



CONCEPT NOTE

TRAINING WORKSHOP ON STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF
FORESTRY STAKEHOLDERS IN KENYA TO DEVELOP BANKABLE PROJECTS
ON ENHANCING RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND IMPROVEMENT
OF LIVELIHOODS

13-15 JULY 2022, NAIROBI, KENYA

1. BACKGROUND

Forests and tree resources contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation in different ways. They are source of income and livelihood to many people across Africa and rest of the world. It is with this understanding that the African Forest Forum (AFF) designed a project entitled “African Forests, People and Climate Change” that is currently on its third phase of implementation supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) since 2011. Through this project, AFF has conducted many studies since 2019, three of which focused on: (i) strengthening capacity of stakeholders in African forestry to integrate and uptake adaptation and mitigation options in response to climate change; (ii) strengthening REDD+ implementation in African countries; and (iii) strengthening capacity of stakeholders in African forestry to improve on production and trade in gums and resins. Based on the findings of the first study, a framework was developed for integrating forest and tree-based adaptation and mitigation options in response to climate change and variability. The three studies also identified limited and unsustainable funding as one of the major constraints limiting implementation of promising forest and tree-based activities, projects, programmes and policies in response to climate change. Also, inadequate technical capacities among stakeholders in African forestry to develop bankable projects for implementation and uptake of integration adaptation and mitigation options while simultaneously accelerating REDD+ in African countries remains a significant challenge.

It is in this context that AFF found imparting knowledge and skills to stakeholders in African forestry will be essential to enable countries mobilize resources that will support the forestry sector. The institution therefore in 2021 and 2022 recruited national experts in five selected countries including Democratic Republic of Congo, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Zambia and Kenya to undertake the following:

- i. Compile and update list of (potential) actors/stakeholders engaged in:
 - a. implementing and uptake of forest and tree-based adaptation and mitigation options including elaboration and strengthening forest and tree-based resilience measures to adverse effects of climate change;
 - b. implementing REDD+ activities, projects and programmes; and gums, resins and other NTFPs value chains, including their priority areas of intervention, status and resources needs;
- ii. Update the list and analyses of potential donors that could be targeted for fundraising considering advantages, disadvantages and requirements;
- iii. Based on (i) and (ii) develop contextualized training materials on resources mobilization through development of bankable projects to implement:
 - a. integration and uptake of forest and tree-based adaptation and mitigation options as well as resilience to adverse effects of climate change;
 - b. enhancement of REDD+; and
 - c. strengthening of gums, resins and NTFPs value chains;

- iv. In collaboration with AFF secretariat, undertake the training of trainers on resources mobilization through development of bankable projects as stipulated in (iii);
- v. Prioritize and selecting at least two draft project ideas/concept notes, in different forest types and their host institutions/stakeholders for follow-up with AFF secretariat and finalization for submission; and
- vi. Guide all trainees to develop an effective and realistic action plan and strategy for sustainable resource mobilization.

It is on this background that AFF, under the facilitation of the contracted national experts is organizing a three days training write-shop to strengthen the capacity of forestry stakeholders in Kenya to develop bankable projects on enhancing resilience to climate change and improvement of livelihoods.

2. RATIONALE AND PURPOSE OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

Forestry stakeholders in Kenya face challenges on identifying the donors and linking their priorities in developing bankable projects. Specifically, it was noted from the training needs assessment (TNA) undertaken by the experts that most of the institutions/organisations implementing forest and tree-based activities have limited capacity to conceptualise and develop bankable projects that could contribute to integrated mitigation and adaptation benefits, enhance implementation and REDD+ and promote entrepreneurship opportunities for NTFPs. The TNA also revealed varied competency levels and needs on project management cycle, resource planning, fundraising conventions, creating linkages and relationship with potential funders and developing resource mobilization concepts for funding. The African Forest Forum therefore in its annual work plan 2022 for the project “African Forests, People and Climate Change” scheduled training workshop for trainers of trainers (ToTs) to impart knowledge and skills on development of bankable projects in different forest landscapes in Kenya.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

The overall objective of the training workshop is to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders in African forestry to develop bankable projects on enhancing resilience to climate change and improvement of livelihoods.

Specifically, the training workshop will address the following:

- (a) Mapping and profiling Donor/development partners (at national, regional and international levels) relevant to forestry sector and addressing projects on integration of forest and tree-based climate change mitigation and adaptation, REDD+ gums and resins and other dryland NTFP value chains;
- (b) Concept note drafting process (Components of a good and award-winning proposal; problem tree, definition of project objective, outputs and activities; theory of change, logical framework)

- (c) Development of bankable forest and tree-based projects linked to relevant development partners.
- (d) Steps towards mobilizing resources for forest and tree-based projects to target climate and forest finance; and

4. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- (a) A catalogue of donors/development partners interested in funding forestry and climate change projects;
- (b) Stepwise process towards resource mobilization outlined; and
- (c) Bankable draft concept notes developed;
- (d) Road map towards developing an effective and realistic action plan and strategy for sustainable resource mobilization established.

5. DURATION

The training workshop will be three days.

6. PARTICIPANTS

Twenty-five participants from forestry administration, civil society, private sector and community based organizations operating in the three target areas (integration of forest and tree-based climate change mitigation and adaptation, REDD+, gums and resins and other dryland NTFP value chains) are expected to attend the workshop.

5. VENUE AND LOGISTICS

The venue of the workshop will be in the City of Nairobi on 13-15 July 2022. All participants will be accommodated in the same venue on bed and breakfast basis for more focus and to facilitate networking and groupworks. More information on the exact venue will be provided by Friday, 8 July 2022.