

**“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

**Fourth District Level Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue Minutes  
Assin Foso (DLMSD 4)**

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2011**

**Venue: Municipal Assembly Hall, Assin Foso**



The logo for the EU Chainsaw Project is a large yellow five-pointed star. Inside the star, the text "EU Chainsaw Project" is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Surrounding the text are several logos: the European Union flag (a blue rectangle with twelve yellow stars) in the top left; the Tropenbos International Ghana logo (a green globe with a tree) in the top right; the Forestry Commission logo (a green tree and the letters "AFC") in the center; the Forestry Training Centre logo (a green circle with a tree and the text "FORESTRY TRAINING CENTRE D/CS") in the bottom left; the IWOKRAMA logo (a globe and the text "IWOKRAMA") in the bottom center; and the CSIR FORIG logo (a red circle with a globe and the text "CSIR FORIG") in the bottom right. At the bottom of the star, the text "This project is financed by the European Union" is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

## **Members Present**

<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Stakeholder Group</u></b>
1. Nana Kwakye Andoh	Traditional Authority, Assin Foso
2. Gabriel Narh	Chainsaw Operator, Breman Asikuma
3. Edwin Fiifi Acquah	Lumber Dealer, Breman Asikuma
4. Ebenezer Obo Cann	Table Top Sawmiller, Breman Asikuma
5. Kweku Nyame	Table Top Sawmiller, Breman Asikuma
6. Emmanuel Acquaye	MOFA, Twifo Praso
7. Yaw Effah	Lumber Dealer, Breman Asikuma
8. Hayford Asofa	Carrier, Breman Asikuma
9. David Kobina Amoah	MEH, Assin Foso
10. Joseph Blay	Judiciary Service, Assin Foso
11. Abraham Bentsil	Chainsaw Operator, Assin Bankyease
12. Simon Sam	Chainsaw Operator, Assin Bankyease
13. Abukre Sadique	Carrier, Assin Ando
14. John Tetteh	Chainsaw Operator, Assin Andoe
15. Kweku Seidu	Chainsaw Operator, Assin Bankyease
16. Selina Tandoh	FSD, Assin Foso
17. Kwame Boadi	Carrier, Assin Akropong
18. Anthony Afoakwa	FSD, Assin Foso
19. Daniel Y. Ansah	Lumber Dealer, Assin Foso
20. Emmanuel Asamoah	lumber Dealer, Twifo Praso
21. Nana Afranse IV	Traditional Authority, Assin Foso
22. Stephen K. Boafo	Chainsaw Operation, Assin Foso
23. Joseph Degraft Sackey	MOFA, Assin Foso
24. Kwadwo Acquah	Chainsaw Operator, Ahim Camp
25. Kwadwo Aful	Chainsaw Operator, Ahim Camp
26. Benjamin Mintah	Logosol Operator, Ahim Camp

## **Project Secretariat**

1. Emmanuel Fosu	Project Assistant,
2. James Parker Mckeown	National Project Coordinator,

## **Agenda:**

- Reading and acceptance of previous minutes
- Outcome of national MSD 4 and consensus meeting
- Presentation on community activities
  - i. Selected communities
  - ii. Selected institutions

## Acronyms

CFW	Community Forestry Worker
CSM	Chainsaw Milling
CFC	Community Forest Committee
GTMO	Ghana Timber Millers Organisation
DLMSD	District Level Multi-stakeholder Dialogue
EU	European Commission
FC	Forestry Commission
FSD	Forestry Services Division
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organisation

Proceedings	Action
<p><b>1.0 Opening</b> The meeting started at 10:15 am with a prayer by Mr Ebenezer Obo Cann, a table saw miller from Breman Asikuma.</p> <p><b>2.0 Introductions</b> The CFW introduced the project team, Emmanuel Fosu, Project Assistant and James Parker Mckeown, National Project Coordinator of the project.</p> <p><b>5.0 Reading and Acceptance of the Previous Minutes</b> The CFW read aloud the minutes of the previous meeting to participants. The stakeholders pointed out some few omissions which were added. Nana Kwakye Andoh moved for the acceptance of the minutes and was seconded by Mr S.K. Boafo.</p> <p><b>6.0 Outcomes of National MSD 4 and Joint Meeting</b> Mr S.K. Boafo, a chainsaw operator who was present at the national MSD 4 gave account of the proceedings. His report touched on the following.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✚ Presentation on logosol</li> <li>✚ Definition of artisanal milling</li> <li>✚ Acceptance of the TIDD as stakeholders/members of the MSD</li> <li>✚ Presentation on the cost benefit analysis on proposed policy directions</li> <li>✚ Decision on which of the three options to adopt to supply domestic lumber</li> </ul> <p>The NPC elaborated that, the concept of artisanal milling is based on among other things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• equipment used (it should be framed); and</li> <li>• training and certification</li> </ul> <p>On the joint MSD meeting with TIDD, the NPC said the meeting was to consider how the two processes will move forward with the chosen option. He said though GTMO is trying to frustrate the process, the project and TIDD will do their best to achieve the objective of getting legal lumber on the domestic market.</p>	

## 6.1 Comments and Questions

- On how to get access to the logosol, the NPC responded that, the procurement is likely to be done in groups so that artisanal millers can join resources to bid for concessions. Again, there will be some criteria for members to satisfy before they can use a logosol.
- A member called for the need for the FSD, the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency to intensify education on the need to protect the forest.
- Participants appealed to the project to notify stakeholders early enough about scheduled meetings, so that they can plan properly.

## 7.0 Livelihood Survey Presentation

The NPC took participants through the survey report which had the following sections; background, livelihood options, and collaborative institutions. Stakeholders added the following livelihood options to the existing list: bee keeping, soap making, fish farming and pig farming. It was agreed that stakeholders will engage in the above livelihood options which have short term production cycles while they wait for the benefits from long term ones like cocoa and oil palm plantations. The NPC noted that the project will only provide training and professional advice to only those who really need the support and not to everybody who is working with the project.

## 8.0 Presentations on Community Activities

The NPC said selected livelihood options will be piloted as community activities which will be later replicated in all communities in the district.

### 8.1 Selection of Pilot Community

The CFW explained how the two communities; Ando and Akropong were chosen. He said a number of criteria were considered in arriving on the choice of Andoe. He explained that Ando was chosen because it has a community forest, which will be used for training on the use of the logosol.

### 8.2 Selection of Institutions

The CFW listed all the institutions in the district. With the consent of the participants, the following institutions were selected as those to collaborate with project in implementing alternative livelihoods: FSD, CFC, MOFA, Banks, Chainsaw operator Associations, Farmer Associations, TIDD and Law Enforcement Agencies.

## 9.0 Closing

The CFW thanked participants for coming and assured them that notices for upcoming meetings will be sent to them early enough for proper planning. Meeting ended at 2:20 pm with a prayer by Mr Gabriel Narh, a table saw operator.

Signed:

Emmanuel Fosu(PA)-Recorder

Signed:

Seth Duodu (CFW)-Chairman

