

Terms of Reference for Assessment of the Community Driven Development (CDD) -type Subprojects of the LVEMP II Project in Rakai and Mubende Districts within the sub catchments of River Katonga Uganda.

1. Introduction

The East Africa Sustainability Watch (EA SusWatch) Network is a network of NGOs from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania spearheaded by Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), Sustainable Environmental Development Watch Network (SusWatch Kenya), and Tanzania Coalition for Sustainable Development (TCSD). EA SusWatch Regional Secretariat is hosted by UCSD in Kampala, Uganda.

The Mission of EA SusWatch is to catalyze and mobilize civil society in Eastern African to exert accountability from governments and international development institutions to achieve a socially and environmentally sustainable world.

The **mandate** of EA SusWatch is “*monitoring and advocating for the effective implementation of national and regional obligations to International agreements and other arrangements for sustainable development in Eastern Africa*”.

The EA Suswatch Network is currently implementing *LVEMP II Civil Society (CS) Watch project* (November 2011 to October 2014) with support from the Government of Sweden. *LVEMP II CS Watch project* is a partnership involving Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development (UCSD), Tanzania Coalition for Sustainable Development (TCSD), and Sustainable Environmental Development Watch Network (SusWatch Kenya).

Based on the baseline study carried out in 2012 in Uganda and an assessment of the CDDs carried out in 2013, EA SusWatch Network would like to follow-up on these to establish changes in the target communities arising from implementation of the CDDs as well as on environmental issues as severity of soil erosion, adoption of soil and water conservation practices, extent to which communities are willing / able to provide matching contribution, and supportive leadership, among other issues. The baseline studies were intended to act as benchmarks against which the improvement in the community livelihood as a result of the Community Driven Development (CDD)-type Sub-project interventions will be measured, documented and used for information sharing and advocacy work geared towards realization LVEMP II Project results.

2. The LVEMP II CDD Sub component

The CDD-type subprojects are aimed at reducing non-point sources of pollution, through control of soil erosion by adopting sustainable water and soil management practices. This will in turn increase water use efficiency and improve water quality in the LVB, which is also a positive externality to downstream countries.

The CDD-type watershed management subprojects comprise the natural resources conservation interventions, which generate predominantly public goods or benefits, and livelihood improvement activities that are largely household-based, and with substantial private benefits.

The local government authorities (LGAs) are to be supported in promoting CDD-type subprojects, through participatory planning, implementation, and M&E. This will enable countries to gain enough experience on community-driven watershed management and the use of participatory approaches.

The CDD approach is to be used to scale up soil and water management interventions. Under this approach, the project is to provide matching grants to selected local communities to promote local partnerships in addressing degradation of the watershed. The CDD-type subprojects comprise two categories: (i) natural resources conservation; and (ii) livelihoods improvement

CDD-type subprojects implemented under the Natural Resources Conservation and livelihoods improvement subcomponents under Component 3 of LVEMP II are intended to improve the quality of life of the participating communities and in this particular case the most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities (In LVEMP II, a community is defined as: a group of persons having ongoing interaction and a common or similar interest related to Natural Resources Management, which they wish to undertake on their own”).

Box 1: What Is Community-Driven Development?

According to the *Voices of the Poor* study (Narayan and others 2000), poor people demand a development process driven by their communities. Communities favor organizations of their own so they can negotiate with government, traders, and NGOs; direct assistance through community-driven programs so they can shape their own destinies; and local ownership of funds, so they can end corruption. They want NGOs and governments to be accountable to them.

CDD is an effective mechanism for poverty reduction, complementing market- and state-run activities by achieving immediate and lasting results at the grassroots level and can enhance sustainability and more responsive efforts to demand. CDD has also been shown to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of poverty reduction efforts. Because it works at the local level, CDD has the potential to occur simultaneously in a very large number of communities, thus achieving far-reaching poverty impact. Well-designed CDD programs are inclusive of poor and vulnerable groups, build positive social capital, and give them greater voice both in their community and with government entities.

CDD is a way to provide social and infrastructure services, organize economic activity and resource management, empower poor people, improve governance, and enhance security of the poorest. CDD gives control of decisions and resources to community groups. These groups often work in partnership with demand-responsive support organizations and service providers, including elected local governments, the private sector, NGOs, and central government agencies.

CDD treats poor people and their institutions as assets and partners in the development process. Experience has shown that, given clear rules of the game, access to information, and appropriate support, poor men and women can effectively organize to provide goods and services that meet their immediate priorities. Not only do poor communities have greater capacity than generally recognized, they also have the most to gain from making good use of resources targeted at poverty reduction and environmental management.

CDD is relevant across many sectors. The potential for CDD is greatest for goods and services that are small in scale and not complex and that require local cooperation, such as common pool goods (for example, management of common pasture and surface water irrigation systems), public goods (for example, local road maintenance), and civil goods (for example, public advocacy and social monitoring). Several countries have moved from state to community management of natural resources, mainly as a result of poor outcomes under state-led programs. These include interventions generating predominantly “public goods” or benefits, with both on-site and downstream benefits, such as sustainable soil and water management. Typical activities in the upper watershed will include rain water harvesting and storage, small water reservoirs, sediment retention dams, gully erosion control, planting multipurpose trees, afforestation, and reforestation. These natural resources management investments are linked to the overall sustainable land and water management agenda in the respective countries. Littoral zone activities will include biological and manual water hyacinth control, wetlands rehabilitation, and co-management of fisheries resources. The littoral zone activities will be coordinated by the established BMUs. CDD can improve the effectiveness and efficiency of services in many sectors and contexts as detailed above.

3. The LVEMP II Civil Society Watch and the CDD subprojects

The national level focus on the *watershed management Component (Natural resources conservation and Livelihoods improvement)*, is based on the need to secure maximum communities' benefit, effective and efficient resources use in this intervention that seeks to address the long-standing challenges to community livelihoods. Hence, EA SusWatch believes that securing an effective start of the CDD-type subprojects that are expected to run LVEMP II's 8year pan would ensure laudable local level benefits to the community. But this requires immediate independent oversight to bring to regularly bring to the fore lessons to share and challenges that need to be addressed in time.

The LVEMP II Civil Society Watch project is regional in nature and national chapters are delegated to implement specific tasks on behalf of the Network. LVEMP II CS watch project intends to produce several advocacy and IEC materials to inform the general public on the progress of implementation of LVEMP II including CDD-type subprojects identification, processes of projects identification, implementation progress, outputs to date and sustainability of the projects, and Examination of the CDD-type subprojects development process, opportunities and challenges being faced in implementation of LVEMP II project in Uganda.

4. Objectives of the Consultancy

The overall objective of the assignment is to assess and document community beneficiary experiences, capacity, knowledge and level of adoption of sustainable land management (SLM) practices under LVEMP II in selected areas in Rivers Katonga, Uganda, arising from the CDD-type sub-projects (see Box 1 below) that aim at reducing non-point sources of pollution into Lake Victoria so as to influence project Implementation.

This independent assessment is expected to review progress on the CDD-type subprojects implementation; processes involved, and come up with a CDD-type sub-projects status report within river catchments of Katonga, in Uganda, based on the baseline studies carried out in 2012.

The specific objectives of the baseline study include to:

- a) Identify and examine the CDD-type sub-projects identification process, opportunities and challenges being faced in implementation under LVEMP II in Uganda.
- b) Establish the extent to which the empowerment of communities using the CDD-type subprojects has been achieved based on the experiences in design and implementation of this approach
- c) Track the performance of the CDD-type subprojects (changes in community perceptions, in severity of soil erosion, adoption of soil and water conservation practices, extent to which communities are willing / able to provide matching contribution, and supportive leadership, among other issues parameters and outputs
- d) Examine and document the community benefits arising from the CDD project implementation.

- e) Point out key learning points and opportunities from the CDD-type subprojects, that can inform the subsequent phases of LVEMP II and other region-wide projects involving communities in the LVB
- f) Provide specific recommendations that can be used to share and scale up best practices for adoption in the LVB by communities and to realize the results of the LVEMP II Project of the East African Community

5. Methodology

The consultant shall be expected to use suitable robust qualitative and quantitative methods in this assessment. The consultant shall identify suitable tools to be used during actual data collection. The consultant shall have the support of the National Coordinators with consultation with the East African Suswatch Network Regional Advocacy Officer and Regional Coordinator. The methodology should provide clear comparisons between baseline indicators and the current indicators by acknowledging observable changes resulting from CDD-type sub-project implementation with clear statistical data. The consultant should use appropriate statistical tools such as graphs and pie charts to present the study results

6. Expected Outputs

The expected outputs/deliverables from this assignment are;

- a) An inception Report
- b) A draft report of the findings and SMART recommendations. The main report should as a minimum cover the following:
 - CDD-type subprojects development process, opportunities and challenges being faced in implementation of LVEMP II project in Uganda examined
 - The extent to which the empowerment of communities using the CDD-type subprojects has been achieved based on the experiences in design and implementation of this approach established
 - Performance of the selected CDD-type subprojects with clear statistical comparison to baseline data (changes in community perceptions, in severity of soil erosion, adoption of soil and water conservation practices, extent to which communities are willing / able to provide matching contribution, and supportive leadership, among other issues parameters and outputs tracked
 - The observable changes in the community resulting from the CDD implementation
 - A clear map of the study area
 - Key learning points and opportunities that can inform the subsequent phases of LVEMP II and other region-wide projects involving communities in the LVB pointed out
 - Specific recommendations that can be used to share and scale up best practices for adoption in the LVB by communities to ensure results-based performance of the LVEMP II Project of the East African Community provided.
 - The study must present clear statistics arising from the study using appropriate methods such as graphs, pie charts etc.
- c. Present the results of a draft assessment report to the stakeholders of LVEMP II Civil society Watch project of the East African sustainability Watch Network Project
- d. Prepare the Final report within two weeks after having received comments on the draft assessment report.

7. Timeframe

- The assignment shall take not more than 20 working days from the date of engagement. The date of engagement shall be the date of the Consultant's receipt of a signed contract from UCSD.
- Inception Report within 7 days of engagement
- Draft report 15 days from date of engagement
- Final report after comments from the validation meeting / team

8. Terms of payment

The consultant will be paid 40% upon submission of an inception report, 20 % upon presentation of the draft report and the remaining 40% upon approval by UCSD, of satisfactory product: The report on the progress and level of implementation of CDD-type sub projects in the Districts of Rakai and Mubende river catchments of Katonga, in Uganda, .

9. Specification of the consultant

The consultant shall possess relevant expertise and experience in the field of Community development with good track record of participatory monitoring of CDD type subprojects / community Projects, experience from working with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) coordination and networking as well as institutional capacity building for sustainable development. It is considered a merit if the consultant has working experience from the Lake Victoria Region as well as experience and/or familiarity with East African integration process.

The Team Leader shall possess relevant expertise (higher degree) and at least five years' experience in the field of community development work (analytical, communication and report writing).

Interested consultants are required to prepare a capability statement explaining how they will conduct the study, expected fees as well as the proposed work plan of the study.

Please send this to the attention of the National Coordinator (UCSD /): dmwayafu@ugandacoalition.or.ug not later than 17:00 hrs (5:00pm) on April 14, 2014.

10. Reporting arrangements

The consultant shall report to the National Coordinator – EA Suswatch Network / UCSD

11. Suggested references

- World Bank, (2009) Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project II Project Appraisal Document (Results Framework and Monitoring)
- World Bank (2012). Restructuring Paper of the LVEMPII (2009) to Republic of Kenya, United Republic of Tanzania and Republic of Uganda.

- Lake Victoria Environmental Management Project LVEMP: CDD Subprojects Operational Manuals
- EA Suswatch (2012) Report for LVEMP II Baseline Surveys Environment and Land management (Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania]
- EA SusWatch (2012) Report for LVEMP II Baseline Livelihood Interventions (Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania).
- LVEMP II Annual Reports (2011 / 2012)
- EA Suswatch (2014) LVEMP II Community Driven Development Sub-Project Watch No. 1