

“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

**Second District Level Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue (DLMSD II) Minutes
Sunyani**

**Date: 25th February, 2010
Venue: Bob Pierce Memorial Center**



DLMSD Members Present:

Name	Stakeholder
Hon. Bossman Donkor	Chainsaw Operator
Osei M. Gordon	Carrier
J.K. Mensah	Farmer
Emmanuel Amo	Farmer
Yaw Collins	Farmer
Augustina Adoma	TA
Nyamewaa Mabel	NTFPs Collector
Sarah Antwi	Farmer
Fuseini Mamprusi	Carrier
Nana Owusu Oberempon	TA
A. Boakye Akuoko	SMA
T. Sackey	GNFS
Asubonteng Acheampong	FSD
Nana Yaw Sakyi	TA.
J. K. Tawiah	F/Com Association
Nana Akosua Bema	TA
Kwasi Anane Yeboah	Chainsaw Association
George Takyi	Carrier
Cecilia Adomah Yeboah Jnr	MOFA
Mercy Yeboah	GTA
Regina Adjei	FSD
Prince Henneh	Farmer's Rep.
E. C. Ansong	RFF
Thomas Ofori	Carrier
Mohammed Deila	Chainsaw Operator
Takyi Peter	Lumber Broker
Adjei Anthony	TMA
James Baah	NGO Representative.
J. Amankwa-Okrah	Lumber Broker
Leonard Kumile	TA
Abraham Dumban	Farmer's Rep.
Ebenezer Mensah	FSD
Dickson Adjei Sakyi	FSD

Project Secretariat Team

Jane Aggrey	ACO, TBI Ghana
Enerstina Osei	RA, FORIG
Kow Quaison	CFW, EU CSM Project

Acronyms

ACO	Assistant Communication Officer
CSM	Chainsaw Milling
CFW	Community Forestry Worker
DLMSD	District Level Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
EU	European Union
FORIG	Forestry Research Institute of Ghana
FSD	Forest Service Division
GNFS	Ghana National Fire Service
GTA	Ghana Timber Association
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture

MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTFP	Non-Timber Forest Products
RFF	Regional Forest Forum
SMA	Sunyani Municipal Assembly
SWOT	Strength, Weakness, Opportunity, Threat
TA	Traditional Authority
TBI	Tropenbos International
TMA	Techiman Municipal Assembly

Agenda:

The agreed agenda for the meeting were:

- Reports on the national MSD II
- Prioritization of issues from MSD I
- Preferred option of the three recommended policy options
- SWOT analysis of three options
- National Plantation Programme

Proceedings	Action
<p>1.0 Opening The meeting started at 09: 50 am with a prayer by Mr. Acheampong of FSD, Sunyani</p> <p>2.0 Introduction The facilitator, Kow Quaison proceeded with introduction of members and also gave a brief explanation of the meeting's agenda.</p> <p>3.0 Reading and acceptance of previous minutes Minutes on the previous meeting (DLMSD I) was read to members present and after some few corrections, It was accepted.</p> <p>4.0 Feedback from MSD 2 The CFW and the representatives from the district to the national MSD II gave members feedback from the meeting. The feedback covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ the inauguration of the national MSD steering committee ➤ the speech of encouragement ➤ Perception of stakeholders on the recommended policy options ➤ SWOT analysis tools ➤ SWOT analysis ➤ Evaluation of MSD II <p>The outcome from the SWOT analysis during the national MSD II was not presented to members. The facilitator did not want that to influence the outcome of the SWOT analysis that will be carried out by members.</p> <p>5.0 Prioritisation of issues from MSD I A list of issues from MSD I was presented by the facilitator. Members then went into groups to discuss and prioritised them. The results are appended to this minute.</p> <p>6.0 Preferred option before SWOT analysis The ACO, Ms. Jane Aggrey explained the reasons for collecting the information on the preference of stakeholders on the three recommended policy options prior to the SWOT analysis. Member were asked to write down their preferred option individually and the results collated as follows:</p>	

Option 1 (Domestic lumber supplied by sawmills only) 1 = 3.7%
Option 2 (Domestic lumber supplied by sawmills and artisanal millers) 21 = 77.8%
Option 3 (Domestic lumber supplied by Artisanal Operators only) 5 = 18.5%

7.0 SWOT analysis

The ACO explained the SWOT analysis tool to members. After few questions were clarified, members were then put into groups with each group analysing an option.

8.0 Presentation of SWOT analysis result

Leaders of the various groups presented the outcome of the SWOT analysis. See appendix for the results of the SWOT analysis.

8.0 Preferred option after SWOT analysis

Information on stakeholders' preference was collected again after the SWOT analysis to see if stakeholders' perception has changed after the SWOT analysis. The following are the outcome:

Option 1 (Domestic lumber supplied by sawmills only) 2 = 7.4%
Option 2 (Domestic lumber supplied by sawmills and artisanal millers) 15 = 55.6%
Option 3 (Domestic lumber supplied by Artisanal Operators only) 7 = 26%

9.0 National tree planting


The facilitator briefed the members about the national plantation programme launched by the president at Offinso, its objectives and how local people can benefit from the plantation establishment. He urged all members to participate in the programme to increase tree cover in Ghana.

10.0 Date for next meeting

The date for the DLMSD III was to be communicated to members after the third national MSD meeting.

11.1 Closing

The facilitator thanked all present and advised that they send feedback messages to members of their communities. The meeting ended at 1:45pm

Signed for: 
Kow Quaison (Facilitator)

Signed: 
Jane Aggrey (Recorder)

Appendix

Issues Prioritized at DMSD meeting-Goaso

No.	Issues	Groups that listed the issue	Remarks
1	Local demand and overland export	1,2	High priority
2	Characteristics of the local market	1,2	High priority
3	Alternatives to substitute lumber	1,2	Priority
4	Importing timber for processing	1,2	Low priority
5	Alternatives to supply legal lumber to the domestic market	1,2	High priority
6	Formation of cooperative to use improved technology	1,2	High priority
7	Improved chainsaw to take over supply of lumber to the domestic market	1,2	High priority
8	Assessment of failure/success of policy/law banning chainsaw milling	1,2	High priority
9	Interpretation of 'legal and illegal' as related to lumber production	1,2	High priority
10	Tree ownership and tenure	1,2	High priority
11	Sharing of benefits from tree resources	1,2	High priority
12	Access to timber resources by local people	1,2	High priority
13	Capacity of FC to manage chainsaw milling	1,2	High priority
14	VPA process	1,2	High priority
15	Viable alternative livelihoods	1,2	High priority
16	VPA and implications on livelihoods	1,2	High priority
17	Chainsaw milling as a viable forest base enterprise	1,2	High priority
18	Annual allowable cuts exceeds current resource base	1,2	High priority
19	Dwindling forest resource base	1,2	High priority
20	Forest plantation/afforestation	1,2	High priority
21	Developing alternatives like bamboo and rattan plantation	1,2	High priority
22	Developing lesser known species	1,2	High priority
23	Impact of logging/chainsaw milling on environment	1,2	High priority
24	Analysis of implications of recommended options	1,2	High priority
25	Economic cost benefit analysis of recommended options	1,2	High priority

Outcome of Group Discussions (SWOT ANALYSIS)

Option	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threats
<i>Domestic lumber supplied by sawmills only</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sawmills are well organized ➤ Have legal access to the timber resources ➤ Sawmills have the equipments to operate and adequately meet the domestic lumber demand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is a history of saw millers abusing permits given and refusal to pay royalties and taxes ➤ Almost all sawmill machinery are obsolete reducing their efficiency ➤ Most sawmills lack proper managerial skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is ready market for the lumber produced ➤ Sawmills have access to loans due to their well organized nature ➤ Their operations creates revenue for the government ➤ The operations of sawmills create employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ High operational costs ➤ Illegal logging in their concessions
<i>Domestic lumber supplied by sawmills and artisanal millers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There are available equipments and technology for the operations of the two parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Some artisanal millers are unskilled ➤ Obsolete machinery on the part of sawmillers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Domestic supply will increase to meet demand ➤ It is an opportunity for the supply of good quality and legal lumber on the domestic market ➤ It is an opportunity to reduce the rate of unemployment ➤ This will provide more revenue for the government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gradual shift in the substitution of wood with other non-wood materials ➤ Conflict between the parties ➤ Dwindling resource base ➤ Bush fires
<i>Domestic lumber supplied by Artisanal Operators only</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ There is available labour for artisanal milling ➤ There is available technology and machinery for artisanal milling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Artisanal millers are not well organized for easy management and monitoring ➤ Artisanal millers do not have the capacity to meet the local lumber demand 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ To convert illegal chainsaw milling into a viable forest base enterprise ➤ Provide legal employment to people in forest fringed communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dwindling resource base ➤ Bush fires