

## 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 (DMSD 1) Minutes Nkawie

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2009

Venue: Agric Hall



### **Present**

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Samuel Asare        | GNFS                  |
| 2. Robert Forson       | Environmental Health  |
| 3. Seth Bruce Yeboah   | Judiciary             |
| 4. Samuel Brenya       | NADMO                 |
| 5. James Kofi Nsiah    | DFF                   |
| 6. Peter Gyawu         | Community Secretary   |
| 7. J.L. Asante         | Community Member      |
| 8. Rose Nkruma         | Community Chairperson |
| 9. Kwabena Apau        | Community Member      |
| 10. Nana Seminika      | Nananom               |
| 11. Kofi Kwakye        | Chainsaw Operator     |
| 12. Kofi Asamoah       | Chainsaw Operator     |
| 13. Alex Owusu         | Lumber Broker         |
| 14. Mohammed Musa      | Lumber Broker         |
| 15. Osei Joseph Hamlet | PM-AMDA               |
| 16. Hamedu Francis     | Rep. Nananom          |
| 17. Akwasi Amakye      | Chainsaw Operator     |
| 18. Hon. J.K. Osie     | District Assembly     |
| 19. Nana Kofi Apo      | Rep. Nananom          |
| 20. Nana Kofi Asante   | Rep. Nananom          |
| 21. Degraft Takyi      | Farmer                |
| 22. Francis K. Asem    | MOFA                  |
| 23. Okrah Thomas       | District Assembly     |
| 24. Osei Agyeman       | Police                |

### **In attendance**

- |                         |          |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. Chemogo Deri Gregory | DFM, FSD |
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### **Observers**

- |                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 1. Buah Ama Samuel      | FSD |
| 2. Serwah A. Mavis      | FSD |
| 3. Andrew Darko Kuffour | FSD |

### **Project Secretariat**

- |                        |                                     |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Mercy Owusu Ansah   | NF/CFA, EU CSM Project              |
| 2. Jane Aggrey         | Communication Assistance, TBI Ghana |
| 3. Isaac Sintim Yabbey | 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
DFM	District Forest Manager
DLMSD	District Level Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
EU	European Union
FC	Forestry Commission
FORIG	Forestry Research institute of Ghana
GNFS	Ghana National Fire Service
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organization
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
NF/CFA	National Facilitator/Community Forestry Advisor
NFF	National Forest Forum
SM	Saw Mill
TBI	Tropenbos International
TIDD	Timber Industry Development Division

Proceedings	Action
<p><b>1.0 Opening</b></p> <p>The DLMSD in Nkawie Forest District was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2009. The CFW, Isaac Sintim Yabbey called the meeting to order at 10: 15 am. The EU Chainsaw team was welcomed by the DFM and the meeting facilitated by Mr. Sintim Yabbey.</p> <p><b>2.0 Introductions</b></p> <p>Brief introductions of all present was done by the CFW</p> <p><b>3.0 Objectives of the Meeting</b></p> <p>The NF/CFA outlined the purpose of the meeting which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dissemination of the research findings and the three options</li> <li>• Prioritize issues for the second MSD</li> <li>• Solicit feedback on the research findings and first MSD meeting</li> <li>• Elect/nominate members for the DLMSD management team</li> </ul> <p><b>4.0 Presentation and Discussion of the FORIG Research Finding</b></p> <p>The NF/CFA presented the research findings covering the following areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Evolution of CSM in the country</li> <li>ii. The policy and legal aspects of CSM</li> </ol>	

- iii. Why the law has been ineffective
- iv. Drivers of CSM
- v. CSM and the domestic market
- vi. The impacts of CSM (social, economic, environmental)
- vii. Potential loss to the state
- viii. Beneficiaries of chainsaw revenue
- ix. Recovery efficiencies of the various technologies for sowing lumber
- x. The three options as emerged from the Technical Committee meeting

She added that, the TIDD conducted similar research and the findings are almost the same as 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 the chainsaw milling in Ghana.

#### **4.1 Questions and Contributions from participants**

##### **Question**

- A. What are we doing to the CSM issue in Ghana knowing it has good and bad sides?
  - This is what the project is trying to address.

##### **Comments**

- I. So much time has been wasted on addressing CSM in Ghana because chainsaw lumber is in high demand. Again chainsaw is relatively efficient considering the circumstances they operate with such a recovery rate. Hence, chainsaw operators should be organized to operate with a mechanism to regulate their activities
- II. Artisans find it difficult to access wood from SM because SM only considers the local market after exports and even if any is made available for local consumption it is of low quality. It is the CSM that meets this demand and push the legalization of CSM to help artisans stay in business
- III. Even if SM puts lumber on the local market, it will benefits only those in the cities because there will be a problem with transportation to remote villages.
- IV. The CSM issue in Ghana should be blamed on Forestry Officials because some forests are not allocated for concessions which give chainsaw operators the change to log in such areas
- V. Chainsaw operators should work with SM so that they log down the trees and SM converts the logs into lumber. So that they stay employed
- VI. All blame should not be shifted to CSM in terms of forest destruction as SM also destroy young trees along their skid trails

#### **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/CFA 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 Nkawie DFF. The meeting nominated the following persons in addition to the CFW to form the district MSD management team:

- |                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ➤ District Forest Forum Chairman | District Forest Forum     |
| ➤ One chainsaw operator          | Chainsaw Operator         |
| ➤ Isaac Sintim Yabbey            | Community Forestry Worker |

### **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 1:00 pm.



Signed:  
Mercy Owusu Ansah (Chairperson)



Signed:  
Jane Aggrey (Recorder)