



Expanded Constituency Workshop

Report of the Civil Society Organizations to the GEF

(Prepared by Adelaine Tan, Global Environment Centre (Malaysia) which is the current Central Focal point of GEF-NGO Network)

- Expanded Constituency Meeting: South and East Asia
- Location: Delhi, India
- Dates: 5-6 Nov 2012
- Participating Countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam + Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.
- Participating civil society organizations (**see appendix**)



The Expanded Constituency Workshop for South and East Asia held on 5 – 6 November 2012 in Delhi, India was intended to provide updates on GEF developments and help familiarize the participants with the procedures and resources available to assist them in developing and supporting initiatives for GEF funding. Part of the meeting is also dedicated to engaging the countries in the Overall Performance of GEF-5 (OPS5) exercise led by the GEF Evaluation Office.

The meeting was attended by representatives from the 13 CSOs representing 6 countries. The following summarized the main expectations and objectives of the CSOs who participated in the meeting:

- Increased understanding on GEF (its focal area and project development process)
- Learn new approaches in global conservation efforts
- Build capacity
- Involvement with GEF for addressing the issues of climate change and impacts on biodiversity
- GEF engagement with CSOs
- Learn how to be a developmental partner of GEF in Nepal

Generally, the CSOs found the agenda of the meeting useful, informative and educational. They are well planned, fit into the requirements and were adhered to. They increase GEF visibility and address post Rio+20 needs

However, there are some comments and suggestions to the agenda as follows:-

- Lack of regional interaction
- Should include exposure visit to best practices project or GEF project in the vicinity for a better understanding of GEF interventions, strategy and outcome

Among the main topics of interest of the CSOs are as follows:

- CBD presentation
- Chemicals update
- Climate change, water, land degradation and biodiversity
- Knowledge networking
- Results framework of GEF
- Results-based management
- Accessing GEF support
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Recommendations

The CSOs present made the following recommendations:

- Include a session specifically on CSOs on the agenda, eg. CSOs' roles and engagement in GEF.
- Circulation of pre-awareness materials can be useful for active participation
- Wider dissemination of invitation to CSOs to ensure more CSOs participation

- Increase number of CSO participation who have on the ground working experience on GEF thematic area to increase their contribution to the ECW process
- Provide financial aid to local CSOs (those from India), especially for the small CSOs or at least their accommodation.
- CSOs should have easy access to GEF-related information which ideally should be in their local language
- Stronger promotion of GEF-NGO Network
- The bilateral session will be more useful if they are organized to be more informal.
- Please include some activities for the participants to be involved more actively with the GEF Secretariat, partners and donors.
- Bring the regional/national/local level project in the meeting where the ECW takes place
- Country specific examples from participating country

**APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS ATTENDING THE ECW IN DELHI, INDIA,
5-6 NOV 2012**

No.	Name	Country	Organization	Title	e-mail
1	Akhtar Hossain Babu	Bangladesh	Society for Urban Environmental Protection	Chief Executive	ceo.suep@gmail.com
2	Kat Bun Heng	Cambodia	Community Translation Organisation	Executive Director	bunheng@humantranslation
3	Minakshi Arora	India	Trust for Research on Earth and Environment (TREE)	Managing Director	water.community@gmail.com
4	Krishnakumar Gopalakrishna Pillai	India	India Energy Press Secretary	Secretary	seem.gk@gmail.com
5	Prabhjot Sodhi	India	Centre for Environment Education	National Coordinator	prabhjot.sodhi@ceeindia.org
6	Anil Arora	India	Centre for Environment Education	Senior Project Officer	anil.arora@ceeindia.org
7	Raman Kant	India	NEER Foundation	Manager	theneerfoundation@gmail.com
8	Paul Mathew Pariyadan	India	Centre for community Economics and Development Consultation Society	Director	pmpaul_2002@yahoo.co.in
9	Beng Hun Tan	Malaysia	Global Environment Centre	Coordinator	adelaine@gec.org.my
10	Ram Charitra Sah	Nepal	CEPHED	Chairman	ramcharitra@gmail.com
11	Rajendra Bahadur Adhikari	Nepal	Rural Area Development Programme (RADP)	Coordinator	radp.rajendra@gmail.com
12.	Menuka Bisht	Nepal	office	Officer	menubasnet@gmail.com
13.	Sudharma Suranjan Kodithuwakku	Sri Lanka	Green Movement of Sri Lanka	CEo	suranjan@gmsl.lk