



Summary of Day 8: Enhancing the capacity of women and youth to adapt to climate change

Community of Practice: Advancing women in forestry in the context of climate change





Introduction

- 50 participants joined for Day 8.
- Participants were from Algeria, Benin, Botswana, Cameroun, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Zambia, Uganda, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, South Africa, Mali, Togo, La Cote d'Ivoire, ..
- The Resource person was Rosalyn Fosuah Adjei, Director of Climate Change – Forestry Commission





Recap of Day 7

- The session started with a recap of day 7 which focused on challenges of securing women participation in forestry and climate action and prospects.
- Thematic areas for enhancing the capacity of women





Presentation by Roselyn Fosuah Adjei

Five thematic areas to consider in enhancing participation of excluded groups. These are:

1. Advocacy:

- Conscious efforts needed for advocacy
- Advocacy need to be considered in context because different systems pertain to different countries across Africa
- The different levels of countries should be considered in developing advocacy.
- There is the need to have champion for youth and women

2. Education

- It is not enough having percentage of women.
- What is important is their contribution to the discussion on the table
- Education, and skills training very critical for participation.

3. Livelihood

- Socio-cultural issues need to be considered when developing climate smart livelihoods interventions for women and youth.





4. Good governance

- Who is at the table
- Identify the different strata of which group is at table
- How who has what could be utilized.

5. Equitable benefit sharing

- Climate change has varied impacts
- Different groups make different contribution to mitigation
- Need for equitable benefit sharing.





Discussion: Who should enhance the participation of women and youth in climate action

Participants shared their thoughts to include the following:

- Government:
 - The need to modify existing structures through policy formulation
 - To create the enabling environment for all to stride
 - Adequate financial motivation by way of sponsorship and grants for women and youths in forestry
- The private sector
 - has a role to play and could provide some support for intervention
 - Involving and building leadership abilities of women/youth matter
- Youth and women themselves:
 - Mindset orientation is needed for our youths to encourage them take up career in forestry
 - Women and youth to develop themselves and build their confidence
 - Women and youth need to be at the forefront of articulating their concerns and be their own champions





Recommendation/Way Forward

- Different alternatives and actions can be considered and implemented to better integrate gender issues in climate change adaptation and mitigation at the community level
- Capacity building in applying for call proposals by AFF, CSO's, youth and women at a national level do not have access to some of these information due to access internet connections and limited information about AFF activities at national level
- AFF to reach out to more women through their women in forestry chapter.
- AFF to connect more with grassroots voices in the CoP.
- Invest in producing strategic synthesis reports from ongoing researches. Such investments will also provide crucial input for better advocacy by the women's platform envisaged within the AFF





Way forward/take home points

- We must be agents of change and lead by our actions where ever we find ourselves.
- There is the need to exploit the opportunities such as rain water harvesting for food security and urban forestry.
- There is the need to transform climate risks into opportunities,
- AFF needs to work with governments in the continent to get an updated forest status, and advocate against uncontrolled deforestation which is going on at a rapid rate.





Thank you

