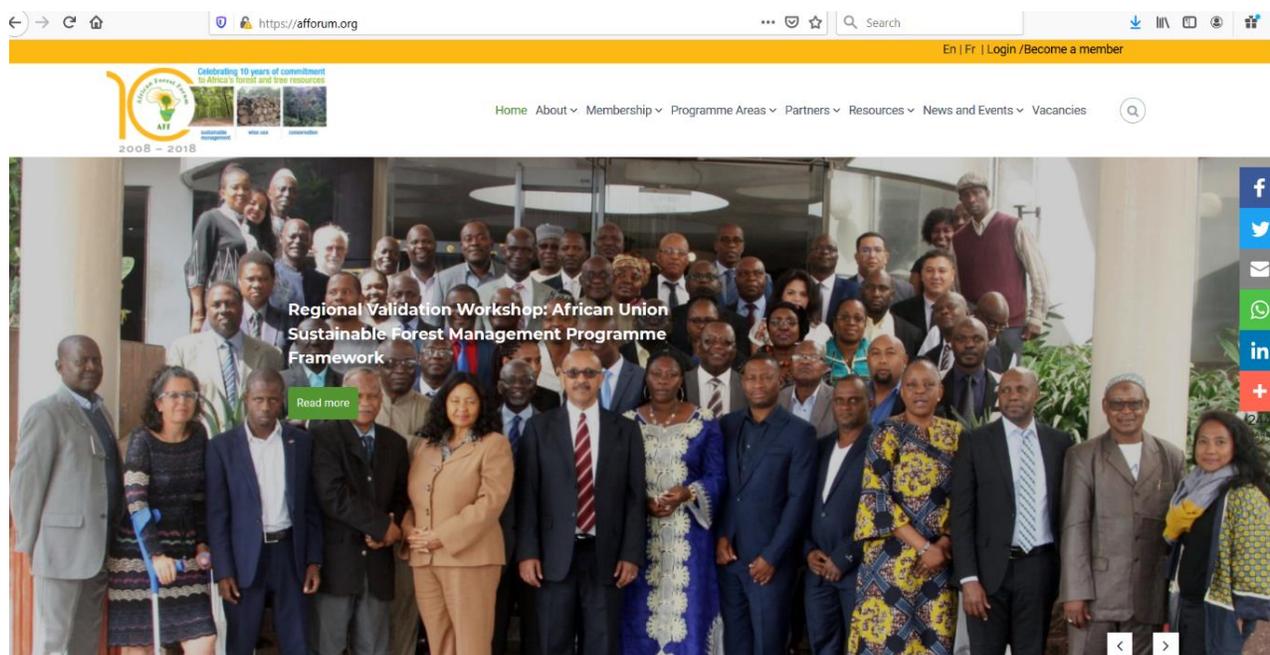
Figure 10: Participants at Regional validation workshop for the AUC sustainable Forest Management Programme Framework

The African Forest Forum (AFF) website
The website is regularly updated and the reach and uptake of AFF information and knowledge over the project duration has steadily increased as follows:

The website:
1. Recorded an increase of unique visitors from 33,751 during 2016 to 254,741 during 2017; 415,831 during 2018; and 75,855 during January to June 2019 (Fig.5.2.5). The total number of unique visitors over the project duration was 780,178 which is the total number of visitors to the AFF web site from January 2016 to June 2019, irrespective of the number of times they visited the web site.
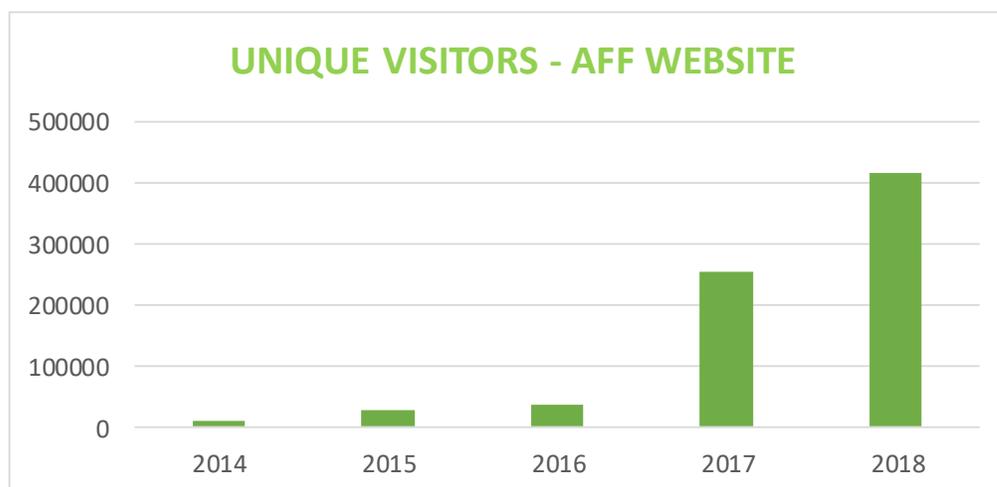
Figure 11: Unique visitors – AFF website

2. Received an increase of visits from 68,135 in 2016; to 680,254 in 2017; 1,446,936 in 2018; and 257,395 during January to June 2019. The total number of visits over the project duration was 2,452,720; which is the total number of individual visitors who visited the AFF website and actually browsed. The number represents the total number of visitors, irrespective of the number of times they visited the AFF web site.

3. Pages opened increased from 401,645 in 2016; to 1,008,561 pages during January to June 2019.

4. Hits increased from 1,300,000 during 2016 to 1,181,916 during January to June 2019. The number of hits is the number of file requests made in the AFF website by all visitors.

5. Document downloads increased from 2,801 during 2016; to 22,928 during 2017; 22,608 during 2018; and 7,553 during January to June 2019. The total number of document downloads from the site during the project duration was 55,890. See Table 5.2.1 for titles that have featured in the top 10 downloaded documents more than once.

6. The number of countries represented by the visitors increased from 100 during 2016; to 142 during 2018; and 99 during January to June 2019. The geographical spread was worldwide including Africa, to the Americas through Europe to Asia.

7. The highest visits to the website originated from the following ten countries: Kenya, USA, India, Nigeria, France, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Germany, Tanzania and China. African countries dominate the list with Kenya in the lead, largely because AFF is located there and its staff visit the website regularly. USA follows closely behind, along with India, France and Germany, demonstrating an international and widespread appeal of AFF's activities and products, stretching from Africa to the Americas through Europe to Asia.

Top downloaded documents

A total of 19 documents produced by AFF have featured in the top 10 downloaded documents in the period 2016 to 2019. The documents that appeared more than once in the list of top ten are in Table 5.2.1.

Table 1: Top downloaded documents during 2016 to 2019

	Publication	Year document was in list of top 10 downloaded documents
1	Chidumayo, E., Okali, D., Kowero, G. and Larwanou, M. (eds.). ,2011. Climate Change and African Forest and Wildlife Resources. A book	2016, 2019, 2017
2	Abdo, M.,2014. Practices, techniques and technologies for restoring degraded landscapes in the Sahel. AFF Working Paper Vol. 2 (3).	2016, 2017, 2018
3	Agustino, S., Mataya, B., Senelwa, K. and Achigan-Dako, E. G.,2011. Non-Wood Forest Products and Services for Socio-Economic Development: A Compendium for Technical and Professional Forestry Education	2016, 2018, 2019,
4	Bekele, M.,2011. Forest plantations and woodlots in Ethiopia. AFF Working Paper Vol 1 (12).	2017, 2018, 2019
5	Gichora, M., Kojwang', H.,and Bosu, P.,2017. The status and trends of forest and tree pests and diseases management in Africa. AFF W orking Paper Vol. 3(3)	2017, 2019
6	Ngaga, Y. M., 2011. Forest plantations and woodlots in Tanzania. AFF Working Paper Vol 1 (16).	2018, 2019
7	Teketay, D., 2016. Forest certification: a soft policy instrument to promote sustainable forest management in Africa. Policy Brief. Vol. 4 (1)	2018, 2019
8	Abdo,M., 2014. Pratiques, techniques et technologies derestauration des pay sages degrades du sahel. AFF Working Paper Vol. 2 (2).	2018, 2019

(i)   Use of media platforms

A key achievement towards this end has been the development of a media database of 60 journalists to facilitate sharing of timely information on the outcomes and news-worthy conclusions of AFF's work - crucial for increased visibility. The media outlets were selected following a comparative analysis of local, regional and international media, and this was based on reach, circulation and credibility. As a result, several media interviews have been coordinated by the AFF Secretariat, to help raise the profile of forestry, highlight threats to forest resources and the environment, and champion better management of African forests and trees outside forests.

Figure 12: Prof Godwin Kowero (L), Executive Secretary of the African Forest Forum (AFF) and Prof Paxie Chirwa (R) from University of Pretoria with SABC Channel Africa's Sydney Katunga Phiri during a live radio interview at the SAFCOL Forestry Industrialisation Conference in South Africa. Photo credits: Sydney Phiri/2017.

A total of 17 media articles (15 English and 2 French) featuring SFM in Africa during 2016; nine (9) articles (8 English and 1 French) during 2018; eleven (11) all in English during January to June 2019 were published in the media; with coverage spread across the East, West, South and Central Africa, as well as with the wider international community.

These media outlets included Thomson Reuters Foundation – an international online news site with global coverage; Daily Trust, Voice of Nigeria, PM News Nigeria, TVC News Nigeria, Evalox and the Eagle online – all with coverage spread across West Africa and wider international community. The majority of the media focused on issues related to the state of African forests while referring extensively to the contribution of forests to national economies and rural livelihoods and making reference to studies undertaken by AFF and partners.

(ii)   Managing web platforms and sharing information through them

On AFF members:
AFF maintains a database of 2,214 profiles of its members (78% male and 22% female-Fig.5.2.8) from universities and colleges, research organisations, regional organisations, government agencies and departments, NGOs, private sector, CBOs, media, among others. 92% of the members being ordinary members while the rest are associate members (mainly students) (Fig.5.2.9). The membership has grown steadily from 840 in 2014; to 1111 in 2015; 1521 in 2016; 1856 in 2017; 2056 in 2018; and 2214 by June 2019 (Table 5.2.2 and Fig.5.2.7)
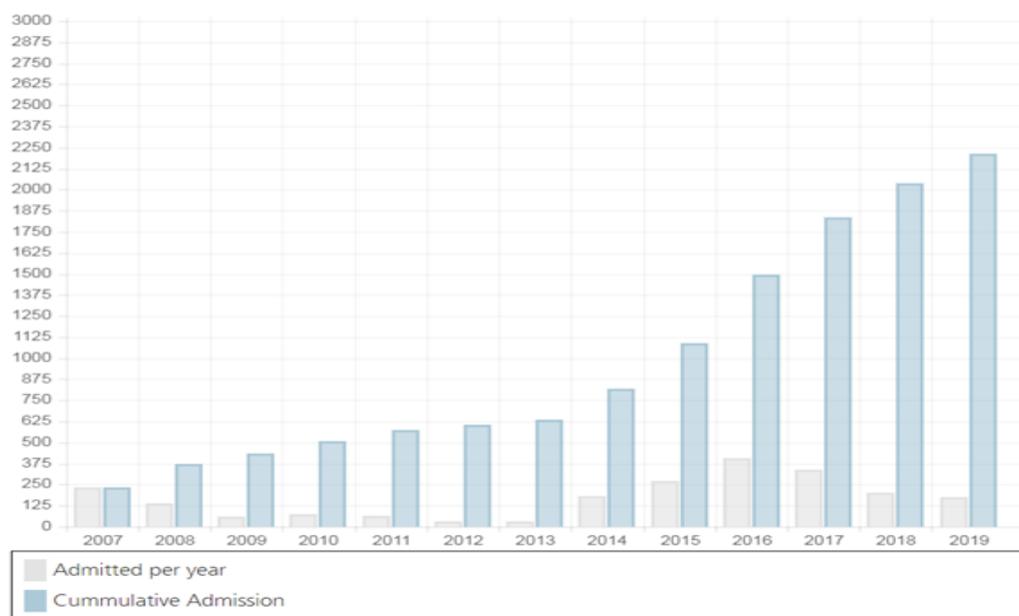
Figure 13: Number of applications for AFF membership over the years (source: AFF Data/2019)

Table 2: Number of applications for AFF membership over the years (source: AFF Data/2019)

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Admission	242	141	64	76	66	35	33	183	271	410	335	200	158
Cumulative admission	242	383	447	523	589	624	657	840	1111	1521	1856	2056	2214
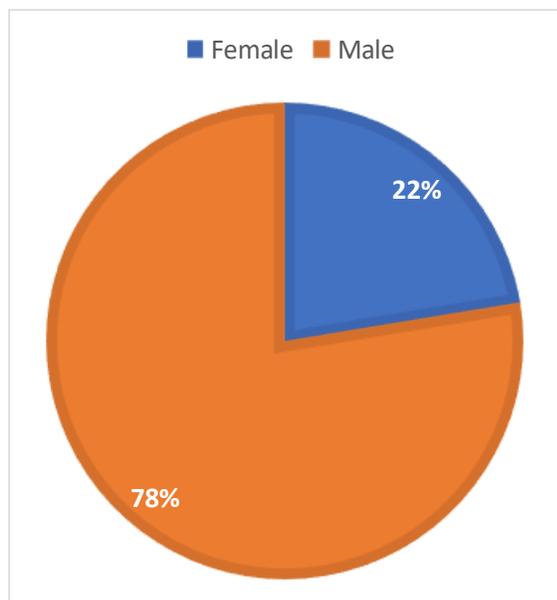
Over 69% of AFF members have either MSc or PhD level degree qualifications, 23% with a bachelor's degree and 4% with a diploma. The remaining 1% have a certificate level training. Members are predominantly male, 78% of the total (Fig.5.2.8), reflecting a male dominated forest profession in general.

Members are actively contributing their time and expertise towards advancing the mission of AFF by voluntarily availing their individual resources in a pool for sharing through the AFF members' intranet. By 2019, members exchanged, through the intranet, more than 600 full text journal articles which received 19,048 views and have been downloaded 9, 180 times.

Figure 14: AFF Membership by gender
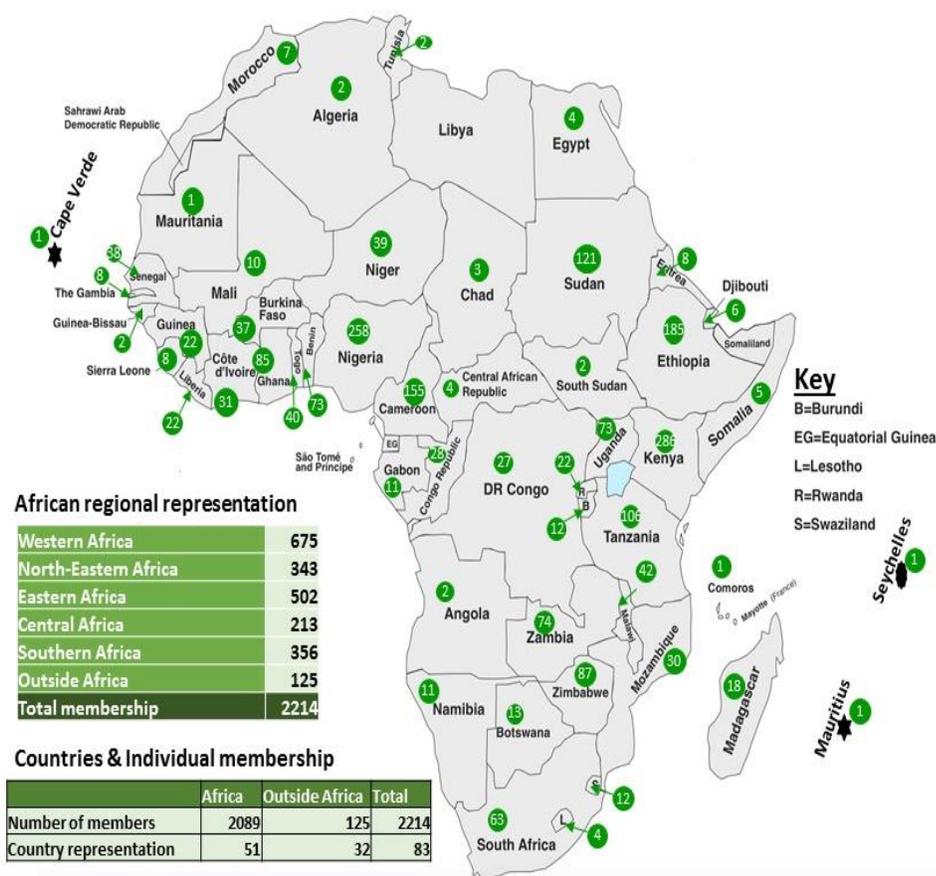
Figure 15: Geographical distribution on AFF members

On general public:
- Social media twitter followers grew from 358 in 2016; to 651 in 2017; to 778 in 2018 and 865 during January to June 2019 (Figure 5.2.10).
- Facebook followers grew from 163 in 2016; to 942 in 2017; 1,714 followers in 2018; and 2,325 during January to June 2019 (Figure 5.2.11).
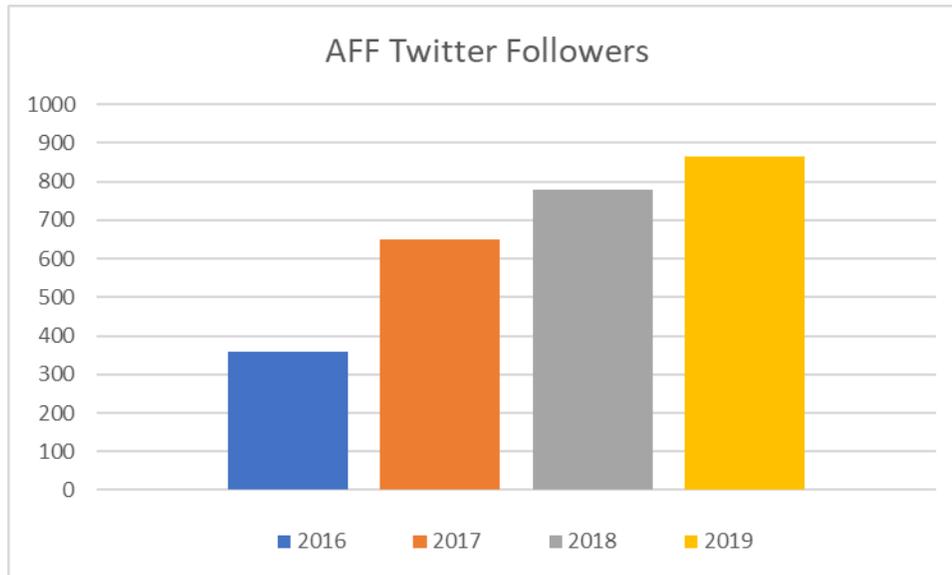
Figure 16: Growth in AFF Twitter Followers (2016-2019**)**
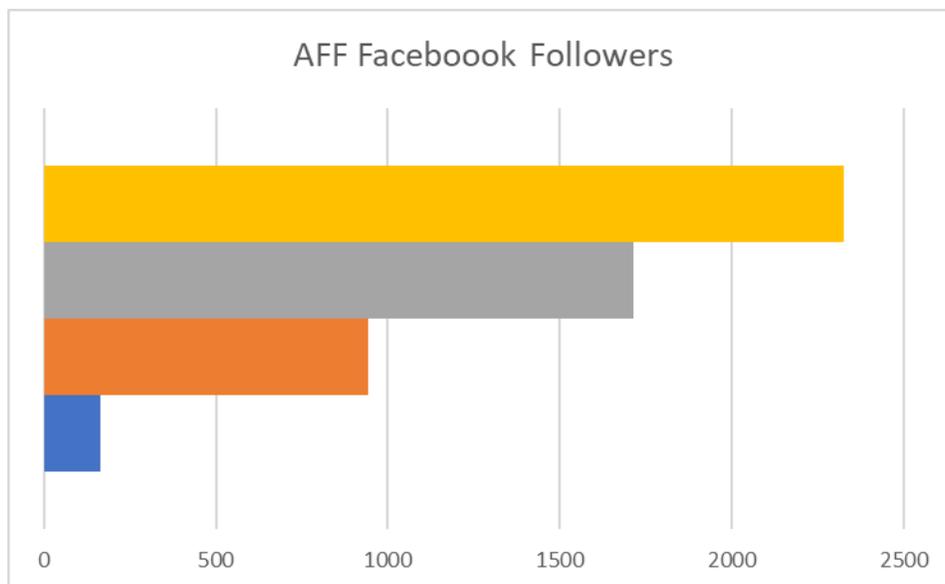
Figure 17: Growth in AFF Facebook Followers (2016-2019)

Topics that have dominated conversations on social media include: conservation of African forests, climate change in African forestry, trees pests and diseases, engagement of African delegates to multilateral processes, carbon markets, and private sector in forestry. AFF has used these channels to reach large audiences - specifically the youth, in a fast and inexpensive way.

The project has therefore strengthened the AFF information sharing platforms, increased the awareness on the knowledge products developed and shared by AFF to very well beyond the African continent, and established the priority information stakeholders were deriving from the institution.

COMPONENT 3: SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT AND LIVELIHOODS

5.3 Project outcome 3: African forestry institutions are catalysed to take actions that address sustainable forest management and its interface with sustainable livelihoods and environment

The project objective that guided activities to realise this outcome was *to catalyze efforts to enhance sustainable management practices that have potential to improve resilience of forests and trees to adverse effects of climate change, and up-scale promising approaches that support livelihoods*. This was to be achieved through development and adoption of models on land use systems and arrangements and public-private-partnership models, based on scientifically proven approaches that increase benefits, and especially to local communities including all social groups namely women, youth and other vulnerable groups; and also facilitate poverty eradication, while ensuring environmental sustainability.

Achievements made towards the outcome are as follows:
a) Quality scientific information generated on land use systems to inform policy decisions and development of livelihood focused models
b) The status and potential of private sector in forestry better understood to inform policy decisions and development of inclusive public-private-partnership models with potential for livelihood improvement
c) Quality scientific information generated on status of and ways to improve tree germplasm, to inform decisions on production and supply of the same on the continent
d) Capacity of forestry practitioners in Eastern, Southern, West and Central Africa sub-regions strengthened for provision of adequate quality tree germplasm to support forest establishment and agroforestry systems
e) The status of tree pests and diseases on the continent better understood, information which can inform forest investment decisions for improved surveillance and control measures

5.3.1 Quality scientific information generated on land use systems to inform policy decisions and development of livelihood focused models

In-depth studies on land use, land use change, and forestry (LULUCF) in the context of climate change sought to understand changes in land use in relation to livelihoods (with gender considerations) and the environment. This was undertaken through joint research in partnership with six African universities and two NGOs through postgraduate research on land use management systems in various forest types in Africa in the following focal areas:

a) Land use, forest cover dynamics and ecosystem services
b) Economic evaluation of carbon storage and sequestration in protected forest areas
c) Biophysical dynamics in forest shifting cultivation in the context of climate change
d) Forest fragmentation, forest cover dynamics and carbon stocks

The capacities of eight students in four African universities were strengthened. Two MSc and four PhD students completed their research, prepared dissertations, successfully defended their theses, and have graduated. Two other PhD students have completed their research and prepared dissertations that are under internal examination.

Six theses and nine journal papers have been produced as follows:

i) D. C Mangwa, 2016. *Community perception of forest conservations policies and impact on land cover change and CO_2 emissions around Korup and Bakossi national parks of Cameroon.* MSc thesis submitted to the University of Buea, Cameroon.
ii) Alice Jebiwott, 2016: *Forest cover change and ecosystem services of Katimok forest reserve, Baringo County, Kenya.* MSc thesis submitted to the Egerton University, Kenya.
iii) Sylvanus Mensah 2016 *Selected key ecosystem services, functions, and the relation with biodiversity in natural forest ecosystems.* PhD thesis submitted to the University of Stellenbosch.
iv) Chemuku Wekesa, 2018 *Assessment of the effects of forest fragmentation on forest cover dynamics, tree species diversity and carbon stock in Taita hills*, Kenya PhD thesis submitted to the Egerton University
v) Roger Tabue Bruno, 2018 *Valeurs écologiques et économiques des écosystèmes de la Réserve de Faune du Dja sous l'influence des effets anthropiques*, PhD thesis submitted to the University of Yaoundé, Cameroon.
vi) Berhanu Terefe, 2019 *Management of Shifting Cultivation and Its Implications for Biodiversity, Biomass and Soil Carbon : the case of East Wollega, Ethiopia*. PhD thesis submitted to the Hawasa University, Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources

Nine journal papers published included:

i) Jebiwott A, Ogendi G.M, Makindi S.M, and Esilaba M.O 2016. *Drivers of Forest Cover Change and Indicators of Climate Change in Katimok Forest Reserve.* Imperial Journal of Interdisciplinary Research (IJIR) Vol-2, Issue-11, 2016, ISSN: 2454-1362, http://www.onlinejournal.in

ii) Sylvanus Mensah, Ruan Veldtmanc, d, Achille Ephrem Assogbadjoe, Cori Hama, Romain Glèlè Kakaïb, and Thomas Seifert, 2016. *Ecosystem service importance and use vary with socio-environmental factors: A study from household-surveys in local communities of South Africa.* Ecosystem services (2017) 1-8

iii) Sylvanus Mensah, Ruan Veldtman, Ben du Toit 1, Romain Glèlè Kakaï and Thomas Seifert, 2016. *Aboveground Biomass and Carbon in a South African Mistbelt Forest and the Relationships with Tree Species Diversity and Forest Structures.* Forests 2016, 7, 79.

iv) Sylvanus Mensah, Ruan Veldtman, Achille E. Assogbadjo, Romain Glèlè Kakaï, and Thomas Seifert 2016 *Tree species diversity promotes aboveground carbon storage through functional diversity and functional dominance.* In press. Ecology and Evolution.

v) Sylvanus Mensah, Ruan Veldtman, and Thomas Seifert, 2016. *Potential supply of floral resources to managed honey bees in natural mistbelt forests* accepted by Journal of environmental management.

vi) Wekesa, E.K. Maranga, B.K. Kirui, G.M. Muturi, M. Gathara, 2018. *Interactions between native tree species and environmental variables along forest edge-interior gradient in fragmented forest patches of Taita Hills, Kenya.* Forest Ecology and Management 409 (2018) 789-798

vii) Tabue Mbobda Roger Bruno, Zapfack Louis, Noiha Noumi Valery, Nyeck Boris, Meyan-Ya Daghela Raissa Glawdys, Ngoma Louis Roger, Kabelong Banoho Louis-Paul, Chimi Djomo Cédric 2016. *Plant Diversity and Carbon Storage Assessment in an African Protected Forest: A Case of the Eastern Part of the Dja Wildlife Reserve in Cameroon.* Journal of Plant Sciences 2016; 4(5): 95-101 http://www.sciencepublishinggroup.com/j/jps doi: 10.11648/j.jps.20160405.11 ISSN: 2331-0723 (Print); ISSN: 2331-0731 (Online)

viii) Roger Bruno Tabue Mbobda, Louis Zapfack, Valery Noiha Noumi, Forbi Preasious Funwi, Jules ChristianZekeng, Louis Roger Ngoma, Louis Paul Roger Kabelong Banoho, Nadège Madountsap Tagnang, Amandine Flore Ntonmen Yonkeu, Mireil Carole Tchoupou Votio, Nyeck Boris, Cedric Chimi Djomo, 2018. *Diversity, structure and carbon storage potential of the Dja Wildlife Reserve vegetation cover.* Journal of Biodiversity and Environmental Sciences (JBES) ISSN: 2220-6663 (Print) 2222-3045 (Online) Vol. 13, No. 5, p. 180-199, 2018 http://www.innspub.net

ix) Berhanu Terefe and Dong-Gill Kim, 2019 *Shifting cultivation maintains but its conversion to mono-cropping decreases soil carbon and nitrogen stocks compared to natural forest in Western Ethiopia* Plant and Soil An International Journal on Plant-Soil Relationships. ISSN 0032-079XPlant Soil https://doi.org/10.1007/s11104-019-03942-0

The findings of the studies were disseminated at the regional workshop on, *Sharing of information, knowledge and experiences in African forestry* held on 20 to 23 May 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya and contributed to regional discussions on land use management practices that hold potential to improve the resilience of forests to climate change and minimise forest degradation while enhancing positive impacts to local communities to inform policy decisions and development of livelihood focused models.

An analysis conducted during the reporting period revealed that scientific information generated by the students' research and publications since 2016 has been accessed by the scientific community through readership ranging from 8 to 238; and citations ranging from 0 to 15; thus, expanding their knowledge on these issues.

5.3.2 The status and potential of private sector in forestry better understood to inform policy decisions and development of inclusive public-private-partnership models with potential for livelihood improvement

Twenty-two country in-depth studies on private sector in forestry conducted sought to better understand the private sector in African forestry, the key actors in both primary and secondary forestry production in Africa, and how to strengthen and or develop an all-inclusive actors into an organized and cohesive sector that can articulate its issues, be heard, and attract attention and resources for its development and growth. The analyses generated evidence-based information on the potential of the private sector in forestry in Africa with the view to support policy formulation and investment decisions. The studies covered different forest types and identified forest products including wood and non-wood products, different actors, assessed their *modus operandi*, and evaluated the modalities for strengthening the evolving private sector.

Twenty-two country reports on the status and potential of the private sector in African forestry were produced and synthesised to 4 sub-regional reports as follows:

a) Studies on public-private-partnership (PPP) in forest sector in Africa: Potential for private sector in forestry development: primary and secondary production actors, trade, and gender consideration in forestry sector: a synthesis report for eastern Africa of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia and Sudan
b) Public-private-partnerships in central African's forestry Sector: Private sector engagement in central African forestry
c) Le partenatiat public-prive dans le secteur forestier: une opportunite de gestion durable des ressources forestieres et de creation d'emplois en afrique de l'ouest
d) Public-private-partnerships in the forestry sector in southern Africa

Further, an Africa synthesis report on development of public-private-partnerships in forestry in Africa has been drafted.

The findings of the studies were disseminated to stakeholders during three regional sharing workshops namely:

 i.   AFF-University of Lomé Regional workshop on sharing of knowledge and experiences to strengthen collaboration among stakeholders in African forestry on 26 to 30 September 2016 in Lomé, Togo,

 ii. AFF- Makerere University Regional workshop on knowledge and experience sharing on sustainable forest management and climate change in African forestry on May 22 to 26, 2017 in Entebbe, Uganda, and

 iii. AFF- FORIG Regional workshop on sharing knowledge and experiences on public and private sector development in forestry and response to climate change, and transboundary forestry issues on 10 to 14 July 2017 in Accra, Ghana

Figure 18: Regional workshop on knowledge and experience sharing on sustainable forest management and climate change in African forestry on May 22 – 26, 2017 in Entebbe, Uganda. Photo © AFF

The findings contributed to regional discussions on development of effective public-private-partnerships in forestry that can enhance social inclusion, gender equitable practices and forest compatible livelihoods development. The deliberations resulted in the following:

 o *An outcome statement* entitled the *Position of the private sector from the AFF Ghana Workshop* developed by the private sector during the *Regional workshop on sharing knowledge and experiences on public and private sector response to climate change and transboundary forestry issues on the continent* on 10 to 14 July 2017 in Accra, Ghana was produced. The statement highlighted the enhanced role and niche of the private sector in forestry development and called for an enabling policy and legislative environment, as well as strengthened technical and financial capacity building to ensure effective Public-Private-Partnerships (PPP) that are inclusive and contribute to improved livelihoods.

o *A resolution* to set up a network on private sector in forestry in Africa. A WhatsApp group for private sector actors in forestry in Africa entitled *AFF Private Sector Forum* was established and is operational for sharing public-private-partnerships (PPP) strategies, knowledge and experiences with marketing and trade in forest products at global, sub-regional and national levels.

5.3.3 Quality scientific information generated on status of and ways to improve tree germplasm, to inform decisions on production and supply of the same on the continent

Baseline information was generated on the status of tree germplasm, its improvement, ways production is handled, and matching supply and demand on the continent. This was in response to several initiatives being implemented globally and on the continent that would require quality germplasm. Such initiatives include those related to Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM) (afforestation and reforestation), REDD+ (enhancing the carbon stock through afforestation, reforestation and enrichment planting in natural forests), AFR100[1], the New York Declaration[2], the Bonn Challenge[3], some of the SDGs; in addition to specific country demands by large scale forest plantation growers, farmers and other actors in the sector.

Three sub-regional reports on provision of quality tree germplasm were produced as follows:
   o The status of tree germplasm improvement, production, supply and demand in East Africa.
   o Situational analysis of commercial and community tree planting in Southern Africa: Trends in tree improvement and tree germplasm supply.
   o Situational analysis of commercial and community tree planting in West and Central Africa: Trends in tree improvement and tree germplasm supply.

---

[1] *AFR100 (the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative) is a country-led effort to bring 100 million hectares of land in Africa into restoration by 2030. AFR100 contributes to the Bonn Challenge, the African Resilient Landscapes Initiative (ARLI), the African Union Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals and other targets.*

[2] *Launched in 2014 at the United Nations Climate Summit, the New York Declaration on Forests (NYDF) is a voluntary and non-binding international declaration calling for action to halt global forest loss, increase forest restoration, improve forest governance, and empower local communities.*

[3] *The Bonn Challenge is a global effort to bring 150 million hectares of the world's deforested and degraded land into restoration by 2020, and 350 million hectares by 2030. It was launched in 2011 by the Government of Germany and IUCN, and later endorsed and extended by the New York Declaration on Forests at the 2014 UN Climate Summit.*

Further, an Africa synthesis report on tree breeding and tree germplasm supply in Africa has been produced on: *Situational analysis of tree breeding and tree germplasm supply in Africa: under-pining sustainable forest management.* This has also contributed to a book chapter in a recently launched book on: *State of forestry in Africa: Challenges and opportunities.*

This project has therefore laid a good foundation for the development of best ways that will ensure the provision of better-quality forest planting material for establishment of more productive and profitable agroforestry systems, as well as forest plantations and woodlots in Sub-Saharan Africa. Further, some tools developed to this end include:

– Routine seed testing protocols for priority plantation and agroforestry tree species in tropical Africa to assist forestry practitioners, small holder farmers and the private sector to access better adapted and quality tree planting material (Figure 5.3.2)

– Training guidelines on tree breeding and tree germplasm management to address identified capacity gaps to support capacity building programmes for enhanced SFM in Africa.

5.3.4 Capacity of forestry practitioners in Eastern, Southern, West and Central Africa sub-regions strengthened for provision of adequate quality tree germplasm to support forest establishment and agroforestry systems

The capacity of forestry practitioners in eastern, southern, west and central Africa sub-regions for provision of adequate quality tree germplasm to support forest establishment and agroforestry systems was strengthened through two regional training courses on tree improvement and seed management organized by AFF and partners and using the training guidelines and seed protocols developed by the project as follows:

✓ AFF-Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) Regional training course on tree improvement and seed management for eastern and southern Africa sub-regions on 27 to 30 November 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya

✓ AFF- Government of Niger Regional training course on tree improvement and seed management for West and Central Africa sub-regions on 26 February to 2 March 2018 in Niamey, Niger

As a result of the training the following were achieved:

– Capacity of 29 forestry practitioners from 15 countries in eastern and southern Africa sub-regions have been equipped with knowledge, principles, skills and tools for best practices for tree quality seed production and management.

– Capacity 41 forestry practitioners from 17 countries in West and Central Africa sub-regions have been equipped with knowledge, principles, skills and tools for best practice for tree quality seed production and management.

Further, two outcome statements resulted from the training workshops as follows:
– *Outcome statement* to establish a network of trained tree seed managers to exchange ideas, information, technologies on best practice to safeguard sustainable production of quality tree planting materials for more successful afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration programs in eastern and southern African countries

– *Outcome statement* to establish a network of trained tree seed managers to exchange ideas, information, technologies on best practice to safeguard sustainable production of quality tree planting materials for more successful afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration programs in West and Central African countries

Figure 19: Seed germination tests in a germination room, TTSA, Morogoro, Tanzania Photo © Heriel Msanga/AFF

A follow-up carried out by AFF indicates that some the respondents had used the information, knowledge and skills to promote best practices for quality tree germplasm as presented in Figure 5.3. Most of the respondents at 22(73.3%) created awareness among stakeholders on tree germplasm and seed management in Africa. More than half of the respondents at 16 (53.3%) used the knowledge and skills used in training and capacity building among stakeholders on tree germplasm and seed management in Africa with a similar proportion engaging in lobbying and advocacy to promote tree seed improvement and production. Nearly two thirds of the respondents at 20 (i.e., 66.7%) engaged in research activities on tree germplasm and seed management. Only one third of the

respondents mobilized resources for implementation of tree germplasm and seed management initiatives.
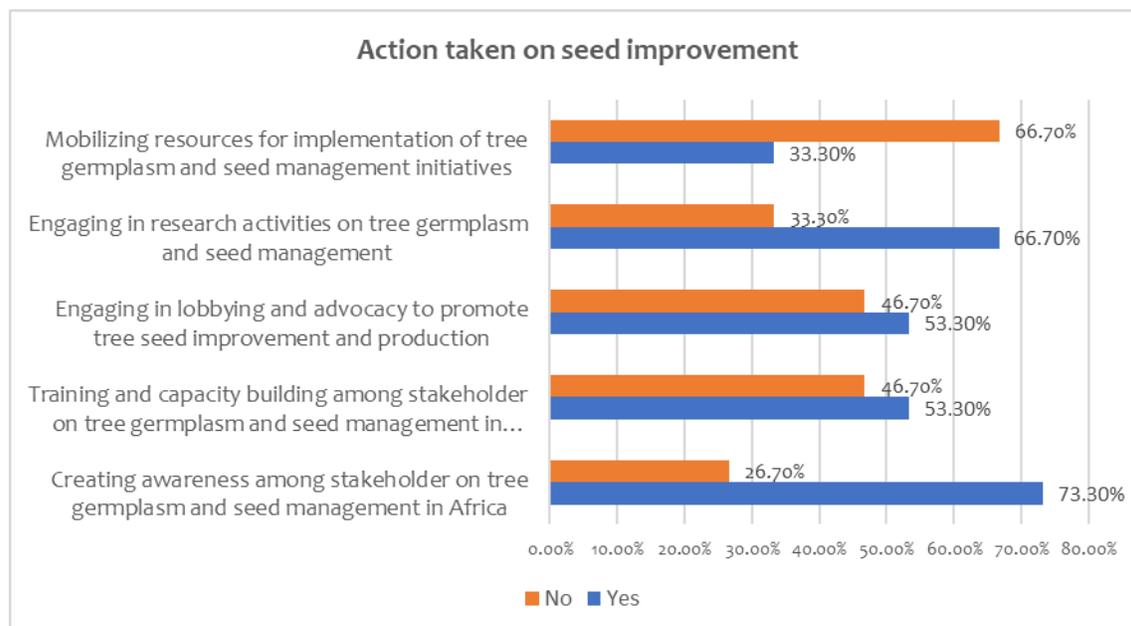
Figure 20: List of actions taken by stakeholders after training on tree germplasm management

5.3.5 The status of tree pests and diseases on the continent better understood, information which can inform forest investment decisions for improved surveillance and control measures

Baseline information was generated on the status of forests and tree pests and diseases in Africa, and on mechanisms for surveillance of pests and diseases. This was in response to demands by large scale forest plantation growers, farmers and other actors in the sector for mechanisms to ensure establishment of more productive and profitable agroforestry systems and forest plantations in Africa. Measures to protect forests and trees from pests and diseases is an integral part of sustainable forest management that would ensure that forestry yields tangible benefits for small holder farmers and the private sector.

Three sub-regional reports on forests and tree pests and diseases were produced as follows:
a) Forest and tree pests and disease trends in west and central Africa
b) The status of tree and forest pests and diseases in east African sub-region
c) Forest pests and diseases in southern Africa

Further, an Africa synthesis report on forests and tree pests and diseases in Africa has been produced on: *The status and trends of forests and tree pests and diseases management in Africa*. This has also contributed to a book chapter in a recently launched book on: *State of forestry in Africa: Challenges and opportunities.*

This project has therefore laid a good foundation for the development of best ways to minimise forestry losses due to pests and diseases that pose significant potential threat to afforestation and reforestation plans of countries in the continent. Also, more effective ways to mitigate invasion of pests and diseases across national boundaries can now be instituted through improved mechanisms for surveillance of pests and diseases beyond national borders. Further, the tools developed to this end include:

a) Protocol for surveillance of forest and tree pests in west and central Africa
b) A draft review of the SADC Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Annex to the SADC Protocol on Trade
c) A draft review on Protocols and status of surveillance of tree and forest pests and disease in East African sub region

COMPONENT 4: POLICY AND FLEGT

5.4 Project outcome 4: African countries use evidence to review and/or develop forest policies and governance structures that support sustainable management of forest and tree resources and facilitate transparent trade.

The project objective that guided activities to realise this outcome was *to facilitate the formulation and harmonization of evidence-based policies, regulations and governance mechanisms to strengthen public and private institutions to effectively support SFM and transparent trade*. This was to be achieved through support to African countries in their response to the Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (AFLEG) *Ministerial Declaration* (2003) that addresses, among other things, illegal logging and trade in forest and wildlife products. The response was to be coordinated through firstly, in-depth analyses of forest governance, and on forest certification in Africa to inform development of mechanisms (both market and non-market-based tools) to address capacity gaps that have been responsible for ineffective forest governance leading to increased illegal logging and trade in timber. Secondly, training modules developed to address capacity gaps were instrumental in sensitising and capacitating African policy and decision makers on governance interventions needed to reduce illegalities in the forest sector; and in catalyzing establishment of mechanisms for improved forest governance and enhanced responsible forest management at national, sub-regional and continental levels. These measures would consequently promote sustainable forest management.

Achievements made towards the outcome include:
  a) Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade (FLEGT) challenges and opportunities at different levels identified in the context of RECs to inform development of mechanisms to guide capacity building for forest certification and policy-making in Africa.
  b) Resolutions to improve forest governance
  c) Mechanisms developed to enhance good forest governance in eastern and West Africa sub-regions
  d) Capacity of African institutions and forest policy and decision makers in eastern, West, southern and central Africa sub-regions strengthened on good forest governance to promote sustainable forest management through training modules developed by the project
  e) Training needs for forest certification in Africa identified through an inventory of market -based forest certification schemes
  f) Capacity of forestry stakeholders in eastern, west, southern and central Africa sub-regions strengthened on forest certification in general and for development of national forest certification standards best suited for their countries.
  g) Policies and governance structures developed

Each of these is described as follows:

5.4.1 FLEGT challenges and opportunities at different levels identified in the context of RECs to inform development of mechanisms to guide capacity building for forest certification and policy-making in Africa

A regional study on forest law enforcement, good forest governance and trade in forest products in Africa generated up to date evidence-based knowledge on the state of forest governance in Africa including the implementation of EU-FLEGT and AFLEG processes. The study has strengthened the knowledge base on FLEGT in Africa and deepened understanding of impacts of weak forest governance. The study found out that most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have weak forest policies, some of which have not addressed illegal forest trade beyond their borders. The forest legislation is either incomplete or fragmented with responsibilities spread among many institutions.

The study that also elaborated on trends on illegal harvesting and trade in forest products in Africa revealed that illegal logging costs governments vast sums of money that could otherwise be spent on the provision of better healthcare, education and other public services, as well as the implementation of sustainable forest management. For example, the unregulated charcoal trade alone involves an annual revenue loss of at least US$1.9 billion to African countries (UNEP, 2016 [4]). Recent threat assessments reports have revealed that some African countries loose annual revenues as high as US$58 million to

---

[4] UNEP/EA.2/INF/28: Analysis of the environmental impacts of illegal trade in wildlife

$220 million due to illegal export of rosewood (CITES, 2019[5]; Randriamalala and Liu, 2010[6]; Environmental Investigation Agency, Inc. 2019[7]). For some countries this could amount to 10% of its GDP worth about half its total export value which is a very significant source of income for a developing country (CITES, 2019). Illegal trade and associated trade undermines the potential of Africa's forests to contribute to sustainable development including efforts to address climate change and biodiversity loss while also depriving nations of important revenue.

The study recommended the following:
i) Enhancing policies and legality of trade in forest products, including developing schemes to cover multiple cross-border movements
ii) Capacity building for good FLEGT by involving actors in the forest products trade, including strengthening of Market Information Systems (MIS) for forest products
iii) Interventions to address market failures and incentives, including intensified sensitisation programmes on tax compliance
iv) Providing incentives for responsible forest management, for example through revision of concession periods for logging operations, stumpage fees and licenses; revision of taxes to suit the market prices of roundwood and its products; and price controls that can ensure profitability of the timber trade
v) Strengthening measures for forest certification to curb illegality

The findings were useful in informing and sensitizing countries on the impacts of weak enforcement of forest laws and the need to develop governance and management frameworks that are adaptive and able to address human impacts on forests. In particular, the frameworks need to provide incentives for responsible forest management and trade. The findings were disseminated to professional forestry association members from the eastern Africa and ECOWAS sub-regions to consider and design mechanisms to promote good forest governance including how to mitigate illegal cross-border trade in forest products.

The sensitisation meetings resulted in: a) resolutions on actions governments should take to improve forest governance; and b) establishment of 3 sub-regional platforms as mechanisms to complement government efforts to improve forest governance. These are discussed below.

---

[5] CoP18 Doc.34 Working Document for CITES Cop18
[6] Randriamalala, H. and Liu, Z. 2010. Rosewood of Madagascar: between democracy and conservation. Madagascar Conservation and Development, 5(1): 11-22.
[7] Interpol Operations Target Illegal Timber Trade in Africa and the Americas," news release, 26 November 2015, http://www.interpol. int/en/Internet/News-and-media/News/2015/N2015-206

5.4.2 Resolutions to improve forest governance

At a convening of forestry practitioners including representatives of governments, non-governmental organisations, academic and research institutes, and private sector in ECOWAS countries organized by AFF and ECOWAS Secretariat on *Strengthening forest law enforcement, forest governance and trade in forest products in West Africa* held in Abuja, Nigeria from 23rd to 25th May 2016 consensus was reached on actions to take to improve forest governance.

The participants committed to the following:

 a) Review, update and harmonise relevant existing laws, policies and regulations in individual countries to meet regional and international best practices through all-inclusive participatory mechanisms
 b) Build strong national governance institutions that would develop, institute, and employ holistic approaches to combat corruption
 c) Mobilise resources for capacity building on good forest governance and responsible forest management among national forestry stakeholders
 d) Create awareness on issues in forest governance among relevant stakeholders such as forest administrators, user associations, forestry researchers, traders, custom officials, climate change agents, environmental trainers and local communities
 e) Promote bilateral cooperation and information sharing on cross border trade

As reported in section 5.2.3, a follow up evaluation by AFF revealed that actions on these issues have been taken to varying degrees in the different countries as presented in Figure 5.4.1 . More than two thirds of the respondents to a survey implemented by AFF mentioned that they had created awareness on good forest governance; this would cause traction for action towards good forest governance practices across the African continent. Nearly two thirds of the respondents had advocated for policies that promote good forest governance practices in their countries.

More than half of the respondents had played an active role in policy reform towards ensuring appropriate incentives for legal forest management, and disincentives for forest crime. A similar proportion of the respondents also mentioned that they have become active members of a professional forestry association. Half of the respondents had encouraged private sector initiatives for good forest sector practices. Nearly half of the respondents promoted transparency in forestry through the provision of accurate information on illegal forest activities, strengthened forest law enforcement by improving co-ordination between forest regulators, police, customs and the judiciary, and participated in reviewing options to control the trade in illegally harvested timber.
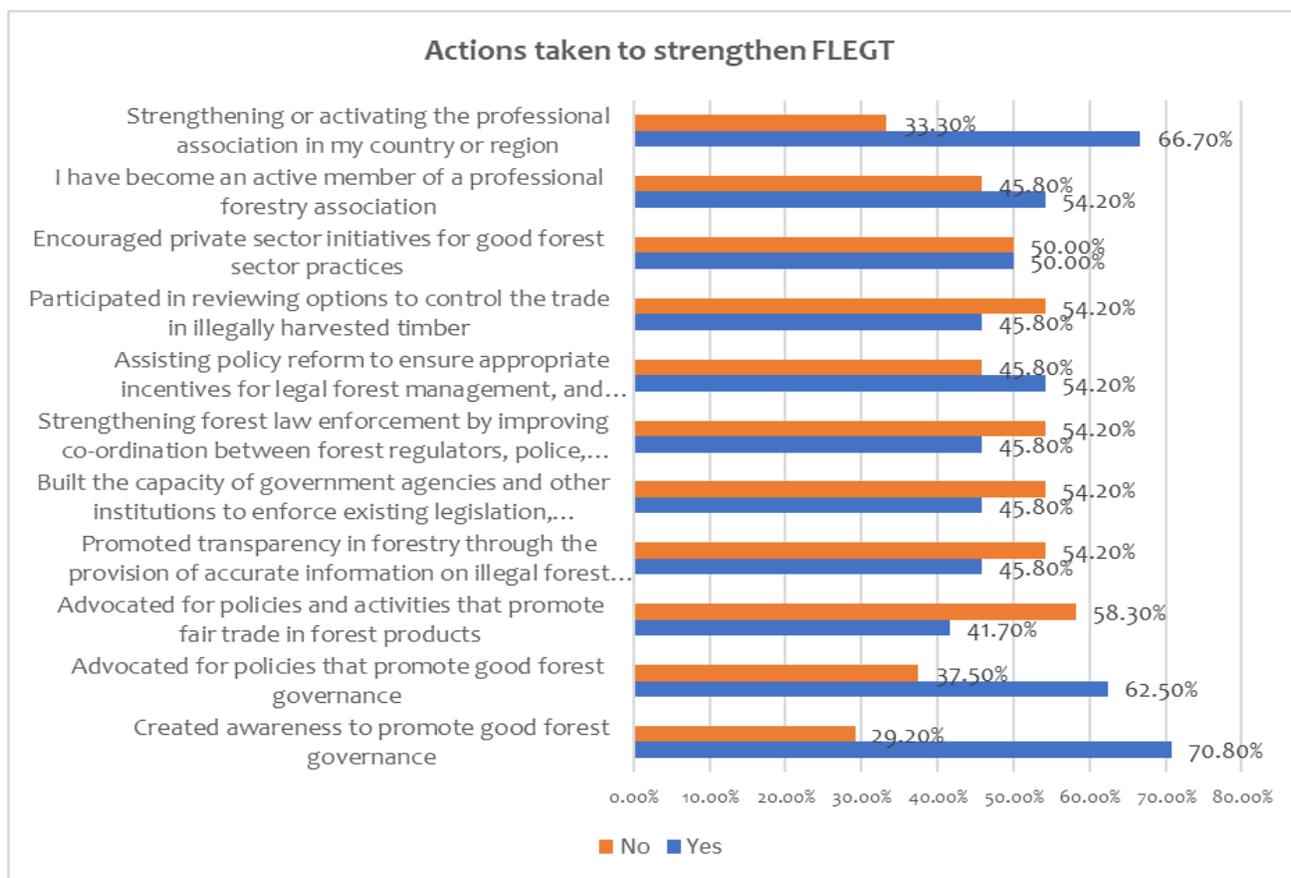
Figure 21: List of actions taken by stakeholders after trainings on forest governance

5.4.3 Mechanisms developed to enhance good forest governance in Eastern and West Africa sub-regions

Three sub-regional mechanisms within eastern Africa and ECOWAS sub-regions were established for strengthening collaboration professionally and also the marketing and trade in forest products as follows:

a) The *Professional Forestry Association for Eastern Africa* (PFAEA) was established through a partnership between AFF, the FAO and the Forest Society of Kenya through a sub-regional workshop on forest governance in Eastern Africa held in July 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya. The association was established to harness the potential policy advocacy capacities of seven national forestry associations in eastern Africa comprising of over 2000 members. The association has drafted a strategy for regionally based forestry activities that will guide it to better articulate the voice of the professional foresters in the region to address transboundary forestry issues; namely: illegal cross border timber trade that is hampered by weak national policies; pests and disease epidemics; in addition to national issues such as politically motivated forest excisions and other controversial forestry issues that national forestry associations would require support at sub-regional level in handling them.

b) The *Union for Forestry Professionals for West Africa* was established through a partnership between AFF and ECOWAS during a regional workshop organised on 9 to 13 April 2018 in Osun, Nigeria, in synergy with the SDC supported project. The Union was established to strengthen collaboration professionally. The participants formulated the basic documents (constitution and administrative guidelines) for (a) a professional forestry association for the region. The AFF Secretariat will facilitate bringing these developments to the ECOWAS Secretariat for processing (including registration of the association) and support for the institution.

c) The *Association sous-regionale sur le commerce des produits forestiers* established through a partnership between AFF and ECOWAS during a regional workshop organised on 9 to 13 April 2018 in Osun, Nigeria, in synergy with the SDC supported project. The association was established to strengthen collaboration in marketing and trade in forest products in the ECOWAS sub-region. The participants formulated the basic documents (constitution and administrative guidelines) for a forest products trade association for the region. The AFF Secretariat will facilitate bringing these developments to the ECOWAS Secretariat for processing (including registration of the association) and support for the institution.

These associations are valuable partnership platforms as reported in Section 5.1.1 above. Professional forestry associations have a much better reach than workshops, in that in their annual general meetings they bring many of those in the profession in each country to discuss and work around forest governance related issues. Consequently, the democratic space for public interest in forestry in the both sub-regions is expanding. There is therefore strengthened advocacy for forestry professionalism and promotion of ethics in the sector as means towards enhancing forest governance, as well as strengthening fair trade in forest products.

5.4.4 Capacity of African institutions and forest policy and decision makers in Eastern, West, Southern and Central Africa sub-regions strengthened on good forest governance to promote sustainable forest management.

Based on findings of the regional study on forest governance, and in efforts to build strategic human capacity in African institutions to advance national and regional initiatives to improve forest governance for forest compatible development AFF developed a *Training module on good forest governance for Sub-Saharan African countries* to support capacity building efforts for SFM in Africa.

The module was used during two regional training workshops including *Forest law enforcement, governance and fair trade for west and central Africa sub-regions* held on 13 to 16 November 2017 in Yaoundé, Cameroon; and *Regional training workshop on forest governance for Eastern and Southern Africa sub-regions* held on 20 to 24 May 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya resulting in the following:

a) Capacity of 45 forest policy and decision makers from 19 countries in west and central Africa was strengthened to develop, institute and employ appropriate mechanisms to address illegalities in the forest sector for effective forest governance, better ecosystem services delivery and transparent trade. The participants particularly highlighted the need to adopt a declaration on good forest governance for Africa.

b) Capacity of 18 forest policy and decision makers from 15 countries in eastern and southern Africa was strengthened to develop, institute and employ appropriate mechanisms to address illegalities in the forest sector for effective forest governance, better ecosystem services delivery and transparent trade. The participants concurred on the need for an Africa based monitoring and assessment framework by the AUC for good forest governance in the African context that would for example incorporate traditional systems.

5.4.5 Training needs for forest certification in Africa identified through an inventory of market -based forest certification schemes

Four sub-regional studies on the status of forest certification in north Africa, central Africa, west Africa, southern and eastern Africa generated up-to-date evidence-based knowledge on existing forest certification systems in Africa and their potential to promote responsible forest management as market driven mechanisms. Forest certification (FC) can provide incentives for marketing and utilization of products from sustainably managed forests and is therefore one of the possible approaches to improve forest governance. It has the potential to contain deforestation, illegal logging and trade in forest products, and tax evasion in the forest sector that continues to persist in many African countries.

The studies however revealed that despite an existing enabling policy and legal environment for forest management Africa is yet to benefit from FC due to insufficient attention by stakeholders.   At best FC efforts on the continent can be characterized as scattered and uncoordinated. Out of all the forests certified globally Africa accounts for about 4% and only in ten countries. A number of factors constrain the successful implementation of FC in Africa, namely, inadequate or lack of enabling conditions and policy/legislation environment as well as numerous capacity gaps. Capacity gaps identified include human, financial and physical resources, and technical capability/skills, among others. The studies revealed that there is limited understanding of the forest certification concept, principles, tools and its processes.

There are currently very few local experts with forest certification skills, no locally-based forest certification auditors and no certification bodies in the sub-regions; all of which combine to constrain the implementation of forest certification on the continent. Further, financial support for forest certification in the sub-regions has been insufficient.

The studies recommended the following:
- Considerable investments be made in FC in the African forest sector for the continent to significantly benefit from it in ways that successfully promote and facilitate implementation of SFM.
- Invest in exploiting the strengths and opportunities that come with FC, as well as addressing the weaknesses, threats, gaps and challenges and constraints to effective and successful implementation of FC.
- Capacity building including human, financial and physical resources for undertaking FC
- Cultivate an enabling policy and legislation environment and developing appropriate institutional arrangements like marketing structures and information systems for certified forest products and services.

Four sub-regional reports on forest certification produced were:
i) Forest certification in central Africa sub-Region
ii) Forest certification in north Africa sub-Region
iii) Forest certification in west Africa sub-Region.
iv) Forest certification in eastern and southern Africa.

Further, an Africa-wide synthesis report *Forest certification in Africa: description of forest certification schemes and the experience of certification in the African continent* has been produced as a monograph and has contributed to a book chapter in the recently launched book: *State of forestry in Africa: Challenges and opportunities.*

As a result of the capacity gaps identified *A training manual on forest certification* was developed to guide capacity building in forest certification in Africa. The training manual has been instrumental in capacity building workshops on forest certification.

5.4.6 Capacity of African institutions and forest policy and decision makers in eastern, West, southern and Central Africa sub-regions strengthened on forest certification to promote sustainable forest management.

In building strategic human capacity in African institutions to accelerate the implementation of forest certification in Africa in order to promote responsible forest management, AFF used the training modules to guide two training courses: a) *Regional training course on forest certification for Eastern and Southern Africa* held on 4 to 7 December 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya; and b) *Short training course on forest certification for West and Central Africa* held on 20 to 24 June 2016 in Accra, Ghana. The outcomes from the courses were:

a) Capacity of 32 forestry practitioners in 15 countries in eastern and southern Africa strengthened on forest certification in general and on development of national forest certification standards best suited for their countries
b) Capacity of 42 forestry stakeholders in 17 countries in west and central Africa sub-regions strengthened on forest certification in general and on development of national forest certification standards best suited for their countries.

As a result of the training the participants resolved to: i) lobby for mainstreaming and incorporating forest certification into national plans; teaching curriculum; research initiatives; ii) advocate for quality forest management certification; v) develop good marketing strategies for certified forest products; vi) fundraise for forest certification and mobilise capacity of producers.

As reported in section 5.2.3 and presented in Figure 5.4.2 a follow up survey implemented by AFF indicates that some of these recommendations have been taken up in varying degrees by different countries . More than three quarters of the respondents used the information in to create awareness among stakeholders on forest certification, and also engaged in lobbying and advocacy activities on forest certification in their countries. More than half of the respondents used the information for training and capacity strengthening among stakeholder on forest certification, as well as in policy formulation or integration of forest certification into national forest policies. Slightly less than half of the respondents engaged in research activities on forest certification, and also actively participated in a forest certification process.
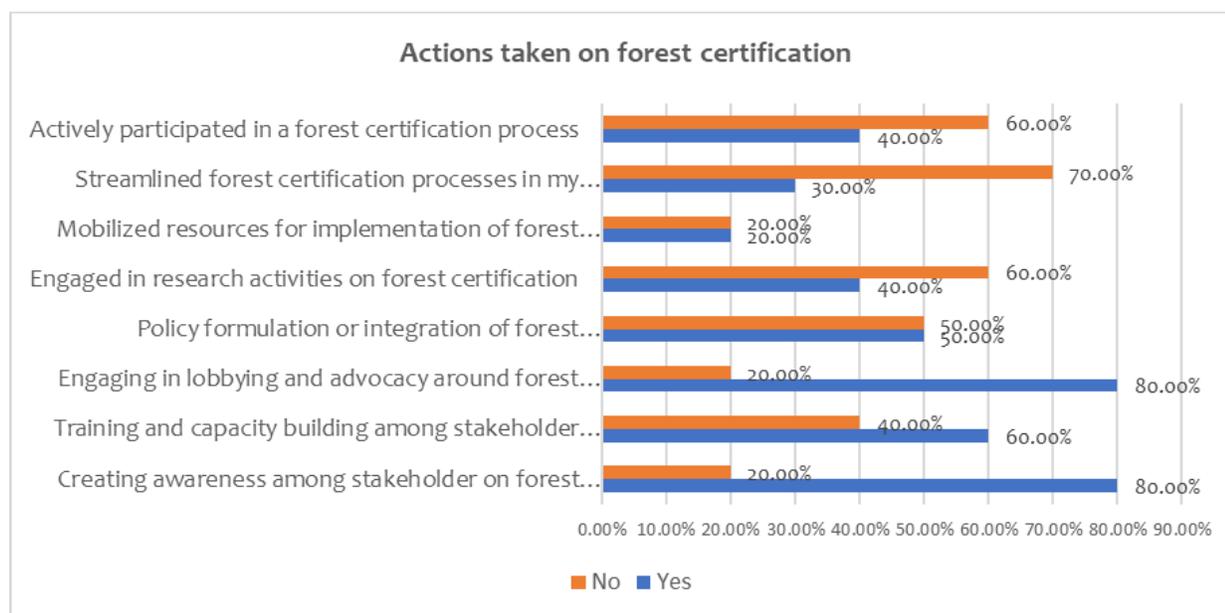
Figure 22: List of actions taken by stakeholders after trainings on forest certification

5.4.7 Policies and governance structures developed

During the project period, forest policies and governance structures were reviewed and/or developed as a result of initiatives by beneficiaries of the projects' capacity building workshops and stakeholders' workshops.

Also reported in section 5.2.3 above the policies and governance structures have been developed as follows:

Forestry policies
a) A Forest Conservation Bill for Kilifi County in Kenya developed to, among others, capture elements of forest certification. A zero draft is ready for stakeholders' validation.
b) Forest Conservation and Management Act, 2016 in Kenya now includes elements of forest certification namely Chain of Custody regulation (under Article 58).
c) The East African Community Forest Management and Protection Act was adopted in 2015 by the East African Legislative Assembly. The Act will contribute to a strengthened forest governance framework that for the first time focusses on forestry development at the sub-regional level. The African Forest Forum provided technical input in drafting the Bill which was instrumental in articulating the important role of professional forestry associations in forestry development. The Act now provides for strengthening professional national forestry associations and establishment of a regional professional forestry association to be supported by the East African Community (EAC).
d) A moratorium developed on harvesting of rosewood in Togo since 2016 as a measure to stop illegal harvesting of the Rosewood species in Togo and in the larger West African region.
e) Forest certification incorporated into the annual plan of work for 2017 for the Department of Forest Resources in Togo and; into the training curricula in the University of Ibadan, Nigeria
f) Six institutions, including 1 regional (ECOWAS) and 5 national (Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Togo and Seychelles) reported to have used the information accessed from AFF website to develop policy briefs.

Governance structures:

Improved governance mechanisms developed for charcoal production and trade in Niger to ensure sustainable harvesting of charcoal through:
i) improved law enforcement,
ii) institutionalized banning of charcoal production in fragile areas to secure regeneration;
iii) improved cross-border cooperation with Mali and Burkina Faso;
iv) establishment of village management committees to control charcoal production at the local level;
v) patrols by members of the *Association d'Exploitants du Bois* (ANEB) in Niger to ensure adherence to laid down regulations.

COMPONENT 5: CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

5.5 Project outcome 5: Africa's forestry stakeholders, leaders and practitioners, are more aware of the benefits of sustainable forest management, the actions that need to be taken to achieve this and have the capacity (tools and knowledge) to make the necessary interventions.

The project objective that guided activities to realise this outcome was to *enhance capacity of institutions and individuals – including farmers and farmer organizations, and other private sector actors, professional organisations, and public-sector organizations - to achieve forest compatible development.* This was to be achieved through development of strategic human capacity for improved forest management including the following milestones: a deep understanding of training needs to inform development of training curricula for professional and technical training institutions that are responsive to current challenges and opportunities in forestry; and development and implementation of training courses to address specified capacity gaps among forestry stakeholders to enhance an all-inclusive forest compatible development. These would support continuing education and retooling strategic stakeholders in response to the dynamic societal needs.

Achievements made towards the outcome include:
a) Assessment of training needs on new and emerging issues informed the design of concrete plans of action to contain identified capacity gaps and needs in forestry education; and development of training modules to guide tailor made capacity building programmes in forestry in Anglophone and francophone African countries
b) Capacity of forestry practitioners in African countries strengthened for improved forest management for enhanced forestry services delivery for socio-economic development in the context of global environmental change.

Each of the achievements is described below:

5.5.1 Assessment of training needs on new and emerging issues informed the design of concrete plans of action to contain identified capacity gaps, and development of training modules

Assessment of forestry education conducted for Anglophone and francophone countries provided up to date information on training needs in relation to current gaps and trainers perspectives, including emerging issues, as well as gender specific training needs. The analyses evaluated the content of forestry curricula in both professional and technical training institutions in relation to current stakeholder needs taking into account new and emerging issues.

The assessment was particularly focused on training and skills requirements/needs at various levels including local community, national, sub-regional and regional, disaggregated according to gender categories; and the adequacy (including gender consideration) of the modalities used in developing the curricula. Understanding and identifying the training needs of all gender groups (youth, men, women) in professional and technical training institutions would guide development of inclusive approaches for forestry development. The analyses revealed that the traditional forestry model is not adequately equipped to produce the necessary human capital to cope with the emanating global environmental challenges.

Further, the analyses observed an increased emphasis on mainstreaming gender into policy frameworks at national, regional and international levels thus creating a demand for more women forestry professionals. Figure 5.5.1 illustrates that nevertheless there are still some curricula at both technical and professional levels that do not explicitly consider gender. In this regard, gender mainstreaming therefore holds further promise for the advancement of women in the forestry sector in SSA by creating a critical mass of women in decision-making in forestry. The identified training needs and gaps in the content of forestry curricula in both professional and technical training institutions included:

– Inadequate emphasis on skills development, research and innovation that responds to development needs of the society
– Production of graduates, in both technical and professional training institutions, who do not have the skills sets to adapt to the changing work environment and market needs
– Emerging issues/societal demands, including climate change, green economy, social forestry and governance, are not sufficiently incorporated into the current forestry curricula as illustrated in Figure 5.5.2.
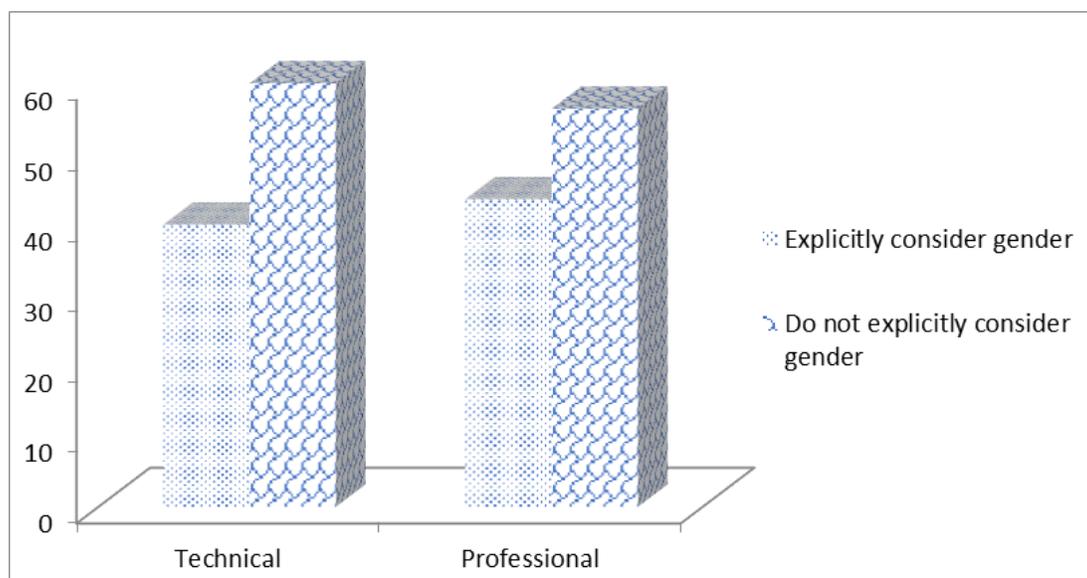
Figure 23: Gender considerations in curricula development in Anglophone Africa
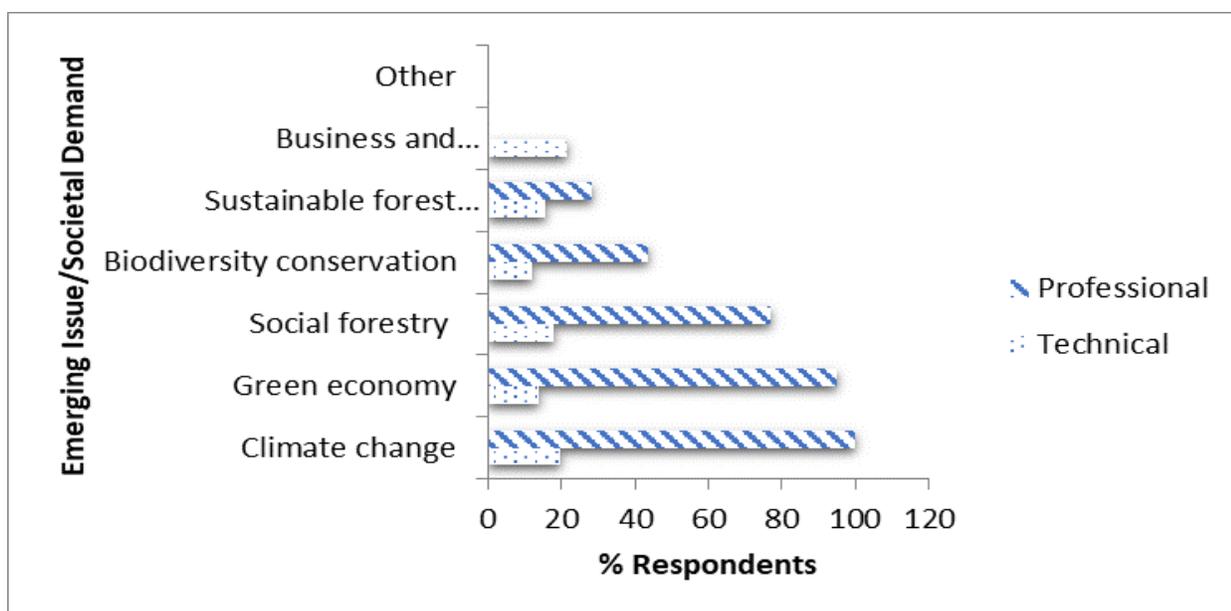
Figure 24: Emerging issues/societal demands identified in Anglophone African countries which are needed in the curriculum.

The findings of the assessment were disseminated to African forestry education stakeholders who deliberated on measures and modalities to contain the identified capacity gaps at national, sub-regional and regional levels. Participatory improvement of curricula is imperative in order to build capacities that can effectively contribute to the design and implementation of forestry management programmes that are responsive to current challenges and opportunities in forestry. To this end consensus was reached on appropriate curricula content revision and development of training modules to address identified gaps for improved forestry training programmes that can enhance an all-inclusive forestry management and development approach.

The stakeholders recommended the following:
- Regular and structured dialogue between training institutions, national public authorities and development partners on forestry education to take into account emerging themes.
- Vocational technical public forest education programme on forest resources management to be designed for women.
- Development of regional centres of excellence and partnerships to meet specific regional, global and societal challenges.
- Development of training modules on forest business and enterprise development, forest resources assessment, forest administration and governance, forest research, development and innovation, biodiversity management and forest products processing, for professional, technical and for civil society and extension services groups in African forestry education.

These resulted in capacity building materials developed to bridge knowledge gaps and to support education, training and continuous skills development to help build Africa's capacity for sustainable forest management as follows:

a) *A training module for policy makers on sustainable forest management (SFM) and leadership developed* to equip policy makers and people in charge of institutions with an extra set of leadership skills that will enable them to better guide the formulation and implementation of forestry policies and influence national and regional agendas that promote sustainable forest management. This training module was used to guide training workshop for leaders in sustainable forest management to address identified capacity gaps.

b) Training modules on forest business and enterprise development, forest resources assessment, forest administration and governance, forest research, development and innovation, biodiversity management and forest products processing, for professional, technical and for civil society and extension services groups in African forestry education drafted.

5.5.2 Capacity of forestry practitioners in African countries strengthened for improved forest management for enhanced forestry services delivery for socio-economic development in the context of global environmental change.

In efforts to build strategic human capacity in African institutions for improved forest management to improve the performance of the forest sector and to help the continent realise its full economic and social potential while responding to emerging global environmental issues AFF developed five training modules as reported above, and in components 3 and 4 above. The modules were used during twelve training workshops to train 484 participants as follows:

i) Training course on negotiations skills during the UNFF11 preparatory meeting on 13-15 April 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya

ii) Training workshop on Multilateral Environmental Agreements for Anglophone and Lusophone countries on 1-4 December 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya

iii) Regional training course on forest certification for Eastern and Southern Africa: a soft policy instrument to promote responsible forest management on 7-11 December 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya

iv) AFF- Government of Niger Training workshop for African forestry practitioners on forest related multilateral processes for African francophone countries, on 13- 17 June 2016 in Niamey, Niger

v) AFF-FORIG Regional training course on forest certification for West and Central Africa on 20-24 June 2016 Accra, Ghana

vi) Training course on negotiations skills during the UNFF12 preparatory meeting on 18-21 April 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya

vii) AFF-Government of Zambia Regional training workshop for African forestry experts on forest related international agreements on 26-30 June 2017 in Lusaka, Zambia.

viii)AFF-Government of Cameroon Regional training workshop on Forest law enforcement, governance and fair trade for West and Central Africa sub-regions held on 13 to 16 November 2017 in Yaoundé, Cameroon.

ix) AFF-KEFRI Regional training course on tree improvement and seed management for Eastern and Southern Africa sub-regions on 27 to 30 November 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya

x) AFF-Government of Niger Regional training course on tree improvement and seed management for West and Central Africa sub-regions on 26 February to 2 March 2018 in Niamey, Niger

xi) Regional Training Workshop on Forest Governance for Eastern and Southern Africa on 20 to 24 May 2019 in Nairobi Kenya

xii) Regional Training Workshop on Sustainable Forest Management and Leadership for policy makers in Africa on 20 to 24 May 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya

The number of participants to the training workshops and countries represented is as in Figure 5.5.3.
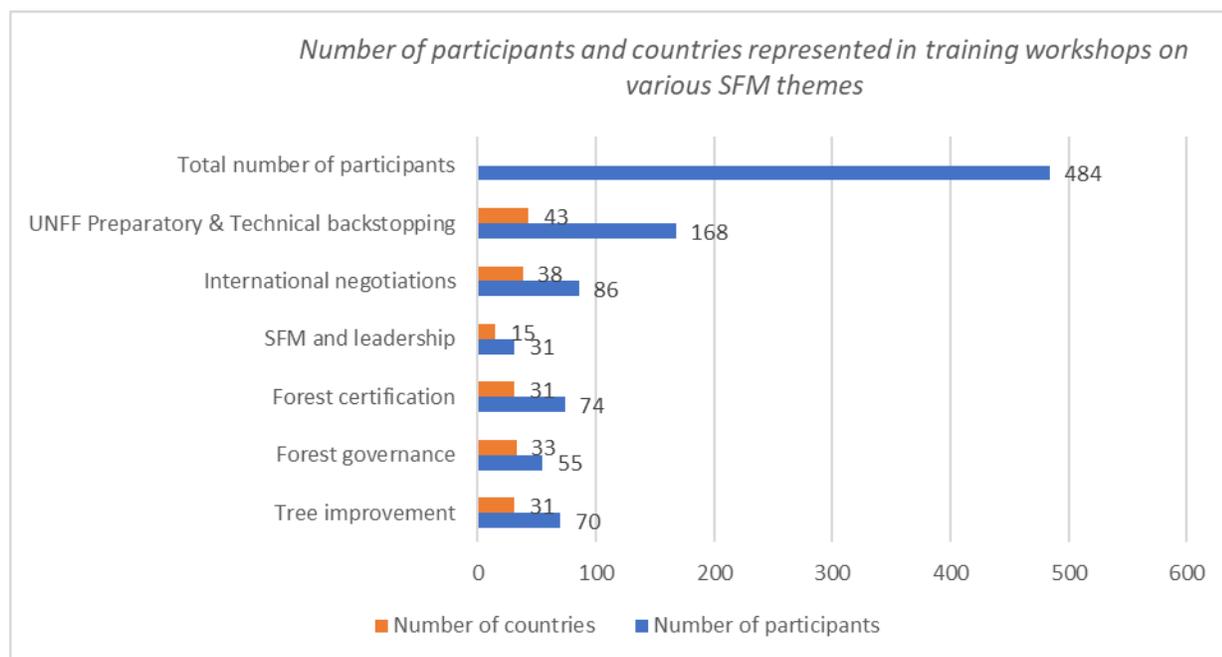
Figure 25: Number of participants trained on various SFM themes and countries represented

These training workshops conducted in close coordination with, and also reported under, Components 3, 4, and 6, have resulted in contributing to strengthened strategic human capacity in prioritised SFM themes, and actions by stakeholders as follows:

- Capacity of 70 forestry practitioners from 31 countries in Africa strengthened for provision of adequate quality tree germplasm to support forest establishment and agroforestry systems. They were equipped with knowledge, principles, skills and

tools for best practice for tree quality seed production management. As a result of the enhanced awareness of the importance to ensure provision of quality germplasm to support investments in forestry the participants resolved to establish two sub-regional networks for eastern and southern Africa, and for west and central Africa sub-regions of tree seed managers to exchange ideas, information, technologies on best practice to safeguard sustainable production of quality tree planting material for more successful afforestation, reforestation and forest restoration programs in their countries (See also section 5.3.4 above)

- Capacity of 63 forest policy and decision makers from 33 countries in Africa strengthened to develop, institute and employ appropriate mechanisms to address illegalities in the forest sector for effective forest governance, better ecosystem services delivery and transparent trade. As a result of the strengthened capacity and sensitisation on forest governance the participants resolved to develop mechanisms to enhance good forest governance, and three professional forestry associations have been established for eastern Africa and ECOWAS sub-regions to promote ethics and professionalism in forestry. Further, forest policies and governance structures have been reviewed and or developed as a result of initiatives by beneficiaries of the trainings. These are detailed in section 5.4.3 above

- Capacity of 74 forestry practitioners in 31 countries in Africa strengthened on development of national forest certification standards best suited for their countries. More information on how this capacity has been used is given in Section 5.4.6

- Capacity of 31 policy practitioners from 15 countries in Africa strengthened on leadership and advocacy skills to influence national and regional agendas that promote SFM and enhanced services delivery in the context of global environmental change.

- Capacity of 86 African forestry practitioners from 38 countries; and 83 African delegates from 43 countries created in ECOWAS countries, eastern and southern African, and west and central Africa sub-regions on negotiation skills to more competently represent their countries and the continent in international discourses. A total of 85 African delegates received technical backstopping during UNFF sessions. As a result of the training participants committed to: share with other delegates good negotiation strategies; articulate national positions at national/ sectorial meetings; mainstream international resolutions and agreements into national strategies, policies, programmes and plans; create awareness among relevant stakeholders on MEAs; document the experiences and successes of African delegates in international dialogues; conduct training for other national negotiators in preparation for intergovernmental dialogues; and create a national working group to examine and deliberate on international agreements.

The impact of the training has been Africa's participation in international discourses has become more coherent through Africa's common positions; African negotiators have become more articulate in contributions to intergovernmental dialogues that has led to elements of Africa's proposals incorporated in resolutions and decisions of recent intergovernmental dialogues. Thus, Africa's influence on polices and decisions at global level has increased. Further details are presented in section 5.6.2 below.

COMPONENT 6: ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

5.6 Project outcome 6: Africa's participation in international forestry discourses is effective, well-coordinated, and agreements signed are implemented.

The project objective that guided activities to realise this outcome was *to strengthen Africa's participation in regional and international debates and negotiations and actions related to forestry, and to enhance informed country adoption and implementation of international and regional forest and related agreements.* This was to be achieved through systematic and sustainable, country recognised and owned mechanisms for Africa's effective articulation in intergovernmental dialogues and international discourses including the following milestones: in-depth analysis of Africa's impact on outcomes of international negotiations to inform development and implementation of appropriate strategies; application of multiple approaches through targeted capacity strengthening on international negotiations and mainstreaming of the international agreements; mentoring to a broad forestry community responsible for implementing international agreements, and technical back stopping for African delegates to build a critical mass of experts knowledgeable on international discourses; and development of a common approach to negotiations to ensure a more focused and effective engagement of African governments in international multilateral processes.

Achievements made towards the outcome include:
a) Assessment of Africa's capacity to effectively negotiate international agreements informed the development of training modules to guide a capacity building programme on international negotiations for Africa.
b) A critical mass of African forestry practitioners knowledgeable on forest related multilateral environmental agreements created
c) Africa's voice in international negotiations on forest issues has become clear and more coherent

Each of these achievements are described below:

5.6.1 Assessment of Africa's capacity to negotiate international agreements inform development of training modules to guide capacity building programme on international negotiations for Africa.

A study on how to strengthen Africa's participation in regional and international debates and negotiations that are related to forestry issues provided up-to-date information on the effectiveness of African countries in international multilateral processes on forestry related issues. The study revealed that despite African governments having signed, ratified or acceded to forest related international agreements there is limited awareness and appreciation among relevant institutions and key actors on existence of the instruments, the related global processes and recommendation emanating from them. The relevant agreements include United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), International Tropical Timber Agreement (ITTA), the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the International Arrangement on Forests (IAF).

Knowledge about these processes remained within the group of delegates and/or institutions actively participating in the negotiations. Thus, the countries lack a critical mass of people knowledgeable on them and many countries are not in a position to put together teams that have adequate understanding of the complexity of the international agreements and discourses and therefore lack strong representation of their countries. Moreover, many of the issues that need negotiations require collective positions of the continent. Also, there are insufficient institutional and national capacities to domesticate decisions emanating from the relevant processes. This has led to poor ownership of the outcomes and low implementation of the agreements. Consequently, African governments are yet to fulfil most of their international obligations on forestry and have not realised the benefits thereof.

For African countries to effectively engage in and benefit from intergovernmental dialogues the study made the following recommendations:
- Africa needs to build a critical mass of forestry practitioners and experts knowledgeable on intergovernmental processes with adequate understanding of the complexity of international agreements and discourses
- Africa must have intensive national and institutional financial commitments to preparations for international meetings, especially for UN conventions, forums and initiatives that require negotiations through negotiated common positions.
- Africa should come up to the stage and enhance its visibility to be on a better footing for planning and implementation of the agreements
- Each member state needs to create capacity to undertake appropriate policy, legislative and institutional measures in line with the provisions of the agreements.

Based on findings of the assessment a training module entitled *Training module on effective engagement of African delegates in international multilateral processes* was developed in both English and French, to guide capacity building efforts for African countries to equip negotiators with skills to more effectively engage in multilateral processes and implement multilateral environmental agreements.

5.6.2 A critical mass of African forestry practitioners knowledgeable on forest related multilateral environmental agreements

In efforts to build the capacity in African institutions on intergovernmental processes the training module has been instrumental in capacity strengthening, mentoring and providing technical back stopping to African delegates to create required capacity for Africa. The module was used during three regional training workshops to broaden the awareness of important forest related international processes and Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEAs) to a larger community at the national level, including research and academia, NGOs and the private sector who are also key stakeholders for their effective engagement in international processes.

The regional workshops included:

o Training workshop on Multilateral Environmental Agreements for Anglophone and Lusophone countries held on 1 to 4 December 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya;
o AFF-Government of Niger Training workshop for African forestry practitioners on forest related multilateral processes for African francophone countries, held on 13 to 17 June 2016 in Niamey, Niger; and
o AFF-Government of Zambia Regional training workshop for African forestry experts on forest related international agreements held on 26 to 30 June 2017 in Lusaka, Zambia

Figure 26: Regional training workshop for African forestry experts on forest related international agreements held on 26-30 June 2017 in Lusaka, Zambia

As a result, capacity of 86 African negotiators from 38 countries has been created in ECOWAS countries, eastern and southern African, and west and central Africa sub-regions to more competently represent their countries and the continent in international discourses. This group forms a regional network of African forest negotiators better equipped to advocate for African positions in international debates as well as domesticate the international agreements for strengthened sustainable forest management in Africa. Such capacity will make the continent more effective in engaging in international forestry related processes.

Furthermore, the training module has been a critical tool used by the AFF's Technical Support Team to raise the profile of forestry in Africa (TST) to equip African negotiators with requisite skills to prepare for UNFF pre-sessions and in-sessions. This was achieved through two UNFF preparatory meetings for African negotiators to the Eleventh and Twelfth Sessions of UNFF facilitated by TST as follows:
   o UNFF 11 Preparatory Meeting for African negotiators to the Eleventh Session of UNFF held on 13-15 April 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya.
   o UNFF 12 Preparatory meeting for African negotiators to the Twelfth Session of UNFF held on 18-21 April 2017 in Nairobi, Kenya

As a result, a further 83 African delegates from 43 countries were trained in negotiation skills contributing to a critical mass of forestry practitioners knowledgeable on forest related multilateral environmental agreements, in addition to 85 delegates receiving technical backstopping at the UNFF sessions. The TST further guided the negotiators in development of consensus documents as Africa's common positions on respective agenda items to ensure their effective engagement in the intergovernmental dialogues through strengthened and better articulated inputs. The trained delegates are now empowered to champion SFM and this has resulted into a vibrant, well organised, articulated and strategic African Group at the UNFF negotiations.

A follow-up survey carried out by AFF revealed some of the gains realized from the actions taken by the participants after the MEA workshops (Fig.5.6.2). Nearly two thirds of the respondents created awareness among other forestry stakeholders on importance of MEAs in national development, MEA processes, provisions and decisions in different fora. Close to half of the respondents had participated in mainstreaming forestry related MEAs at regional levels. Nearly one half of the respondents indicated to having participated in implementation of MEA decisions and in monitoring, evaluation and reporting on the implementation status of international agreements within their own countries. Slightly more than one third of the respondents contributed to development of their national strategy and position to be presented at international meetings, as well as formed or joined a technical working group for effective engagement and implementation of MEAs.
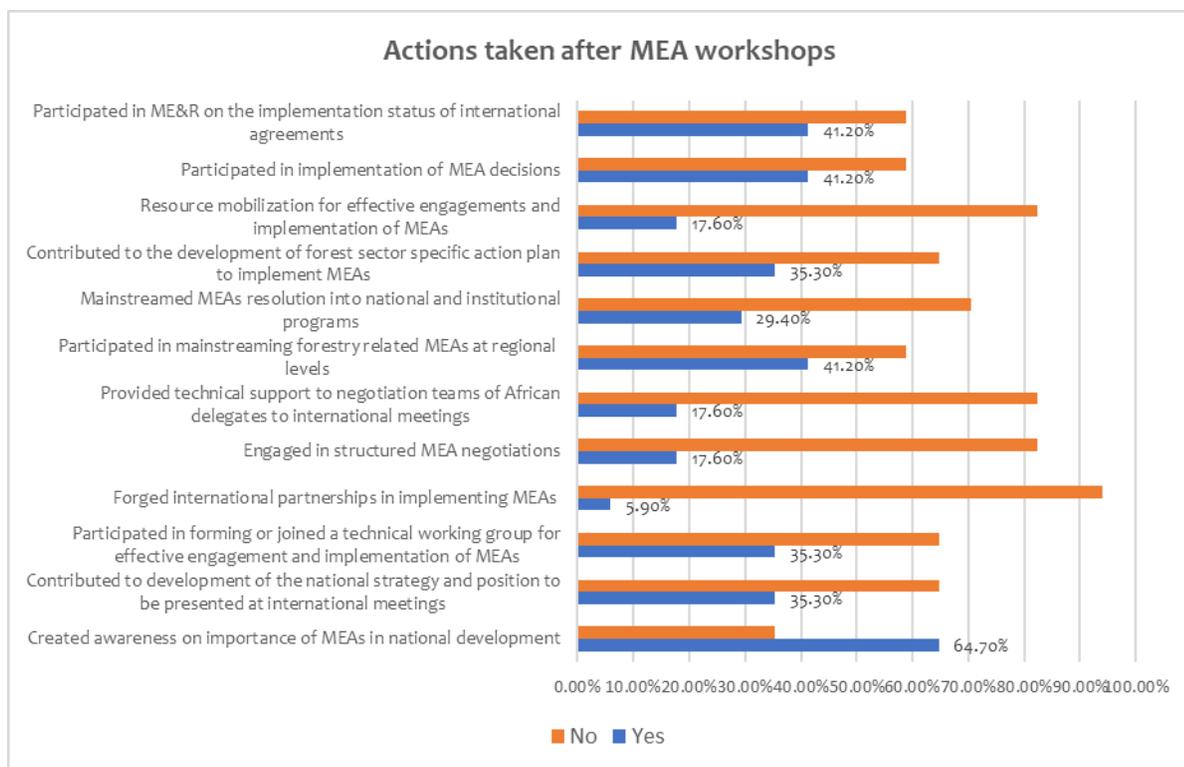
Figure 27: List of actions taken by stakeholders after trainings on multilateral environmental agreements

5.6.3 Africa's voice in international negotiations on forest issues has become clear and more coherent

Over the project period Africa's influence on polices and decisions at global level has increased attributed to the more coherent and better articulated Africa's position in intergovernmental discourses. Three Africa common positions (also reported in Section 5.1.2 above) together with technical backstopping by TST to 85 African negotiators to UNFF11, UNFF12, UNFF13 and AHEG2 contributed to a more cohesive African Group that speaks with one voice on forestry issues in the relevant convention processes leading to integration of Africa's proposals into outcome documents as follows:

- 5 major proposals by the African delegates accepted in the UNFF 11 *Resolution and Ministerial Declaration* adopted on 15 May 2015, and consequently ownership of the decisions by African governments and increased probability of implementing the agreement.
- Several inputs from African delegates were reflected in the UNFF12 *Omnibus Resolution* adopted on 5 May 2017.

In particular the *UNFF12 Omnibus resolution* provided for:
- Revision of format and cycle for voluntary national reporting on implementation of the UNSPF;
- Provision of further funds for SFM under GEF-7; and
- Recognition and support for Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN).
- A number of proposals by the Africa Group incorporated into *the UNFF13 Omnibus resolution* on implementation of the *United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests* 2017-2030 and the *Quadrennial Programme of Work 2017-202*0.

In particular some of the features of the UNFF13 Omnibus resolution that had an African Group input include:
- Adoption of the format for initial voluntary national reporting, recognizing that the format is an evolving document that can be improved and refined based on experience gained;
- Adoption of the guidelines for operation of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN); and measures to improve the network's effectiveness and efficiency, including capacity building in financing SFM;
- The need to develop a generic GFFFN guide and modular training package to assist countries in developing national forest financing strategies; and
- The importance of maintaining the independent status of UNFF and strengthened UNFF Secretariat, in order to fulfil their important mandates and roles, and reaffirming inter-governmentally agreed mandates.

The project has therefore contributed to strengthening the African voice in international discourses and agreements emanating from them, thus providing policy guidance on forestry development at the global level**.**

6.0 Key challenges experienced and how they were addressed

The project experienced several challenges some of which could be addressed within the project duration while for some, proposals were made on measures to address them in the future. The challenges were mainly attributed to the recruitment process in search of appropriate expertise for the project management and for short term consultancies as follows:

a) Unavailability of selected candidates for the project's Senior Programme Officer, also doubling as Project Manager, and the Communications specialist for most part of 2014. The positions were re-advertised, and new persons recruited. It was not until the first half of 2015 that the project's management unit was fully constituted when the personnel were recruited to implement the project with speed not only targeting what was planned for 2015, but also picked up the slack from 2014.

b) Unavailability of sufficient African experts with wide knowledge, expertise and experience that covers several African sub-regions is a serious problem. Most of AFF's work is of regional and sub-regional scope. For example, fewer applications than expected for experts to work on public and private sector development in forestry were received. The terms of reference (ToRs) for the tasks were advertised widely but only 13 applications were received for 22 positions. This delayed the start-up of project activities. The call for short term assignments was re-advertised and other networks explored to increase the reach. This way, AFF could reach more people and recruit people for these tasks.

c) In addition to the shortage of qualified experts a good number of experts recruited have numerous other assignments that compete for their expertise and time. As a result, submission and completion of deliverables are delayed, leading to project delays given the additional requirement for rigorous assessment of deliverables (through peer review) to ensure production of high quality outputs that objectively address the needs of stakeholders in forestry. It is proposed that contracting of experts should be negotiated well in advance of the scheduled delivery timeline and more time provided to the experts to ensure sufficient time for effective delivery of quality outputs. AFF is working on this within the given timelines for project deliverables.

d) Unavailability of sufficient African experts who can communicate and write in both English and French resulting in submission of draft reports that require additional time by Secretariat staff to polish them before they can be reviewed. Experts in francophone countries are advised to submit their draft reports in French for review by a French speaking expert at the AFF. Subsequent to finalization, the reports are then translated into English for dissemination. Also, those in English are later translated into French.

e) During the implementation of the project it was observed that there is a serious problem in the continent in writing good scientific papers and especially of sub-regional, regional and global scope. This led to some experts failing to submit good reports and journal papers owing mainly to limited exposure. This took a lot of staff time to polish them. It is recommended that funds permitting, AFF could establish a team of experts to review the reports and assist the consultants to complete the reports while building their capacity. A database of seasoned experts in forestry is being established to address this.

f) Shortage of external reviewers of the technical reports and papers produced with expertise on specific subject areas in forestry. This leads to delays when the final project documents need to be reviewed by several external reviewers. A database of seasoned experts in forestry is being established to address this.

g) AFF rates/fees or compensation for experts' short-term assignments are not very attractive and are currently not accepted by many qualified regional experts since they are viewed as very low. This causes delay in the recruitment process as some ToRs were re-advertised in order to attract more qualified experts that were willing to take up AFF compensation rates. Experts who accepted AFF compensation rate/fees were hired. AFF has a fixed rate for consultancies at US$300/day or US$6,000/month (on a 20-day working month) for regional experts and US$150 or US$3,000/month for national experts. These rates have been fixed by the AFF Governing Council. Senior consultants with wide experience turn down these rates. However, since most of the experts are also members of AFF, they accept the rates with the understanding that they are contributing to strengthening their institution. Efforts to mobilise more resources into AFF and review the rates upwards are on-going.

h) Delay in attracting quality applicants for research fellowship on Land Use Land use change and forestry (LULUCF). Due to poor internet connectivity in many institutions, access and capacity of student applicants especially in the rural and peri-urban areas of Africa, only 7 applications were initially received online because many students could not apply and submit the online application for the fellowship. The call for research fellowship on LULUCF was re-advertised and the mode of application was changed from online to a structured form that was sent via email. The procedure for submitting applications was modified and this increased the number of applicants to 25.

7.0 Lessons learned

The successful implementation of the project components and delivery of expected outputs and outcomes over the five-year duration has generated a number of learnings that are valuable for organizational history to guide future interventions in African forestry. The lessons generated are highlighted below on capacity building, partnerships, knowledge management and project monitoring, and SFM themes and regional programmes.

On capacity building

a) Experience from the stakeholder forums and capacity building activities during the reporting period demonstrated that capacity in the below listed nine areas, while crucial in empowering stakeholders to make informed decisions for forestry development at regional and national levels, is still insufficient. Sufficient knowledge on these issues has not been accessible to many stakeholders in forestry and in forms that can be easily understood and contextualized. Further, many of these topics do not feature, either at all or in sufficient detail, in many of the training curricula of African academic and technical forestry institutions. This calls for a sustained effort in capacity building in these areas.

- o forest law enforcement and good forest governance;
- o marketing and trade in forest products;
- o undertaking forest certification;
- o understanding and participating in international multilateral processes;
- o surveillance on forest pests and diseases;
- o developing effective public private partnerships in forestry;
- o supply of quality tree germplasm;
- o developing and managing the forestry sector in the context of green economy; and
- o managing transboundary forest resources.

b) The participants to training courses and workshops reported significant increase in knowledge and skills acquired, as reflected by post workshop evaluations undertaken. At the end of the training, the participants reported to have understood better the aspects covered in the courses and are now equipped to conduct similar trainings for their work colleagues and others. AFF's efforts in this regard have been much appreciated by the participants who have recommended further capacity building to include all levels of stakeholders including the government, civil society, private sector, local communities, as well as the media. AFF will therefore continue to direct efforts to building capacity of key stakeholders in these and other issues as demanded by stakeholders. Further, AFF will also establish specialized pools of experts on various thematic areas that will be available to support national governments and other stakeholders to address various forestry challenges in Africa, and such pools could also serve as policy advisory expert groups.

On partnerships

c) The successful establishment and strengthening of partnership platforms by the project on forestry issues e.g. the research and development platform on gums and resins, the Pre XIV World Forestry Congress on forestry and livelihoods improvement, the sub-regional Professional Forestry Association for East and West Africa on forest governance, a trade association, and a WhatsApp group in West Africa for some private sector actors, has demonstrated the value of leveraging strategic partners, like ECOWAS in this case, the private sector and several institutions in the region, to achieve multiple benefits at low cost to AFF.

d) Partnerships pool knowledge, resources, expertise and skills, and provide the opportunity to harness different organisations' competences and comparative advantages for the benefit of a common vision. Given the different constituencies that each partner is mandated to operate in, the partnerships enhance the geographic reach to a diverse group of stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, private sector, civil society, local communities, research and academics), and therefore greater impact for AFF's interventions. AFF foresees this approach as an important approach to forge forward the forestry development agenda in Africa through catalyzing establishment of new institutions and initiatives to focus on critical issues

that require strong institutions to realise meaningful impact on the ground and at policy levels.

e) Partnership developed with ECOWAS has proved to be an effective mechanism for disseminating knowledge generated by AFF to national governments and other stakeholders in the region. The agreements and recommendations of the discussions during the workshops were summarised in a report that is owned and further transmitted by this intergovernmental body, ECOWAS, for adoption and political support by member countries. In this way AFF has a favourable opportunity to provide timely scientific information to inform policy making at the highest decision-making level in the region and subsequent impact at the regional, country and local community levels.

On knowledge management and project monitoring

f) Strengthening the AFF's Knowledge Management and Communication Unit as well as the Planning Monitoring and Evaluation and Reporting Unit has brought in new momentum to the way AFF is operating. There is considerable improvement in the way project results and potential impacts are being monitored and reported. With several studies under way AFF is now beginning to get a better understanding on who is using what information that the institution shares, as can be seen from the initial analyses presented in progress reports. AFF is building on this work and hopefully it will also be possible to get better insights into issues related to this and past projects as well. Information is now being better collated and shared as can be seen from the two portals that have been added to AFF's website and the data bases that are associated with them.

g) Engagement of the media in communicating findings of the African Forest Forum's work has enhanced the reach to broader constituency in a timely fashion. A media database of 60 journalists has been created to facilitate sharing of timely information on the outcomes and news-worthy findings from AFF's work – has been instrumental for increased visibility, uptake and impact. The media outlets have a reach that extends to regional and global audience.

h) The achievement of expected project outcomes and impacts are being tracked and documented through regular monitoring surveys over the duration of the project and beyond. The number of outputs achieved each year were linked to the knowledge users for uptake, and eventually resulting into policy and /or action for outcomes to be realised. More intermediate outcomes have also been achieved that lay the foundation for achieving the project outcomes. The rate of uptake by stakeholders for policy change to action and then to outcome and impact could be affected by multiple factors including externalities to the project, like contributions of other efforts to the same impact.

i) A survey on the use of knowledge and information by visitors to the AFF website reveals that there is increasing demand for knowledge on forestry by various users including the policy makers, academicians, civil society, researchers, and forest managers for their respective functions and mandates. The respondents stated that the publications have greatly improved their understanding on the technical, policy and institutional forestry issues that AFF has published. The improved understanding empowers them to effectively contribute to policy development and better execution of activities. The website has also provided stakeholders, through the intranet, with a platform to share their publications to a wider audience in Africa and beyond. The uptake and utilization of the knowledge accessed will be monitored regularly to assess the impact on the ground and to obtain feedback to guide future AFF's programmatic focus.

On SFM themes and regional programmes

j) The project has addressed a number of important issues within the African forestry landscape including those of short term and of long term nature. Issues of short term nature were achieved during the project duration. These included those defined in the POWBs like some on establishment of partnership platforms for policy advocacy, and research and development; generation of new knowledge on prioritized issues for informed decision making, investment decisions, and capacity building. Issues of long term nature could not be sufficiently addressed during the project's lifetime and require further investments in order to achieve the overall project objective. These include knowledge generation and sharing, capacity building in many areas, development of the private sector, developing or strengthening SFM on the continent, support to livelihoods and a better living environment on the continent, among others. These issues have consequently been integrated into AFF's programmatic approach.

k) The African Forest Forum's analyses on forestry development in Africa reveal that the African business environment has changed considerably in the recent times. New actors have emerged to fulfil unique roles in forest management. The private sector, local communities and civil society, including professional forestry associations, are increasingly taking up roles of forestry management. The role of the new actors is becoming predominant in forestry projects and contributes to expanding the democratic space for public and private sector interests. These actors work very closely with local communities and since they are also key players in forestry the African Forest Forum foresees working more closely with them for more immediate impact. This could in turn effectively advocate for policy reforms on forestry issues that AFF is focusing on. In this scenario the national governments' facilitating role has increasingly become crucial to ensure that policy formulation effectively responds to current, new and emerging demands and issues on forestry.

l) The need for capacity building and sustainable development of the private sector cannot be over emphasized. Needed capacities include: a) value addition to forest products to support national policies on secondary processing; b) legal and financial arrangements for development of favorable PPP models for different forest contexts. A resolution by the private sector during AFF's regional sharing workshop was on the need for urgent attention to invest in building the capacity of this sector in order to enhance its effective engagement and contribution to forest development in Africa. Further the potential role of women and youth in value addition to forest products, and especially in harvesting, processing and trade in NTFPs is important, their role in most countries is limited to minor activities and needs to be enhanced.

m) Through execution of the project components AFF has made significant contributions to development and implementation of some forestry programmes of Regional Economic Commissions in Africa (ECOWAS, ECCAS, EAC, SADC). Regional convenings were organized to; share critical knowledge generated by AFF demanded by stakeholders; catalyse policy discussions on topical forestry issues; and build the necessary capacity of forestry institutions to implement the regional programmes. This concurrence strongly indicates that AFF's programmatic focus resonates with priorities of these regional bodies and serve as an impetus for AFF to leverage impact to countries through respective regional political mechanisms.

8.0 Some key observations

i) Advancing the partnership platforms on prioritized forestry issues remains an important approach to forge forward the forestry development agenda in Africa through catalyzing establishment of new institutions, frameworks and initiatives to focus on critical issues that require pooling of resources (financial, technical and otherwise) to realize meaningful impact of AFF's interventions on the ground and at policy level.

ii) For enhanced impact on the ground and policy development AFF should continue to work more closely with the 'new' actors in forestry, especially the private sector and civil society organisations given their close interaction with local communities, and also to be in line with macroeconomic policies of African countries that put the private sector as the engine for economic growth within a market oriented frame work. Global and national policies give emphasis to gender and inclusivity, hence more interactions with civil society organisations including NGOs. Interactions with national governments should be maintained for impact at the national, regional and international levels, and feedback; as well as for policy dialogue, policy formulation and its implementation and reporting.

iii) AFF will continue to strengthen itself as a knowledge brokerage institution and increase its efforts on getting better insights into how the knowledge it generates

impacts key stakeholders and forestry development in Africa. This might mean strengthening the PMER Unit to regularly monitor and assess impact of the project's interventions, even after the projects have terminated.

iv) Further capacity building to include all levels of stakeholders, viz. national governments, civil society, private sector, local communities, as well as the media will remain a key activity by AFF. AFF will continue to establish specialized pools of experts on various thematic areas that will be available to support national governments and other stakeholders to address various forestry challenges in Africa, for example as policy advisory expert groups.

9.0 Risk Analysis

Potential risks were identified and assessed at the beginning of the project in 2014. These included financial, operational, legal/regulatory, strategic, and political/social risks. The matrix below in Table 11.1 presents an updated assessment of the challenges experienced during the implementation of the project from 2014 to 2017. The challenges encountered have been moderate to minor. The description of the risk encountered, and the mitigation measures undertaken by AFF are presented. These are limited to financial, operational and to a limited extent political/social risk because AFF has not experienced risks with regard to legal/regulatory and strategic orientations, but they continue to be monitored.

Table 3: Matrix presenting assessment of risks encountered during the project duration

	Financial Risks	Description	Mitigation measure
1.	Unavailability of funds for implementation in 2015 and 2016	• The project received less funding than was estimated in the project grant budget during 2015 and 2016 • AFF rates/fees or compensation for experts' short-term assignments are not very attractive and are currently not accepted by many qualified regional experts since they are viewed as very low.	• AFF employed cost saving measures including organising events back to back, reducing number of experts recruited, number of participants to meetings, co-hosting events with SDC supported project, FAO and UNFF. The financial report has more details on this. • Funds were eventually disbursed in mid-2017. • ToRs for experts were re-advertised in order to attract qualified experts that were willing to take up AFF compensation rates which are the approved rates by the Governing Council. Since most of the experts are also members of AFF, they accept the rate with the understanding that they are contributing to strengthening their institution.
2.	Significant foreign exchange risk	• The project realized an exchange loss of US$ 1,360,571 during its 5year phase, due to the currency fluctuation of the SEK against the USD.	• Funds that were saved during the initial year in 2014 amounting to $361,000 due to delayed recruitment of project staff and experts were reallocated to mitigate the budget shortfall in 2015 Plan of Work and Budget • Subsequently the project realized other savings that formed a buffer for the exchange losses through; inhouse implementation of some activities, synergies of implementing activities together with the SDC funded project and through cutting down on time allocated to experts to carry out awarded assignments.
	Operational Risks		
3.	Key staff members leave.	• One senior programme officer, two programme officers and one Knowledge Management specialist, resigned from AFF in 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively. The Senior Programme Officer left to do evangelical work; One Programme Officer followed her family when the husband was transferred from Nairobi; the second Programme Officer left at the end of his contract, his contract	• The position of the Senior Programme Officer has been filled. The position of the programme officer was advertised, and the recruitment process completed but the candidate could not take up the post due to unavoidable commitments at her institution. The work load for the Knowledge Management Specialist have been taken up by the Communications specialist. An expert has been recruited to evaluate the state of knowledge management at AFF and advise on way forward.

	Financial Risks	Description	Mitigation measure
		could not be renewed due to professional misconduct, and the Knowledge Management Specialist resigned to pursue other professional interests.	
4.	*Unavailability* of project staff at start of the project	• Recruitment of the project's Senior Programme Officer, also doubling as project manager. The management of the project was delayed due to unavailability of a selected candidate for the post to lead the project implementation for the most part of 2014. • Recruitment of a Communication Specialist: A staff was recruited locally and was expected to report in September 2014, but due to sickness in his family he could not report even after one month's extension. The position had to be re-advertised.	• The positions of Senior Programme Officer and Communication Specialist were re-advertised, and new persons have been recruited. • The Senior Programme Officer (SPO) reported in January 2015. The SPO started to implement the project with speed not only targeting what was planned for 2015, but also pick up the slack from 2014. • The Communications Specialist reported in June 2015
	Political / Social Risks		
5.	Political/social unrest or violent crime.	• Some national experts could not access some field sites due to civil unrest in Ethiopia and political instability in Ivory Coast	• The field work was postponed until the affected sites were confirmed as safe.

The achievement of expected project outcomes and impacts were tracked and documented through regular monitoring surveys. The number of outputs achieved each year were linked to the knowledge users for uptake, and eventually resulting into policy and /or action for outcomes to be realised. More intermediate outcomes have also been achieved that lay the foundation for achieving the project outcomes. The rate of uptake by stakeholders for policy change to action and then to outcome and impact could be affected by multiple factors including externalities to the project, like contributions of other efforts to the same impact. Given sufficient time after the results/outputs have been achieved and shared, tangible outcomes will be realized, at which time impacts can be conclusively assessed. For example, we have observed that some outcomes of the previous Sida supported project that was completed in 2011 were realized in 2015.

Annex 1: Achievements of Performance Monitoring Plan Targets

Outcome 1: Institutional change enhanced through an effective partnership platform for catalyzing institutional innovation

Indicator	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Target 2018	Annual achievements						
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Output: Competent moderators available to facilitate AFF platforms at national, sub-regional and continental levels										
Number of Moderators/Facilitators trained	Numbers	0	**6**	0	13	1	1	2	0	17
Output: Win-win solutions that lead to improved SFM based on shared understanding of issues by stakeholders										
Number of new resolutions related to SFM	Numbers	3	**5**	0	4	0	1	4	0	9

Outcome 2: Access to information and knowledge, enhanced evidence-based policy formulation and increased awareness of the contribution of forest resources

Indicator	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Target 2018	Annual achievement						
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Output: Knowledge products on sustainable forest management made available to end users										
State of Forestry Report	Number	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Number of working papers on sustainable forest and tree management and its contribution to livelihood	Number	0	15	0	3	6	3	3	2	17
Number of reports on activities on sustainable forest and tree management and its contribution to livelihood	Number	0	10	0	8	9	8	14	3	42
Number of policy briefs/fact sheets for policy makers based on the reports produced	Number	0	23	0	7	20	19	19	4	69
Output: A functional Knowledge Management (KM) and Communications Unit in AFF Secretariat operational										
KM staff in the AFF secretariat	Number	0	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
A Knowledge Management (KM) Strategy for AFF	Number	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	1	1
A functional and robust AFF portal for information sharing	Number	limited	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
An AFF database that maintains links with key databases to facilitate access and sharing of data (frequency of updates)	Number	0	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Outcome 3: African forestry institutions are catalysed to take actions that address SFM and its interface with sustainable livelihoods and environment

Indicator	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Target 2018	Annual achievement						
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Output: Livelihood-based LULUCF models, incentives and practices assessed										
Postgraduate students' research (2016-2017)	Number	0	8	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
Number of synthesis reports based on the student research	Number	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Number of policy briefs/fact sheets based on the student research	Number	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Regional workshop for sharing of information of 60 participants	Number	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Output: Private sector and PPP models for enhancement of SFM identified and assessed to strengthen the private sector in forestry										
Number of reports on Private sector and PPP models for enhancement of SFM	Number	0	5	0	0	5	0	9	0	14
Number of policy briefs/fact sheets for policy makers based on the reports produced	Number	0	7	0	0	5	2	7	0	14
Number of synthesis reports	Number	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Output: Quality germplasm available and accessible by stakeholders										
Number of reports on seed sources and tree improvement	Number	0	6	3	3	0	0	0	0	6
Number of policy briefs/fact sheets for policy makers based on the reports produced	Number	0	6	3	3	0	0	0	0	6
Number of synthesis reports	Number	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Curricula for training activities on tree germplasm	Number	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Training sessions on tree improvement, seed production and management for 20 persons each	Number	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Regional workshop for sharing of information of 40 participants	Number	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Output: Study on trans-boundary forest resource issues carried out										
Number of reports on trans-boundary forests and surveillance of pest and disease	Number	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Number of policy briefs/fact sheets for policy makers based on the reports produced	Number	0	3	0	0	2	1	0	0	3
Number of synthesis reports	Number	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

Outcome 4: African countries use evidence to review and/or develop forest policies and governance structures that support sustainable management of forest and tree resources, and facilitate transparent trade

Indicator	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Target 2018	Annual achievement						
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Output: Forest governance and trade challenges and opportunities at different levels identified										
Number of reports on forest governance and trade issues	Numbers	0	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	5
Number of policy briefs for policy makers based on the reports produced	Numbers	0	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	5
Market Information System (MIS)	Numbers	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Number of training modules on forest law enforcement and trade	Numbers	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Training using the developed modules for 20 persons	Numbers	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Output: National capacities for forest certification strengthened										
Number of reports on certification issues and training needs	Numbers	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Number of national forest management standards	Numbers	0	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	1
Number of policy briefs for policy makers based on the reports produced	Numbers	0	6	0	6	0	0	0	0	6
Training using the developed modules for 20 persons	Numbers	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	2

Outcome 5: Africa's forestry stakeholders, leaders and practitioners, are more aware of the benefits of sustainable forest management, the actions that need to be taken to achieve this, and have the capacity (tools and knowledge) to take the necessary interventions.

Indicator	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Target 2018	Annual achievement						
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Output: Capacity of key forestry training institutions strengthened										
Number of reports on Training Needs Assessment	Numbers	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Number of policy briefs based on the reports produced	Numbers	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
Number of workshops for curricula content revision	Numbers	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Output: Multi-institutional training programs at regional levels facilitated										
Number of training modules for the regional programmes	Numbers	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Number of reports on mechanisms and necessary protocols for offering the courses	Numbers	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Output: Training course on forest management and leadership delivered										
Number of training modules for policy makers	Numbers	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	1
Number of training workshops for policy makers with 30 participants each	Numbers	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	1

Outcome 6: African participation in international forestry discourses is effective, well-coordinated, and agreements signed are implemented

Indicator	Unit of Measure	Baseline	Target 2018	Annual achievement						
				2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
Output: Systematic and on-going mechanisms or processes for 'achieving common African positions' and effective African engagement in international multilateral processes developed										
Number of training modules on negotiating skills	Numbers	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Number of training on negotiations, mentoring events and preparatory meetings for African delegates	Numbers	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	3
Number of technical backstopping events and reports on them at international meetings	Numbers	0	5	1	1	1	1	1	0	5
Output: African countries/regions implement international agreements which they are signatories to										
Number of report on analysis of compatibility of international agreements with relevant national laws and their impact on SFM	Numbers	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1
Number of policy briefs based on the reports produced	Numbers	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	1

African Forest Forum

A platform for stakeholders in African forestry

For more information please contact:

The Executive Secretary
African Forest Forum
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
P.O. Box 30677-00100, Nairobi, Kenya
Phone: +254 20 722 4000, Fax: +254 20 722 4001
Email: exec.sec@afforum.org; Website: www.afforum.org