



**Overview of Achievements of Project:
Strengthening Sustainable Forest Management in Africa**

Project Duration: 2014-2019

**Funded by the Swedish International Development
Cooperation Agency (Sida)**

Acronyms

AFF	African Forest Forum
AUC	African Union Commission
ECOWAS	Economic Commission for West African States
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FLEGT	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade
FORNESSA	Forestry Research Network of Sub-Saharan Africa
FORIG	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana
FRA	Forest Resources Assessment
KEFRI	Kenya Forestry Research Institute
KM	Knowledge Management
LULUCF	Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry
NGARA	Network of Gums and Resins in Africa
NWFP	Non-Wood Forest Products
PFAEA	Professional Forestry Association for Eastern Africa
PMER	Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PSAC	Project Steering & Advisory Committee
REC	Regional Economic Communities
R&D institutions	Research and Development Institutions
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
Sida	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
TST	Technical Support Team to Raise the Profile of Forestry
UNFF	United Nations Forum on Forests
WFC	World Forestry Congress

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1. Introduction

In Africa, forests ecosystems cover more than 624 million hectares, representing 23% of the continent's landmass (FAO 2015¹). There exist considerable forest variations including the Congo Basin (second unique forest ecosystem), the Guinean forests, the coastal forests, the afro-montane forests, and many other types of woodlands, that are characterized by exceptional richness in biodiversity (FAO, 2010)². African people are highly dependent on these forests for their goods and services including ecosystem services. Households are heavily reliant on wood fuel for energy, and the forest products contribute considerably to both local and national economies. Forest-dependent communities also derive intangible benefits from forests through their functions as cultural symbols and sacred sites and in the production of ritual artefacts. Forests are therefore vital for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals in Africa.

Globally, the two key challenges facing forests are *deforestation* and *forest degradation* that impact on the capacity of forest ecosystems to supply goods and services. Notably, half of the 10 countries globally that recorded the largest annual net losses in forest area between 1990 and 2010 were in Africa namely; Sudan, Nigeria, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and the DR Congo (FAO, 2010). Deforestation and forest degradation are as a result of both direct and indirect drivers. The direct causes are a) agricultural expansion for commercial and subsistence purposes; b) wood extraction; and c) infrastructure expansion, including mining and urban expansion. The indirect drivers are fundamental social processes, such as human population dynamics or agricultural policies that underpin the direct drivers. Climate change also affects the productivity of forest ecosystems. Several strategies including establishment of protected areas, education and awareness raising, policy incentives and trade regulation, are being employed to ensure forest protection and to minimize degradation. These mechanisms are however insufficient to solve all the problems such as those related to land tenure regimes, lack of technologies to monitor and contain change, lack of or inadequate financing and political will.

While deforestation and forest degradation are undesirable, the activities that are associated with these processes make significant contributions to socio-economic well-being of many people and nations. In the context of sustainable forest management (SFM), it is therefore necessary to balance harvesting forests for both timber and non-timber products and services against the sustainability of supplies of these products and services from the same forest estates. SFM refers *to the* development that minimizes the harm caused to forest and tree resources, while maximizing the many human development and environmental protection opportunities. It is within this context that the project seeks to complement African countries in their efforts to address the challenges, in the forestry sector, that significantly impact on the ability of African countries to address poverty on the continent; as well as to explore opportunities forest resources present to enhance the livelihoods of the African people and economies of their countries as well as environmental stability.

¹ FAO (2015) Global Forest Resources Assessment Report 2015: How the world's forests changing?, Second edition (www.fao.org/publication)

² FAO (2010) Global Forest Resources Assessment Report 2010 - Main Report. *FAO Forestry Paper No. 163*. Rome, Italy, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

2. Project objectives and outcomes

The overall project objective is: “to generate and share knowledge and information through partnerships in ways that provide inputs into policy options and capacity building for improved forest management that better address poverty eradication and environmental protection in Africa”.

The operationalization of the overall objective is guided by six specific objectives, namely:

1. 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.
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. 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. 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. 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. 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.

3. Project outcomes and outputs:

The implementation of the project in pursuant of the objectives is expected to yield the following project outcomes and outputs by the end of the project.

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

- Output 1.1 Competent moderators available to facilitate AFF platforms at national, sub-regional and continental levels;
- Output 1.2 Win-win solutions that lead to improved SFM based on shared understanding of issues by stakeholders.

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

- Output 2.1 Knowledge products on sustainable forest management made available to end users;
- Output 2.2 A status report for forestry in Africa produced;
- Output 2.3 An expanded network for data acquisition and sharing established and operational;
- Output 2.4 Improved client capacity for data gathering and reporting;
- Output 2.5 Links to major forestry-relevant databases established;
- Output 2.6 Knowledge products and materials (fact sheets, policy briefs, brochures, position papers) produced and disseminated to end users;
- Output 2.7 A functional Knowledge Management (KM) and Communications Unit and a Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER) Unit in AFF Secretariat operational and a functional knowledge portal managed by AFF Secretariat established;
- Output 2.8 A Knowledge Management (KM) Strategy for AFF developed.

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

- Output 3.1 Gaps to effective operationalisation of Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) in Africa identified;
- Output 3.2 New or adapted livelihood-based LULUCF models and practices;

- Output 3.3 Innovative models for incentivizing LULUCF;
- Output 3.4 Private sector growth in forestry;
- Output 3.5 Public private partnership models for forest compatible livelihood development;
- Output 3.6 Quality germplasm available and accessible by stakeholders;
- Output 3.7 Pest and disease surveillance protocols are made available to stakeholders.

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:

- Output 4.1 Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) challenges and opportunities at different levels identified;
- Output 4.2 Evidence that informs policy making;
- Output 4.3 Policy advocacy platforms established;
- Output 4.4 Policy, governance and trade training workshops for various stakeholders delivered;
- Output 4.5 Determinants of market failure identified;
- Output 4.6 Interventions to improve market performance proposed;
- Output 4.7 Market Information System developed;
- Output 4.8 National capacities for forest certification strengthened;
- Output 4.9 Forest certification systems developed.

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:

- Output 5.1 Analysis of training needs (and gaps) at different levels (community, national, regional and continental);
- Output 5.2 Concrete actions to contain training needs;
- Output 5.3 Training courses in higher learning institutions which are based on identified needs;
- Output 5.4 Training institutions identified;
- Output 5.5 Training modules developed for tailor-made training courses on forest management and on leadership developed to address specific gaps;
- Output 5.6 Multi-country (regional) training programmes that leverage strength and capacities of multiple higher learning and other forestry R&D institutions;
- Output 5.7 Youth in forestry and tree business enterprises training course developed;
- Output 5.8 Youth forestry and tree business enterprises training courses delivered;
- Output 5.9 National and regional certification systems established;
- Output 5.10 Training courses on forest certification, climate change and other emerging issues.

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

- Output 6.1 African delegates engage competently in international processes;
- Output 6.2 'Sustainable mechanism' for effective African engagement in international forestry processes;
- Output 6.3 African countries have a critical mass of forestry experts with capacity to competently represent their respective countries and the continent in international discourses;
- Output 6.4 African countries/regions implement international agreements which they are signatories to;
- Output 6.5 Progress is made in various dimensions of forest and tree resources management as a result of implementation of specific international agreements.

4. Project Implementation

4.1 Project coordination:

The project is executed by the Secretariat of the African Forest Forum through project management staff including a Senior Programme Officer/Programme Manager and a Programme Officer who are responsible for managing the daily activities of the project. The Knowledge Management, Communications, and the Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting specialists, and the Administrative Officer and Finance Officer also contribute to the implementation of the project. The governance of the project is facilitated by a Project Steering & Advisory Committee (PSAC) which provides strategic guidance, scientific quality assurance, as well as financial oversight, ensuring that project implementation stays on course.

In executing the project, AFF seeks to influence and facilitate organizations and individual stakeholders to take actions that lead to forestry compatible development. This is done through convening, advocacy, partnerships, knowledge brokerage, facilitating capacity development, and catalysing research and development which support sustainable forestry and tree resources management.

4.2 Partnerships:

AFF has created strategic partnerships that are crucial to the successful implementation of the project and sustainability of the project activities. The partnerships bring together complementary resources, expertise and skills, and provide the opportunity to harness different organisations' competence and comparative advantages for the benefit of a common vision.

To this end the project explores synergies with the SDC supported project *''African forests, people and climate change''*, through joint activities and co-financing of workshops and experts studies that complement both projects. AFF has signed MOUs with 6 African universities to undertake research on various issues on forestry. These universities include: University of Stellenbosch in South Africa; University of Buea in the Republic of Cameroon; Wondo Genet College of Forestry and Natural Resources in Ethiopia and; Egerton University in Kenya. Further, AFF engaged various international, regional and national organisations in organizing sub-regional workshops and capacity building events convened and co-financed by the project. The organisations include Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), African Union Commission (AUC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Network for Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA), Forest Society of Kenya, Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Forest Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG), the Government of Niger, University of Lomé, Forest Research Network for Sub-Saharan Africa (FORNESSA), and Centre for Sustainable Development- University of Ibadan, Nigeria.

4.3 Project budget

The total budget is Swedish Kroner 48 million provided through a grant by the Government of Sweden. By December 2016, the expenditure on key activities was distributed as follows: West Africa (31%), Eastern Africa (25%), Central Africa (23%), Southern Africa (20%), and Northern Africa (1%).

4.4 Project achievements/outputs

This report is on work that has been done in from mid-2014 to end of 2016, i.e. about two and half years only. The achievements made in this period are highlighted in terms of outputs in the following sections. In addition, there are two other documents that address achievements of this programme. One document demonstrates how the information from this work has been shared, and the second document shows how these outputs have been taken up by various stakeholders and how they are being used. So this report will confine itself to only presenting the outputs while their sharing, uptake and use will be presented separately.

Key results on project outcomes

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

This outcome anticipates the establishment and operationalisation of innovative institutions at regional and sub-regional levels that could function as platforms for mobilizing strategic stakeholder thinking and activities towards problem solving for priority forestry issues in Africa. Competent moderators and win-win resolutions are crucial elements of such platforms. Key achievements include:

1. A policy decision taken by the African Union Commission (AUC), as a result of the pan African platform ‘*Second African Drylands Week*’ to better coordinate the production and marketing of gums and resins in Africa and focusing on women empowerment and improved livelihoods. Also the Network for Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA), was strengthened in 2015, to undertake this task. The African Drylands Week is a pan-African platform established by AFF and partners.
2. A pan African partnership platform organized in 2015 through the Pre-XIV World Forest Congress Workshop on the theme *Forest, People and Environment: Some perspectives from Africa*, in Durban, South Africa. The workshop deliberations resulted in an outcome statement that was communicated to the global forest community at the XIV World Forest Congress. The statement included key messages on the development of the forest sector in Africa.
3. A sub-regional platform for professional foresters, the *Professional Forestry Association for Eastern Africa* (PFAEA), strengthened through a workshop organised on strengthening professional forestry associations for enhanced forest law enforcement and governance and trade (FLEGT) for seven Eastern Africa countries in 2015. PFAEA seeks to secure ethical forest practice and professionalism in the forestry sector as a means for strengthening good governance of forest and tree resources.
4. Five declarations, resolutions, statements developed by the project as a result of various convenings organised by the project. These include:
 - a. The “*Mombasa Declaration*”, an African Group position formulated for guiding discussions at the Eleventh Session of the UNFF. This was facilitated through an AFF organised preparatory meeting for African delegates to UNFF11 held on April 2015 in Mombasa, Kenya;
 - b. The “*Durban Declaration*” formulated during the XIV World Forestry Congress (WFC) included key messages from the Pre XIV WFC Workshop organised by the project presented by AFF’s Executive Secretary during the Africa Day – a special event of the XIV WFC held on 8 September 2015 in Durban;
 - c. An *outcome statement on the role and niche of Eastern Africa professional forestry associations* in SFM resulting from the sub-regional workshop for PFAs in Eastern Africa held in Mombasa, Kenya;
 - d. Statements by Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) member states on how to address illegalities in forestry resulting from the AFF - ECOWAS sub-regional workshop on forest governance held at ECOWAS Secretariat in Abuja, Nigeria; and
 - e. Resolution by professional forestry associations of West Africa to form two sub-regional associations, one on forest governance and the other on forest products trade, resulting from the sub-regional workshop on forest governance held at ECOWAS Secretariat in Abuja, Nigeria.
5. A total of 15 moderators and facilitators trained or their capacities strengthened through the platform convenings.

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

This outcome anticipates increased access by forest stakeholders to relevant and timely critical information and knowledge demanded by stakeholders to influence: a) policy making at continental, regional and national levels; b) investment decisions; and c) capacity building. Key achievements include:

1. Eighteen knowledge products on analysis of seven SFM themes were produced by experts, and disseminated to 407 stakeholders from 33 African countries through 4 interactive face to face forums and 5 capacity building workshops. The themes include: Green economy; forest products utilisation and private sector in forestry; provision of quality tree germplasm; forests and tree pests and diseases; forest governance, law enforcement and fair trade; forest certification; and multilateral environmental agreements and processes. These and other knowledge products generated by the project are listed in Annex 1.
2. Various mechanisms initiated by stakeholders in African forestry are as a result of dissemination of new knowledge products on green economy, private sector development, pests and diseases, quality tree germplasm, forest governance, forest certification, and multilateral processes. The mechanisms are focused on:
 - a. enhancing good forest governance through, for example, strengthening professional forestry associations;
 - b. cultivating legal and fair trade in forest products through, for example, establishing forest products associations;
 - c. improving SFM through development of national forest certification standards; and
 - d. improving teaching material at educational and training establishments.
3. Stakeholders in forestry including governments, scientists, and civil societies in over 100 countries worldwide are improving their understanding on various forestry issues by accessing new and up to date information availed through the AFF website. Details on the uptake and impact of the work are presented under agenda item 4c.

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

This outcome anticipates availability of technical advice to African institutions on scientifically proven approaches and mechanisms 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. Development of livelihoods based models are crucial. Key achievements include:

1. Capacities of three postgraduate students (two MSc and one PhD) in three African universities strengthened through joint research work undertaken between AFF and the universities under Land Use Land Use Change and Forests (LULUCF) postgraduate fellowships granted by the project. In-depth studies have been undertaken to understand changes in land use changes in relation to livelihoods (with gender considerations) and the environment. The studies are on:
 - a. Quantifying the effects of land uses on ecosystem services provided by trees and forests in a landscape context in South Africa;
 - b. Community perception of forest conservation policies and impact on land cover change and CO₂ emissions around the Korup and Kupe Reserves, Cameroon;
 - c. Forest cover dynamics and ecosystem services of Katimok Forest Reserve, Baringo County, Kenya.
2. Information generated on how to strengthen and or develop an all-inclusive private sector in forestry into an organized and cohesive sector that can effectively dialogue with governments and key actors has been undertaken in 20 African countries. The countries are: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, DR Congo, Gabon, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Chad, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. In this regard 20 country reports and 2 sub-regional synthesis reports for Central and eastern Africa sub-regions have been produced that will inform the development of the private sector.

3. A scientific foundation laid for development of best forestry practices that will ensure the provision of better quality forest planting material, and surveillance of pests and diseases for establishment of more productive and profitable agroforestry systems and forest plantations in Africa. In this regard the following outputs have been achieved:
 - a. Three sub-regional reports on provision of quality tree germplasm for Eastern, West and Central, and Southern Africa sub-regions have been produced.
 - b. Africa synthesis report on provision of tree germplasm has been prepared;
 - c. A manual for handling seeds of Africa priority tree species to assist forestry practitioners, farmers and the private sector to access quality tree planting material has been drafted;
 - d. A training curriculum on tree breeding and germplasm production has been drafted ;
 - e. Three sub-regional reports on forests and tree pests and diseases for Eastern, West and Central and Southern Africa sub-regions prepared;
 - f. One sub-regional protocol for West and Central Africa sub-regions drafted on surveillance of pests and diseases, and two for Eastern and Southern Africa sub-regions are being improved to assist countries to monitor possible pests and diseases within and across national borders.

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 facilitates transparent trade

This outcome anticipates the formulation and harmonisation of evidence-based policies, regulations and governance mechanisms to strengthen public and private institutions to effectively support SFM and transparent trade. Key achievements include:

1. Up to date information generated to strengthen forest law enforcement, forest governance and fair trade in Africa collated through a technical report entitled *Forest law enforcement, governance, and trade (FLEGT) in Africa: Study to facilitate the development of capacity for good forest governance, law enforcement and trade* . The report highlights existing illegalities in trade in forest products as well as weaknesses in forest governance and law enforcement. It reveals that most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa have weak forest policies some of which have not adequately addressed illegal forest trade beyond their borders. These findings were disseminated through two sub-regional workshops for Eastern Africa and Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) sub-regions.
2. Consensus reached on actions that governments in the ECOWAS sub-region should take to improve forest governance through a workshop entitled *Sub-regional workshop on forest governance, law enforcement and fair trade in ECOWAS* that was organized for stakeholders on 23-25 May 2016 in Abuja, Nigeria, at the ECOWAS Secretariat. Representatives from government organizations, regional economic commissions, academic institutes, research institutes, civil society organisations and the private sector committed to: 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; and c) Promote bilateral cooperation and information sharing on cross border trade.
3. The status of forest certification in North Africa, Central Africa, West Africa, Southern and Eastern Africa sub-regions established through an inventory of existing forest certification systems in Africa undertaken by the project. Four sub-regional technical reports and one synthesis report in Africa entitled *Forest certification in Africa: Description of Forest Certification Schemes and the Experience of Certification in the African Continent* have been produced that also highlight the potential role of forest certification as a market driven mechanism that can promote responsible forest management.
4. One ‘*training manual on forest certification in Africa*’ produced based on a capacity needs’ assessment undertaken through the inventory studies on forest certification. The assessment revealed that the capacity to implement forest certification in the sub-regions is inadequate despite an existing enabling policy and legal environment for forest management. The training manual will guide training of forestry practitioners in Africa.

5. Capacity of 93 forestry practitioners from 30 countries in Africa strengthened in forest certification and development of national forest certification standards best suited for Africa, as result of two training courses organised in Accra, Ghana in partnership with Forest Research Institute of Ghana (FORIG) and in Mombasa, Kenya, and guided by the training manual referred to in no. 4 above. The countries are: Bénin, Botswana, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinée, Guinea Bisau, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.
6. Increased understanding among forestry practitioners of the importance of forest certification in sustainable forest management through the training courses. The participants pledged to create awareness on forest certification among relevant stakeholders in their respective countries through such activities like : i) lobby for mainstreaming and incorporation of forest certification into national plans, teaching curriculum, and research initiatives; ii) advocate for quality forest management certification; iii) develop good marketing strategies for certified forest products; and iv) fundraise for forest certification and mobilise capacity of producers.

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.

The outcome anticipates enhanced strategic human capacity of institutions and individuals – including farmers and farmer organizations, and other private sector actors, professional organisations, and public sector organizations that drive forest agenda at national and regional levels - to achieve forest compatible development. The main achievement includes:

1. Gaps in knowledge identified through a training needs assessment undertaken in Anglophone African countries, and are to be bridged through further training. Training and skills requirements and needs, disaggregated according to gender categories, were established ; the adequacy of the modalities used in developing their curricula and their content were determined while taking into account new and emerging issues. The capacity gaps occur in several areas including climate change, smart agriculture, operationalizing sustainable development goals, green economy, blue economy, forest certification, among others. The assessment will later be followed by the development of a capacity building programme that will guide professional and technical institutions in addressing these needs and gaps.

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

This outcome anticipates increased and coherent contribution by African negotiators to regional and global dialogues on forestry related multilateral processes to ensure the development of agreements that respond to Africa's needs and resonate with Africa's aspirations, in addition to adoption and implementation of the agreements in national policies, plans and activities. Key achievements include:

1. A total of 40 African delegates trained on negotiations skills needed during international engagement with partners in forestry and climate change. The training conducted in Mombasa, Kenya during UNFF 11 preparatory meeting resulted in the preparation of policy makers and negotiators from Africa to international processes related to forests and climate change.
2. Africa's voice in international negotiations on forest issues has become clear and more coherent leading to integration of Africa's position in the outcome documents of the United Nations Forum on Forests meetings and sessions. The common Africa positions developed for the meetings were effectively used by the African Group. For example, the proposed elements were integrated in UNFF 11 Resolution and Ministerial Declaration; the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030 and Quadrennial Programme of Work 2017-2020.
3. Inputs by African negotiators to the first and second meetings of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) open-ended intergovernmental ad hoc expert groups (AHEG 1&2) on United Nations Strategic Plan on Forests (UNSPF 2017- 2030) and the Quadrennial plan of work (2017-2020) to implement the international arrangement on forests were better articulated through support from the AFF Technical Support Team to Raise the Profile of Forestry (TST).

4. Another 77 forestry practitioners from 25 countries trained on international multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and negotiation processes, resulting in an increased number of competent resource persons in Africa on international negotiations.

5. Lessons learnt from implementation of the project and mitigation measures

1. Experience from the stakeholder forums and capacity building activities has shown that capacity in the following eight areas, while crucial in empowering stakeholders, is still very weak: a) good forest governance; b) marketing and trade in forest products; c) forest certification; d) international multilateral processes; e) surveillance on forest pests and diseases; f) public private partnerships in forestry; g) supply of quality tree germplasm; and h) developing and managing the forestry sector in the context of green economy. Knowledge on these issues is inadequate to guide developments in these areas and the knowledge that is available has not been accessible to many stakeholders in forestry and in forms that can be easily understood and contextualized. This calls for a sustained effort in capacity building in these areas.
2. The participants to training courses and workshops, that among other things, broached these issues reported significant increase in knowledge and skills acquired, as reflected by post workshop evaluations. They recommended further capacity building at all levels of stakeholders including those from government, civil society, private sector, local communities, as well as the media. AFF will continue to build capacity of other key stakeholders in these and other issues.
3. The successful establishment of the sub-regional Professional Forestry Association in Eastern Africa, and strengthening of the Network of Gums and Resins in Africa (NGARA) demonstrates the value of leveraging strategic partnerships. Partnerships pool knowledge, resources, expertise and skills and provide opportunities to harness different organisations' competences and comparative advantages for the benefit of a common vision.
4. The partnership developed with the ECOWAS Secretariat has proved to be an effective mechanism for disseminating knowledge generated by AFF to national governments and other stakeholders in the sub-region through the Secretariat. The adoption of the workshop recommendations by ECOWAS member states ensures political support. In this regard, AFF has then a favorable opportunity to provide timely scientific information to inform policy making at the highest decision level in the sub-region, country and local community levels. Such partnerships will in future be cultivated with the other RECs and related regional and sub-regional institutions.
5. During the implementation of the project it was observed that there is a serious problem in the continent in writing good scientific papers as well as capacity to tackle issues of sub-regional, regional and global scope. This led to some experts failing to submit good reports owing mainly to limited exposure. This took a lot of Secretariat staff time to polish them. It has also led to difficulties in recruiting suitable African experts for issues that transcend national border.
6. 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 are increasingly taking up roles of ownership of forest resources and managing the same. These actors need various forms of support for effective and efficient delivery.

6. Annex 1: Knowledge products from the project

The following is a list of knowledge products (journal articles, working paper series, policy briefs, factsheet, book chapters, books, etc.) developed during the project implementation

Table 1 : Published journal articles/papers

N°	Title	Authors	Authors affiliation	Web access
Phase I: 1 Nov. 2011-31 Dec 2014				
1	<i>Drivers of Forest Cover Change and Indicators of Climate Change in Katimok Forest Reserve.</i> Imperial Journal of Interdisciplinary Research (IJIR) Vol-2, Issue-11, 2016, ISSN: 2454-1362	Jebiwott A, Ogendi G.M, Makindi S.M, and Esilaba M.O	Egerton University	http://www.onlinejournal.inl
2	<i>Ecosystem service importance and use vary with socio-environmental factors: A study from household-surveys in local communities of South Africa.</i> Ecosystem services (2017) 1-8	Mensah S., Veldtman R. Assogbadjo A. E., Ham C., Glèlè Kakaï R., Seifert T.	University of Stellenbosch	http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ecoser
3	<i>Aboveground Biomass and Carbon in a South African Mistbelt Forest and the Relationships with Tree Species Diversity and Forest Structures.</i> Forests 2016, 7, 79.	Mensah S., Veldtman R., Toit, B. T., Glèlè Kakaï R. & Seifert T.	University of Stellenbosch	http://www.mdpi/journal/forests

Table 2: Manuscripts for journal papers under preparation

N°	Title	Authors
1	Identifying challenges and creating opportunities for effective participation in negotiations of African delegations to key international multilateral agreements[, especially sessions of UNFF, UNCCD, UNFCCC and UNCBD]	Oteng Yeboah, A. A.
2	Forest certification in Africa: status, achievements, gaps, challenges and opportunities	Teketay D., Mbolo M., Kalonga S. K. and Ahimin O.
3	Status of forest certification in Central Africa	Mbolo Abada, M. M., Zoa Ngoyene, M. and Amougou Ndi, Y.A.
4	Status of forest certification in North Africa	Mbolo Abada, M. M., Zoa Ngoyene, M. & Amougou Ndi, Y.A
5	Forest Certification in the West African Sub-Region: An urgent challenge in a region with high potential in forestry	Ahimin O.
6	Forest Certification in Eastern and Southern Africa	Kalonga, S. K.
7	Forest Law Enforcement, Governance, and Trade (FLEGT) as a mechanism for forest resource management in Sub-Saharan Africa	Kakuru W., G. Kowero, N. Turyahabwe, M. Bukenya, & E. Busisa,
8	Promoting African integration through trade in forest products: Cameroon shows the way	Tieguhong J, C.
9	Public private sector development in forest products industry of Zambia	Ng'andwe, P.

10	The state of Zimbabwe's forestry sector and opportunities for public private partnerships development	Katsvanga C. A. T.
11	Potential for private sector in forestry development in Kenya: primary and secondary production actors, trade, and gender consideration in forestry sector	Cheboiwo, J. K.
12	Apport de la filière bois dans l'économie ivoirienne et aux moyens de subsistance des populations défavorisées	N'guessan Kouakou E.
13	L'exploitation des ressources forestières au Sénégal« Opportunités et Défis pour un Partenariat Public Privé »	Bihibindi , A.
14	Public private partnerships in forestry sector in Kenya: status and potentials private forestry sector in Kenya: status and potential	Cheboiwo, J. K.
15	Strengthening Public/ Private Partnership For Promoting Sustainable Forest Management In Sudan	Tageldin, H. N.
16	Flux de commercialisation des produits forestiers ligneux entre le Congo et l'Asie pendant la période de 2009 à 2014	Koubouana, F., Ngoya Kessy A. M. & Kowero G.
17	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Forestry Sector in Central Africa	Tieguhong J. C., Kowero G., & Mandiefe S. P.
17	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	Cheboiwo, J. K.
18	Prospects and challenges of Public-Private Sector Partnership in the Forest Sector in Nigeria	Labode P., T.O. Amusa, S.O Jimoh
19	The status of improvement and supply of tree germplasm in East Africa	Msanga H. P., & C. T. Marunda
20	Trends in improvement, conservation and deployment of tree germplasm and impacts on sustainable forest management in Southern Africa	Marunda C. T., W.J. Gapare, Mmkwame, M. Tembani, & M. Alves
21	Forest pests and diseases in southern Africa	Kojwang H.
22	Status, Trends and Impacts of Forest and Tree Pests in West and Central Africa	Bosu P. P.
23	A report on the status of forest and tree pests and diseases in Eastern Africa Region with cross-boundary land use policy implications	Gichora W. M.

Table 3: Theses/dissertations

N°	Title	Authors	Degree & Institution	Year
1	Community perception of forest conservations policies and impact on land cover change and CO2 emissions around Korup and Bakossi national parks of Cameroon	Mangwa D. C	MSc , the University of Buea, Cameroon	2016
2	Forest cover change and ecosystem services of Katimok forest reserve, Baringo County, Kenya	Jebiwott, A.	MSc, Egerton University, Kenya.	2016
3	Selected key ecosystem services, functions, and the relation with biodiversity in natural forest ecosystems	Mensah, S.	PhD University of Stellenbosch. Forests 2016, 7, 79.	2016

Table 4: Books and monographs

No	Title
1.	Teketay D., Mbolu M., Kalonga S. K. & Ahimin O. (2016). Forest certification in Africa: achievements, challenges and opportunities. African Forest Forum. 156p.
2.	Marunda, C. T., Avana-Tientcheu, M. L. & Msanga, H. P. (2017). Situational analysis of tree breeding and tree germplasm supply in Africa: under-pinning sustainable forest management. African Forest Forum, Nairobi, Kenya. 49 p. (<i>under preparation</i>)
3.	Marunda, C. T., Avana-Tientcheu, M. L. & Msanga, H. P. (2017). Situational analysis of tree breeding and tree germplasm supply in Africa (<i>under preparation</i>)
4.	Gichora M., H. Kojwang & P. Bosu (2017). The status and trends of forest and tree pest and disease management in Africa (<i>under preparation</i>)

Table 5: Policy briefs under preparation

N°	Title	Authors
1.	Forests Management to Green African Countries' Economy	Achille, A.
2.	Green Economy and Forest Sector Development in Anglophone West Africa	Popoola, L.
3.	Effective Engagement of African Delegates in International Multilateral Processes"	Oteng-Yeboah, A. A.
4.	Forest Certification: A Soft Policy Instrument to Promote Responsible Forest Management in Africa	Teketay, D.
5.	Forest Certification and local development in Central Africa Sub Region.	Mbolu Abada, M. M.
6.	How to enhance forest management certification in North Africa	Mbolu Abada, M. M.
7.	Forest Certification in West African Sub-Region: Huge potential of sustainable forests forestry versus low progress in forest certification for the past two decades	Ahimin O.
8.	Forest Certification in Eastern and Southern Africa.	Kalonga, S. K.
9.	FLEGT as a mechanism for forest management in sub-Saharan Africa	Kakuru, W.
10.	Public-Private partnerships in Cameroon's Forestry Sector: Private sector engagement in Cameroonian forestry	Tieguhong J. C.
11.	Illegal exploitation of forests in Democratic Republic of Congo	Mbangilwa, M.
12.	PPP have bright future in the forestry sector in Kenya: The role of private sector production efficiency in the development forest sector	Cheboiwo, J. K.
13.	la promotion du partenariat public-privé dans le secteur forestier au Niger : un créneau pour la création d'emploi et la lutte contre la pauvreté	Maisharou, A.
14.	La gestion durable des ressources forestières au Sénégal: « Opportunités et Défis du Partenariat Public Privé	Bihibindi, A.
15.	Zambia public private partnership development: Towards a Public Private Partnership in Forestry sector of Zambia	Ng'andwe, P.
16.	Potential for Public Private Partnerships in Zimbabwe's Forest Sector: Promoting PPPs across the forest sector for sustainable development	Katsvanga C. A. T.
17.	Apport de la filière bois dans l'économie nationale et aux moyens de subsistance des populations défavorisées	N'guessan Kouakou E.
18.	exploitation durable des ressources forestières au Sénégal opportunités et défis pour le développement du partenariat public privé et l'industrie dans le secteur forestier	Bihindi, A.

19.	Partenariat Public Privé : approche prometteuse pour développer le secteur forêt à Madagascar: Exploiter rationnellement les forêts : la force d'un PPP	Ramananantoandro, T.
20.	Public and private sector challenges in the forest and forest products industry in South Africa: The contribution of forestry to wealth and job creation in South Africa	Dobson, D.
21.	Forest Policy and legislations in Sudan	Tageldin H. N.
22.	Public-Private Partnerships in Uganda's Forestry Sector: The Role of Private Players in Forest Sector in Forest Development	Kambugu R. K.
23.	Public-Private partnerships in Central African's Forestry Sector : Private sector engagement in Central African forestry	Tieguhong J. C.
24.	The potential role of public private partnerships in forestry development livelihood enhancement in Eastern Africa	Cheboiwo J. K.
25.	Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the Forest Sector and Sustainable Livelihood Development in Nigeria	Labode P.
26.	Predicted timber supply shortfall in the Southern Africa Region- it's time to act	Marunda, C.
27.	Consolidating and seeking new directions for forest genetic germplasm/resources research and application in Africa: Advocating for improved funding and better coordination at regional and tree-species levels	Marunda C., Msanga H.P & Avana M. L.
28.	Improving the quality and quantity of tree germplasm supply in East Africa: Advocating for regional collaboration and development partners intervention	Msanga H.P & Marunda, C. T.
29.	Integrated management of forest pests and diseases in Eastern Africa	Gichora W. M.
30.	Diseases and pests of trees and forests in southern Africa: An eye opening overview	Kojwang, H.
31.	Institute surveillance system for effective management of tree pests in West and Central Africa	Bosu, P. P.

Table 6: Documents to be published under AFF Working Papers Series under preparation

N°	Title	Authors
1.	Investigation of Forest Sector Potential for Green Economy and Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) in Anglophone West African Countries	Popoola, L.
2.	2015. Review on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forest Sector Potential for Green Economy in Francophone African Countries	Achille, A. & Vodouhe, F. G.
3.	Forest certification in Central Africa sub-region	Mbolo Abada, M. M.
4.	Forest certification in North Africa sub-region	Mbolo Abada, M. M.
5.	Forest certification in West Africa sub-region	Olivier, A.
6.	Forest certification in Eastern and Southern Africa sub-regions	Kalonga, S. K.
7.	Development and validation of a relevant training module for effective engagement of African delegates in international multilateral processes	Oteng-Yeboah, A. A.
8.	The status of tree germplasm improvement, production, supply and demand in East Africa	Msanga, H.P.
9.	Situational analysis of commercial and community tree planting in Southern Africa: Trends in tree improvement and tree germplasm supply	Marunda, C.
10.	Situational analysis of commercial and community tree planting in West and Central Africa: Trends in tree improvement and tree germplasm supply	Tienticheu M.A.
11.	Forest and tree pests and disease trends in West and Central Africa	Bosu, P.P.
12.	The status of tree and forest pests and diseases in East African sub-region	Gichora, W. M.
13.	Forest pests and diseases in southern Africa.	Kojwang, H.

N°	Title	Authors
14.	Forest law enforcement, governance, and trade (FLEGT): A study to facilitate the development of capacity for good forest governance, law enforcement and trade	Kakuru W.
15.	Training Needs Analysis and Forestry Curricula Evaluation in Professional and Technical Institutions in Sub-Sahara Anglophone Countries	Katsvanga, C. A. T.
16.	Etude sur le renforcement du partenariat public prive dans le secteur de la foresterie au Burkina Faso.	Onadja, A. P.
17.	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Forestry Sector in Cameroon	Tieguhong J. C.
18.	La filiere Bois En Cote D'Ivoire : Productions Primaire Et Secondaire, Relations Entre Les Acteurs, Tendence Future Et Contribution A L'économie Nationale Et Aux Moyens De Subsistance Des Populations	N'guessan Kouakou E.
19.	Public private partnerships (ppp) in the forestry sector in DRC	Mbangilwa, M.
20.	Potential For Private Sector in Forestry Development in Kenya: Primary and Secondary Production, Trade, Actors and Gender Consideration in Forestry Sector	Cheboiwo, J. K.
21.	Partenariat Public-Prive Dans Le Secteur Forestier A Madagascar: Les Approches Prometteuses	Ramananantoandro, T.
22.	Strengthening of private sector in forestry, including identification and promotion of public private partnership (PPP) models/approaches for forest compatible sustainable livelihoods development in Mozambique	Mahanzule Chavana R. Z.
23.	Partenariat public - prive dans le secteur forestier en afrique de l'ouest (Nigera)	Maisharou A.
24.	Public Private Partnership (PPP) in the Forest Sector and Sustainable Livelihood Development in Nigeria.	Labode P.
25.	Secteur Forestier: Partenariats Public-Prive (Ppp) Dans Le Secteur Forestier Au Congo	Koubouana, F.
26.	Development of Promising Public private partnership (PPP) approaches in forest management for sustainable livelihoods in Rwanda	Amini M. O.
27.	Etude Sur Le Partenariat Public-Prive Dans Le Secteur Forestier En Afrique De L'ouest (Senegal)	Bihibindi, A.
28.	Strengthening Public/Private Sector Partnership for Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in Sudan	Tageldin H. N.
29.	Development of Private Sector in Forestry in Tanzania	Mwamakimullah, R.
30.	Developpement De Partenariat Public - Prive Dans Le Secteur Forestier (Tchad)	Alhadj A. B.
31.	Study on Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Forest Sector in Africa Country Report for Uganda	Kambugu R. K.
32.	Public and private sector Development in forest products industry of Zambia	Ng'andwe, P.
33.	The Potential for all-Inclusive Public Private Partnerships in Zimbabwe's Forest Sector	Katsvanga C. A. T.
34.	Public and private sector Development in forest products industry of South Africa	Dobson, D.
35.	Public private partnerships (ppp) in forestry sector in Gabon	Mipoko, D.
36.	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	Cheboiwo, J. K.
37.	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Forestry Sector in Central Africa	Tieguhong J. C.
38.	The Status of Tree Germplasm Improvement, Production, Supply and Demand in East Africa	Msanga, H.P.,
39.	Situational analysis of commercial and community tree planting in Southern Africa: Trends in tree improvement and tree germplasm supply	Marunda, C.,

N°	Title	Authors
40.	Situational analysis of commercial and community tree planting in West and Central Africa: Trends in tree improvement and tree germplasm supply	Tienticheu M.A.,
41.	Situational analysis of tree breeding and tree germplasm supply in Africa: under-pining sustainable forest management	C.T. Marunda, M. L. Avana-Tientcheu, & H. P. Msanga
42.	Routine seed testing protocols for priority plantation and agroforestry tree species in tropical Africa	Msanga H. P.
43.	Study material on tree breeding and germplasm production and distribution in Africa	Marunda, C.
44.	Forest and tree pests and disease trends in West and Central Africa	Bosu, P.P.
45.	The Status of Tree and Forest Pests and Diseases in East African Sub-region	Gichora, W. M.
46.	Forest law enforcement, governance, and trade (FLEGT): A study to facilitate the development of capacity for good forest governance, law enforcement and trade	Kakuru, W.
47.	Needs Analysis and Forestry Curricula Evaluation in Professional and Technical Institutions in Sub-Sahara Anglophone Countries	Katsvanga C. A. T.

Table 7: Fact sheets under preparation

No.	Author	Title
1.	Alfred Apau Oteng-Yeboah	Assessment of engagement of African delegates in international multilateral processes
2.	Popoola, L.	Green Economy and Forest Sector Development in Anglophone West-Africa
3.	Achille, A.	Forests Contribution to Green Economy Principles in Benin, Gabon and Niger
4.	Teketay, D.	Forest Certification: Opportunities, Achievements and Challenges in Africa
5.	Mbolo Abada, M. M.	How to promote forest certification in Central Africa when African wood is already poorly represented on the international market
6.	Mbolo Abada, M. M.	Valorization of Non Timber Forest Products (NTFP), biodiversity and watersheds conservation through forest certification in North Africa Sub Region (NASR)
7.	Olivier, A.	Forest certification in West Africa: A Stakeholders' Nightmare
8.	Kalonga, S. K.	Forest Certification in Eastern and Southern Africa
9.	Marunda, C.	Do we have adequate forest genetic resources for sustained productivity of forestry plantations in Southern Africa
10.	Petro M.	The status of tree germplasm improvement, production, supply and demand in East Africa.
11.	Kakuru, W.	Strengthening institutions, policies and stakeholders: key pillars to facilitate capacity development for FLEGT in Africa.
12.	Kojwang, H.	Forest pests in southern Africa: Is the region doing enough to manage recent outbreaks and spread of pernicious pests?
13.	Kojwang, H.:	Forest Diseases: Regional inaction is a threat to Sustainable Forest Management in southern Africa
14.	Gichora, W. M.	The status of tree and forest pests and diseases in East African sub-region

No.	Author	Title
15.	Bosu, P. P.	Status and trends of forest and tree pests in West and Central Africa
16.	Tieguhong J. C.	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Forestry Sector in Cameroon
17.	Mbangilwa, M.	The actual DRC forest exploitation, a disaster for humanity.
18.	Cheboiwo, J. K.	Potential role of private public partnerships in the future development of the sector in Kenya
19.	Ramananantoandro, T.	Partenariat Public Prive Dans Le Secteur Forestier A Madagascar: les approches prometteuses
20.	Maisharou Abou	Le Partenariat Public-Privé dans le secteur forestier (PPP/SF) - une opportunité de création d'emplois et de production de richesses : Cas de la république du Niger
21.	Ng'andwe, P.	Public Private Partnership Development in Forest Products Industry of Zambia.
22.	Katsvanga C. A. T.	Potential for an all-inclusive Public Private Partnerships in Zimbabwe's Forest Sector
23.	N'guessan Kouakou, E.	Fiche d'information sur la filière bois en côte d'ivoire Cadre 1 : La politique de gestion des ressources forestières et implications sociaux économiques : cas de la République de Côte d'Ivoire
24.	Bihibindi, A.	L'exploitation des ressources forestières au Sénégal « Opportunités et Défis pour un Partenariat Public Privé
25.	Dobson, D.	Public and private sector development in the forest and forest products industry of South Africa.
26.	Tageldin H. N.	Promotion of public/ private sector partnership in forestry, Sudan
27.	Kambugu R. K.	Public-Private Partnerships in the Natural Resources Arena: Success Stories and Prospects in Uganda's Forestry Sector.
28.	Koubouana, F.	A l'attention de : Objet : Partenariat Public Privé (PPP) dans le secteur forestier au Congo
29.	Tieguhong J. C.	Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the Forestry Sector in Central Africa
30. 22	Cheboiwo, J. K.	The role of private sector in forestry development in Eastern Africa
31. 23	Labode P.	Public private partnership (ppp) in the forest sector and sustainable livelihood development in Nigeria

Table 8: Training modules produced

No.	Title
1.	Oteng-Yeboah, A. A. 2015: Effective Engagement of African Delegates in International Multilateral Processes
2.	Oteng-Yeboah, A. A. 2015. Module de formation sur l'engagement efficace des délégués africains dans les processus multilatéraux internationaux
3.	Teketay D., Mbolo M., Kalonga S. K. & Ahimin O. 2015 Training module on forest certification
4.	Marunda, C. Curriculum on tree breeding and germplasm production in Africa, (<i>under preparation</i>)

Table 9: Protocols under preparation

No.	Title
1.	Bosu, P. P. 2016. Protocol for surveillance of forest and tree pests in West and Central Africa
2.	Msanga H. P. 2016. Routine seed testing protocol for priority plantation and agroforestry tree species in tropical Africa

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