



GEOGRAPHIC MEETINGS

REPORT OF THE SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REGION MEETING

DATE: 17TH SEPTEMBER 2013; ROOM: SPORTS

The meeting was attended by the following participants:

NAME	ORGANIZATION
Wahli André	SDC, Switzerland
Sam Kanyamibwara	ARCOS
Tino Johansson	ICIPE
MABARI LEBAMANG	LESOTHO
CAMARA LOUIS PASCAL	Ministère de l'Environnement, Eaux et Forêts Guinée ARMB (Burundi)
NZIGIYIMPA Léonidas	Ministère de l'Environnement RD Congo
Gilbers KILOLA	Ministry of Water and Environment, Uganda
PAUL MAFABI Eumonye	Ministère de l'Environnement et des Forêts Madagascar RENASONGCAM (CAMEROUN)
TSALA MESSINGA Jean Marie	Foundation for Environment Development (FEDEV) Council of science and industry research
Ruth Legaga Titamongu	IISP
Moses H. Duku	Ghana Wildlife Society
ASHELIN APPLETON	Senior Consultant-SORAINA -VG GHANA
GERARD H.O. OAKYE	EIAR- Ethiopia
Okot Agiro Gabriel	Makerere Univ-MRC
Tolessa Debele Dilalessa	MPS- FAO
Nakileza Bob	UNEP
Alessia VITA	UNEP
Musorda MUMBA	UNEP
Matthias JUREL	

Comment [A1]: Senior Consultant,
SORAINE Uganda

TOTAL: 20 participants

The meeting selected Dr Sam Kanyamibwara and Mrs RAMAHAVALISOA Valérie Benjamin as facilitators for the meeting.

I- TOPIC DISCUSSED

I-1 Priorities areas for the region:

The meeting endorsed the six priority areas already in the Africa Mountain Partnership Work Plan 2013-2015, as identified by the Africa Mountain Partnership (AMP) members meeting held in Kigali Rwanda, in February 2013 during which the Africa Water Towers Initiative was launched. The meeting suggested to make climate change impact on the African mountains more visible either as a separate priority area or linked to the topic on private sector particularly in the context of green economy. The Africa Mountain Partnership Work Plan shall be revised to reflect this suggestion.

- **Information Sharing, Networking and Membership Mobilisation:** Revive existing Africa MP membership and recruit new members, raise the mountain agenda in African policy processes, enhance Africa participation in global Mountain Partnership; facilitate the involvement of African francophone members through the establishment of virtual forum and translating documents.

- **Research and Knowledge:** Inventory of research undertaken in mountain areas and making information and knowledge available and shared to deepen the links between science and decision making process on one hand, and to share practices and knowledge with communities, promote research and innovation. Establishing close contact between researchers in order to enhance synergies.

- **Advocacy/Policy:** Provide African governments, institutions and professionals with the tools and requisite case studies on mountain sustainable development to enhance their effective participation in international and regional climate change negotiations and common action. In addition document lessons and examples of best practice indicating the potential sustainable mountain development and its contribution to national and regional development agenda.

- **Community Livelihoods and Sustainable Benefits from Ecosystem Services:** AMP can focus on dissemination of best practices, providing capacity building to community based organizations working in mountain ecosystems and supporting activities that enhance sustainable benefits from mountain ecosystem services to communities

Capacity Building: Special attention to be given particularly on climate change mitigation strategies, promotion of renewable energy technologies and sustainable benefits from ecosystem services. Capacity Building in 3 levels institutional, individual, enabling environment which includes policy and legal frameworks

“- **Climate Change, Private Sector Involvement and Green Economy:** Engage dialogue and participation of private sector in the Mountain Partnership and engage partnerships with companies committed to corporate social and environmental responsibility in mountain ecosystems such as payment for ecosystem services to Integrate climate adaptation into core strategic business planning processes and green economy” (activities under this priority area to be revised in the Africa Work Plan).

I-2 Coordination

The meeting was informed that African Mountain Partnership is in place and has established the African Mountain Partnership Champions Committee AMPCC with the mandate to revitalize the activities of the Mountain Partnership in the African region and promote the mountain agenda in the context of the Mountain Partnership. The AMPCC is composed of volunteers that would steer the activities of the Mountain Partnership program in Africa, in support and working with all members of Mountain Partnership in Africa.

In view of the above the participants recommended the following:

- 1- The AMPCC should be operationalized
- 2- Participating countries are encouraged to establish National MP coordination structure such as National MP committee
- 3- Get community involved in the implementation and benefit
- 4- Lack of networking among the researchers and between researchers and decision makers
- 5- -Need to make inventory of ongoing researches
- 6- -Need clear criteria and indicators on mountain status
- 7- -Governments need to come in concrete ideas in term of budgetary allocation
- 8- -Need to produce document showing that mountains are important

II- DECISIONS MADE

II-1 Build on the ongoing initiatives at national and regional level

II-2 Preparing statement to AMCEN regarding proposal to establish an African Mountain Convention.

III-3 Need strategy for getting governments involved since that African governments are still few regarding Mountain Partnership members

III-4 Identifying mountain stakeholders

III-5 Promoting experience exchange among African members

III- SUPPORT EXPECTED FROM THE MP SECRETARIAT

- Support the establishment of national committee for African countries

IV- FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

ARCOS, as the Africa Mountain Secretariat in liaison with the Africa Mountain Partnership Committee, to follow up on proposed decisions and update the members accordingly.

Rapporteur: RAMAHAVALISOA Valérie Benjamin
Mountain Partnership National Focal Point, Madagascar

Date: 19 September 2013