REPORT

Expert Group Meeting
And
Workshop on Mainstreaming Environment into Development Processes
Practical Experiences and Tools from Sub-Saharan Africa

ACCRA
OCTOBER 3-6, 2005
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A. Background

1. There has been growing awareness that the environment in developing countries is under serious threat and that development needs to be managed taking into account environment. This has led to the creation of new approaches and tools to help decision-makers steer development in a sustainable manner to achieve growth and poverty reduction. In Africa in particular, where national economies are largely dependent on natural resources, there is the need to give greater emphasis to sustainable development in efforts to reduce poverty. This requires that environment is mainstreamed in the formulation and implementation of development, strategies, policies, plans and programmes.

2. At the same time, the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, in calling upon all States to develop and begin implementing national sustainable development strategies by 2005, stated that these could also be formulated as poverty reduction strategies that integrate economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development. In this context, mainstreaming environment into the social and economic components of Poverty Reduction Strategies provides a major vehicle for responding to the Summit’s Plan of Action.

3. A number of African countries such as Ghana and Tanzania, have worked on mainstreaming environment into their national development agendas including their Poverty Reduction Strategies and sectoral policies, and see these as the development of national strategies for sustainable development. A number of approaches and tools have been adopted in this process. In Ghana for instance Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) was used, and in Tanzania there was direct mainstreaming of environment into the new National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty.

4. Recognizing the need for sharing experiences, the Government of Ghana through the Environmental Protection Agency and the Government of Tanzania through the Vice President’s Office, hosted a regional workshop from October 3-6, 2005 at the Labadi Beach Hotel in Accra, Ghana.

5. The workshop was co-organized and co-sponsored by the Division for Sustainable Development with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Drylands Development Center, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Poverty Programme, and the UNDP Poverty Environment Initiative.

B. Main Workshop Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- Share experiences of mainstreaming environment into national development and planning processes, with a focus on poverty reduction strategies and their relation to national sustainable development strategies.

- Create awareness and share experience on the use of SEA and other tools (including integrated assessments, public expenditure reviews) for informing development decisions and their potential for environment mainstreaming.

- Establish a network for exchanging knowledge and information through the development of exchange programs on environmental mainstreaming and use of tools and approaches such as SEA, integrated assessment, environmental economic and fiscal instruments, PER and poverty-environment indicators.
• Explore how environment mainstreaming work fits into Africa’s Development Agenda and existing institutions (e.g. NEPAD, AU, AMCEN, ECOWAS, SADC and EAC).

C. Workshop Attendance

The workshop was attended by 85 participants from Environment, Finance and Planning ministries and authorities from 20 countries, 4 UN system organizations and 12 non-governmental organizations. The full list of participants is presented in Annex 1 of this report.

D. Workshop Proceedings

The workshop proceedings were principally chaired by Jonathan A. Allotey, Executive Director, Environment Protection Agency, Ghana, David Howlett, UNDP/Poverty Environment Adviser, Vice-President’s Office, Tanzania and Marcel Baglo, Director General of the Agence Béninoise de l’Environnement. The proceedings covered three main areas

- Opening Statements by policy makers and high ranking officials
- Technical Presentations and Discussions
- Group Exercises and Presentations

The agenda and summaries of individual presentations and discussions are presented in Annex 2 of this report.

E. Key Workshop Messages

1. Importance of Mainstreaming as Process

- Growing Awareness of the need for Sustainable Development
  There is a growing awareness that the environment in developing countries is under serious threat and that development efforts need to take environment into account if they are to be effective. This realization has led to renewed emphasis on approaches to ensure that all three pillars of sustainable development – environment as well as economic and social – are integrated. Since environment is often the missing pillar, particular efforts are needed to mainstream environment into the development process.

- Strong Political Will and Good Governance
  Mainstreaming is an integral part of the whole, iterative process of planning, implementation, monitoring, assessment and revision. Strong political will and good governance, supported by sufficient budgetary allocation, are essential in order for mainstreaming to be effective. Commitments from both Finance and Planning authorities are equally important to having the full engagement of environment authorities. For influencing budgets, mainstreaming activities should have concrete targets and indicators for monitoring.

- Congruence in Country Strategies, Policies and Plans
  For mainstreaming to be effective, there also needs to be congruence among a country’s strategies, policies and plans. This should therefore be considered as part of the mainstreaming process. Once the development plan has been integrated, sectoral strategies should be revisited to ensure their consistency, as was done in Cameroon, Ghana, Malawi and Uganda for their water, forest, mining and energy strategies.

- Environment and Economic Growth and Poverty Reduction
  The Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) is the main framework for development policies and medium term strategies for many countries in Africa, and it also constitutes the main negotiating document to obtain
technical and financial assistance. At the same time, some countries are moving from the first to second or third phase of PRS. During this transition, lessons learned from PRS-1, which in most cases includes lack or weaknesses of environmental considerations identified through SEA or other tools, are being reflected in the newer version of PRS. Complementary actions are being put into place at different institutional levels in this regard in a more participatory manner, to ensure closer links between sound environment and natural resources management on one hand and economic growth and poverty reduction on the other.

The PRS review processes also provide an opportunity for countries to revisit the integration of all three pillars of sustainable development and to more closely align their poverty reduction strategies with national sustainable development strategies.

In the case of Burkina Faso, where the central environmental concern is desertification, developing an integrative national plan of action to combat desertification resulted in its integration into the PRS. In formulating a plan or strategy against desertification, other related and critical issues such as land tenure reforms, drought vulnerability management for the poor, pre- and post-conflict migration, etc, were considered. A number of key activities for mainstreaming in this area by UNDP-DDC, for example, triggered food security.

As result of these learning by doing processes of mainstreaming regarding PRS in countries like Uganda or Tanzania, their poverty reduction strategies have become closer to sustainable development frameworks.

- **Participatory Approaches and Mainstreaming**
  Multi-stakeholder involvement in the decision making process is crucial to the development and implementation of a sound environmental plan from the point of view of mainstreaming. Communities and households think more complicated, depending on (property) rights etc and often take an integrated approach to issues. In order to ensure their involvement in implementation, stakeholders should be invited to participate throughout the entire process, including site selection and visits; data gathering; data analysis and synthesis; development of action plans; implementation and integration; and monitoring/evaluation. The full involvement allows the people at the community level to have the ownership and control of the process. Participatory approach also calls for harmonized agenda among parties concerned in many cases, in order for the mainstreaming to be effective. External resources should be used to help support community-identified prioritized needs.

The Participatory Tool Kit as applied in Kenya at the community level is based on the concept of ABC (Attitude and Behavior Change). UNDP’s Capacity 21 being succeeded by Capacity 2015 has developed a training manual for participatory process, which can be used as a tool kit for considering environment as one of the pillars of sustainable development.

2. **Institutional Arrangements**

- **Need for Champions**
  There is a need for a champion institution that takes the lead in mainstreaming and plays an advocacy role in the country. Such an institution needs to be backed by the political authority at a highest possible level, for example at the President’s or Prime Minister’s Office, as well as empowered by the necessary legislative mandate. Parliamentarians may need to be lobbied to be convinced of such a need. In the case of Tanzania, the mainstreaming function has been transferred from a unit in the Ministry of Land and Tourism to the Vice President’s Office, so as to ensure the necessary political commitment and better coordination is given more authoritative directives.
Developing Suitable Institutional Arrangements for Mainstreaming

Different institutional initiatives for mainstreaming have been tried within respective Governments, ranging from having “Environment Desks” in each of the line ministries to instituting cross-sectoral consultative committees. There is no arrangement that works for all countries; each country has to find what works best, building on existing institutional arrangements as much as possible.

The objective of cross-ministerial and cross-sector coordination for mainstreaming is to achieve a holistic and integrative approach. In this process it is also important to establish clear institutional links between institutions dealing with Poverty and Environment issues.

A mechanism for multi-stakeholders should be developed to ensure their participation in the decision-making process. Countries like Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Kenya, Mali and Senegal, among others, have National Councils or Committees on Sustainable Development which consist of different government and non-government stakeholders.

Different Levels of Mainstreaming

Mainstreaming efforts should be undertaken at different levels with clear linkages between them: national, regional and local/grassroots levels through top-down (decentralization of mainstreaming initiatives) as well as bottom-up approaches. The latter helps reflect the reality on the ground in the decision-making process. Local councils or village level committees who could act as catalysts in identifying problems and local needs for action, should be empowered to undertake the mainstreaming initiatives.

A public complaints committee on environment that exists in Kenya is an interesting example of community participation in environmental auditing with the input from legal experts and environmental specialists.

3 Key Tools for Integration

Variety of Tools and Approaches

In countries where Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) has been applied, such as in Benin, it was used as a way to promote sustainability in development programmes. Mali used SEA to decide how to integrate environment in a cross sectoral manner. In Ghana, SEA was applied to the PRS and currently being applied to specific sectors (water, mining, transport and energy). In doing so, various approaches and tools were used to broaden the stakeholder engagement, create awareness and build capacity.

Mainstreaming tools may also be applied in combination. Uganda has used SEA in combination with the Environment Impact Assessment (EIA); EIA was also used together with Environmental Auditing. In case of Ghana, the combination of SEA and other tools such as compatibility matrices and sustainability tests have helped improve plans and programmes at a decentralized level.

The shift from priority sector approach to strategic planning to priority outcome and results-oriented approach in Tanzania provided new and unique opportunities for environmental integration in strategy formulation to move further towards sustainable development. Tanzania is also emphasizing budget and macro-economic aspects of environmental mainstreaming. The tools used in this case include: the Public Expenditure Review (PER), the Poverty Monitoring System (PMS) and the Performance Assessment Framework. Uganda has used economic instruments for mainstreaming such as environment fund/endowment, market and tax incentives.

Economic Costing of Natural Resources and Assessment of Trade Offs
Economic costing of natural resources and assessing trade-offs among different alternatives are very important steps towards mainstreaming. In the aftermath of conflicts or natural disasters, environmental damage and repair costs also need to be calculated. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment applied in Southern Africa illustrated the gap that exists between scientific knowledge and decision making processes, which led to some capacity building activities.

- Integrating Educational Curricula and Environment
Communication and education – integrating environment into the overall formal curricula and in informal and non-formal education – are considered as important mainstreaming tools

4. Capacity Building Requirements

- Strengthening Human Resource capacities
There is a need to strengthen human resource capacities in all ministries across Government for a better understanding of environmental issues and better integration of these with economic and social issues, through specific awareness raising and on-the-job training. At the same time, the Environment authorities should have personnel who are economists and understand social issues.

- Need for Quality Data
Lack of quality data, capacity to collect them and unavailability of effective indicators for monitoring and assessment constitute persistent and serious problems for many countries. Capacity-building efforts in this regard should therefore be an integral part of institutional strengthening.

- Important Role of Development Partners, Regional Institutions and NGOs
Regional actors such as New Economic Programme for African Development (NEPAD), African Union (AU), Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS), Comité’ Permanent Inter-Etats de Lutte Contre La Sécheresse dans le Sahel (Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel) (CILSS), Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD), and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) active in the region, as well as UN agencies, can be, if not already, instrumental in promoting mainstreaming process. The potential role of the East African Association for Impact Assessment should be explored. UNDP and UNEP in particular have a role to play in contributing to capacity development activities for mainstreaming in relation to such programmes as Poverty-Environment Initiative.

F. Key Outcomes of the Workshop

A key outcome of the workshop was the development of an action plan that would facilitate the implementation of decisions made which focused principally on the following:

- Documenting the Mainstreaming Process
It was agreed that the mainstreaming processes undertaken by Ghana, Tanzania and Benin, as well as other participating countries should be documented to facilitate the sharing of experiences and lessons. A common format is to be developed by Ghana/EPA. This should include institutional arrangements, tools applied, economic valuation undertaken, capacity building efforts and other relevant elements. Based on the information collected a database should be developed to reflect best practices with comparisons of benefits and constraints between different models.
• Network
There is a need to establish an effective and working network of African countries for sharing of experiences and knowledge on mainstreaming of environment into development processes.

• Regional Workshops
Regional workshops should be held every two years, if possible to share experiences and to appraise progress. The Government of Mozambique has agreed to host the next workshop in 2007 with the support of the Wetland International based in Netherlands in cooperation with other organizations to be confirmed, such as UNDP, UNEP and UN-DESA.

• Bilateral Cooperation
Some countries have identified opportunities for bilateral cooperation in the area of mainstreaming through possible personnel exchange or secondment programmes. Preliminary interests were expressed for bilateral cooperation between Benin and Ghana; Cameroon and Ghana, Tanzania and/or Benin; Malawi and Tanzania; Benin with Zambia and/or Mali.

A detailed action plan for implementing the above key commitments and others is presented below.

**Action Plan**

The action plan is divided into two parts: general and common actions; and, specific actions for individual countries. Following the workshop EPA Ghana worked with the countries themselves as well as with the United Nations, UNDP and UNEP poverty-environment programmes to suggest specific actions to take forward.

**I. GENERAL AND COMMON ACTIONS**

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<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>When</th>
<th>Resources</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Case studies, proceedings, and documentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Report highlighting key messages, of the above-mentioned meeting and dissemination.</td>
<td>EPA Ghana with inputs from other co-organizers…</td>
<td>January 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Feed into key events/organisations e.g. CSD, COP CCD, Africa CSD (Nov 07) others?</td>
<td>Rep Ghana? CSD-14 Side Events/Learning Center UNEP/UNDP/ UNDESA ECA</td>
<td>CSD – May 06</td>
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<td>4. Case studies/research in other areas e.g. valuation, green accounting, environmental economic and fiscal instruments.</td>
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<td><strong>B. Exchange &amp; Training</strong></td>
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<td>Exchange programmes and secondments:</td>
<td>See details under countries.</td>
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<td>Catalytic visits by Ghana, Benin, Uganda and Tanzania to countries to participate in awareness raising events organised by host countries.</td>
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<td>Potential support from by UNEP and UNDP in partnership with host countries.</td>
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<th><strong>C. Study Visits</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Needs assessment &amp; training of trainers covering both anglophone &amp; francophone countries</td>
<td>Who?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training workshops – areas identified by countries include environmental accounting, poverty-environment indicators, sustainable development indicators (SDI), SEA</td>
<td>UNDESA (SDI)</td>
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<td>Summer schools – école d’été</td>
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<th><strong>Networks</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Formation of post-workshop network – identify focal points</td>
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<td>Virtual networking on internet – English/Français (internet) – set up listserver</td>
<td>This could be supported/hosted by UNDP&amp;UNEP and linked to UNDP/OECD DAC.</td>
<td>November 2006 Institution to host &amp; some $</td>
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<td>Databases &amp; portals</td>
<td>Countries to provide info required – EPA design a format.</td>
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<th><strong>Regional Workshops</strong></th>
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<td>Mechanism to monitor progress on mainstreaming</td>
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<td>Next regional workshop 2007 (every 2 years)</td>
<td>Mozambique expressed interest to organise/host. Support offered by Wetlands International (focal point: Ms. Kemi Awoyinka)</td>
<td>Every 2 years Potential support from UNEP&amp;UNDP PEP? and UNDESA</td>
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PART 2

Benin
(Focal point: Dr. Marcel Ayite Baglo, DG ABE)

a. Training of trainers in SEA
b. Study trip to Ghana on SEA and environment mainstreaming
c. Assessment of PRSP
d. Workshop on evaluating environmental costs
e. Organising sub-regional workshop on training or trainers on environmental mainstreaming in PRS in francophone countries.

Burkina Faso
(Focal point: to be confirmed)

a. Exchange of documents on strategies and assessments.
b. Training on SEA from Benin and/or Ghana.
c. Study visit to Benin and/or Ghana, focusing on institutional framework and on guidelines for rural communities.

Cameroon
(Focal point: Jean Celestin Tchouen, Ministry of Environment and Protection of Nature; email: tjelily@yahoo.com or tchouenjc@hotmail.com)

a. Exchange with Benin and Tanzania on mainstreaming environment in development processes (inc PRSP)

Ethiopia
(Focal point: to be confirmed)

a. Collaboration with other countries on developing guidelines on SEA.
b. Short term visits to countries which have experience on SEA (e.g. Ghana).
c. Strengthening of the East African Association for Impact Assessment to support development of SEA guidelines.
d. Short term course for building technical and managerial capacity of competent authorities to carry out SEAs on PPPs.

Ghana
(Focal point: Mr Jonathan Allotey, EPA)

a. Conduct Sector and District SEAs
b. Enhance SEA Capacity in Ghana
c. Support other African countries in SEA capacity building
d. Showcase SEA experience in Africa at international fora such as IAIA Conference etc.

Kenya
(Focal point: Ministry of Planning and National Development (att. Joseph Mukui); jmukui@treasury.co.ke, tel +254 (0)20 292447)
a. Exchange programme with Ghana and Tanzania on SEA application
b. Study visit to Tanzania to learn about MKUKUTA and learn about inter-ministerial committee (environment working group).- Feb-Mar 2006

**Malawi**  
*(Focal point: to be confirmed)*

- Exchange visit to Kenya to share experiences on Capacity 21.
- Study visit to Tz on SEA and environmental mainstreaming.
- Develop guidelines on SEA
- Capacity building in mainstreaming environment into PRSP
- Skills development/training on greener accounting

**Mali**  
*(Focal point: to be confirmed)*

- Exchange programme with Burkina Faso on experiences on sustainable development.
- Study visit to Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya on the development of poverty environment indicators.
- Work with Ghana on integrating environment into PRS.
- Work on GIS with Benin and Burkina Faso.

**Mozambique** :  
*(Focal point: to be confirmed)*

To be advised

**Niger**  
Focal point: Moussa Gousmane, SE/CNEDD, Tel: 00227 722559, Fax 735859, email

To be advised

**Rwanda**  
Focal point: Rose Mukankomeje, Rwanda Environment Management Authority, rema@minitere.gov.rw or rmukankomeje@yahoo.com, tel +250 06990002

- Exchange programme and study visits to Ghana, Benin and Tanzania.
- More to be advised

**Senegal**  
Focal point: Mrs Takia Fakk Corattio (DEEC/MEPN), email: takissatou@yahoo.fr

- Exchange programme and study visit with Benin on EIA
- Training and capacity building on EIA
- Training and capacity building on collection of data and analysis

**Tanzania**  
*Focal point: Blandina Cheche, Poverty Environment Officer, VPO email: ndina40@yahoo.com*

- Exchange to Ghana to take part in SEA as part of Capacity building to implement SEA.
- Study visit to Uganda on costing and evaluation.
- More to be advised
Uganda
(Focal point: to be confirmed)
a. Capacity building and information sharing in SEA from Ghana
b. More to be advised

Zambia
(Focal point: to be confirmed)
a. Sensitisation on Ghana and Tanzania experience and exchange programme with these countries.
b. More to be advised

G. Conclusion

It is evident from the above outputs and the work plan that the workshop was successful and achieved its set objectives outlined in section 5 of this report. This observation was confirmed by the various closing messages by the participants which are summarized below:

- The workshop has reinvigorated countries in the process of mainstreaming and urge countries to deepen the process and share their experiences with other countries.
- The need for continued support from the development partners to the mainstreaming process.
- The need to establish an effective and working network for sharing of experiences and knowledge on mainstreaming of environment into development processes.
- Sustained dedication and commitment is required to build on what has been achieved so far.
- The Action Plan developed during the workshop has to be adopted by participating countries and fully implemented.
- The workshop was well organized and it is the hope of all participants that lessons would be replicated and improved upon in future workshops. Participants expressed their gratitude to the organizers for the good work done.
- Regional organizations and initiatives such as NEPAD, AU, AMCEN, CILSS, IGAD among others, are encouraged to assist in promoting mainstreaming initiatives.
- Participants agreed that similar regional workshops should be held every two years to review progress on follow-up and to continue exchanging experiences in mainstreaming of environment into development processes.

The challenge is the ability and commitment to implement the agreed work plan. It is important that mechanisms are developed to track progress of various countries in mainstreaming.
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<th>NO.</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Baglo Marcel Ayite</td>
<td>Controlleur Financier/ABE</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Aidji Delphin</td>
<td>Directeur Adjoint Prosammation/MEHU</td>
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<td>Benin</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Allagnon Ignace</td>
<td>SP/CNDLP</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Domingo D. Guy</td>
<td>CF/ABE</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Ezin I. Casimir</td>
<td>CNDD</td>
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<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Michel J. Tankoano</td>
<td>SP/CONEDD</td>
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<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Bekolo Dorothy</td>
<td>Assistant Research Officer</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Tchouen Jean Celestin</td>
<td>Chief of Service</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Yonas Tekelemichael</td>
<td>Senior EIA Specialist</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Magnus Opare-Asomaoh</td>
<td>Dep. Minister, Ministry of Road Transport</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Regina O. Adutwum</td>
<td>Ag. D-G NDPC</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Rudolph S. Kuuzegh</td>
<td>Deputy Director, Ministry of Environment</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Samuel Anku</td>
<td>Director/EPA</td>
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<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Johnson Boanuh</td>
<td>Director/IEC – EPA</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>John Pwamang</td>
<td>Director/Chemical – EPA</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Rita Ohene Sarfoh</td>
<td>Manager Environmental Management Unit</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Eric A. Amoako</td>
<td>Environmental Officer- Dept of Urban Roads</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Tim Nankara</td>
<td>District Programme Officer</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Chris Kedze</td>
<td>Bank of Ghana</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Franklin Ashiadey</td>
<td>Economist</td>
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<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Ms.</td>
<td>Catherine Adu-Boadi</td>
<td>Dev. Planner</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Dr.</td>
<td>Lawson K. Alvorvor</td>
<td>S.V.O – Ministry of Food and Agriculture</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Francis D. Ohemeng</td>
<td>Agriculturist/ENV</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Adjei-Fosu Kwaku</td>
<td>Principal PLG Analyst/NDPC</td>
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<td>25</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>Lambert Abusah</td>
<td>Assistant Director-Ministry of Food &amp; Agriculture</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
<td>James K. Gabianu</td>
<td>Deputy Director</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
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<td>Mr.</td>
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<td>Prof</td>
<td>Francis K. Lelo</td>
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<td>Ms. Verity M. Nyagah</td>
<td>Team Leader - Drylands Centre</td>
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<td>UNDP-Zambia</td>
<td>Mr. Amos Muchanga</td>
<td>Programme Analyst</td>
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**UN ORGANISATIONS**

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**DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES**

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<td>Ms. Wilma Van Esch</td>
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<td>Ms. Coulibal Clarisse</td>
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**NGOs**

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<td>Mr. Jonathan Allotey</td>
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<td>Mr. Ebenezer Appah-Sampong</td>
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<td>82</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Ms. Christine Asare</td>
<td>Deputy Director/EPA</td>
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ANNEX 2 : WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Day 1

1. Official Opening
   a. Welcome Address by Executive Director, EPA-Ghana
   b. Statement by the Royal Netherlands Ambassador to Ghana
   c. Statement by UNDP Deputy Resident Representative
   d. Keynote Address delivered on behalf of the Minister for Environment and Science of Ghana
   e. Statement by the Representative of Tanzania

2. Technical Session – 1
   a. Environmental Mainstreaming Approaches and Challenges (J. A. Allotey - Ghana)
   b. Poverty Reduction and National Sustainable Development Strategies (Mary Pat Silveira UN-DESA)

3. Technical Session 2 – Presentations on National level Experiences in Mainstreaming

   Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy: Sustainability appraisal Operating at the Local, International levels. by Christine Asare, K. Badu-Yeboah and E. Appah-Sampong

   Greening PRSPs: Benin Experience-Marcel Baglo, Director General of the Agence Béninoise de l’Environnement

   Experience of Burkina Faso in the acknowledgement of the National action program on the fight against Desertification (PAN/LCD) in the strategic framework in the fight against poverty (SFFP) - Michel Tankoano, Ministère de l’Environnement et du Cadre de Vie, Secrétariat Permanent du Conseil National pour l’Environnement et le Développement

   Participatory Tool Kit for Mainstreaming Environment into Development Processes - Professor Francis K. Lelo, Egerton University, Kenya,

Day 2

4. Technical Session 3 - Tools for Integration, Monitoring and Assessment

   Mainstreaming Environment into the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (The MKUKUTA) - Blandina Cheche, Poverty Environment Officer, Poverty Eradication Office, Tanzania

   Strategic Environment Assessment, Poverty Reduction and Growth in Tanzania: Challenges and Opportunities - Mr Emil Kayega, VPO Tanzania

   Mainstreaming Environmental concerns into the PRSPS: Uganda Experience - Mr Ronald Kaggwa, NEMA Uganda

   EIA as a tool to integrate Environmental Issues in Poverty Reduction in Mali - Mr Bakary Touré
SEA as a Tool for Sustainable Development at the District level - Timothy Nankara (Wassa West District Assembly, Ghana)

Experiences in Southern Africa with Integrated Ecosystem Assessment (MA Methodology)- Erin Bohensky (SAfMA, University of Pretoria, South Africa),

Discussions

The contribution of SEA to Ghana’s National Development Planning Process.- Adjei-Fosu Kwaku, National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Ghana

The application of SEA to Ghana’s National Water Policy Development - Aboagye Mintah, Director for Water, Ministry of Works and Housing, Ghana,

Environment and macro-processes: The 3 Ps= PER, PAF and PMS - David Howlett, Poverty Environment Adviser, Vice President’s Office, Tanzania

Mainstreaming Environment into District Planning Processes, Anna Maembe (NEMC) Tanzania

Discussions

Document de reduction de la pauvreté:Bilan et perspectives, - Ignace Allagnon, Commission nationale pour le développement et la lutte contre la pauvreté, Benin,

Technical Session : Regional Perspectives


Mainstreaming drylands/desertification issues into development frameworks - Verity M. Nyagah

Discussions

DAY 3
5. Technical Session : Working Group Exercise and Presentations

The Way Forward

Closing
ANNEX 3: WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS

Day 1: Opening Session

The Chief Director of the Ministry of Environment and Science, Mr E. Nsenkyire who represented the Minister for Environment and Science, chaired the opening session. There were addresses/statements from Mr J. A. Allotey, Executive Director, Environmental Protection Agency-Ghana, HE Arie Van Der Wiel, Ambassador of the Netherlands in Ghana; Dr Stephen Duah-Yentumi, UN Assistant Resident Representative in Ghana, Mrs. Mary Pat Silveira, UN-DESA, Mr Magnus Opare Asamoah, Deputy Minister for Roads and Transport of the Government of Ghana; The key note address was delivered by Mr E. Nsenkyire on behalf of the Honorable Minister of the Environment and Science, Ms Christine Churcher. Summaries of opening statements are summarized below (see Annex 4 for full text)

Welcome Address by Mr. J. A. Allotey, Executive Director, EPA, Ghana,
Mr. J. A. Allotey, Executive Director, Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana, welcomed the participants and emphasized the need to come together to share experiences, identify lessons, best practices and tools for environmental mainstreaming. He highlighted the increasing concern over the environment, as well as the growing appreciation of complex interrelated nature of environmental issues giving way to a proactive cross-cutting approach where environmental considerations are integrated into policies.

Statement by the Ambassador of the Royal Netherlands in Ghana
Mr. Arie Van Der Wiel, Ambassador of the Netherlands in Ghana stated that in line with the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Netherlands attached importance to the integration of environmental issues in PRSPs. He further emphasized that an ultimate aim of improving public policy management is to achieve sustainable development, which is in line with Millennium Development Goal 7 i.e. mainstreaming of sustainable development principles into national policies and programmes. The strategy is to ensure that sustainable development principles are institutionalized and mainstreamed by subjecting the public policy formulation process to Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Statement by UNDP Assistant Resident Representative in Ghana
Mr. Stephen Duah-Yentumi, UNDP Assistant Resident Representative in Ghana stressed the importance that all strategies and plans include the environmental dimension and that partner agencies put environment at the center of their activities. He referred to Agenda 21 and the call for all countries to implement NSDSs and to transmit the Rio Summit into concrete actions. He welcomed the support given by UN-DESA, UNEP and the UN Development Centre to explore how environmental mainstreaming fits into the African Agenda and NEPAD.

Statement by Deputy Minister for Roads and Transport of the Government of Ghana
Mr. Magnus Opare-Asamoah, Deputy Minister for Roads and Transport of the Government of Ghana, highlighted the need to come up with best practices that involved sustainable development and the need to have a sustainable environment to be able to survive. He expected that the Meeting would produce a declaration that would promote best environmental practices to protect the earth.

Keynote Address
Mrs. Christine Churcher, the Honorable Minister of the Environment and Science of Ghana, in her statement read by Mr. E. Nsenkyire, Chief Director, Ministry of Environment and Science, Ghana stressed the importance of Ghana’s Poverty Reduction Strategy (GPRS) as the main development agenda for the country. The Environmental dimension, through the Strategic Environmental Assessment, was addressed in the GPRSII to assess the environmental risks and opportunities presented by the
implementation of the policies of ministries, department, agencies and other stakeholders; and, to identify appropriate mechanisms to ensure that sound environmental management contributes to sustainable economic growth and lasting poverty reduction in Ghana. He reiterated that environmental mainstreaming will ensure sound environmental management practices, which will contribute to sustainable growth and lasting poverty reduction in line with goal seven of the Millennium Development Goals.

Statement by Mrs. Mary Pat Silveira, UN-DESA (Strategies for Sustainable Development: What’s in a Name?)

Mrs. Mary Pat Silveira, UN-DESA, New York, noted the importance of integrating the three pillars of Sustainable Development: economic, social and environmental into the development process – and of bringing poverty reduction strategies closer to national sustainable development strategies. She emphasized the importance of sustainable development, sustained economic growth and poverty eradication as one comprehensive goal and pointed out the common thread and principles underlying PRSs and NSDSs. In this regard, PRSs provide a good basis for developing an NSDS as they already share the same principles in their conception and implementation. To ensure implementation, strategies should include a coordinated set of practical measures, designate clearly both institutional and financial means, and adopt monitoring and assessment tools. The purpose of integrating environment should always be asked, and the answer should be to promote development in a comprehensive and integrated manner in order to achieve sustained growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, as the World Summit has charged.

SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS AND ISSUES DISCUSSED

Day 1: Technical Session

Presentation 1: Environmental Mainstreaming Approaches and Challenges

The presentation was made by Mr J. A. Allotey, Executive Director, and Environmental Protection Agency, Ghana on the need to come together to share experiences, identify lessons, best practices and tools for environmental mainstreaming. He also highlighted the increasing concern over the environment, as well as the growing appreciation of complex interrelated nature of environmental issues is giving way to a proactive cross-cutting approach where environmental considerations are integrated into policies. Five main approaches for mainstreaming were presented as follows:

- Environmental Desks
- Comprehensive Strategy
- Sector Strategies
- Consultative Committee
- Comprehensive Development Planning

Different dimensions for effective environmental mainstreaming include political leadership, institutional commitment, co-ordination, communication and reporting guidance and training, awareness raising, targets, objectives and indicators, appraisal/assessment, instruments, national and local sustainability, allocation of spending, monitoring and auditing, transparency, access and participation

Key Issues Raised and Discussed
• Definition of environmental mainstreaming and how similar it may be to sustainable development strategies

• The importance of definitions regarding the concept of «mainstreaming» as well as «environment» and its various perceptions depending on biogeographic contexts, and its corresponding priorities.

• Different approaches exist for mainstreaming. These include: Environmental Desks, Comprehensive or Sectoral Strategies, Consultative Committee and Comprehensive Development planning

• There are different dimensions and ingredients for effective environmental mainstreaming such as: political leadership, institutional commitment, co-ordination, communication and reporting, guidance and training, awareness rising, targets, objectives and indicators, appraisal/assessment, instruments, national and local sustainability, allocation of spending, monitoring and auditing.

• The need for political commitment and the necessity to target resources

• The conflict resulting from the environmental dimensions contained in different national strategies that cannot be integrated when it comes to implementation

• The need to build capacity among stakeholders for a better understanding of environmental issues across board

• The role of the UN, UNEP, UNDP and other development partners in contributing to capacity development activities.

• The importance of having the tools that facilitate effective implementation of mainstreaming approaches

• The difficulty of convincing reluctant institutions to mainstream environment into their activities

• Continuous improvement of mainstreaming strategies with best practices

**Day 1: Technical Session No 2**
The technical session involved the presentation of country experiences from Ghana, Burkina Faso, Benin and Kenya. These are summarized below

*Presentation 3: Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy: Sustainability Appraisal Operating at the Local, International levels* by Christine Asare, K. Badu-Yeboah and E. Appah-Sampong

The presentation covered the design, process, tools and implementation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Ghana Poverty Reduction Strategy. The linkages between poverty and environment in areas such as livelihoods, vulnerability, health and institutional support for the poor were highlighted. Among the goals of the SEA process mentioned was mainstreaming environment into the GPRS and refining policies, plans and programmes so as to make their impacts more sustainable. The
SEA resulted in substantial refinement of the various initiatives of the GPRS. The updated GPRS has mainstreamed environment as a result of the study.

Presentation 4: Greening PRSPs: Benin experience

Marcel Baglo, Director General of the Agence Béninoise de l’Environnement, highlighted the non-monetary dimensions of poverty such as lack of opportunity, lack of capacity, health, education and of security. He stressed the use of SEA as a way to promote sustainability in development programmes. He pointed out the weaknesses encountered in the PRS 1 and identified through the SEA were corrected in the second version of the PRS. Complementary actions were put in place at different institutional levels.

Presentation 5: Experience of Burkina Faso in the acknowledgement of the National action program on the fight against Desertification (PAN/LCD) in the strategic framework in the fight against poverty (SFFP)

Michel Tankoano, Ministère de l’Environnement et du Cadre de Vie, Secrétariat Permanent du Conseil National pour l’Environnement et le Développement, focused on desertification as the central environmental concern in Burkina Faso. He further emphasised the difficulties in developing a National Plan of Action to be embraced by ministries and donors. A Road Map approach to desertification strategy led to its integration into the PRS.

Presentation 6: Participatory Tool Kit for Mainstreaming Environment into Development Processes

Professor Francis K. Lelo, Egerton University, Kenya, underscored the importance of local knowledge, leadership, community institutions and external resources as foundations for participatory planning. He described the relevance and integration of such processes at the community level as opposed to their fragmentation at the institutional and academic level, and made reference to the Participatory Tool Kit for Mainstreaming Environment into Development Processes, which was developed in this regard.

Technical Session No 2 Key Issues Discussed

- The question of indicators was raised and covered both the process to choose them and the indicators themselves. This could not be disconnected from the quality of data available and the ability to collect new data in general. Regarding data collection it was pointed out that it was often done in close contact with the population and this translates into organizing the information together with the community.

- It was acknowledged that in some instances certain culturally traditional use of resources were detrimental to the environment and could be addressed through environmental education, which should not deal only with formal education.

- Gender issue was a concept not well understood, by men in particular regarding the distribution of chores. It was further stated that people get motivated to participate in development processes only when they see their own interest in it.

- The role of modern science was emphasised as long as it is applied and useful science for the development process.

- Reference was made to the role of NGOs, which have often weakened the administration and also benefited from development subsidies in place of the local communities.
Technical Session No 3

Presentation 7: Mainstreaming Environment into the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (The MKUKUTA)

Blandina Cheche, Poverty Environment Officer, Poverty Eradication Office, Tanzania presented the new National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty of Tanzania, known nationally as MKUKUTA. She focused on the move from priority sector approach to priority outcome and results approach. This provides new opportunities for environmental management and a unique move to sustainable development further in Tanzania.

Presentation 8 Strategic Environment Assessment, Poverty Reduction and Growth in Tanzania: Challenges and Opportunities

Mr Emil Kayega, VPO Tanzania, presented the history of environmental management and its institutional framework in Tanzania. Based on practical experiences, a number of proposed measures that followed the SEA were outlined. He pointed out some challenges such as methodological issues, regulations and guidelines, how to take up SEA recommendations, improving awareness of SEA and potential and finally capacity building for both EIA and SEA.

Presentation 9 Mainstreaming Environmental concerns into the PRSPS: Uganda experience

Mr Ronald Kaggwa, NEMA Uganda presented an overview of Uganda’s Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP) also considered as Uganda’s PRSP. He pointed out the evolution of PRSPs since 1997, with a 3rd version being currently revised in a participatory and iterative manner, including the links between sound environment and natural resources as crucial to growth and poverty eradication.

Presentation 10 EIA as a tool to integrate Environmental Issues in Poverty Reduction in Mali

Mr Bakary Touré explained that the first version of the Mali PRS did not integrate environment and that Environmental Assessment was used to decide how to integrate it in a cross sectoral manner. It was also stressed the need to strengthen both human and material capacity. The PRS remains the main framework for policies and medium term strategies; it also constitutes the main negotiating document to obtain technical and financial assistance.

Presentation 11 SEA as a Tool for Sustainable Development at theDistrict Level

Mr. Timothy Nankara (Wassa West district Assembly, Ghana) presented the Wassa West District Assembly’s mission and objectives at a decentralized level. He pointed out the inertest of some tools developed in Ghana and applied in the district such as compatibility matrices and sustainability tests. The combination of SEA and these particular tools have helped improve plans and programmes.

Presentation 12 Experiences in Southern Africa with integrated ecosystem assessment (MA Methodology)

Ms. Erin Bohensky (SAfMA, University of Pretoria, South Africa), using the case of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, illustrated the gap that exists between scientific knowledge and decision making processes. She linked the attainment of MDGs and the necessary maintenance and improvement of
Ecosystem services in Southern Africa and concluded on the development capacity activities developed as a follow up of the Millennium Assessment process.

The debate evolved around the capacity of the institutions in charge of the environment, in some countries, to lobby parliamentarians to obtain environmental legislation. Having sound legislation appears not to be enough, as the main issue is often lack of implementation. The issue was raised on how to get grassroots initiatives taken care of and how to get the decentralised structures like local councils engaged in the process. Apart from the difficulties inherent in cross-sectoral and transversal approaches, it was also stressed that there were some specific sectoral challenges to be faced.

Presentation 13 The Contribution of SEA to Ghana’s National Development Planning Process

Mr Adjei-Fosu Kwaku from the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Ghana, presented the status and the mission of the NDPC in the planning process. He highlighted how SEA was used to review the GPRS 1 and help moving it to a more comprehensive and integrated GPRS II through the use of compatibility matrices, compound matrices and sustainability tests.

Presentation 14 The application of SEA to Ghana’s National Water Policy Development

Mr Aboagye Mintah, Director for Water, Ministry of Works and Housing, Ghana, explored the application of SEA to the more specific water sector. He explained the various approaches and tools used to broaden the stakeholder engagement create awareness and build capacity in the use of SEA.

Presentation 15 Environment and Macro-Processes: The 3 Ps= PER, PAF and PMS

Mr David Howlett, Poverty Environment Adviser, Vice President’s Office, Tanzania focused on budget and macro-economic aspects of environmental mainstreaming in Tanzania. He presented the Public Expenditure Review (PER), the Poverty Monitoring System (PMS) and the Performance Assessment Framework as key elements in the macro-economic processes. He raised the importance of the different forms of budget support. He also stressed the lack of indicators linking clearly environment and poverty.

Presentation 16 Mainstreaming Environment into District Planning Processes

Mrs Anna Maembe (NEMC) Tanzania highlighted the key policies and legislation, the Environmental Management Act (2004), the causes for environmental degradation, and the regional and local structures and their responsibilities.

The discussions initially focused on budget issues and for Tanzania it was mentioned that donors contribute directly to the treasury and also that the contributions to civil society and NGOs have decreased and they now have to compete for funds within the country. The costing of PRS was addressed and the question was raised whether there is an agreed framework with the international partners. Another debate touched upon the sustainability of non-renewable resources exploitation such as mining.

Presentation 17: Document de reduction de la pauvreté:Bilan et perspectives

Mr Ignace Allagnon, Commission Nationale pour le Développement et la lutte contre la pauvreté, Benin, introduced the initial strategy for poverty reduction (2003-2005) which is under revision. He presented the four main axis of the strategy: strengthen the macro-economic framework, develop human capital and environmental management, strengthen governance and institutional capacities, sustainable employment and empowerment of the poor.

**Presentation 19 Mainstreaming drylands/desertification issues into development frameworks**

Mrs Verity M. Nyagah presented the broad framework programme that was developed around three pillars: mainstreaming dry land issues, improving local capacity for natural resources management and reducing vulnerability. She pointed out some country cases and the lessons learned from these initiatives: the importance of capacity building, linking PRSP to district plans, leadership and political will, bottom up approach and partnership. She focused on some critical issues such as land tenure reforms, drought vulnerability management and making market work for the poor. She also pointed out a number of key activities for mainstreaming drought triggered food security.

**Key Issues Discussed**

- Sustainable development and the need for sustained growth
- Building coalitions and partnerships for mainstreaming
- Need for detailed environmental data and analysis to convince policy makers on the need to make environment a cross-cutting issue
- Cross-border information sharing is necessary for mainstreaming
- Poor implementation despite the existence of good laws and well formulated policies
- Mainstreaming should take account of decentralization and grassroots issues. It should not be confined to the top.
- Application of simple tools particularly at the district level can facilitate effective mainstreaming
- Strategies for lobbying parliamentarians and local councillors to support mainstreaming are required.
- Specific sectoral challenges such as in mining must be taken into consideration in mainstreaming. For example mining activities have a short life and create environmental degradation.
- Mainstreaming and its effects on existing financing arrangement for environmental protection should be considered.
- Mainstreaming requires capacity building at the grassroots level and therefore there is the need for sustainable financing schemes to be developed.
- The possibility of using existing working structures must be explored instead of creating new institutions. The case of the District Natural Resource Officers in Tanzania and the District Planning and Coordinating Units in Ghana provide useful examples.
Identification of relevant indicators and monitoring mechanisms vis a vis the generation of quality data is key to mainstreaming. The expertise required to monitor the relationship between poverty and environment is also required.

It is important to undertake studies to place value on environmental degradation and its relationship to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in order convince decision and policy makers to mainstream and also allocate more resources for environmental management.

Clear definition of budgetary allocation to environment is required. This needs to capture all the expenditure on environmental management activities in all sectors instead of the allocation to the Environment Ministry.

The adoption of effective participatory processes in mainstreaming has the potential to win over key policy and decision makers. The case of Ghana demonstrates this potential. There is the need to broaden stakeholder participation at all levels. Care and preservation of local knowledge is key in environmental mainstreaming.

Conflict resolution and management with respect to natural resources is key to environmental mainstreaming. There is the need to develop and work with existing (traditional) institutions in this regard.

In the context of globalisation, the market could offer some help to the poor if they have better information. However the same market could also be harmful to the poor.

The transition from one PRS to the next must be preceded by an evaluation of its effectiveness in reducing poverty and such results used to improve the process.

The importance of exploring the links between land reform and PRS, was underscored as well as the impacts of migrations on the land and food security especially in conflict and post conflict periods.

The importance to improve and disseminate the analytical understanding of linkages between poverty, sustainable development, sustainable growth and environment.

Multi-stakeholders participation and the development of harmonized agendas were crucial to effectively mainstream environment.

The sharing of documents and material was highlighted as of major importance and it was suggested that effective mainstreaming guidelines could be developed and used in capacity building activities.

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**DAY 3**

Working Group Exercise

The purpose of the working exercise was threefold namely:

- To share more experiences on environment mainstreaming and tools.
- To identify good practice and messages for policy makers.
To identify actions needed to be taken (by Government, Civil Society Organisations, Donors etc.) to move the process forward.

To achieve the above objectives the groups focused on:

- **Process:**
  - What are the best practices and ingredients for success in environmental mainstreaming into national strategies and plans

- **Tools:**
  - What are the best tools for mainstreaming at national and local levels?

- **Institutions/Capacity building:**
  - What institutional and capacity building measures are needed for environmental mainstreaming?

The following guidelines were issued to the working groups:

**Guiding Issues and Questions on Process**

- Sustainable development - has mainstreaming environment resulted in existing strategies becoming more sustainable strategies? What impact on the ground?
- Participation/ownership - how can stakeholders participatory process be instituted and be effective?
- Roles and partnerships – what are the roles of different actors (Government, Civil Society Organisations, Donors private sector).
- Analysis and Data: - what data/information has been used to make case for environment? What more is needed?
- Proliferation of strategies – how to work towards convergence or to ensure consistency among them?

**Guiding Issues and Questions on Tools**

- Tools – What tools have been used?
- Application – Where (geographic, level of government, sector) have these tools been used?
- Results – What concrete results and benefits from the use of tools? What factors contributed to effective and positive results?
- Combination - In what combination have the tools been used with what results, and what are the links between them, if any?
- Constraints – What are the constraints to using tools? How should these be tackled?

**Guiding Issues and Questions on Institutions and Capacity Building**

- Institutions - What institutional mechanisms work for environment mainstreaming? What existing institutions can be used?
- Needs - What are the key capacity building needs?
- Best practice - Which are the characteristics of successful capacity building efforts? Give examples of best practice.
- Regional - What regional/continental institutions can support environment mainstreaming? Who are the main actors?
- Networking - What types of networking, cooperation and joint activities that can be formulated to promote continuous sharing of experiences in SSA?
Types of Actions on Way Forward

- Electronic networks
- Common analytical studies and research
- Case studies
- Common training
- Study visits
- Exchange programmes
- Technical assistance between countries
- Technical assistance from development partners.

Group Composition

- Four (4) groups were formed to deal with the above issues. Three of the groups were mainly made up of Anglophone countries, whilst the fourth group was mainly constituted from Francophone countries representatives.

Group Work Output
The groups presented their reports to the plenary.