



# TRAINING ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN FORESTRY

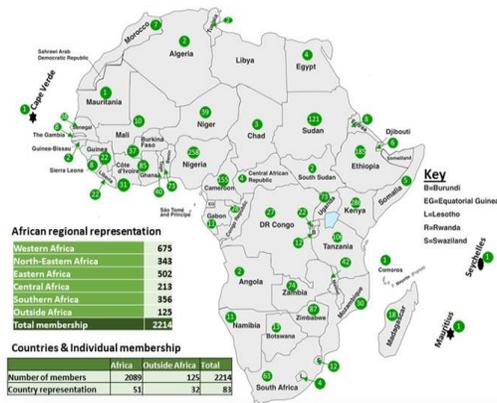
## BACKGROUND

**African Forest Forum (AFF)**  
*21 July 2022 via Zoom*





# THE AFRICAN FOREST FORUM (AFF)



2731 AFF members from 83 countries worldwide; of these, 51 are African countries.

AFF is a pan-African NGO with Hqs in Nairobi, Kenya.

An association of individuals who share the quest for and *commitment to the sustainable management, use and conservation* of forests and tree resources of Africa

For

the socio-economic well-being of its people and for the stability and improvement of its environment

Capacity building in key areas is crucial to realise the commitment





## AFRICAN FOREST FORUM STRATEGY: 2021-2025

“The Programmatic Approach”  
2018



The Strategy, sets out a vision for AFF to deliver effectively on its “Programmatic approach to the work of the AFF”

to upscale its commitment to promote sustainable management of forestry resources in ways that address the needs of the African people and the environment they live in.

Seven Focal Areas: Programme Area 6: Capacity and Skills development

The Strategy sets AFF on a pathway that:

Takes into account:

- dynamism that characterizes the African forestry sector; *emerging issues: gender, etc*
- what the society wants from the forest and tree resources and
- what potential responses can be made to these demands

Pathway AFF will follow in helping African countries to also contribute to achievement of Global Forest Goals and targets within the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. **SDG5 Gender equality and SDG15 Managing forests sustainably**





## AFRICAN FOREST FORUM STRATEGY: 2021-2025 cont'd

The Strategy outlines **Principles and Values** that guide AFF in achieving its **vision, mission and goal**, and particularly in **working together** with its **partners** and other forestry related **stakeholders**;

- **Core value:** Respect for diversity, **gender:** and others, including those who depend on forest and tree resources and AFF stakeholders
- **Guiding principle:** Incorporating **gender aspects** in its work

### *In line with the Strategy*

- In all programs AFF seeks to **promote the empowerment of all marginalized groups** particularly women and youth whose representation, priorities and needs are seldom addressed in the forestry sector
- AFF has focused on facilitating specific activities that would **enhance equal participation and representation**
- AFF's **policy** is to have project activities organised in ways that **secure gender sensitivity and responsiveness**. GC chapters: **Women in forestry and Youth in forestry**

*These have informed the formulation and implementation of AFF Projects*





## AFF PROJECTS

**AFF-Sida project:** “Strengthening management and use of forest ecosystems for sustainable development in Africa”

Overall Project Objective “To **generate and share knowledge and information** through partnerships in ways that provide inputs into **policy and decision-making options** and **capacity building**, for improved forest management that better address **poverty eradication** and **environmental protection** in Africa”

**AFF-SDC project:** “The African forests, people and climate change”

Overall Project Goal: To **build capacities and skills** of stakeholders **to address adverse effects of climate change** and take up **opportunities that come with climate change** through:

**better management and use of Africa's forests and tree resources** in various landscapes in ways that will **enhance livelihoods**, national economies, **sustain biodiversity**, improve the **quality of the environment** and contribute to the global efforts to **contain climate change**





## STRENGTHENING AFF AS AN INSTITUTION

### *Expected outcomes:*

- » AFF programmes, plans and activities are gender sensitive and responsive
- » Women's platforms and networks to increase sharing of information on forestry and climate change issues of relevance to women are established or strengthened

### *Specific initiatives*

- » 2020 AFF evaluated ways through which the institution can improve institutional and management capacity for mainstreaming gender more effectively in its plans and activities. A **gender audit/assessment** conducted, **training manual** on gender mainstreaming developed and **gender mainstreaming strategy** drafted.





## STRENGTHENING AFF AS AN INSTITUTION, *cont'd*

The Audit recommends **key strategic interventions** to strengthen commitment to enhance capacities for gender mainstreaming in forestry, *including* development of **more gender sensitive and gender responsive programmes**, projects, plans and activities at different levels with the view to **maximize the project's impact** through **enhanced benefits** to women and youth.

*Recommendation: Training of stakeholders to upscale capacity in gender mainstreaming, on operational tools such as gender integration manuals or guides, gender analysis tool kit, gender responsive budgeting guides, monitoring and evaluation frameworks to aid in gender mainstreaming.*

**2021** Based on the Audit findings **a training manual and guide for trainers** on gender mainstreaming has been developed to guide **AFF's institutional development** for staff, GC, and partners to support AFF's **commitment to continuous learning** and institutional growth

**2021** A draft **gender mainstreaming strategy** has also been developed to guide adoption of an **enhanced gender-sensitive and responsive approach** to the design and implementation of AFF activities





## CAPACITY BUILDING ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN FORESTRY

### **Gender mainstreaming (men, women and youth) to contribute to:**

- transformation of unequal gender relations within the forestry sector.
- achieve social protection of families, communities and national economies
- enhance economic gains such as access to income through various forest and tree activities undertaken by men, women and youth.
- positive effects on **sustainable management of forests** and **meeting environmental target**

AFF is committed to **Continuous learning and institutional growth** through capacity building and networking. **Programmatic Area 6 Capacity and Skills Development**

2015: Staff seminar on gender organised to achieve common understanding on **gender responsive research**

2021: Training of AFF Secretariat staff on **gender mainstreaming** in activities and plans

2022: A *virtual* 'Community of practice on advancing women in forestry' as an active on-line **learning and communication network** of forestry professionals, practitioners, researchers who share a concern or a passion for gender in forestry and climate change and **how to address gender better as they interact.**

2022 Training on gender mainstreaming in the forestry sector





# BUILDING AFRICA'S CAPACITY TOWARDS GENDER EQUALITY AND EQUITY IN FORESTRY PROGRAMMES

## *Addressing the barriers: economic, social, cultural, institutional*

- » Sustainable forest management projects with **an explicit gender lens** can help reduce women and youth's vulnerability by **enhancing their socio-economic empowerment**; by reducing informality in the production and marketing of non-timber forest products where women dominate; and by **promoting legal reforms in land tenure, and institutional development** through enhanced training and leadership development for women and youth
- » Project processes need to be designed to **support women's effective participation** in forest institutions, and in economic production and benefit-sharing processes, **otherwise socio-cultural norms** often make it difficult for women to participate in local forest governance as key stakeholders on an equal footing to men.
- » Increasing women's, youth participation in forest decision-making bodies could **improve forest sustainability** and could give women, youth more **opportunities to raise their voices** and participate in the policy-making processes.
- » Strengthening property rights, **promoting gender equality**, and supporting community groups to access improved technology, capital assets, and to integrate relevant commodity chains can help **redress inequitable benefit flows** from forest and tree resource





# TRAINING OBJECTIVES

The **overall objective** of the training is to orient forestry stakeholders on gender mainstreaming in forestry to deepen their understanding of gender mainstreaming approaches and strengthen their capacity to better integrate gender equality, equity considerations into the formulation, implementation and reporting of forestry policies, programmes and projects.

*Thus strengthen SFM through socially inclusive approaches to better address poverty and environmental protection*

» The **specific objectives** are:

- Strengthen the capacity of forestry stakeholders on concepts of gender, gender inequality, equity, gender mainstreaming and the interface of gender issues with forestry sector projects and programmes.
- Equip the forestry stakeholders with knowledge on gender mainstreaming processes for gender responsive and gender sensitive programming, planning, budgeting, implementation and reporting
- Equip forestry stakeholders with knowledge, tools and skills needed for mainstreaming of gender considerations into key national, regional and international forestry policy and planning frameworks.





## EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Strengthened understanding of the forestry stakeholders on gender issues and their interaction with forestry sector, the concept of gender mainstreaming and, its application within various institutional, national and regional forestry policy frameworks.
- Strengthened capacity of forestry stakeholders for development of gender sensitive and gender responsive programmes, projects, plans and activities





## TRAINING EXPERT

### Doreen Asumang-Yeboah, Gender consultant

- » Doreen Asumang-Yeboah is an experienced Natural Resource Governance expert with extensive experience in gender and social inclusion; project management; organizational development; facilitation of multi-stakeholder processes; climate change adaptation in agriculture and natural resources.
- » She is the Director of Rights and Advocacy Initiatives Network (RAIN), a non-governmental organisation that promotes the rights of forest dependent communities.
- » She works with diverse stakeholders, including farmers, marginalized and vulnerable groups (especially migrants, women and youth), traditional leaders, government agencies, civil society and private sector in Ghana.
- » She has also worked with: Tropenbos International (Ghana), German Association of Rural Women (dlv-LandFrauen gGmbH), European Forest Institute, ClientEarth, CARE International, National Forestry Forum-Ghana, PAB Consult, Forestry Commission, Working Group on Forest Certification, WWF, and Friends of the Earth (Ghana).
- » She recently published the article 'Bridging gender gaps in forest governance: Lessons from Ghana' in 2020 for Chatham House





## Training Programme

