



Stakeholder engagement and capacity building by SEACRIFOG

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SEACRIFOG in a nutshell

Aim: Our aim is to create a long-lasting impact by giving optimal advice for the establishment of a pan-African greenhouse gas observation system, including a funding concept.

Team: Our interdisciplinary African-European working team comprises experts in atmospheric, terrestrial (agricultural) and ocean observation.

Research: We identify the needs for science-based concepts to improve food security and the GHG budget. We focus on the details necessary to harmonise and improve GHG data and establish routines of data sharing across EU and African countries.

Capacity-building: We work on a linkage between research and regional capacity-building. Trainings and workshops on data processing and data collection are central to our implementation.

Stakeholder Consultation Workshops

The aim of the stakeholder consultation workshops was to identify users needs and knowledge gaps in the area of research infrastructures related to: 1) Land use change and Food security, 2) GHG observation, carbon stocks and climate change mitigation, 3) Climate-Smart Agriculture and 4) Capacity development.

The three workshops attended by 73 participants from 33 organizations, underlined the importance of sharing data and knowledge and the need to develop not only technologies and research infrastructures, but also strong collaborative networks, including the industrial and private sectors. For all thematic groups data availability, accessibility and accuracy was the core of all discussions. The workshop also identified

an urged need to address farmers responsive research to provide accessible know-how in terms of technology and good agricultural practice. Beside scientific and technical aspects, the solution for part of raised constraints must be a comprehensive approach considering also socio-economic dynamics. This may influence the success and the long-term sustainability of RI network. Science alone is not enough, thus mediation among scientists and stakeholders along the entire chain of end users could help in facing some of the crucial aspects. A coherent and thorough analysis and prioritization of all these issues will help in developing a basket of options suitable for specific "on field" conditions, at national or regional level.



Fig. 1 Stakeholder consultation workshops organized in Kenya, Ghana and Zambia



Fig. 2 Stakeholder consultation workshop in Lusaka/Zambia ©Meshach Shikabeta

Demonstration case – Cape Verde

At Cape Verde synergistically overlaps between the “three spheres”, 1) national and 2) international research activities, 3) regional development and capacity building, in marine and atmospheric research in the country and West Africa were explored.

28 regional stakeholders were gathered in February 2018 and 163 international participants in November 2017 for discussion workshops.

A demand for a better connection between local and international research initiatives was formulated. It was strongly pointed out that capacity building is a central need, as human capital which can conduct environmental observations is missing in West Africa. During the workshop in November, the idea to

establish a master class on Marine and Climate science was discussed. The information collected builds the critical mass for the development and potential implementation of the “three-spheres concept”.



Fig. 3 Stakeholder workshop in Mindelo/Cape Verde ©GEOMAR

Fig. 4 Atmospheric observation station on São Vicente/Cape Verde ©Elisa Grieco



SEACRIFOG dialogue platform

To gain the maximum benefits of the project results we build the SEACRIFOG dialogue platform. Among the high number of stakeholders consulted, 5 have confirmed their involvement:

- African Academy of Sciences
- International Development Research Centre
- Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development
- African Risk Capacity
- WMO African Regional Climate Center

In the construction of the SDP, a special focus was put on gender balance and diversity/ complementarity of stakeholders.

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