



# **ECOWAS REGIONAL FOREST POLICIES AND PLANS FOR SUSTAINABLE WOODFUEL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION**

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# ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)



- **ECOWAS: 15 Member States**
- **Area: 5.2 million sq. km**
- **Population: 327 million hbts**
- **PIB: 725.978 billion US\$**
- **Forest Areas: 73.3 million ha**



# FOREST DIALOGUE AND OPPORTUNITIES OF ENHANCING THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC VALUES OF FOREST SECTOR IN WEST AFRICAN REGION

- ❑ **June 2010-Cotonou:** Meeting of the Sectorial Ministers in charge of Forestry and Wildlife: adopted the **Forest Dialogue Report in West Africa** and the **TORs** for the development of the West African Forest Convergence Plan (WA FCP);
- ❑ **September 2013-Abidjan:** Ministerial Meeting: adoption of the **West Africa Forest Convergence Plan**
- ❑ **September-2015:** Validation of the **5 Years 2016-2020 Specific Action Plans** of the 7 Priority Intervention Areas of WA FCP aligned with the ECOWAS Common Strategic Framework



## 7 PRIORITY INTERVENTION AREAS OF THE WEST AFRICAN FOREST CONVERGENCE PLAN

- **IAP1:** Harmonization of legislative and regulatory frameworks and forest policies
- **IAP2:** Knowledge on the state and dynamics of forest ecosystems
- **IAP3:** Development of forest ecosystems and reforestation
- **IAP4:** Conservation of Biodiversity
- **IAP5:** Enhancement of ecosystems goods and services for food security, economic stability and environmental sustainability
- **IAP6:** Forest research and development
- **IAP7:** Information, education and communication

# **IAP1: Specific Action Plan for the Harmonization of legislative and regulatory frameworks and forest policies**

- Consolidate and make coherent **the agreements and engagements** taken under **Forest policy implementation** with those featured in **ECOWEP**
- Set-up an **operational Monitoring and Evaluation process to monitor progress** in implementing **Agreements and commitments** upon which ECOWAS is engaged
- **Align the various stakeholders initiatives with national and sub regional policies and strategies by 2020**
- Organize **participatory preparatory meetings** prior to major **international Forestry Meetings and Conferences to reach common positions** and **ECOWAS** stand could be drafted and shared in member countries' statements at those conferences

## IAP1 : SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN-Continuous

- **Organize a technical meeting or workshop to identify areas needing urgent and priority action to elaborate common legislation and harmonisation of rules.**
- **Holding meetings** focused on areas needing **urgent harmonization of rules and legislations**
- Organize two yearly **periodic concertation meetings of the Thematic Groups Meetings** for the follow up of the Implementation of the specific actions plans of the Priority Areas of Intervention
- **Establish and strengthen the capacities of the FCP National Thematic Working Groups**
- **Formulate and validate an ECOWAS Forest Investment Plan at Regional level**

## IAP1 : SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN-End

- All Member States **formulate and validate their National Forest Investment Plan** with the Support of FAO and ECOWAS
- Support the **National Roundtable of the Technical and Financial Partners and Donors for resource mobilization** for the effective Implementation of the NFIP
- **Country self reporting** on their implementation process of the policy
- Organize a workshop on the best available good practices on forests and income sharing in the sub region to facilitate people access to equitable share between the State, decentralized Authorities and Local Communities

## **IAP2: Specific Action Plan for the Knowledge on the state and dynamics of forest ecosystems**

- **Assess the existing practices of the inventories of Member States and identify capacity building needs**
- **Develop and validate sub regional inventories methodologies and standards for all types of forests and dissemination of these regional guidelines**
- **Organize training sessions of the Forest Inventories Teams on the use of the regional guidelines inventories handbook**
- **Collect data through forest inventories in all ECOWAS and ensure the data processing and the dissemination of the results**
- **Delineate and map all the natural forests, the afforested areas and the agroforestry lands within a global land planning scheme in all Member States**
- **Create National and Regional Data Bases on the potential of natural forests and afforestation areas**



# IAP3: Specific Action Plan for Forest

## Ecosystems Management and Reforestation

- Develop and validate **regional standards and guidelines for the Sustainable Forest Management** by **ecological zone of the trans boundary shared forest resources** in West Africa
- Member States to **internalize the regional guidelines on Sustainable Forest Management** into their national legal frameworks
- Member States to **apply the regional guidelines on Sustainable Forest Management** at national level
- Organize a **Regional workshop on decentralized forest management and transfer of responsibilities** and full ownerships of local authorities for the sustainable community forest management



## **IAP3: Forest ecosystems Management and Reforestation (2016-2020)-continuous**

- **Strengthen the capacities of the Member States in developing and adopting their national REDD+ Strategies and National Mitigation Plans (2016-2017)**
- **MRV systems should be put in place by each country (2018)**
- **Countries to implement their actions identified in the framework of their REDD+ Strategies or National Adaptation Program**
- **Implement the National Action Plan and the Sub Regional Action Plan to combat Desertification and Forest degradation (2016-2020)**



## **IAP5: Enhancement of ecosystems goods and services for food security, economic stability and environmental sustainability**

- **Conduct a review and assessment of the economic and environmental values of forest sector and revaluing of Wood fuel sector in all ECOWAS Member States-NFIP (2016-2017) and its contribution to Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 (Value Chain Approach)**
- **Assess the potentials of the local timber producers in the processing of the Timber and Timber Products prior to the exports and consumption (2018)**
- **Support countries to reorganize the market value chains for the TTPs and the NTFPs processing and trade**
- **Mobilize resources to create entrepreneurial niches in local communities through Public Private Partnerships (2016-2020)**



# WAY FORWARD-2016

- **Recruitment of 15 National Consultants** for the Development of the **National Forest Investment Programme (1st Quarter 2016)**-call for synergies with national **ongoing and upcoming** initiatives in **Ecosystems Management and restoration** of degraded lands
- **Recruitment of a Senior Regional Consultant** for the development of the **Regional Forest Investment Programme (1st Quarter 2016)**
- Organizing the **Technical Validation of the Regional Forest Investment Programme (3rd Quarter 2016)**

# Challenges in implementing the Forest Policies and Action Plans (West African Forest Convergence Plan)

- **Lack of synergies, harmonization and coherence** between the regional policies and the Member States national laws, policies and regulations
- **Lack of sufficient regional budget allocation and alternative sources of funding**
- **Insufficient Human resources and expertise at regional level to support a proactive advocacy** for developing strong partnerships to bring all the relevant Stakeholders (Government, Private Sector, CSOs, Forestry Professional associations, Donors, etc.)



## 2.4 ACTIONS NATIONALES PROPOSEES PAR LES PAYS DANS LE CADRE DU PLAN DE CONVERGENCE FORESTIER (Fin)

- Le développement de la foresterie communautaire par la création de forêts communales
- L'inscription et la mobilisation par les collectivités et l'Etat des budgets
- **Elaboration et mise en œuvre des politiques et stratégies nationales de gestion participative des écosystèmes forestiers à statuts particuliers : forêts classées, zones humides, enclaves pastorales, aires protégées**
- **Promouvoir les aménagements forestiers participatifs** des ressources au niveau des frontières en vue de lutter efficacement contre l'exploitation illicite;



## 2.4 ACTIONS NATIONALES PROPOSEES PAR LES PAYS DANS LE CADRE DU PLAN DE CONVERGENCE

- **La poursuite des opérations d'aménagement participatif des forêts**, avec en sus la prise en compte des préoccupations connexes des populations riveraines (eau, santé, activités génératrices de revenus, place et rôles des femmes, etc.)
- **Les activités de plantations artificielles communautaires et privées**, avec des essences répondant aux besoins des acteurs et aux conditions écologiques ;
- **Le renforcement des capacités des producteurs de plants forestiers par la formation et leur accompagnement** , en particulier les groupements féminins soutenus dans les activités polyvalentes (pépinière, production, transformation et marché) ;



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## 2.4 ACTIONS NATIONALES PROPOSEES PAR LES PAYS DANS LE CADRE DU PLAN DE CONVERGENCE FORESTIER (suite)

- **Encourager la mise en place des forêts privées ;**
- **La nécessité d'encourager les collectivités à s'organiser en associations autour de la gestion /conservation des forêts**
- **Nationwide participatory forest management** through rapid expansion of Community Forest Management Concept (CFMC):
- **Setting up a dense network of local Government administrative agro forestry tree nurseries** managed by to serve as a basis for family or community nurseries;
- **The recruitment of guards/extension agents** designated and/or paid by the communities in the case of community plantings;



## **2.4 ACTIONS NATIONALES PROPOSEES PAR LES PAYS DANS LE CADRE DU PLAN DE CONVERGENCE FORESTIER (suite)**

- **la création des forêts communautaires et privées**
- **Impulser l'implication des collectivités locales et frontalières dans la gestion des écosystèmes transfrontaliers ;**
- **Assurer une entière responsabilité des collectivités territoriales et leurs communautés respectives à travers la diligence des modalités pratiques de transfert de compétences et le développement de véritables cadres de concertation en matière de gestion des ressources forestières et fauniques fortement focalisée sur les organes décentralisés.**



## 2.4 ACTIONS NATIONALES PROPOSEES PAR LES PAYS DANS LE CADRE DU PLAN DE CONVERGENCE FORESTIER (suite)

- **Community Forestry and Collaborative forestry** should be entrenched: Substantial proportion of responsibility for local resource governance should be placed on community-level institutions, with technical and financial assistance channeled through local government or NGOs, CBOs
- **Decentralization:** A general trend towards decentralization and greater recognition of indigenous and local people is not yet matched by a flow of resources to support efforts to achieve SFM at decentralized local levels.
- **Community involvement in off-reserve** areas would help to create public buy-in to the fate of the sector, and might also help induce changes in farmer behavior, encouraging them to retain trees in their fallows, in the knowledge that they and their communities would be the beneficiaries.
- **Develop secure resource tenure system:** especially for land and trees—that make it worthwhile to invest in SFM.

## **OTHER SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO ENHANCE SUSTAINABILITY AND EFFICIENCY OF WOODFUEL PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION**

- ❖ **Reviewing national and regional programs, policies and regulations** related to wood energy and **mainstreaming** them into development policies at national level
- ❖ **Developing tools in support of policy formulation and decision making process**, particularly in **resource assessment** and **supply demand analysis** and **planning**
- ❖ Addressing **sustainability of woodfuel production**, **effective use of wood wastes**, **efficiency** of charcoal making, **cleaner use of woodfuel** in household sector, and **productive use of woodfuel in industrial sectors**;
- ❖ **Enhancing and aligning capacities of related public administrations** to more **effective govern sustainable woodfuel management and use**, and **adapt more swiftly to emerging challenges**



**JE VOUS REMERCIE DE VOTRE  
ATTENTION**

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH  
INDEED**

**MUITO OBRIGADO**