Institutional Arrangement for SD in Rwanda

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meeting on SD mainstreaming in national development plans
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1. Background

• Rwanda - most densely populated in Sub- Saharan Africa (416p/Km2)

• Highly dependant on natural resources:
  – Agriculture accounts for more than 90%
  – More than 86.3% depend on fuel wood energy.
  – Characterized with unplanned settlement for the majority especially in urban areas.

• Topography: Soil & nutrients erosion is a constraint to agricultural growth and pollution
1. cont’

• Rwanda has made good progress in establishing and strengthening institutions;

• Some levels of integration of the three dimensions of SD (Economy, Social & Environment as cross-cutting issue) into Economic Development & Poverty Reduction Strategy (EDPRS) II and Vision 2020 that guide the country’s national development plans and policies;
S D in key planning documents

- Recently revised to include emerging issues such as climate change and align it with current achievements to adjust the targets.

- Localizing the Indicators and aligned with Vision 2020 and EDPRS.

- Medium term strategy for implementing the Vision 2020
  - Development of sector strategic plans in line with EDPRS planning, budgeting and implementation.

- National Strategy for Green Growth & Climate Resilience (NSGG&CR) was highly participatory and Green interventions have been considered in EDPRS II.
2. Current practices

- Prime Minister’s office - provides leadership and coordination;

- Parliament commission in charge of environment - facilitates and make follow-up on environmental related issues

- Ministry of Natural Resources (MINIRENA) in charge of policies and monitor the implementation
2 cont’

• The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning ensures that all key ministries/institutions participate in the preparation of national plans that include SD

• Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA) – in charge of all issues on environment & climate change

• Other key ministries (Infrastructures, energy, agriculture, industries,..) - considering the environmental issues in their plans and implementation
2 cont’

• At district - environmental officer as a permanent staff and environmental facilitator; ensuring the integration of env. CC issues in District Development Plans (DDP).

• Key development Ministries - Environmental facilitators attached to facilitate mainstreaming;

• A team led by PM’s office - Monitoring & evaluating District Performance contracts (DPC)
2. Cont’

• Trainings on environment and CC issues to different stakeholders (Private Sector, Other ministries and security organs…)

• Developing & implementing few integrated projects as pilots. (green villages, “ubudehe”, one caw per family programme,…)

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3. Achievements

• Increased awareness among Rwandans on environment & CC issues:
  – Environment and CC has been considered as cross cutting issues in all sector development plans.
3. Achievement cont’

• Establishment of (FONERWA) Fund for Env. & CC to support projects that addressing green economy;

• Awareness among the community to demand clean environment;

• High political will to support the initiative;

• Local government institutions have been supported to improve planning at local level; (Performance contract (PC) taking into considerations the environmental issues)
4. Challenges

- We need clear guidance and more coordination at planning and monitoring with clear measurable indicators.

- Insufficient capacity of our institutions to cope with the ambitious development plans.

- Low awareness especially PS.

- PS focusing on one aspect of development—economy with little attention to social and environment aspect.
4. Challenges cont’

Skills gap
- EDPRS implementations requires green technologies of which our education system seem not to address (Business as usual)

Emerging disaster cases
- Instead of implementing plans the country is using resources to respond to the disaster (floods and the like)

Insufficient policies and legal f/work
- Available polices and regulations need to be harmonized to support the green growth initiatives
5. Required support

For realization of the SD through mainstreaming we need to:

– Fill the gap of capacity especially skills gap by supporting to streamline our education system

(how to create the 200,000 of farm jobs for the youth, green city model and model mining interventions in EDPRS II)

– Private Sector to be sensitized to own SD concept as they are on driving seat in EDPRS 11 implementation
5 cont’

– Assess the available policies and legal framework across key sectors;

– Strengthen institutions’ capacity to improve on planning and ownership of Env. & CC issues;

– Designing and implementing green model projects to prove the good practice;
Thank you for your kind attention !!