

## **ECBI WORKSHOP RESPONSE**

The following is a summary of feedback and recommendations received from the ECBI Participants during the East African Regional workshop.

### **1. What the Participants felt about the workshop?**

- The workshop was useful to those not from environment departments who do not usually attend climate change meetings. Issues on the Kyoto Protocol and the UNFCCC in general were made clearer.
- It was very informative and discussions were enriching. It was useful in terms of improving understanding on the UNFCCC process.
- It improved the understanding of climate change issues that relevant to developing countries and LDCs as well.
- It allowed participants to interact and share their experiences on climate change negotiations. this is very important for those who are just getting involved in climate related activities
- Provided an opportunity to re-consider approaches to addressing adaptation to climate change including issues such as vulnerability, adaptation responses and mitigation.
- Was good in the sense that it included representatives from different backgrounds (in terms of sectors, departments within governments). This is important in sharing experiences on how to integrate climate change issues within government planning processes.
- The workshop was good because it highlighted the fact that there is a problem at hand and the need to join forces and deal with the problem. It brought together not only persons involved directly in environmental matters but also those from planning, finance and international cooperation. Participants realized the need to begin working together in their respective countries in addressing climate change.
- Participants from finance/planning ministries who previously didn't clearly understand the linkage between climate change and economic planning in the past found it extra useful. The workshop made it clear how economic development and planning is and will be influenced by climate change. Achieving government goals like food security depend on water resources which are strongly influenced by climate change and so is the MDG goal of halving the number of people without access to safe and adequate water.
- Those not usually involved in climate change negotiations understood the need to start thinking about integrating climate change within national planning and development processes including budgeting to avail funds for some of the climate related activities including awareness creation.
- It raised awareness on impacts of climate change and UN led initiatives to reduce green house gas emissions. From the discussions, participants felt that addressing issues like deforestation under the Kyoto would be more relevant to the region.
- The workshop was useful because it gave an indication of Africa's high vulnerability and the importance of having an African position as away of

showing the continent's commitment to being part of the group working towards finding solutions to the problem.

- The workshop was timely and very informative especially by shading light on issues at hand during COP11/MOP1 and other previous COPs as well. Information on the UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and climate change in general was especially useful for those who do not normally attend the COPs. From the workshop, participants from developing countries have been made aware of what they need to follow or push for in the negotiation. Such a meeting is key to successful negotiations now and in future.
- Useful because participants can now look for ways through which Africa can contribute to the process as partners rather than create mistrusts.
- It highlighted the need for a common stand/position among the LDCs for effective bargaining during the negotiations and to convince the developed partners on the need to invest in climate related projects in the south.
- The workshop logistics were quite impressive in terms of accommodation, facilitation and all other aspects. Keep it up!

### **Suggestions for future improvements.**

- Country reports should be the first item on the agenda.
- Include formal presentations by participating countries on progress on the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol to date and challenges faced. Country presentation should also highlight how they are handling other climate related challenges.
- One way to improve future workshops is to request participants to come with prepared short speeches/presentations on climate change issues in their countries to have some concrete/substantial discussions/ ask participants to come with national presentations can enrich the discussions.
- Future workshops should accommodate pre-sessions on possible positions that would be the basis for coming up with concrete discussions.
- Awareness raising with the larger population on Kyoto Protocol, impacts of climate change and interventions should be made.
- More seminars/workshops should be organized for both technical and non-technical officers in environment and other departments to enable them spearhead implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures adopted.
- Include case studies on CDM including how they are being implemented elsewhere e.g. Fiji/Bhutan, South Africa etc.
- More lessons on negotiation skills as applicable in COP meetings- what to look for in COP/MOP Meetings.
- Continue to have trainings on a regular basis in particular hosting new people at the beginning and bring on board the more experienced later during such meetings.
- The role of finance and planning institutions in climate change issues needs to be given more time.
- Include people from the private sector and civil society in future workshops to help them understand and play more active role in climate change issues.

- Conducting in depth analysis of the contentious issues with a view of upgrading the skills of climate change negotiators.
- Abbreviations should be completed.
- The objectives of the workshop should be clearer.
- Include group discussions/ break-out groups of 4-6 people to discuss specific issues and come up with the way forward.
- Need to provide discussion materials prior to the meeting to allow participants familiarize themselves with the topics.
- Field visit to nearby areas affected by climate change/ variability should be included.
- Some pictures/video clips of areas that have been affected by climate change/variability.
- More days for the workshop to give participants adequate time to understand issues related to climate change including issues on the negotiation table.
- Future workshops should include negotiators from Europe to share their experiences/hear the other side of the story.
- Organizing in-country workshops/seminars to have a country picture/ position before coming for the regional meeting since each country has its own ideas and approaches to the climate change negotiations. Countries will be able to present diverse but very rich case studies based on their experiences including the implementation of the NAPA process.

### **Ideas and Issues for follow-up activities.**

- Since the LDCs need to have a common position, there is need to mobilize resources to enable them meet regularly possibly three times a year. There is hope within the climate change family to secure funds for this. Germany, Finland and the Netherlands have shown interest to assist.
- ECBI should participate in SARCOF and GACOF annual meetings.
- Participants from the ECBI workshop should be supported to carry out awareness in their countries.
- Guidance on development of CDM projects.
- Some insights of how LDCs like Bhutan and Fiji developed CDM projects.
- Emission trading and how African countries can benefit from it.
- Special Climate Change Fund.
- Developing countries making their own targets like annex I countries to enable everybody to contribute whether large or small emitter. This is key in showing that developing countries are partners and not just recipients waiting for contributions from those historically responsible for the problem.
- Legislation to bring on board the private sector.