

“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
Nkawie (DLMSD 4)**

Date: 15thFebruary, 2011

Venue: District Assembly Hall Annex



EU Chainsaw Project



This project is financed by the European Union

Members Present

Name

1. Hemenu Francis
2. Nana Ahen
3. Takyi De-graph
4. John Swanzy
5. Thomas Awuah
6. Frimpong Richard
7. Jacob K. Odame
8. Francis Morrison
9. Marfo Listowel
10. Bernard Bekoe
11. Samuel Brenya
12. Dickson Agyei Sakyi
13. Fosu Lawrence
14. Charles Adu
15. Mathew Appiah
16. E.T. Annang
17. Kwabena Apau
18. Joseph Opoku
19. Nana Kwaku Tutu
20. Kwame Dwomoh
21. Samuel Owusu
22. Alex Owusu
23. Jonas Mensah
24. Nana Yaw Owusu
25. Collins Tuffour
26. Joseph Agyekum
27. Beatrice Gyan
28. Felicia Afriyie
29. Samuel Adda
30. Emmanuel Boateng
31. Owusu Boateng Enoch
32. Serwaa Quaning
33. Osei Asibe
34. Abdul Rashid. M

Stakeholder Group

Community Forest Committee, Akota
Chainsaw Association, Chairman, Akota
Taungya Head, Akota
Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Nkawie
Information Service, Nkawie
Forest Service Division, Nkawie
Ghana Fire Service, Nkawie
Timber market, Abuakwa
Timber market, Abuakwa
Ghana News Agency, Nkawie
National Disaster Management Organisation, Nkawie
Forest Service Division, Nkawie
Forest Service Division, Nkawie
Ghana Police Service, Nkawie
Ghana Police Service, Nkawie
Environmental Protection Agency, Nkawie
Community Representative, Apenimedi
Farmer, Apenimedi
Forest Forum, Nkawie
Farmer, Kyekyewere
Hunter, Kyekyewere
Chainsaw operator, Kyekyewere
Chainsaw operator Kyekyewere
Traditional Authority, Kyekyewere
Farmer, Kyekyewere
Information Service, Nkawie
Youth Committee, Kyekyewere
Youth Committee, Kyekyewere
Range supervisor FSD, Nkawie
Forest Service Division, Nkawie
Forest Service Division, Nkawie
Forest Service Division, Nkawie
Farmer, Akota
District Assembly, Atwima Mponua

In Attendance

1. Mr Dickson Agyei Sackyi District Manager, FSD
2. Mr. Lawrence Fosu Assistant District Manager/CFW, FSD

Project Secretariat

1. Mercy Owusu Ansah National Facilitator
2. Evan Mensah Sampene Intern, TBI

Agenda

The following items were agreed to be discussed at the meeting:

- Issues from national MSD 4
- Presentation of livelihood survey findings
- AOB

Acronyms

CFW	Community Forestry Worker
CSM	Chainsaw Milling
DA	District Assembly
DFM	District Forestry Manager
DLMSD	District Level Multi-stakeholder Dialogue
EU	European Union
FSD	Forestry Services Division
GNFS	Ghana National Fire Service
MOFA	Ministry of Food and Agriculture
MSD	Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue
NADMO	National Disaster Management Organisation
NF	National Facilitator
TBI	Tropenbos International Ghana
TIDD	Timber Industry Development Division

Proceedings	Action
<p>1.0 Opening The meeting started at 10:50 am with a prayer by Joseph Opoku a farmer from Apenimedi.</p> <p>2.0 Introductions The DFM introduced himself and asked the participants to also do same. The participants also took turns to introduce themselves stating their names and stakeholder group they represent.</p> <p>2.1 Welcome Address by the DFM The DFM indicated that, stakeholders finding the way forward on CSM issues in the Nkawie forest district and Ghana as a whole is crucial. He mentioned the three policy options now in place for possible consideration by all stakeholders and encouraged them to actively participate in the meeting and come out with issues concerning illegal CSM in the district.</p> <p>3.0 Reading and Acceptance of Previous Minutes The previous minutes were distributed to all participants. The CFW read the minutes and some corrections were made. Mr. Samuel Brenya, NADMO representative moved</p>	

for the acceptance of the minutes and was seconded by Mr. Ebenezer Tetteh Annang, an Environmental officer.

3.1 Issues from the National MSD 4

The NF took participants through the purpose of the meeting and also highlighted on what happened at the national MSD meeting in Accra. She also encouraged stakeholders to actively participate in the meetings, since their numbers in terms of participation were not encouraging and challenged the CFW to be up and doing.

From the national MDS 4 meeting, she told participants that a cost benefit analysis has been done for all three policy options. Option two was accepted by stakeholders at the meeting and the project is collaborating with TIDD to find means of regularizing the local market. She mentioned that chainsaw milling will be upgraded to become artisanal milling where they will be using logosols or wood misers. There has been a pilot programme in Assin-Fosu in the Adwenasa forest reserve as to how to operate the logosol and this will be extended to other project sites. She reiterated that, notwithstanding the above, chainsaw milling in Ghana is still illegal. The chainsaw operators were encouraged to embrace the artisanal milling concept.

4.0 Matter Arising

- Stakeholders not getting invitation to meetings on time and in some cases not getting the invitation at all. The number of people to represent each stakeholder group should be specified in the invitation letter.
- If possible stakeholders from far away can be conveyed to the meeting place on that day by the CFW, since they find it difficult with transportation.
- Laws banning CSM should be strictly adhered to, to enable us save our depleting forest
- If possible chainsaw operators should be felling fast growing trees
- How and where can the chainsaw operator get access to the logosol machine?
- How affordable is the logosol machine and how easy is its use?

4.1 Response to Matters Arising

The national facilitator gave the assurance that, chainsaw operators will be trained on how to use the logosol and be linked to the suppliers of the machine at the appropriate time. She stressed on the need for stakeholders to start planting trees.

5.0 Livelihood Survey Presentation

Evans made a presentation on the possible alternative livelihoods stakeholders have decided to pursue for a living in case they are pushed out of the CSM business. He gave the prospect of such initiative and the conditions in the district. He also talked about the quantity and income from illegal lumber seized in the forest district and the perception of conflict situation between the stakeholders in CSM business.

5.1 Matters Arising from the Livelihood survey

- Special attention should be given to such programmes, since a lot of such interventions introduced in the Nkawie district have failed.
- If possible this initiative should be independent and must have its own structures than using available institutions to implement it.

- The EU should have special support for this alternative livelihood component of the project.
- The selection of species for the animal component of the programme should be carefully considered with stakeholders and not imposed on them.
- For sustainability of this initiative, it should be capital intensive.
- Transporting end products of agriculture to the market in the district is difficult
- There are no strong farmer associations in Nkawie district; hence there are problems with pricing of agricultural products.

6.0 Submission by the CFW

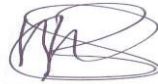
The CFW said farmers, community members, hunters, operators, machine owners and sometimes land owner and traditional authorities facilitate illegal CSM. According to him Kyekyewere community will be given urgent attention due to its closeness to the Tano Offin forest reserve. He added that the community is willing to offer any assistance that will make the EU chainsaw project successful, however they should be given prior notice of the team's visits.

7.0 Closing

The CFW on behalf of the project team thanked all participants for attending the meeting and a closing prayer was offered by Joseph Opoku (farmer). The meeting ended at 2:55 pm.



Signed: for
Evans M. Sampene (Recorder)



Signed
Mercy Owusu Ansah - for Chairman