RECAP FOR THE FIRST DAY OF THE REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON SHARING INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES ON FOREST AND TREE-BASED ECOSYSTEM SERVICES FOR SOCIO-ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN AFRICA (3rd to 7th July, 2023)

- Workshop started with at 8:30am by registration followed by opening prayer by Prof John
- Executive secretary welcomed participants acknowledged the presence of Director of KEFRI, NGARA, Governing council, Chair of AFF, media, delegates e.t.c
- He explained that 18 supported postgraduates will make presentation and their information will complement the existing information, while we will still enjoy presentation from sawmill value chain experts
- He digged down on what needs to be done in this aspects in terms of advantages, linkages of primary production and integration in terms of policy supports e.g. Paris Agreement, Private engagements
- He emphasised the use of technology to promote forest to bring investor support, employment and many others.
- Chair of AFF in her welcome address welcome all the participants and encouraged us to do more for the continent, she also welcome potential members to join AFF by their social handles.
- Introduction of participants was also done (74 articipants in attendance)

- Opening speech by the Guest of Honour Dr. Cheboiwa Joshua on potential role of intra Africa timber trade in the continental socio-economic development
    - **SUMMARY OF HIS PRESENTATION**

    1. Africa has both surplus and deficits of forest resources
    2. Production, processing and Intra Africa trade is low
    3. Transboundary timber trade was dominated by informal operators, majorly operating without licence
    4. Kenya is a net importer and re-exporter of various forest products to neighbouring countries
    5. Kenya is beneficiary of transboundary trade especiall during logging ban

    Africa needs policy framework to promote investment

    6. Mobilizing huge investment to transform forestry, production, skills, SME, large farms e.t.c

    Bringing external investors for plantation

    7. Announcement of IUFRO 2029 to be hosted by Kenya.
- Group photographs and Coffee break
- Background of the workshop (About AFF in terms of Goal and pragmatic approach, the PROJECT and objectives of the workshop)

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

SESSION I Chaired: Professor Kowero SESSION II Chaired: Professor Susana SESSION I Chaired : Dr Alaba

1. **An assessment of Mau Forest Cover, Climate change and Impacts of eviction on Livelihood in Rift-Valley Kenya(Alice Jebiwott)**

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- Mau forest is home to several rivers and lakes and serves the population through many ecosystem services.
- Land scarcity and land affordability were more likely to drive people to settle in the Mau forest. The trend in forest cover has been declining.
- The declining forest cover had an impact on climate change.
- The evictions have caused impoverishment.
- At the end of the presentation, recommendations have been elaborated as Forest management authorities should involve forest-dependent communities, who are the main stakeholders, in coming up with intervention measures and implementation strategies in order to promote sustainable use of the forest resources and protect the forest from further loss, also the incorporation of climate-smart agriculture in farms for actions to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

2. Impacts of Climate Change and Vegetation Cover Dynamics on Ecosystem Services of protected areas in Southern Burkina Faso (Rene Comlan Yaovi)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- He identified 21 goods and services from which the study population benefited.
- These ecosystem services are in association or trade-off.
- Some are very well perceived by the population, such as those related to soil fertility, improvement of water quality, regulation of the environment, and food resources; but others are less perceived as the protection of crops against pests.
- The presenter noted in his presentation that it is important to know the real value of forests and taking into account the interactions between ecosystem services.
- Ecosystem services should no longer be considered separately without taking into account other associated services for better biodiversity conservation.
- Also, forest agents must be trained on current forest assessment tools for better monitoring

3. Assessing the impacts of climate change on forests using remote sensing and GIS techniques: A case of Kanona National Forest Zambia (Davison Mwela)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

Mr. Davison Mwela presented the threats to ecosystem services in the Kanona forest area which are: Agriculture (deforestation through land clearing), wood harvesting (forest destruction), climate change (extreme weather), fire (destruction to forests and poverty), water management and use (water abstraction and damming), hunting (fire ignition), fish harvesting, human disturbance in general. He used remote sensing and GIS to show the decline in forest areas and the associated climate pressures.

CONCLUSION

Anthropogenic activities contributed most to forest cover loss

Trade off was done to know the priority for livelihood dependency

4. Climate Change and Vulnerability of Forest Cover in South-Western Cote d'Ivore (Yaya Doumbia)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

Mr Yaya Doumbia showed through inventory readings, carbon stock determination, rainfall and temperature readings, that decreases in precipitation and increases in temperature are observed in the south of Côte d'Ivoire. These environmental changes have led to the modification of ecosystems leading to the scarcity of these resources with a decrease in the stock of forest carbon.

CONCLUSION

Validation of impacts of climate change in Cote d'Ivore
Increase in Temperature at all the assessed stations
Forest loss and biodiversity extinction were more pronounced in the study area

Recommendation

It is important to explore transparent model
Reconcilliation of forest resources activities
Encourage participate process
Leaders should make an enlightened decision
Government at the centre should liase with local or state to protect forest
Regrowing of the deforested areas

5. Forest Ecosystem Services and Drivers of Deforestation in Yayu Coffee Forest Biosphere Reserve, Southwest Ethiopia (Ferede Abuye)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- Mr Ferede Abuye presented the major drivers of deforestation in Yayu coffee forest biosphere reserve which are: grazing intensity, logging, agricultural farm land, coffee management mining activities.

- Anthropogenic disturbance and elevational gradients are the most important factors influencing species and functional divers in the Yayu coffee forest biosphere reserve.

- Several ***recommendations*** were made at the end of the study such as: core zone protection essential to sustain high plant diversity, Mitigating anthropogenic disturbances in transitional zone, zonation-based and communities' livelihood assessments to modify forest management to suit unique needs of each forest zone.

6. Climate Trends, Impacts on Forest Ecosystem Services and Adaptation Strategies of Rural Communities in Benin (Djidjoho Loth Gbosa)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- Mr Djidjoho Loth Gbossa showed the dynamics of ecosystem services in relation to climate change in Benin.
- It underlines the regression of forest resources in connection with the increase in temperature and the drop in rainfall. The study populations had a good knowledge of their environment and climatic pressures.
- He noted an association between socio-cultural group and type of resources used.
- The populations developed behaviors to adapt to climate change such as prayer, the cultivation of other speculations, the use of new resources

CONCLUSION

High demand of agriculture land and population affect ecosystem services

Climate change slow down economic of the individuals in the study area

Recommendation

Alternative livelihoods

7. Effects of Climate Change and Variability on Forest Dependent Livelihoods: the case of Borana Dry Forest Southern Ethiopia (Reta Regassa Jetu)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- The study showed that pastoralists were shifted their livelihoods from poor pastoralism to mixed livelihood strategies to overcome the impacts of climate change.
- There is a high level of forest dependence en forest and tree resources by pastoralists and agro-pastoralist households.
- He showed that dry forests are important to the livelihoods of pastoralist household income.
- This dependence makes pastoralists vulnerable to climate change such as death of farm animals due to drought, displacement of households.
- It ended with several recommendations for the rehabilitation of degraded areas, the regulation of the collection of NTFP.

Vulnerability and adaptation to climate change of populations living in the surrounding of the classified forests of Agoua and Toui-Kilibo (districts of Bante and Ouesse in central Benin) (Etienne Akakpo)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- From Etienne Acakpo's presentation, it appears that breeders are more vulnerable to climate change than farmers.
- The strategies for adapting to climate change developed by the populations are, among others: the establishment of plantations, professional retraining, the adjustment of agricultural practices.

- He ended by recommending adaptation to climate change sustainable land management, capacity building, and improvement of the living conditions of the populations.

Impact of climate change on forest resources in the Dahomey-Gap corridor in the Republic of Benin (Roméo Brice Chabi)

KEY MESSAGES/FINDINGS/RESULTS

- Roméo Chabi's presentation essentially showed that climatic indices are predictors of the current and future distribution of forest species.
- In his study, a regression of favorable areas was noted with an increase in moderately favorable areas.
- He ended with recommendations for the protection of forests.
- Discussions exchanges focused on anthropogenic pressure on Beninese forests and traditional knowledge, their valorization in the protection of forests, and their limits and implications.