

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS **for** **CSO meeting December, 15th 2013**

**Prior to the GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop (ECW), MENA Region
Marrakech, Morocco**



Report Prepared by:

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West Asia

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank the following:

- The host Country (Morocco);
- Mr. Azzeddine Daaif, chief of Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Energy, Minerals, Water and Environment, Kingdom of Morocco.
- GEF Sec. especially, Mr. William Ehlers, Ms. Camila Perez Gabilondo, Ms. Abeer Aldagestani and Ms. Maria Del Pilar Barrera for their technical and logistical support.
- Special thanks to Ms. Duygu Kutluay, TEMA Foundation for taking note of the dialogue session with GEF Sec. and the Rapporteurs of the working group (Ms. Duygu Kutluay, Ms. Sana Taktak and Mr. Emir Berkane for helping in translation).

In addition, I would like to sincerely recognize the enormous measure of support as provided by CSOs participants from in the North Africa and West Asia Regions sharing of experiences, professionalism, information and lively debates.



Introduction

The GEF Expanded Constituency Workshops (ECW) are held annually and are aimed at keeping the GEF national Operational focal points (OFPs), Political focal points (PFPs), convention focal points, Civil Society organizations (CSOs) and other key stakeholders about GEF strategies, policies and procedures and to encourage networking and coordination.

This report is intended to cover only the deliberations during the CSO consultation meeting on 15th Dec. 2013 prior to the ECW. The ECW (16-17th Dec. 2013) itself as well as CSO session on the second day of the ECW will be covered in another report by RFP- North Africa as agreed during the CSO consultation meeting.

Organization of the CSO Meeting

A one day of dialogue with GEF Secretariat, deliberations and presentations for CSOs prior to the ECW Workshop. It was a full day consultation (9 AM till 7 PM on 15th Dec. 2013). 30 Participants from 12 countries in the MENA region (Algeria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Lebanon, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey and Yemen) have attended the CSO consultation day.

Participants:

- GEF CSO- Network RFPs from North Africa and West Asia.
- GEF CSO- Network members from North Africa and West Asia.
- Other CSOs from Morocco.
- Other CSOs from MENA region.
- SGP Coordinator, Morocco.
- GEF Sec. (William Ehlers, Head-External Affairs, only for dialogue sessions).

A list of participants is attached at the end of this report (Annex #1)

Logistics:

- GEF Secretariat, Ms. Camila, Ms. Abeer, Ms. Pilar.

Facilitators:

- GEF CSO- Network RFPs from North Africa and West Asia regions.

Rapporteur of the CSO Consultation meeting:

- Mohamed Abdelraouf – RFP – West Asia

Meeting Approach:

- Dialogue with GEF Sec.
- Welcome and introductory session
- Visual presentations through PowerPoint
- Working group session

Kindly see agenda of the meeting at the end of this report (Annex #2).

Record of events:

CSOs Dialogue with the GEF Secretariat Session

The session started by personal introductions by all participants then followed by a dialogue with Mr. William Ehlers, Head of external Affairs, GEF Secretariat. Mr. William stated that, this session among CSOs today and the next two days the government representatives will join us is to create opportunity:

- (i) to develop relations among CSOs
- (ii) to develop relations between CSOs and government officials.

So the overall aim is to bring national teams together.

In the past, it was observed that contact was not very efficient at the national level so GEF organize these meetings to help this relationship to become more fluent between government and CSOs and to encourage greater consultation and participation at the decisions taken by governments at the national level. Concern of GEF is that number of projects CSOs are involved is on the decline. Participation of CSOs is on the decline. At the same time ownership at the country level must be ensured.

CSO meetings began a couple of years ago for greater integration and support among each other and deliver joint messages to the GEF Secretariat and countries.

GEF 5 was the first time Secretariat took the leads in the workshops and ECWs are organized. In the past also every year the same presentation was done. Now different seminars are designed based on the feedback of prior participants. So if there are topics that current participants are interested and not covered under this meeting, they are encouraged to ask around or contact the Secretariat.

GEF 6 Replenishment is coming along. Due to economic situations, there are some hardships at the donor level. The end result will be presented at the March meeting. Meanwhile, CSOs are invited to if there is anything your constituency can do, please do so.

GEF 6 will be working on fundamental drivers of the environmental degradation. Three main emerging drivers were identified:

1. Increase in population

2. Increase in middle class

3. Concentration in cities

While the work on the focal areas GEF worked on before will continue, special programs/ strategy on these drivers will also be developed. This is the aim for next 4 years.

With regard to the GEF 2020 Strategy, So that GEF doesn't only plan 4 years but for longer periods.

Questions & Answers

Q: It is good to have this approach from bottom to the top. we do this approach in our GEF projects. My presence here is to consolidate this approach because we have some donors that can make this capacity building. I am here to have these links.

A: We encourage governments for two processes:

(i) Short version is what we call the NPFE (National Portfolio Formulation Exercise) where we encourage governments to bring stakeholders together. It will be launched in January (next month). In these exercises, it will be discussed in the next four years what the projects are that want to be implemented with GEF money. Also, by bringing stakeholders together, more co-financing opportunities can be generated.

(ii) The other one is National Dialogue where there are two- three days to bring different stakeholders together to discuss how the country is developing with environment. It is meant to increase national coordination, communication.

Q: This is my first time in such GEF meeting. Is GEF providing funding for all countries or just 14 countries that are participating in this meeting. After the revolution, there is no infrastructure in Libya for environments. Will there be special opportunities for such countries?

A: GEF is global environment facility. GEF doesn't finance projects with local impact. GEF is a co-finance in itself. The whole idea GEF was established was supposed to be a tradeoff. Developed countries were requesting developing countries to follow a more environmental friendly development path (different that the path followed by the developed countries since it leads to environmental deprivation). Developed countries were to provide money and technology in return. GEF has 183 countries around the World. GEF was established in 1991 to fund incremental costs.

CSOs have been part of the GEF from the beginning. But at first there were just a large number of CSOs involved. Council suggested that these NGOs organized themselves and are represented as such. GEF NGO was born out of this. From a policy point of view, CSOs are always present at the Council and can pose questions.

Specifically on projects, the way GEF works is that donors allocate a certain amount of money to GEF for 4 years. Focal areas are climate change, biodiversity, chemicals, and international waters. It designs a strategy for all these focal areas. And countries bring projects that address along these strategies because these areas are what the donors are giving money for.

Countries don't apply directly to GEF but through GEF implementing agencies like UNDP, UNEP, FAO, etc.. If an NGO wants to bring a project, it should be within the strategy of GEF and the country priorities. Then it needs to be taken to implementing agency and through that to the GEF.

All projects need to result in global benefits. Regarding the question non recycling activities, Not all recycling would have global benefits. So some actions might fit into it.

Q: Algerian experience with GEF. Two years ago, a committee was created with UNDP and GEF. It was first time mixed with government ministry representatives and CSOs. Majority was CSOs. WE are 15. 8 from CSOs. Environment Ministry Energy agriculture, Foreign Affairs, Internal Affairs and UNDP. There were 3 head of committee., CSOs, UNDP and foreign affairs. We are supporting in the first round 6 CSOs. during the second year 8. we hope to support between 6-8 for 2014. during the first year we had some problems, with working with CSOs, training with CSOs to how to build a project according to GEF. so during the second year we decided to leave a part of the donation for training. we trained 40 CSOs. Training local CSOs can be main activity from the beginning a better idea.

A: GEF will continue the SGPs. For now the plan is 140 million as last time. An easier way to allocate SGPs is trying to be designed. We have 126 countries on board, some countries move out of SGP so more countries can take part in SGP. And some countries can be phased out. Because continuing with the same money, it won't be possible to do more, the only way is to concentrate more.

Q: Middle East and North Africa this is not a geographical constituency it is political. I believe GEF doesn't work along political areas.

A: There are different constituencies represented here. North Africa and Middle East, Western Asia. Turkey is a member of developed country constituency but also a recipient country so the only way to take part in such meetings is to include them in other regions. Iran is also a constituency on its own. MENA is not a acronym used under GEF. GEF works under constituencies and these constituencies don't have names. Some might use MENA because it is the terminology used by World bank etc.,

Q: Many CSOs in Libya don't know anything about GEF. Whose responsibility is this, focal point, GEF secretariat?

A: It is not only NGOs that don't know GEF. Even projects that are financed under GEF, are known to be UNDP, FAO etc projects. Agencies don't want to show GEF finances it they want to show they finance.

As a result of such workshop, when participants go back to countries, they will find a chance to represent what the GEF is about.

Q: Considering technical assistance to NGOs from GEF, most important thing is capacity building and training. How in the advanced countries act and receive funds, we need to find out.

A: GEF is not in the business of developing institutions. GEF works for global benefits. There can be possibilities for capacity building in various ways:

(i) Through individual projects, there are some trainings etc involved in the project.

(ii) Through cross cutting capacity development. More on the government side to be better equipped to address their commitment under the Conventions. This is exclusively for capacity development.

For SGP, it has to be training for the projects they want to do. Their projects must be supporting global environment. Since the money is very limited, so the amount of capacity development that can be done is limited.

Q: From GEF 5 to GEF 6 recommendation is only GEF only encourage countries to involve CSOs. Part of our work for preparation for the GEF GA in Mexico, government is the only obstacle for CSOs involvement. When you only encourage them, how can we do really something for GEF 6 to turn encouragement into commitment.

A: The day after tomorrow, CSOs can tell the focal points that you are blocking them. It is very difficult to put a rule for GEF to involve CSOs, someone will block it. That's why tools like National Dialogue are provided.

Q: When GEF is having this project cycle, GEF can support when the PIFs arrive, to suggest more CSO involvement.

A: We need to have as many voices as possible to say the same things. Donors, focal points, all countries, CSOs, etc. to be part of the criteria. I am not sure if the message is strong enough. From CSOs the message is strong enough but not overall. If two projects equally good, the one who has CSO involvement to be preferred in order for this criteria to be established.

Introduction and welcome remarks session:

The two RFPs welcomed the delegates to the workshop and wished them a fruitful consultation meeting. They noted that some countries were unable to attend (Iraq, Pakistan due to visa issues).

They also noted that GEF Sec. asked to conduct the dialogues session first due to other engagement of Mr. William with a constituency meeting at the same time. That is why the introductory session is held after the dialogue session.

Mr. Abderrahim Ksiri, President of AESVT as CSO from host country delivered a speech that welcomed the participant from the region, emphasized the importance of the civil society in our region especially after the Arab Spring, the CSOs as a non-state actor can help in achieving sustainable development and that currently government cannot achieve development alone, CSOs is a key stakeholders as they are aware of the problems and more able to acquire the people acceptance and execute the projects and guarantee it sustainability.

Then, the RFP-West Asia delivered an introductory presentation about “GEF and GEF CSO- Network” that included the following:

- History and Mission of GEF
- GEF Focal Areas
- GEF links to the Global Environmental Conventions
- GEF Finance for North Africa and West Asia
- LDCF and SCCF
- GEF Organizational Structure
- Role of the GEF, GEF Agencies
- Involvement of Civil society in GEF
- GEF CSO – Network (history, structure and mission, Regions and indigenous people Focal points)
- GEF Policy on Minimum Environmental and Social Safeguard Standards for GEF agencies
- GEF Policy on Gender Mainstreaming
- GEF Principles & Guidelines for Engagement with Indigenous Peoples
- GEF Public participation Policy

Working Group Sessions:

The CSOs participants were divided into two groups to discuss the two main questions:

- 1- CSO engagement in respective countries/issues
- 2- Feedback on implementation of Public Involvement Policy

Working Group 1 (Ms. Sana Taktak as Rapporteur):

With regard to the first topic, the group identified the following:

- Chairing participative approach during project's execution
- Communication problems between CS organizations, governments and CSOs
- Lack of coordination between CSOs for becoming a proposal force and power facing government
- Low building capacities, lack of governmental environmental priorities and initiatives from CSOs braking development



- Difficulties of Marginalized CSOs to join main networks (meetings ,trainings ,awareness ,information)

With regard to the second topic, the group identified the following:

- Lack of CSOs participation in governmental projects
- Difficulties to accede to information for CSOs from government institutions
- Lack of sharing the experiences between civil society in project achievement and realization
- Difficulties for CSOs to attend National portfolios
- Shortage in relaying human rights (gender ,Ethnicity,...) during all steps of project
- Missing contarctualisation and professionalism on CSOs staffs
- High finical CSOs participation on SGP policy (50%)

Working group 2 (Ms. Duygu Kutluay as Rapporteur):

With regard to the Policy of Public Involvement, the group identified the following:

- own tools/ models based on own needs (local socioeconomic cultural realities)
- identification and solution of problems through multi-stakeholder dialogue (for managing GEF activities)
- involve CSOs in the development of operating guidelines for effective public participation
- develop operational manual to ensure the effective participation and involvement of CSOs
- engage CSOs in GEF projects implementation as an opportunity for capacity building and improvement

With regard to the CSO Engagement, the group identified the following:



- create platforms for CSOs to share experiences and best practices at national, international and regional level
- project delivery for CSOs to manage while granting sustainability of project goals
- develop a governance system for each project to ensure CSO involvement

- upgrading financial and institutional capabilities of CSOs to ensure effective participation and to meet the standards for partnership (with international organizations and governments)
- "transparency"
- involve CSOs in the evaluation of GEF and agencies
- project cycle should be shorter

Presentations:

Session: The GEF Small Grants Program, Ms. Badia SAHMY, SGP Coordinator, Morocco



The presentation included the following points:

- SGP History
- How SGP works with Civil Society
- GEF SGP - contribution to society (i.e. Environment, Livelihood, Capacity Building)
- Regional Examples from Morocco, Tunisia, Pakistan , Afghanistan, Yemen, Lebanon, Jordan, Syria and Turkey
- Overall lessons learned:
 - o Sustainable livelihoods
 - o Holistic initiatives
 - o Indigenous and local knowledge
 - o Strategic partnerships and networks
 - o Multi-stakeholder approach
 - o Sustainability
 - o Replication, scaling up, and policy influence
- Going forward, looking ahead at GEF Operational Phase 6

CSOs Experience session:

Presentation 1: “The Kneis Islands Nature Reserve: Sustainable development pillar of the Ghraiba” - Ms. Sana Taktak, Association of continuity of generations, Tunisia

The presentation started by the location and importance of The Kneis Islands, the Stakeholders and kick off project Workshop was on 28th of September 2012.

Then different objectives of this GEF funded project (among other many partners):

Objective1: Local community of Ghraiba is aware of the importance of the biodiversity of the islands.

Objective 2: Promotion of natural resources and strengthening of the landscape of the reserve of Kneïss Island for ecotourism development

Different activities carried in the project:

- Awareness activities including creating educational tools.
- Bird-watching
- Strengthening women capacities
- The creation of the “Association clam harvesters Women and Development”
- The creation of the Association of Fishermen and Development of the Kneiss Islands
- Construction and reconstruction of footbridges
- Creation of a database gathering all studies and research jobs existing on the Kneïss Island

Lastly the Project impacts, different lessons learned were presented such as:

- Local community involvement and ownership
- Inter-actors coordination

- Building partnership with the institutional actors

Presentation 2: “The role of Environmental Awareness in Promoting Civil Society Activities, Foundation for the Environment”, Libya.

Dr. Nuri Fello

Staff Geologist

Petro-Canada in Libya

the presentation included a brief intro about the following NGOs:

- Libyan Association For Environmental Friendships - LAEF
- Libyan Canadian Association For Cooperation & Development - LCACD
- Libyan Home For Sciences and Culture - LHSC

Then discussed different activities carried in order to:

- raise awareness about environmental conservation,
- The importance of behavior and team work of civil societies to improve the environment
- Impacts of the petroleum pollution and remediation
- Different types of wastes in Libya and its negative environmental impacts.

Presentation 3: “The Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats”, Ms. Duygu Kutluay, TEMA, Turkey

The presentation included the following points:

- History mission and role of TEMA
- Organizational Structure of TEMA
- Advocacy, awareness raising and projects of TEMA
- A brief about different awareness-raising campaigns and education activities/ programs.
- Advocacy (Ecological advocacy, Drafting law proposals)
- Different projects such as
 - o Combating desertification and soil erosion
 - o Afforestation in cooperation with Ministry of Forest and Water Affairs (10 million saplings)
 - o Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Rural development



Presentation 4: “Socotra’ NGOs & CBOs Experience with the GEF”, Mr. Ali Faisal Salem Daheq Albsairi, Ma’la Community Group, Socotra, Yemen

The presentation included the following points:

- Location of Socotra Island, its animal production that provides a survival means for Socotra people.
- Socotra unique biodiversity including Hajher Mountains, animals, protected areas, plants...etc.
- GEF projects in Socotra
 - 1997-2001: Socotra biodiversity Project = US\$ 4.9 m
 - 2013-2015: Mainstreaming biodiversity into local Governance= over 1m
 - Since 2004: 34 Small Grant programme projects max. 50,000
- A details about the GEF funded project “Rain-water Harvest in Ma’la, Qalancia District, Socotra Archipelago”, Hadhrasmout Governorate, Yemen YEM/SGP/OP4/Y3/CORE/09/01
- Lastly, the different goals, challenges, funding...etc of the project, consultation implementation activities and various lessons learned

Presentation 5: “Contribution to the fight against forest degradation and regeneration of degraded soils in the High Atlas, through the preservation,

improvement and enhancement of the walnut”, Mr. Larbi Didougen and Ms. Malika, High Atlas Foundation, Morocco.

This is a 24 months project in the Province of Al-Haouz with a total value of 897.358,00 Morocco Dh

The presentation included a background on total soil degradation, decrease production, poverty and urban migration. Then different activities of the projects were presented such as:

- Seedlings are produced and a dissemination plan of plants is defined in a participatory and transparent consultation and participation of partners
- Local capacities are strengthened in the area of orchard management and cooperative enhancement products walnut accompanied the launch of niche activities for income generation
- The project activities are evaluated and lessons learned from the project are documented, capitalized and disseminated in an effort of advocacy and influence policy

Presentation 6: Mr. Abderrahim Ksiri, President of the Association of Earth and Life teachers in Morocco.

Session about: “the GEF Assembly, Mexcico May 2014”

Mr. Essam Nada explained that a CSO forum and CSO-related activities during GEF 5th assembly in may 2014 to be jointly organized by GEF-CSO Network, GEF SGP, GEFSEC, Mexican Government and Mexican CSOs

The concept, theme and program Outline: “Effective Partnership for a sustainable future
CSO’s Role in safeguarding the global environment”

The 5th Assembly of the GEF will convene from 27-29 May 2014 in Cancun, Mexico. During the Assembly, a one day CSO forum will be organized on 27 May 2014 (Tuesday) immediately after the GEF Council (25-26 May).

Objectives of the Forum:

- To provide a platform for CSOs and other stakeholders to dialogue on issues relating to global environment and the future of the GEF.
- To showcase and foster mutual learning of civil society innovations in safeguarding the global environment for present and future generations
- To formulate specific recommendations related to enhancing CSO engagement in GEF and the GEF Assembly

Up to 300 participants are expected to be involved in the Forum, comprising of CSOs, council members, GEF Agencies, national GEF focal points and other stakeholders, e.g. private sector.

Other activities

Other related CSO activities proposed are:

- Compilation by SGP and GEF -CSO Network of set of best practice case studies (SGP, MSP, FSP and UN Compact/others) and publication of selected case studies.
- Organization of a knowledge fair/exhibition/pavilion to showcase CSO actions and experience (led by SGP and drawing mainly on Meso-America groups). Possible linkages with Equator Initiative.
- Organization of a preparatory meeting prior to the GEF council and CSO participation in the GEF council.
- Award presentation, for example for best NGO projects in GEF themes, Best Private Sector Partnership or Best Government-Civil Society Project/Partnership. Possibly to be presented during a gala dinner (subject to availability of a sponsor).
- Event with youth, eg. Pemsea Youth Ambassadors, SGP, UNEP Youth Program (Tunza) or the Global Youth Biodiversity Network
- Promote the appearance of famous personality/celebrity, eg. Nobel Prize winners, sport stars, actor/actress who advocate for conservation efforts, etc.
- Organization of visits to on-the ground projects (in parallel with GEF Council) led by Mexican SGP National Coordinator.
- Engagement with media/press conference
- Half day technical training sessions on selected topics of interest to CSOs.

Meeting among members of the GEF CSO network to discuss future network strategies

- Proposed criteria in the selection of the supported-participants
 - o Priority given to those who are proposed as speakers, facilitators, exhibitors (eg. GEF SGP producers) etc who should be selected based on their experience/expertise on the topics concerned and ability to contribute to the Forum and Assembly.
 - o Consider geographic and gender balance, where possible. A balance among international, national and local organizations (including indigenous people) should be considered. For participants some additional emphasis will be given to the Americas region (for cost effectiveness reasons)
 - o Knowledge and ability of the person to contribute effectively to the Forum (eg. understanding of Forum languages (English, Spanish, French) understanding of GEF related issues, specialized experience and expertise to contribute to the plenary, breakout sessions, etc).
 - o Prior engagement of the person/organization in the work of the Network and/or GEF. For GEF-CSO Network members, priority will be given to the members who have been with the Network for more than 1 year and have contributed to Network activities.

- Past attendance of CSOs at the GEF-related meetings should be considered and a rotation among organizations should be sought while recognizing that some continuity in representation would also be useful.

Closing session:

This session was attended by Mr. William Ehlers from GEF Secretariat and explained more on GEF Assembly, and the GEF-6 Replenishment process. The participants asked that for GEF assembly, it is better to have a training or capacity building as a side event during the CSO forum GEF council.

With regard to GEF-6 Replenishment process, generally GEF-6 will be same as GEF-5 as it is hard to have an increase in the money due to difficult financial situation around the world and many international donor countries are facing a lot of financial difficulties. It is noticed that the developing countries are playing instrumental role in GEF-6 Process as we have many active members such as the Representative of the African countries.

Recommendation:

The full day consultation was moderated on participatory approach basis and reached the following conclusions and recommendations:

- Applying the policy of public involvement is a must for reaching the goals of GEF projects.
- Information sharing and transparency could be the tool for confidence building and effective partnership between CSOs- Government, CSOs-agencies, CSOs-CSOs.
- The experiences of CSOs are various and rich and they are capable to play an effective role in enriching the projects and limit the duration of the project cycle.
- Although the small grants program “SGP” is still the channel for CSOs in working with the GEF, but yet the ceiling of 50000US\$ is not enough for achieving community based projects that reach wider scale and for some big countries
- There is a real need to upgrade the institutional and financial capabilities of the CSOs to meet the standards of playing essential role in medium and full size projects.
- GEF council might enhance the policy of public involvement by adding in the criteria of PIF PI as an item of approval or credit for recipients.
- Enhance the collaboration between environmental CSOs and related government agencies through dialogues and joint activities and oblige governments to involve CSOs in medium and full sized projects with certain percentage.
- Specific guidelines or tools/learning materials (eg documentation of lessons learned and good practices should be developed to stimulate enhanced stakeholder engagement in GEF project and program development in the region.

- GEF should provide support for regular regional meetings and capacity building sessions among stakeholders in the region

Annex # 1: List of CSO Attendants CSO consultation on 15th Dec. 2013

No	First and Middle Name(s) *	Affiliation and Organization	Country	Email Address(es)
1	Essam Nada	Executive Director, RAED, RFP GEF CSO Network, North Africa.	Egypt	info@raednetwork.org, enada2002@yahoo.com
2	Elham Halvaeiniasari	Mountain Environment Protection Society	Iran	eli_nia64@yahoo.com
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8	Mohamed Abdelraouf	Program Manager, Environmental Research, Gulf Research Center, GEF-CSO Network, West Asia	Saudi/ Egypt	mhdraouf@yahoo.com
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10	Abdulalem Saif Ali	Board Member Yemen Society for the Protection of Wildlife	Yemen	aaleem.saif@gmail.com, wildlife_yemen@y.net.ye
11	KAID YUCEF	Program Manager, Fédération national de la protection de l'environnement (FNPE)	Algeria	kymahdi@hotmail.fr
12	Ayşe Duygu Kutluay	International Relations Officer, The Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, For Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats (TEMA)	Turkey	duygu.kutluay@tema.org.tr
13	Emir BERKANE	Vice-Président, ADDEM (Association for sustainable development and ecology activism)	Algeria	emir.berkane@hotmail.com
14	Larbi Didougen	Vice, president, High Atlas Foundation	Morocco	larbi@highatlasfoundation.org
15	Malika Kassi	High Atlas Foundation	Morocco	malika@highatlasfoundation.org
16	Badia sahmy	GEF SGP Coordinator	Morocco	Badia.sahmy@undp.org

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Annex 2



GEF – CSO Network

GEF EXPANDED CONSTITUENCY WORKSHOP (ECW), MENA Region
Marrakech, Morocco
December, 15th 2013
(CSO MEETING PRIOR TO ECW WORKSHOP)

AGENDA

Time	Agenda item
08.45- 09.00	Registration
09.00- 10.00	Dialogue with the GEF Secretariat, William Ehlers, Head of external Affairs, GEF Secretariat, Moderated: Mohamed Raouf, (RFP-WA) and Essam Nada (RFP- NA)
10.00 – 11.30	- Welcome and Introduction – Essam Nada (RFP- NA), KSIRI, ABDERRAHIM, President AESVT-MOROCCO (Association of Teachers of life science and earth). Moderated: Mohamed Raouf (RFP- WA) - Intro about GEF, GEF CSO- Network, Mohamed Raouf (RFP- WA)
11.30 – 12.00	Break.
12.30 – 13.00	Enhancing Civil Society Participation in GEF: Overview of GEF CSO Network, Essam Nada (RFP- NA).
13.00: 14.00	Lunch
14.00:15.30	Two Break out groups on Enhancing Civil Society Participation in GEF (moderated by RFPs) to discuss the following subjects: - CSO engagement in respective countries/issues - Feedback on implementation of Public Involvement Policy
15.30:16.00	Break

- 16.00-16.30 Report back from the working groups
- 16.30-17.00 Presentation: The GEF Small Grants Program, Ms. Badia SAHMY, SGP Coordinator, Morocco, moderated: Essam nada (RFP- NA)
- 17.00 – 17.15 GEF Assembly, Mexico May 2014, GEF CSO activities and group suggestions., Moderated, Esam Nada, RFP- NA
- 17.15 -18.30 - CSOs Presentations:
- The Kneis Islands Nature Reserve: Sustainable development pillar of the Ghraiba, Ms. Sana Taktak, Association of continuity of generations, TUNISA
 - The role of Environmental Awareness in Promoting Civil Society Activities (in Arabic), Dr. Nuri Fello, Foundation for the Environment, Libya
 - The Turkish Foundation for Combating Soil Erosion, for Reforestation and the Protection of Natural Habitats, Ms. Duygu Kutluay, TEMA, Turkey
 - Socotra' NGOs & CBOs Experience with the GEF, Mr. Ali Faisal Salem Daheq Albsairi, Ma'la Community Group, Socotra, Yemen
 - Contribution to the fight against forest degradation and regeneration of degraded soils in the High Atlas, through the preservation, improvement and enhancement of the walnut", Mr. Larbi Didouqen and Ms. Malika, High Atlas Foundation, Morocco
 - Mr. Abderrahim Ksiri, President of the Association of Earth and Life teachers in Morocco
- 18.30 -19.00 Close up session:
- Dialogue with Dialogue with the GEF Secretariat, William Ehlers
 - Summary, ECW Agenda and CSO session, Any other business (Raouf and Essam)