



Forest Law Enforcement, Governance
and Trade Support Programme for African,
Caribbean and Pacific Countries



Regional knowledge sharing initiative on improved governance and influencing policy for community forestry and sustainable forest-based livelihoods

30th October and 6th November 2012
Webinar Reports

1. Introduction

The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) was contracted by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), in support of the “**Regional knowledge sharing initiative on improved governance and influencing policy for community forestry and sustainable forest-based livelihoods**”.

The objective of this project is to influence policy and practice and facilitate knowledge sharing on community forestry and sustainable forest-based livelihoods to enhance governance in the Caribbean region by drawing lessons from past projects and condensing key messages in user friendly "Guidelines for Participatory Forest Management and Participatory Governance" combined with other information products.

2. Participants

CANARI selected a pool of forest managers from the region to participate in the lessons learning process and invited them to two virtual meetings which were held on 30 October and 6 November, 2012.

Participants selected are all forest managers trained in facilitation under the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization under its Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Support Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP-FLEGT Programme) and the project entitled “Building capacity for participatory forest management for good governance in the Caribbean region”. Participant list is in Appendix 1.

3. Objective

The objectives of the first two webinars were to:

- review the outline of the project with participants;
- draft and agree on schedule for project with participants;
- review key concepts on communication; and
- review the lesson learned documents on Community Forestry and discuss and agree on an approach for selection of priority messages

4. Method

The virtual meetings were held using the GoToMeeting platform that allows for up to 25 participants to attend a webinar. Once a meeting has been set up by the meeting host, attendees can log on using an Internet or telephone connection. The screen sharing option, used by the meeting host, allows participants to see slide presentations or any other supporting documents during discussions. Agenda of the meeting is provided in Appendix 2. Slide presentations are attached as Appendix 3.

5. Findings

Following the review of the project outline and a review of basic concepts on communication, participants discussed some of the messages they thought should be communicated to policy makers.

Participants agreed they would carefully review the Summary document on Forests and Livelihoods Lessons and Messages in the Caribbean, to identify and select the 3 key messages they believe should be communicated to influence policy and practice.

Participants also agreed on the following:

- to send back to CANARI, within a week, 3 of the key messages they think should be highlighted in priority, and the reasons why they wish to communicate these.
- to suggest specific communication messages and pathways for each one of the messages they would have selected, and the reasons for choosing the selected pathways.

In accordance with the project timeline, it was decided that the third and last virtual meeting will be held on 16 November 2012.

6. Evaluation

The first attempt to host the meeting using the platform was riddled with technical problems and we believed this was due to the presence of hurricane Sandy in the region. On the second attempt the platform worked much better, but participants still experienced technical difficulties. On both occasions two participants sent emails indicating that they were unable to log in to the meeting and one participant reported that the programme crashed during the meeting.

In spite of these challenges, participants have continued to indicate interest in participating in the project and have conveyed messages on each occasion reporting problems or conveying apologies for absence. Participants have also suggested that email reminders be sent one day in advance of the meeting.

Participants have also validated the relevance of the project and are eager to contribute to the development of the products.

7. Conclusion

The electronic platform used for hosting the meeting provides an opportunity for CANARI and participants to build their capacity in the use of information and communication technologies to facilitate the sharing of lessons learned and experiences in community forestry in the Caribbean region.

Appendix 1- Participant list

#	First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Organisation	Address 1	State/ Province	Country	Tel (W)	Tel (M)	Fax	Email 1
1	Marlon	Beale		Jamaica Conservation Development Trust	29 Dumbarton Avenue	Kingston 10	Jamaica	(876) 960 2848/9		(876) 960 2850	jamaicaconservation@gmail.com/b eale_4@yahoo.com
2	Kathleen	Belcon	Assistant Conservator Forest	Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Marine Resources	Farm Road	St. Joseph	Trinidad and Tobago	(868) 645 1203	(868) 460 0023	(868) 645 1203	kathleen.belcon@hotmail.com
3	Anges Mary Ann	Esprit	National Coordinator	UNDP GEF SGP			Dominica	(767) 440-4345		(767)440 4349	agnese@unops.org
4	Donatian	Gustave	Forest Officer	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries		Castries	St. Lucia	(758) 468 5635	(758) 284 2765		choulu79@gmail.com
5	Indi	McLaymont-Lafayette		Panos Caribbean	# 9 Westminster Road		Jamaica		(876) 852 8763		indi@panoscaribbean.org
6	Allison	Rangolan-McFarlene	Executive Officer	Forest Conservation Fund	Suite 203, 85 Hope road	Kingston 6	Jamaica	(876) 978 2927		(876) 978 9080	a.mcfarlane@infochan.com
7	Zakiya	Wadada	Executive Director	Emancipation Support Committee	5b Berrgerac Road, Maraval	Port of Spain	Trinidad and Tobago	(868) 628 5008	(868) 340 2662	(868) 645 5936	zakiyau@gmail.com
8	Loïza	Rauzduel	Technical Officer	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)	Building No. 7, Unit 08, Fernandez	Laventille	Trinidad and Tobago	(868)626 6062		(868) 626 1788	loiza@canari.org

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					Industrial Centre, Eastern Main Road						
9	Neila	Bobb- Prescott	Senior Technical Officer	Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI)	Building No. 7, Unit 08, Fernandez Industrial Centre, Eastern Main Road	Laventille	Trinidad and Tobago	(868)6266062		(868) 626 1788	neila@canari.org
UNABLE TO CONNECT											
10	Noel	Bennett	Rural Sociologist	Forestry Department, Ministry of Agriculture,	173 Constant Spring Road	Kingston 8	Jamaica	(876) 905 1270 (876) 924 2667-8	(876) 381 8012	(876) 931 2856	nbennett@forestry.gov.jm
11	Sandra	Ferguson		Agency for Rual Transformation (ART)	Marrast Hill, P.O. Box 750	St. George's	Grenada	(473) 440 3440	(473) 405 0797	(473) 440 9882	iagdo01@gmail.com
APOLOGIES											
12	Yoland	London	Senior Advisor	Caribbean Youth Environment Network Ministry of National Mobilization Community	Stubbs Post Office, Carpan		St. Vincent	(784) 450 0501	(784) 530 0627		vincygirl_22@hotmail.com

13	Betty	Perry-Fingal	Independent Consultant		Goodwill Upper St. Aroment/ PO Box 1915	Roseau	Dominica	(767) 449 0859		767 448 8100	bfingal@cwdom.dm
14	William	Trim	Head of Watershed Unit	Botanic Station c/o (DNRE) Department of Natural Resources and the Environment Office	Highmoore	Scarborough	Trinidad and Tobago	(868) 660-2079/ 660 -7636	868 735 4351	868 639 5232	trim20031@yahoo.co.uk/trim20031@gmail.com
15	Raynaldo	Phillips	Forester 1-Community Forestry Unit	Ministry of Agriculture Lands and Marine Resources	National Parks Building	Farm Road, St. Joseph	Trinidad and Tobago	868 662 2354	868 374 5869		raynaldo.phillips@gmail.com



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"Regional knowledge sharing initiative on improved governance and influencing policy for community forestry and sustainable forest-based livelihoods

Webinar I and II
Tuesday 30th October, 2012
and Tuesday 6th November, 2012

OBJECTIVES

The **webinar objectives** are to:

- Review the outline of the project with participants;
- Draft and agree on schedule for project with participants;
- Review key concepts on communication; and
- Review the lesson learned documents on Community Forestry and discuss and agree on an approach for selection of priority messages

AGENDA

Time	Topic	Lead Facilitator
9:45 - 10:00	Registration and log on	Loïza Rauzudel
10:00 – 10:30	Welcome and introductions. Objectives and overview of meeting Ground Rules Overview of the project Drafting of schedule	Neila Bobb- Prescott


10:30-11:00	Review of key concepts on communication	Loīza Rauzudel
11:00- 11:15	Lessons learned on Community Forestry in the region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief intro to the summary document • Selection of priority messages 	Neila Bobb-Prescott
11:15 – 11:30	Next steps Evaluation Wrap up and close.	Neila Bobb-Prescott

Appendix 3: Presentations



Regional knowledge sharing initiative on improved governance and influencing policy for community forestry and sustainable forest-based livelihoods

Webinar I
Tuesday 30th October, 2012



Background

- Approaches to forest governance gaining acceptance
- CANARI has done research on community forestry
- Messages not reaching poor, rural community groups who depend on forest for their livelihoods



Project objective

To influence policy and practice and facilitate knowledge sharing on community forestry and sustainable forest-based livelihoods to enhance governance in the Caribbean region



Project objective

by drawing lessons from past projects and condensing key messages in user friendly "Guidelines for Participatory Forest Management and Participatory Governance" combined with other information products.



Funding

Provided by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization under its Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Support Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP-FLEGT Programme)



Time frame

The project will be implemented over a 3 month period from September 2012 to November 2012



Participants

Forest managers trained in facilitation under the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization under its Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Support Programme for African, Caribbean and Pacific Countries (ACP-FLEGT Programme) and the project entitled "Building capacity for participatory forest management for good governance in the Caribbean region"



Descriptions of outputs and activities

Output 1: Lessons learned from working in Small Island States in the Caribbean from 2005 to present compiled and a summary of responses and learning experiences in a document of no more than 15 pages produced



Activity 1: Compile database of all relevant materials developed by CANARI from 2005 to 2012.

Activity 2: Select and invite forest managers from effected countries to participate in the lessons learning process

Activity 3: Prepare lessons learned document.



Output 2: Based on lessons learned, Guidelines on best practices for community forest management and participatory governance for Small Island States in the Caribbean as well as selected information material developed.



Activity 1: Organisation of at least three virtual meetings with forest managers

Activity 2: Based on the outcomes of the first virtual meeting, prepare a "Guidelines for Community forest management and participatory Governance" (a user friendly document with not more than 15 pages of text).



Activity 3: Finalize the graphic design of the Guidelines and other selected information material (posters, flyers, technical papers for publication).

Activity 4: Printing and distribution of Guidelines and selected information material.



Output 3: Monitoring, evaluation and visibility framework developed.

Activities

- Projection inception emails, presentation of outcomes, evaluation of activities, awareness raising and visibility....



Any questions?



Matters arising

- Scheduling of other meetings
- Evaluation of each meeting



Communicating Information

- Communication is the process by which individuals share meaning. For this process to work, information needs to be transmitted. (Dibb et al., 1991)
- Communication can be visual, verbal, written.



Obstacles to communication

Obstacles to communication include:

- Access to technology
- Literacy
- Language
- Culture
- Resources
- Target audience – demographic



Objective of communication

- Objectives need to be SMART
- **S: Specific** - as much details as possible to help planning and costing
- **M: Measurable**: know the targets
- **A: Achievable**: what are the expectations?
- **R: Realistic**: have the resources
- **T: Timed**: good timing could leverage on other activities



The message

- What are we communicating?
- What is the information we are trying to transfer?



The message – cont'd

The message should be:

- Concise
- **Comprehensive** : can be understood by the intended audience
- **Credible** : based on factual information
- **Connective** : with the audience
- **Contagious**: the recipient can re-transmit



Communication pathways

- How will the information get to the target audience?
- Face to face meetings
- Study visits
- Internet
- Interviews
- Talk shows etc.