1.0 Introduction and Workshop Objectives

The Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA) and Manyoito Pastoralist Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO), the current recipient organizations of the World Bank Intermediaries for additional finance extension of the Pan African Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) Capacity Building program on REDD+ for Civil Society
Organizations’ (CSOs) and Forest dependent Indigenous People (IPs) supported by the FCPF through the World Bank. The project is geared towards strengthening the knowledge of African Civil Societies, local communities and forest dependent indigenous people from 18 FCPF Countries in order to facilitate their active engagement and meaningful participation in the national REDD+ processes.

In order to facilitate experience sharing, knowledge dissemination and strengthen regional collaboration, the project aims at designing and implementing a robust regional platform for information exchange and knowledge sharing between CSOs and IPs networks of the FCPF member countries in Africa as well as other national and regional REDD+ processes and climate change for a. This is done through holding regional experience sharing knowledge dissemination convergences as a way of strengthening cross-country collaborations and effort-sharing.

It’s against this background that PACJA and MPIDO convened the African regional FCPF workshop on March 18th - 19th 2019 in AMPOMAAH Hotel in Accra Ghana in the sidelines of the African Climate Week. The workshop facilitated regional exchange to encourage first-hand learning and sharing of experiences from civil society and forest dependent IPs engagement in REDD+ processes, and from the capacity building project being implemented by PACJA and MPIDO.

1.1 The Objectives of the Workshop were to:

- Broaden conversation around the FCPF capacity building program and broader REDD+ readiness/ Implementation process.
- Strengthen the REDD+ community of practice among the 18 FCPF countries in Africa through learning and experience sharing from civil society and IPs engagement in the REDD+ processes.
- Propose recommendations and specific actions to inform the project implementation
- Influence Africa Climate Week (ACW) discussion in the best practices and recommendations.

1.2 Target Participants

The workshop brought together 100 participants from all the 18 FCPF countries namely: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, DRC, Republic of Congo, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo and Uganda. Other stakeholders such as key REDD+ focal points from selected countries, local and international agencies and policy makers taking part in the ACW also participated and shared their experiences.

2.0 Welcoming Remarks
The executive Secretary thanked the participants for turning up for the workshop and more so those who travelled by road from Nigeria and Togo due to the challenges involved. He welcomed participants to the important REDD+ meeting that presents an opportunity for the civil societies, Indigenous Peoples, government and the media to champion the discourse of REDD+ in Africa. He noted that the meeting was happening at the sidelines of the Africa Climate Week 2019 so that the issues that affect the climate and how it impacts on our livelihoods, economy and propose and advance particle solutions can be discussed. This was done as a tradition to talk to others in order to create more stakeholders to champion and advance our solutions. CSOs and IPs have their own discussions having understood their own dynamics in the forestry sector, and IPs.

He noted that in Kenya people are dying of hunger due to effects of climate change whilst are women and youths who are the most affected. Climate induced famine is impacting many in our countries. In Mozambique more than 100 people have already been killed by cyclone. The IPCC predicted these and we are going to experience more including the rise of the sea level among others. We are unable to connect climate change to what is happening especially with our leaders. We need to preserve the better planet for the future generation. The Climate Justice Movement is growing tremendously as you see the movement that was started by young people from Sweden is now sweeping across the globe.

He later informed the participants that the project is about knowledge sharing and facilitates information. We have built a strong platform as we see today. PACJA and MPIDO at Africa Climate Week will be among the strong networks. How do we advance our discourse to ACW and other avenues to address the climate change? Signing of the Paris Agreement is not sufficient enough but climate action are key in actualizing the Paris Agreement at local and community level. Last week we had United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA4) in Nairobi to advance climate change discussion. CSOs and IPs are very key stakeholders in efforts advance to contribute to policies and solutions. “Forward ever and backward never”.

Finally, he called upon the participants to contribute to the discussion actively and wished them fruitful deliberations.
Mr. Mithika Mwenda PACJA Executive Secretary welcoming participants to the workshop

2.2 Daniel Salau, MPIDO Kenya

He welcomed participants and thanked them for finding time off their busy schedule to participate in the meeting. In his remarks he noted that, PACJA and MPIDO have been doing this for some time to ensure that CSOs, IPs voices are felt and advanced to the relevant stakeholders. IPs, CSOs, Government Focal points for REDD+, the Media, the development partners and other agencies. The uniqueness of this forum is inclusivity of all actors which is a very unique approach. Alongside the ACW where there is need to contribute to the ongoing discussion in terms of sharing knowledge, experience, practices and policy processes in our continent. He quoted, the Late Prof. Wangari, “When a forest is burning there is an attempt by a small bird to go and pick water and drop on fire”. The challenge might be enormous but our concerted efforts will be realized. We are talking about livelihoods when we talk of climate change which affect our livelihoods through resources such as water, forests, food etc, through REDD+ which moves beyond the rights and responsibilities which need to be upheld in stakeholders engagement through dialogues and forums. There is need to continue with partnerships in order to advance our efforts through discussion.

He also pointed out the need to look at the subsequent phases and strategize on how we can position ourselves to act accordingly. He added that there are so many challenges but once there is togetherness then will be able to address the challenges. Whatever policies and recommendations need to be responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people of Africa and we are the people.
Mr. Daniel Rogei Salau MPIDO Kenya welcoming participants to the Workshop

On behalf Local organizing committee members Dr. Sam Ogalo – Ghana,

He noted that they constituted a committee which has been responsible for ensuring that all required efforts are made for the meeting to take place.

Dr. Rose Abantu PACJA Ghana representative

Thanked all the participants for the attendance and in a special way welcomed Mithika who has tried to make sure that African CSO perspective is brought to a forefront to discuss our issues.
Finally, welcomed all participants and encouraged members to enjoy their stay in Ghana.
While Mr. Ezekiel who coordinated the youths also wished members to enjoy the stay in Ghana

3.1"Status of REDD+ and how we are working with CSOs in Uganda by Xavier Mugumya -NFA Uganda

Mr. Xavier Mugumya from Uganda gave the genesis of REDD+ Process in Uganda. FCPF – PIN and R-PP (2008-2012) and role of civil society in Uganda REDD+ discourse. He admitted that R-PIN was authored in house (at the National Forestry Authority – Ministry of water and environment. Consultations were largely through the government ministries, departments and agencies hence CSOs and IPOs were not involved in the process.
While during the development of Uganda R-PP Preparation process (2010-2012) it was more of a consultative process at national and sub-national levels with various stakeholders, including government agencies (the executive and the legislative): NGOs / CSOs, private sector, academia, development partners, cultural groups, special groups, forest dependent people, and local communities including Indigenous Peoples and media. Civil Society supported most of Uganda’s R-PP outreach process in different parts of the country.

R-Package process and role of Civil Society: CSO are considered one of the key Stakeholders through self-selection process and representation. CSOs and IPOs were part and also supported Stakeholder engagement during the entire Readiness process. CSO & IP & other Stakeholder engagement was based on the Consultation and Participation (C&P) Plan developed in 2013 with heavy CSO input.

Some of the roles played by of CSOs and IPOs in REDD+ processes were to: Provide & receive information that supports REDD+ and their own objectives; Implementation of components of the REDD+ Readiness plan and later the strategy; Singularly or Jointly support monitoring of progress; Use REDD+ outcomes to benefit communities better based on their areas of work for example; Provide and mobilise for the “Free, Prior, and Informed consent (FPIC)” (they own most of the land with potential to benefit REDD+ program).

Mr. Xavier Mugumya -NFA Uganda sharing about the involvement of CSOs in REDD+ process
1. **What are the real motives that have pushed Uganda to be part of REDD+?**

Uganda just like any another tropical country participated in the REDD+ process because of forests. In 1997 the Kyoto protocol did not have the role of forests that each country will use to implement the REDD+. In 2005 countries started to encourage others on how they can use forests to contribute to mitigation and that is what led to REDD+ during the Bali Meeting in 2007. The deforestation was leading in emissions and that is why they needed to participate in the REDD+ program and to avoid loss of biodiversity and other non-carbon benefits. It’s from this reason that Uganda was also involved in the process. The forests would have role in both adaptation and mitigation which if they were protected their role on mitigation would be ensured. Our interest as a country was that we have been using the forest to contribute to the economy it was being done through agriculture by conversion of forest land to agricultural frontiers. This conversion led to the loss of forests due to agriculture expansion.

2. **How far do CSOs contribute to implementation and decision making process?**

The CSOs and IPOs are involved in the decision making and implementation of REDD+ in Uganda and they are part of the Steering committee that is a decision making structure.

3. **Does Uganda have formal efforts to use Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) in Uganda?** FPIC is not yet formalized but the principles of the FPIC is used in our documents. There is hope that once carbon trading is started then it will be formalized.

### 3.2 Ghana’s REDD+ Processes, advance and achievements, Experiences by Thomas Gyambrach Yaw REDD+ Office Ghana

Mr. Thomas gave a background on forest management how it was promulgated by an Act of Parliament, Act 571 of 1999 that brought together the various public bodies and agencies that were individually implementing the functions of protection, management, the regulation of forest and wildlife resources. With a vision: Leave future generations and their communities with richer, better, more valuable forest and wildlife endowment than we inherited.

First draft produced in 2014 with a focus on 13 strategic options on Polices, Actions and Measures (PAMs) to address REDD+; later finalized and launched in 2016 the Strategy focused on Five Priority REDD+ Strategic Options on PAMs covering a period of 20 years. Strategy Development was participatory and inclusive involving varying stakeholders including women.
Ghana’s Vision for REDD+ is “To significantly reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation over the next twenty years, whilst at the same time addressing threats that undermine ecosystem services and environmental integrity” The Strategy believes in building resilient landscapes and livelihoods, therefore highlights the benefits of non-carbon benefits including improved forest governance.

With regards to safeguards information systems help to check on the do no harm in REDD+ program / projects by respecting the criteria and indicators including respecting the rights of IPs and taking into account their needs and aspirations in implementing REDD+. Ghana has a Strategic Environmental and Social Assessment (SESA) working group and expanded and renamed as Safeguard working group.

Transitioning into Implementation of Results Based Actions for Payments under Emissions Reduction Program is underway. The Ghana Cocoa Forest REDD+ Program (GCFRP) beginning 2019 to 2024. The GCFRP hopes to reduce expansion of Cocoa Production into Forest Reserves whilst increasing Cocoa yields through a mixture of Climate Smart Cocoa Production Systems and restoring forest cover backed by sound policies and law enforcement. In addition the Country is working on satisfying Emission Reduction Payment Agreement Conditions of Effectiveness for Signing in first quarter, 2019. These include; Benefit Sharing Plan development and operationalization; A Declaration on the ability of Government of Ghana to transfer the title to the ERs to the Carbon Fund; and Signing of Sub Agreement with Local implementing parties. He also highlighted about the policy and legislative directions that are helping the country to realize REDD+ implementation.
Mr. Mwangi gave a brief about PACJA, being founded in 2008 and engaged in Policy Influence; Public Engagement and Mobilization; Holding Governments accountable; Research, Knowledge development and communication.

PACJA is an implementing partner of the Capacity Building on REDD+ program. REDD+ activities involve a high degree of consultation amongst various stakeholders (CSOs, LCs, IPs, private sector) in terms of design and implementation of activities.

He noted the project has a two phased approach; This was initially a 2 year project (April 2016 to June 2018) funded by FCPF/World Bank to support capacity building activities for selected southern CSOs in 5 FCPF countries in Africa and the extension phase is covering 10 countries. phase 1: Ethiopia, Madagascar, Cote d’Ivoire, Mozambique, Togo and phase 2: Ethiopia, Madagascar, Cote d’Ivoire, Mozambique, Togo, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Central Africa Republic, Republic of Congo and Nigeria.

He highlighted the key activities at national level that include: Capacity building and national awareness raising activities for LC and CSO representatives; National level dialogues and awareness forums around key REDD+ themes; Collaboration with the
national REDD+ secretariats and participation in National REDD+ activities; Self-selection for accountable representation in national REDD+ structures and Development and dissemination of key knowledge products. While at regional level focused on for information exchange and knowledge sharing between CSO networks of all 18 FCPF member countries.

Key results attributed to the FCPF Capacity building project include: Improved capacities and engagement of CSOs and LCs on national REDD+ processes such as strategy development; etc, Strengthened linkages, improved communication and better working relationships between National REDD+ secretariats and Civil Society Organizations; Improved trust among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders, and the role of CSOs in forest management appreciated; Provided avenues/platform for lesson learning from national engagement among CSOs at regional Exchanges and Establishment/strengthened national platforms or networks for CSO engagement.

Lessons Learnt through the implementation of the project among them included: The contribution of CSOs local communities and to success of REDD+ in Africa cannot be underestimated; More support and political space is needed for IP and CSOs to effectively contribute to decision making through key REDD+ bodies; Inadequate funds for CSO and IP involvement poses a challenge for greater engagement in national REDD+ processes and There is need to advocate for public policies that encourage participation.

He also noted the need to involve the local communities that if we are to succeed in our programs we have to make sure we. Failure to involve them is what led to the failure of the Clean Development Mechanism.

### 3.4 Daniel Rogei Salau MPIDO Kenya

Mr. Salau gave a background the project “Pan-African Forest Dependent Indigenous Peoples FCPF Capacity Building Program on REDD+ Project” which targeted forest dependent indigenous peoples of REDD+ Readiness at the national level and Awareness creation and capacity building. He also highlighted the key expected outcomes from the project which Awareness raising, Knowledge mobilization and documentation - IK, Knowledge products, including vernacular, Gender mainstreaming, Partnerships and leveraging of resources, Involvement in key decision making organs through self-selection process and contribution to policy on forest management etc.

Key lessons learnt through the implementation of the project included: with minimal support, IPS/communities can be catalyzed to make meaningful change by proactively engaging with REDD+ Readiness at the national and sub-national levels; a sustained capacity building of IPs led to their visibility at the national levels hence continued recognition and involvement by state (Focal Points) and non-state actors – creation of partnerships and collaboration and with enhanced capacities, IPS could innovatively engage with the REDD+ process through self-selection process; sustained gender
mainstreaming as well as youth participation has positive impact on project sustainability as all integral community components are involved; 'soft-skills' have long-term impacts to IPs and IPs organizations; IPs have a lot of knowledge and solutions to offer matters climate change (as per various knowledge products); it is up to the IPs to take a proactive role to engage and influence REDD+ processes to their best interest, lest they are by-passed; engagement of IPOs to work with IPs is fruitful as they understand the local social-cultural and political dynamics that they can easily manage for the successful implementation of the project and development and change especially to IPs is gradual and requires patience by all actors involved to make meaningful impacts in IPs contexts considering their peculiarities – terrains, cultures etc.

He also highlighted the sub grantees they are working with from five different countries in Africa PROBICOU - Uganda, SAWA – Sudan, CDI – Liberia, MHO - Ethiopia and WATER – Nigeria.

He mentioned key parameters to check while in implementing the projects in terms of social safeguards which included: Demonstrable consultation with beneficiaries including women in project design; Screening of sub-project activities to ensure compliance with project requirements; Consistency with community norms and desires; Friendly and respectful language use; Obtain free, prior informed consent; Demonstrate grievance redress mechanism that is cultural sensitive and Demonstrable consultation with REDD+ Focal point, Full participation and ownership of the projects by communities; Make use of the appropriate language to the greatest extent possible; Inclusive monitoring and evaluation including a feedback mechanism; Inclusion of women and other marginalized voices and Upholds the principle of integrity, transparency and ethical.

He concluded by sharing the key sustainability issues of the projects included: Ownership, community driven home-grown solutions; Institutionalization of idea and practices – Policies, structures, committees, self-selection to national and sub-national committees etc, and Mobilization and leveraging on local resources – Government Funding.
Questions & Answers

1. *Cocoa and Shea butter where how do women benefit more?*

2. *You mentioned about benefit sharing agreement being signed at the end of month*

3. *What is the success and constrains with the forest mafias?*

4. *Full participation and ownership of the project how do you track the progress since most citizens are not aware of the project?* There is trust between the CSOs and Private sector who have worked with the communities for a long time even prior to the coming of the REDD+ activities. Replication of the successful pilots would be a good step. Ghana has reviewed its policies and now recognizes the non-consumptive products. The National forum is a platform for dialogue. There is a lot of flexibility all the way from the call of proposals documents based on the country specific needs and circumstance. So the criteria allows flexibility of each country needs. There is also cross checking with the REDD+ focal points in those countries. There is a lot of consultation among the communities and CSOs on REDD+ process in those countries.
5. Performance of the country sector mining is one of the factors that lead to deforestation. How do you want to address this? There is certification that degraded areas have to be reafforestation. After the mining there is need to restore the mining areas after the destruction has been completed. They are clearly set in the laws and the enforcement is with the law enforcement agencies. It’s also done through inter-ministerial agencies. The entry permit is given prior to mining process in any ecosystems.

6. Uganda did not mention about youths and genders?

7. Ghana the review of the strategies at 5-7 years looks so fake there is need to be more specific. REDD+ review is strictly 5 years but 7 is to allow any over flow.

8. National REDD+ Council (NRC) there is no youth and gender this has a big factor to fail the REDD+ program. Youth and gender participation in the REDD+ process, there is deliberate way of ensuring that women participate through integrated way. There is way of tracking it through disaggregated data in the programs. It’s important to have a deliberate approach to involve the youth as we go forward with the project.

9. Private sector participation is one of the Private sector partnerships with CSOs which is a good practice.

10. The REDD+ of the forest commission is a good practice because there is a gender working group including Abantu which is part of the REDD+ working Group. PACJA should think about it and how they can support the gender aspect in strengthening Gender participation in the REDD+. There are 8 working groups in Ghana and gender is one of the groups sorry that it was not mentioned in the presentation.

It was recognized that there is synergy between governments as opposed to Latin America. There is need for African leaders to come together and work towards sustainable programs. Despite the difference in the economic development the environment challenges the same.

The is need for African leaders to appreciate and recognize the indigenous people like it’s done in according to the international laws such as the United Nations Declarations on Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP).

11. You must understand the alternative livelihoods that the communities want rather than increasing measures of sanctioning the communities. To what extent are your alternatives livelihoods options for the people?

12. At country level MPIDO and PACJA are not felt working together? There are no sub grantees in all the countries. That is why MPIDO may be in a different country while at the same time PACJA is in another country to avoid overlaps apart from Ethiopia where they have both sub grantees.
13. PACJA & MPIDO mentioned about self-selection process. If there are people who have not done self-selection are they able to participate in monitoring and decision making on REDD+ process. There is a process for the communities to sit together and select their own representatives to safeguard fairness, justice and trust among the communities.

14. *What procedures are there to ensure knowledge participation by enhancing their capacity in the REDD+ process.*

There are deliberate programs to translate and create the communities to have awareness of key policy documents by ensuring that they engage.

Policies and how the communities understand the process. The program is about the capacity building. In their report they have section where requires them to report on key knowledge products such as radio, songs etc. To create awareness on the REDD+ process.

Livelihoods government is planning to re-invest the money that they will get from FCPF in alternative livelihoods in order to secure their sustenance and safeguard the forests.

There is need to conduct gender analysis and build the capacity of the women in participating in REDD+ programmes.

### 3.5 Sharing experience / Lessons learnt from Sub grantees - presentations of achievements, linkages with national REDD+ process, challenges and best practices from their work – Sub grantees, REDD+ focal points by Elijah MPIDO

**Uganda**

How did you manage to achieve 100,000 USD for Gender Mainstreaming? Uganda did not initially understand how to involve the forest IPs. With the success of the IP REDD+ government appreciated what had been done and that is why the IPs were involved. The government has been able to help them to achieve 100,000USD from the World Bank. REDD+ secretariat ability to understand that there is need to involve all stakeholders. The collaboration and good will from Government in support of IPOs in Uganda.

The challenge noted is that the IPs are poor particularly women, how do you call them to a meeting when they have other competing needs therefore for REDD+ to succeed we must integrate poverty eradication / reduction among the IPs.

**Cote d’Ivoire**

They started REDD+ in 2013. Regards to CSOs they have been associated with compliance mechanism. They are represented in various committees. They participate in REDD+ programs
They have two difficulties that led to a blockade. Through Capacity building they have been able to influence the decisions.

**Liberia Saah David - Liberia,**

If you want to participate in REDD+ what can they do?

Participatory process in REDD+ process which is not far different from what Uganda shared. National REDD+ technical working group comprised of various actors that feed into government REDD+ Unit.

The REDD+ communication strategy was used by the community development initiatives (CDI) to spread the messages of REDD+. They have played a key role about REDD+, climate change what is it and how they can address climate change effects.

They have used the songs radios, jingles etc REDD+ is new and for information to trickle down takes a lot of time. There are plans for REDD+ in Liberia to reach the local communities.

**Sawa Sudan for Development & Humanitarian and Sawa Sudan**

What challenges that you face in implementing REDD+ in Sudan. Our communities are suffering in everything most especially in rural areas. The project targets the remote areas who are suffering to address livelihoods aspect of their life. They don't have a lot of time to spend with the SAWA unless they are looking for livelihood options. REDD+ has been good in support SAWA until recently where the security has deteriorated in the country. Marketing their products along the value chain. Women need to improve their skills to market their product to avoid middle men though most women are uneducated which hinders their participation.

There is need to find alternative projects for getting energy and how they can easily get access to safe and clean energy and water.

**Ethiopia, Meseret Humanitarian Organisation (MHO)**

When a woman comes to lead they face a lot of challenges intimidation and challenges that requires funding. Women are really struggling in life until recently that the new prime Minister has allowed 50% women to be in leadership position and influence the decisions. They are trying to empower and influence women. They have success stories where women have been appointed to political positions where they can now advance the women challenges.

There is need to empower and transform women in terms of ideas, self-assurance are key for women to participate in management.
Nigeria

Where will the IPOs and CSOs be very relevant in REDD+ in Nigeria. Nigeria is divided into federal level, state, subnational and local. Cross River state has over 50% of the tropical high forest in Nigeria. The state has a lot of opportunity to work with the nearest administration unit over 95% is intact in the community.

The IPO have benefited from the state and nationally by bringing them to the communities. Formal conservation of forest has been done for years. The communities have been conserving the forest even prior to the coming of the REDD+ They are sure that they would benefit from international arrangements given that they are contributing too global mitigation efforts. They have strengthened the relationship between the state and the Water institution and the communities while waiting for the carbon fund coming.

Congo Rebublic has reached at the ERP
Congo has been involved since 2008, they CSOs are going to be involved, there are two platforms. How do they work together with communities? The communities are naturally forest habitat and they get all their benefits from the forests. People are involved, communities IPs are working with government in the discussion and implementation of the REDD+ implementation at national and local level. CSOs participate and IPOs and local communities. They participate in the process. They are trying to implement the project although the local communities from far away have not been involved but at the same time they have started to translate the communication materials into a languages that the local communities can understand. They have also done self-selection to secure there active participation in the REDD+ programs

Togo Memen

REDD+ started in 2014, REDD+ pilot country forestry cover 24% deforestation 5.1% per year. National REDD+ strategy is almost ready with five pillars agriculture, traditional knowledge, conservation and use of renewable energy, rehabilitation of trees. A lot of consultations have been undertaken along these five pillars. Our Project is timely where we are involved in as CSOs where women, youth and all stakeholders to inform them they have a role to play in the REDD+ strategies.

Questions & Answers

It’s an opportunity for us to learn as Burkina Faso. REDD+ in Burkina Faso, it has forests the authorities haven’t understood that we need to conserve the forest. They have allowed the CSOs to participate in the REDD+ with the project we intent to work in the region where the government has not been able to participate in the REDD+. They intend to work with all the key actors in REDD+ in a participatory process.
To share information even if the communities were involved from the start of the project they were hesitant to join the project. There is need to involve the cultural groups for people to understand and appreciate the need for their participation in REDD+ process. There was need to do strategic meeting with leaders and ensure that you get the communities on your side so that when you call for national dialogue the communities are the willing to participate with a lot of interest and trust.

Nigeria cross river state, cross river highway through the forests given that the governor won the election am sure he will have to fulfill his election pledges. He was given 21 recommendations for him to go ahead and put the recommendations.

National Parks owned and managed by national, Forests owned and managed by the state, and community land owned

 Community are at the forefront on fighting the highway 260kms but covering 10 width and over 5000 ha land areas. The conditions that we set were to give way for Environmental Impact for the certificate to be issued and the state government has not yet complied. They have not yet opened the project although they mobilized the equipment's. There is a strong contestation on forest superhighway where it cannot work on the forest. National park was resisted and he still keeps shifting the road. The road is capital intensive and the state cannot afford to carry on the implementation of the mega projects like the superhighway.

What will the comments do to ensure that the communities benefit from the program? There is need for all stakeholders to participate in REDD+ in order to hold the government accountable and get the benefit for participation. There is also need to use Grievance Redress mechanism which can hold the government to be accountable.

How did you mobilize the women in Sudan? They are motivated through visiting them in the field. During the consultation the women get surprised what they can do to support themselves to solve the issues affecting them including the climate change.

3.6 Strategies for communication reporting knowledge and results by Elijah Toirai MPIDO, Knowledge Management and Communication

Mr. Elijah gave strategies for the partners to communicate the results most especially the sub grantees. He emphasized on the need for communication as a way of relaying, staying in touch, constantly updating, providing knowledge to your target audience; Knowledge: Providing value, providing information, skills, data, skills; Results: outputs, outcomes, impacts, direct and indirect beneficiaries and Reporting: Quality, Concise, documented, published, frequent.
What are your key deliverables, highlights, outputs and outcomes. Examples of some of the strategies community targeted; sub national (regional), National and Pan African /global.

**How important**
We are already doing it; we need to do it better, strategically and deliberately. Deliberate strategies, intentionally applied and spoken louder, sung so that it’s known by those who have to act on the issues raised.

**Recap During Day Two of the Workshop**

During Day two the facilitator asked participants to give their reflection on the key take home messages from previous day discussions:

- Things are working in the African context we only need to speak up and increase our voices. There is need to recognize IPs so that our local communities can benefit just like it’s according to United Nations Rights for Indigenous People (UNDRIP) for instance the Asian countries receive support due to recognition.
- How can gender issues be considered in REDD+ especially women participation? Use of the traditional songs in the mobilization of the communities.
- REDD+ process has reached various levels of implementation from strategies to ERP. Countries are able to learn from each other.
- Learn about the projects and lessons learnt from the first phase of the REDD+. Even those that are not involved in REDD+ like Morocco they can learn and can become part of the REDD+
- Challenges faced by women led organizations, over exploitation of resources which lead REDD+ is working leave no one behind.
- Localizing and creating awareness of REDD+ helps in domestication of REDD+ opening of the CS and IPs space helps to build capacity of the stakeholders in participation in REDD+.
- CSO are much more involved in the REDD+ through sharing experience and lessons.
- Gabon has been involved in REDD+, sensitization of CSO actors, Gabon has got support from Norway and Government is now recognizing the efforts of the CSOs. They have organized stakeholders forum inclusive all actors in the country. Regional exchange learning within the region with the neighbouring countries.
- The lessons that the participants have learnt from this regional exchange learning will be used to help those sub grantees to improve the projects.
- Agriculture has contributed to development of the economy and through that the forest frontiers have been converted to agricultural landscape.
- Climate change is really and we need to go back home and spread the message.
- There is synergy building between governments and CSOs and IPs which is a good move to ensure that they we succeed through linkages.
✓ Latin America and Asia, and some parts of Africa has recognized the IPs but north Africa and West Africa have refused to recognize the IPs because they think they are devising. There is need for our recognition so that we can benefit from the international community goodwill.

✓ Youth and women involvement in an inclusive manner will see that the REDD+ process will succeed.

✓ There is need for inclusive system that will address poverty and social inclusion for them to realize the efforts of REDD+ program because of livelihoods need the communities will not sit and see the forest standing.

✓ We are beginning to move on the same direction

3.7 The REDD+ Strategy, a guide to facilitate REDD+ Implementation in Liberia by Saah A. David, Jr.

According to Saah David, he highlighted the genesis of Liberia Forestry founded in 1976 to conserving Liberia’s Forest Estate across 15 counties. With **Strategic Focus: 3C APPROACH** (Conservation, Community and Commercial). Forming Partnerships for Protected Areas Management, Community Forestry and Sustainable Commercial Activities in the forestry sector and Achieving national mandate through collaboration with relevant national and international stakeholders

**REDD+ Programme Goal:** Promoting local livelihoods through sustainable forest management, biodiversity conservation; carbon emissions reduction and equitable benefit sharing.

**Objectives:**

- To implement a system that targets reduction of major drivers of deforestation and degradation in Liberia.
- To work with local communities in improving forest management by introducing sustainable livelihood programs
- To improve community's stewardship of natural resources through capacity development initiatives.
- To ensure benefits and co-benefits are accessed and distributed equitably to all affected parties under the program.

**Overview of REDD+**

In 2012, Liberia obtained funding from the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) through the World Bank, implement its **Readiness Preparation Activities for REDD+.**
To address outstanding activities to ensure Liberia is ready for REDD+ implementation, an additional funding was received in 2015.

Forest Development Authority (FDA) is the designated national authority to implement REDD+ activities in collaboration with key partners: Government institutions, Civil society, Academia, Private sector; Local communities.

This is to help Liberia fulfill its obligations in the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the recent Paris Agreement of 2015.

National REDD+ Strategy 2016 was guided by Five Strategic priorities that include: Support communities to manage forest sustainably; Sustainably manage commercial forestry; Complete Protected Areas Network; Protect HCS/HCV forest in agric. and mining concessions and Fair and sustainable benefits from REDD.

Questions & Answers

How do we improve on the governance on REDD+ issues? We need to discuss governance as the distribution of power with the forest dependent communities. We need to start the discussion of redistribution of resources and ensure that the communities participate in decision making and how to determine how we benefit.

Agriculture has been recognized as key drivers of deforestation in all the African countries. In Liberia due to population growth the slash and burn leads to deforestation.

3.8 Ghana Dedicated GRANT MECHANISM FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES (DGM) by Hayford Doudou Ghana

He highlighted the context of the project where he noted that it’s Ghana’s flagship program to prepare local communities to respond to climate change and its associated impacts. The project is basically designed to “soften” the grounds for community people to engage effectively with Governments climate change interventions around: Land use and climate change (FIP, REDD+, climate-smart cocoa); Energy and climate change (climate-smart domestic energy consumption – fuel wood issues, solar energy, woodlots, efficient cook stoves) and Sustainable land use practices (watershed protection, responsible use of fire for hunting, illegal mining and agricultural practices). He also noted that the project has two main components that include Capacity building in REDD+ and climate change for local communities and to provide sub-grants to local communities to serve as incubators or models for learning about effective response to climate change; Thereby strengthening their participation in and understanding of FIP, REDD+, and climate change and Develop community based climate response intervention action plans.
Success story of the project intervention include: Recording very good participation with dedicated group; Knowledge gap in climate change filled by the training; Project activities are feeding into activities of MMDAs and other stakeholders within project areas and Strong partnership with district level institutions

Questions & Answers

What are the challenges that DGM encountered when working with women? In some cases women are denied to attend in training empowerment because of the mistrust from their husbands how do you overcome? In Ghana there is no any specific hindrance for women to participate in any program, it’s about planning for the best appointment time for them to meet to discuss. They also do FGD with women alone so that they can easily air out their views and opinions.

DGM has not reached at the grant face where the amount is very small compared to the communities' members.

Information is very important and communication is key for people to understand what the project is about. What are the conflicts they have had in empowering the communities?

What is the link between customary law and the government laws? Do women have a chance to say what they want to say in the customary laws?

In Ghana there are no customary laws that can affect women participation in the development programs. There is only need for linkage for CSOs to offer the linkage between the community and government.

Land sharing plan in Gabon is paramount. Gabon should allow CSO, IPs, and local community to participate in the REDD+
Participate during a session on the Questions and Answers

Mithika Mwenda while welcoming and introducing Dr. James Murombezi noted that there are two parallel sessions taking place: Green Climate Fund (GCF) and REDD+ meeting.

**Dr. James Murombezi of African Climate Policy Center based in UNECA hosting the climateDev Africa**

Thanked the PACJA for the invitation and informed participants that African Climate Policy Center, was created to understand the various linkages of climate change and development. The center was launched in 2010 to improve Africa's engagement in the global climate gathering and also support Africa participation in the COPs, SBSTA and SBI and mobilization of different African capacities and experts. They have started an annual ClimDev Forum which they do every year before the COP negotiations and the recent one was CCDA7 held in Nairobi. Last year CCDA was held in Nairobi with over 800 participants with a lot of CSOs support and subnational and regional participation. One of the CLIMDEV roles is to mobilize linkages of various linkages at national regional and subnational level. REDD+ was launched to contribute towards mitigation actions by absorbing carbon and contributing to non-carbon benefits like conservation of biodiversity and livelihood improvement for the forest dependent communities.
offers opportunities and challenges of mitigation through carbon sequestration. Responsive forest governance was to investigate the governance of choice and representation. UN-REDD offer choices for intermediary organizations’, what is the impact of choosing a specific institution and recognizing the local communities that they represent.

It’s important to develop appropriate mechanisms to address the challenges associated with our interventions. We need to improve the performance of REDD+, it has been criticized for failure to achieve its intended objectives. Improving communities and relationship of the communities and forests. How can we ensure that improved governance can lead to mitigation and adaptation? Flooding is currently affecting Mozambique it’s because of destruction of the ecosystems that has failed to do its function like forests wetlands and others.

African resource center will continue to provide the science based information to inform our policy discussion and welcomed members to the session at the African Climate week for the sessions to discuss issues affecting the African continent.

3.9 Brief overview of gender considerations and REDD+, rationale for integrating gender equality and lessons learnt, Achievements and way forward facilitated by Betty MPIDO and Salina Sanou PACJA

Ms. Salina of PACJA overview showed that by 2050 an estimated 1 billion people have loss of livelihoods. Why Gender Matters Women and men as actors, decision makers on climate action and are impacted by climate change negatively. She noted that Women and men form part of the national delegations to UNFCCC negotiations. The major challenge is that women representation is relatively small for instance in 2015, women comprised 38% of UNFCCC national delegations.

Strategies for gender equality, equal participation of women and men Gender Responsive Implementation requires the following: Creating and engaging local women’s centres; Gender Responsive Budgeting; Quota (40%) for women in governance board of administration; Financial solidarity mechanism with special rates for women-lead households; Repayment schedule based on women’s seasonal income flows; Certified vocational training for women in technology, management etc. and Promotion of gender responsive concept and cooperation with authorities and CSOs

In order to address the gender gaps she made some general and specific recommendations that will help in safeguarding women participation.

• Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) beyond symbolic measures and ensure gender mainstreaming in all its activities (funding and representation)
• Implementing entities of Readiness Programme (UNDP, sub-grantees, Counties) should allocate share of the budget already allocated to women-driven activities (including sub-grantees)
• Robustly involve women, CSOs and Indigenous Peoples in development of local and national plans and their monitoring and implementation
• Budget should be set aside in the existing programme to enhance awareness to end gender-stereotypes and to support/protect women (and women leaders) – media and IEC materials

Uganda Nathan

It’s very important to involve women and youth with specific focus on women because of their central role in livelihoods provision at household level and in the use of forest and biomass. The Government of Uganda supported them to work on gender sensitive interventions and how to plan and reach to the women at the right time and available to participate in the REDD+. In Uganda women marry at youthful age and hence that is why they are key and highly involved.

Cameroon REPLEAC

Inclusive and participatory process in REDD+ women are the pioneer and primary uses of natural resources. They also know the socio economic importance of forests in terms of livelihoods needs for the local communities. The platform was created in 2011, which is structured from the community, national and regional level with various partners including traditional chiefs and members of parliament. They have also set up the centre at the national assembly they have been allowed 13% representation of women in 38 % in management level of the program. They want to ensure that the platform covers the entire country. There is need to include gender in all that we are doing with regards to Natural resources management.

Cote d’Ivoire, 2006 they understood the need to work with the children and women in term of creating sensitization. The process was all inclusive by considering the rural women who are more vulnerable. 15 women are doing their own presentation on climate change at national forum that is taking place not because of their capacity but because of climate change that is affecting ll the communities that requies participation. They also share their information in local langsues that are used in the communication of what is happening in their communities.

Khalida from SAWA Sudan

Women in Africa are suffering because they have about for jobs in a home for instance, provision of food, water, energy and others working on their husband lands and interactions in the society. They carry her children in every aspect of their wok. 75% of women live in rural areas and they are not educated. They work with women 80% women 20 % men but when it comes to activities you end 50% 50% of the both men and women
participate. They target women in the capacity building program. Where women attend the trainings where 5 are women and 3 are men. There is need for the opportunity to be given to women to solve their issues of water, food and energy for cooking. REDD+ offers opportunities to address the challenges that women face in their communities.

**Madagascar Gasy Youth Up by Stefan**

Gasy Youth Up is a non-profit youth-led organization composed mainly of engaged youth activists to promote youth, girls/young women/women and communities’ development (social, economic, environmental) through their project on Building Capacity of regional CSOs AND local communities on REDD+ and climate change in selected regions. The project involved 80 participants for the capacity building with 60% participants of women from CSOs and local communities. Mr. Stefan shared their approach on how they reach out to key stakeholders on REDD+ in Madagascar including: Interactive and active methodology using a lot of illustration, images, realities figures an facts (some participants are illiterate); Involvement of local authorities (Mayor, ministries district representation; Involvement of media (national TV and Radio station) and active participation of national CSOs platform representative.

**Meseret, Ethiopia,**

When we talk about gender it comes to our mind as those who are vulnerable and weak. Yet a woman is very strong backbone for the families, they have knowledge on how to save nature through their participation activities. So there is need to look at women as positive contributors to economic activities and livelihoods as well.

**Questions & Answers**

The realities are how Salina and the effects of climate change are really in our country Mozambique. We are failing in terms of representation of the communities. The Modal used in DGM is good where the communities are given the opportunity to choice what they want. The formula is about rights, recognitions and enforcement. How are looking at business of the economy of women. How are we building the capacities at community level? The problem of governance is a challenge. With support from PACJA they are doing the policy discussion based on the data that informs the decision.

Do we understand/ what are we doing in concrete terms to improve the situation of women? How are we going to apply the good practices in diversity of women in their places where they live?

In DRC they are trying to advocate for the land laws in the provinces. We need to be proactive in improving the lives of the women.
The interest of us leaders to mobilize women to represent their interest. In Burkina sending the girl child is difficult but through awareness they have now understood the benefit of taking them to school.

They sensitize women on the use of charcoal where they were given alternatives on how they can avoid deforestation

Involvement of IP women, the most powerful organization in DGM is the global Steering committee where they have also reserved one position for a woman. That means men struggle for one slot because at least one is for the women. Because the drivers sit is always reserved no matter how full the vehicle is.

In 2018, they sensitize the communities in Ivory Coast through getting through the local institutions like the chiefs, while the opportunity was there women never talked. The discussion was dominated by the discussion while the rural women kept quite apart from those from urban areas. Women thought that they were just being used in the project activities because they felt that they were to benefit the project proponents. REDD+ could help women prepare tree nurseries. The payment has not been smooth due to failure to adhere to polluter pays principles.

How do we bring the matrix to our leaders?
What is it that we want to address at the community level with regards to women? In her response Ms. Salina said that, let’s target the actions that we want to do for women that we want to do for them to achieve what they want to achieve. If we have to have women in the meeting but if they cannot speak then we need to get the right women at the table to make significant contributions.

We cannot ignore women when talking about REDD+ economic activities livelihoods, energy, forests climate change, water natural resources management, among others because they are the most affected people in the communities.

Technologies which involve using energy for cooking are used by women and there is also need for use of the simple language that women can understand.
1. REDD+ is still relatively new and there is need for governments, World Bank and the UN agencies to continue with capacity development of the CSOs and IPs as well as government officials to understand how best REDD+ can be implemented and achieve the ultimate goal of mitigation.

2. Governments should develop policies to mainstream capacity building as continuous process in all stages of REDD+.

3. Partnership is key to achieve REDD+ implementation through working with relevant stakeholders like IPs, CSOs, Governments, and Development partners.

4. Governments, World Bank and other development agencies, should make Deliberate Efforts to ensure that local communities and IPs including women, youth and People with Disabilities (PWDs) (Leave no one behind) are fully involved at all stages of the REDD+ and that free and prior informed consent is unconditionally acquired in others.

5. Governments must move beyond the signing of the Paris Agreement to climate action. Climate change is now affecting every country on every continent. It is disrupting national economies and affecting lives, costing people, Indigenous peoples, local communities and countries dearly daily. More action at local level and communities need to be implemented to address the effects of climate change.
6. REDD+ implementations requires various actors and institution continued collaboration and coordination these actors and agencies is key for the successful implementation of the REDD+ programs.

7. The World Bank’s FCPF and the DGM should consider extending awareness and capacity building phase to ensure that all communities, IPS and CSO have been reached with the REDD+ message. Awareness and Capacity building need to be integrated into subsequent implementation phases of the REDD+ process.

8. Governments and other stakeholders to develop policies and guidelines that guarantees full and effective participation and ownership of the REDD+ process.

9. African governments should initiate a forum for IPs in Africa to discuss IPs issues at the continental (AU) level in line with the UNDRIP to ensure that IPs are recognized and that their rights are mainstreamed in the REDD+ process.

10. The REDD+ stakeholders and partners to continue supporting Regional exchange and knowledge sharing processes in a bid to strengthen networks and broaden CSO/IPs engagement.

11. Indigenous peoples and local communities’ livelihoods are increasingly vulnerable and are adversely affected by climate change, a situation that is further exacerbated by REDD+ interventions. Support for Livelihoods diversification is a top priority for these groups.

12. Addressing food insecurity and combating climate change through REDD+ activities are two competing land uses unfolding in forested landscapes. Deliberate governance and policy interventions should be urgently undertaken to reconcile the two and in so doing, IPs/local community access and use of forest resources should be securely safeguarded.

13. The REDD+ process should ensure full participation of youth and women in REDD+ process, but should device means of verifying impact made by women and youth in this discourse.

14. There is need to develop community based MRVs in a manner, language and approach that is friendly to local communities and IPs so that they can effectively engage.

15. REDD+ effort in Africa continues to be negated by sporadic and widespread conflicts and cases of insecurity in Africa, where perpetrators reside in forests. The African Union and other regional bodies to address insecurity issues in Africa once and for all.

16. The right energy technological transfer should be effected for local communities to transition from wood depended energies and thus help preserve forests.

17. There is need for inclusive system that will address poverty and social inclusion for them to realize the efforts of REDD+ program because of livelihoods need the communities will not sit and see the forest standing.

18. Governments and REDD+ partners should device a robust formulae and criteria for revenue sharing arrangements which need to be standardized and institutionalized across the region.

19. REDD+ is everyone’s business together we can improve management of and increase benefit sharing in targeted forest landscapes. CSOs, IPs should be
empowered and participate fully in decision making in terms of REDD+ implementation.

20. The CSOs and IPOs to exploit the immense opportunity of Mass media, especially radio and mass media to reach out to the general public.

21. Local communities and IPOs are repositories of age old traditional knowledge that if tapped, documented and mainstreamed into the conventional knowledge systems would be invaluable in the REDD+ process.

22. There is need to ensure gender mainstreaming in all REDD+ activities from funding and representation in decision making process.

**Conclusion remarks**

We need to work across divide from the old youth women and any other key stakeholders Knowledge that is being held by the participants that has been shared. We need to re-define and control our future/ destiny we need to be careful with the international support that should not compromise our rights, and sovereignty. We need extra measures to rise against our enclaves of identification as IPs, local communities CSOs and the Government so that we can work collective to keep our team spirit.

The meeting has been very engaging where people have learnt, understood REDD+ networked among others. He thanked the partnership members MPIDO, World Bank FCPF for the support.