

Final draft

“Developing alternatives for illegal chainsaw lumbering through multi-stakeholder dialogue in Ghana and Guyana”

European Commission programme on Tropical Forests and other Forests in Developing Countries

First District Level Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (DLMSD 1) Minutes Goaso

Date: 27th October, 2009
Venue: Municipal Assembly Hall



Present

1. Nana Akua	Lumber seller
2. Owusu Asare	RUDEYA
3. Kwasi Kobia Teiku	RUDEYA
4. Donkor Tweneboah	FSD
5. Solomon Akwei	GNFS
6. Asante Frimpong	Farmer
7. Robert Cudjoe	Chainsaw Operator
8. Eric Agyapong	Chainsaw Operator
9. Nicholas Adjei	Chainsaw Operator
10. Bernard Nkrumah	Captman
11. Nana Barffour Awuah	TA
12. Gabriel Kumi	FSD
13. Peter Aidoo	Journalist
14. Augustine Adjei	Carpenter
15. Mr Suka	Carpenter
16. Daniel Awoade	MOFA
17. Nana Darko	Farmer
18. Thomas Marfo	Farmer
19. Osei Wireko	Chainsaw Operator
20. Emmanuel Apau	Information Supervisor
21. Martha Agyekumwaa	Carrier
22. Mohammed Haruna	Sawmiller
23. Lilly Beatrice	Sawmiller
24. Gabriel Asare	Chainsaw Operator
25. Richard Agyenim Boateng	Chainsaw Association

Project Secretariat

1. Mercy Owusu Ansah	NF/CFA, EU CSM Project
2. Jane Aggrey	Communication Assistance, TBI Ghana
3. Otu Achempong	CFW, EU CSM Project

Agenda:

- Opening
- Introductions
- Objective of meeting
- Presentation of FORIG research findings
- Outcome first MSD minutes
- Group discussions
- Nomination of district management team members
- AOB

Acronyms

CFW	Community Forestry Worker
CSM	Chainsaw Milling
DFE	District Forest Forum
DLMSD	District Level Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
EU	European Union
FORIG	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana
FSD	Forestry Services Division
GNFS	Ghana National Fire Service
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
NF/CFA	National Facilitator/Community Forestry Advisor
NFF	National Forest Forum
RUDEYA	Rural Development Youth Association
TA	Traditional Authority
TBI	Tropenbos International
TIDD	Timber Industry Development Division

Proceedings	Action
<p>1.0 Opening The DLMD in Goaso Forest District was held on 27th October 2009. The CFW, Otuo Acheampong, called the meeting to order at 11: 00 am. The EU Chainsaw team was welcomed by the district manager and the meeting facilitated by Mr. Otuo Acheampong.</p> <p>2.0 Introductions Brief introductions of all present was done by the CFW</p> <p>3.0 Objectives of the Meeting The NF/CFA outlined the purpose of the meeting which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dissemination of the research findings and the three options• Prioritize issues for the second MSD• Solicit feedback on the research findings and first MSD meeting• Elect/nominate members for the district MSD management team <p>4.0 Presentation and Discussion of the FORIG Research Finding The NF/CFA presented the research findings covering the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Evolution of chainsaw lumbering in the countryii. The policy and legal aspects of chainsaw millingiii. Why the law has been ineffectiveiv. Drivers of chainsaw millingv. Chainsaw milling and the domestic marketvi. The impacts of chainsaw milling(social,economic,environmental)vii. Potential loss to the stateviii. Beneficiaries of chainsaw revenueix. Recovery efficiencies of the various technologies for sowing lumberx. The three options as emerged from the Technical Committee meeting <p>She added that, the TIDD conducted similar research and the findings are almost the same as</p>	

that of the chainsaw project. This she stressed authenticates the findings of FORIG research. This also implies the information is credible to rely on for finding lasting solution to chainsaw milling in Ghana.

4.1 Questions and Contributions

Question

- A. In what ways can people involved in CSM find alternative livelihoods and in what ways can the local lumber demand be met.
- Research is ongoing to find an alternative livelihood as lucrative as CSM which a perfect match will be very difficult to find. However, we need to come to the understanding that forest and its trees are depleting and something has to be done even if CSM has to be legalized

Comments

- ✓ CSM should be legalized to take care of the loss of revenue to the state and also to reduce conflicts
- ✓ It is unbelieving to know that CSM is still illegal after the amount of revenue the government losses to CSM activities
- ✓ CSM activities is driven by the fact that people have to take care of their wards and also live and this cannot be altered since everyone has the right to live. To halt the loss of revenue to CSM, CSM activity should be legalized and regulated

5.0 Outcome of First MSD Meeting

Copies of minutes of the first MSD meeting were distributed to stakeholders. The NF/CFA and the CFW briefed the meeting of the key outcomes of the meeting in Accra.

6.0 Group Discussions

Participants of the meeting were put into three groups to study the three policy options and raise issues of concern under each option. Copies of the issues raised under the options will be given to the national representative for further study and presented during the second MSD.

7.0 Integration of DLMSD into DFF and Nomination of Steering Committee Members

The NF informed the meeting that since the National level MSD has been integrated into the NFF, it will be appropriate to do same for the DLMSD and the existing DFF where forestry issues in general will be discussed (chainsaw issues inclusive). The meeting therefore agreed that the DLMSD should be integrated into the Goaso DFF. The meeting nominated the following persons in addition to the CFW to form the district MSD management team:

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|---------------------------|-------------------|
| ➤ Nana Akua | Lumber seller |
| ➤ Robert Cudjoe | Chainsaw operator |
| ➤ Owusu Asare | RUDEYA |
| ➤ Richard Agyenim Boateng | Chainsaw operator |
| ➤ Otuo Acheampong | CFW |

8.0 AOB

Need for Feedback

The CFW informed the meetings that, persons nominated to represent the district at the national MSD are to report back to their colleague stakeholders. It is also their responsibility to present the views of the stakeholders they represent at any meeting when invited.

9.0 Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting was to be scheduled by the DLMSD steering committee after MSDII.

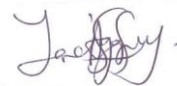
10.0 Closing

The CFW on behalf of the project thanked all participants for attending the meeting and urged them to send feedback to their respective stakeholder groups at the community levels.

The meeting ended at 1:45 pm.



Signed:
Mercy Owusu Ansah (Chairperson)



Signed:
Jane Aggrey (Recorder)