

GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop

Libreville, Gabon

Civil Society Organisations Meeting

May 18th 2015



GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
INVESTING IN OUR PLANET

Preliminary notes

- Absence of the Regional Focal Point CSO GEF Network, meant to be a resource-person to the participant CSO;
- Participant CSO in general with little knowledge of the GEF and the network;
- Discussion focused on the difficulties encountered and proposals for solutions for better integration of CSOs in GEF activities with a view to establishing win-win partnerships in favor of the global environment and the most vulnerable.

Content

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- Recommendations at GEF/agencies level
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- Recommendations at Government level

Issues at GEF/agencies level

- Deficient communication mechanisms between the GEF Secretariat and CSOs on the GEF network at regional and national level
- Low visibility of GEF activities at beneficiary level;
- Weak or non-existent mechanisms for participatory monitoring field GEF activities;
- Slowness in the provision of funding by the implementing agencies;
- Different disbursement procedures of each implementing agency

Recommendations at GEF/agencies level (i)

- Support the re-Launching the CSOs Regional Focal Point;
- Ensure that implementing agencies and the national GEF focal point are informed about the GEF CSO Network /members
- Ensure regular updating of the national GEF focal points list
- Encourage/promote collaboration and dialogue between the GEF focal point and CSOs.
- Establish mechanisms for regular direct consultations between the GEF secretariat and national CSOs

Recommendations at GEF/agencies level (ii)

- Establish financial monitoring mechanisms aimed at improving accountability for governments and agencies
- Improve transparency in the publication of the amount allocated vs amount implemented for each country and other GEF-related data
- Facilitate the membership of CSOs in GEF network (simplify the procedures, criteria)
- Provide financial and logistic resources to the members of the GEF network to facilitate field activities related to GEF-CSO Network

Issues at Government level

- Absence / Deficiency communication mechanisms on GEF projects at the national level, between the GEF national focal point and CSOs
- Difference between the political guidelines that define the GEF projects and the real problems in the field;
- Absence of participatory mechanisms for identifying priority environmental and social problems in different localities
- Lack of support to CSOs for the application for large and medium-scale funding



Recommendations at Government level

- Promote dialogue mechanisms between the GEF Focal Point, CSOs and other stakeholders on GEF projects that allow to establish win-win partnerships;
- Accompany / guide CSOs in the application for large and medium-scale funding in the country
- Encourage the creation of Small Grants Programme where it does not exist
- Ensure transparency in the selection process of:
 - Projects recommended for funding
 - Steering committee members