



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

Back to Office Report
Submitted by Ela Ionescu
Title Regional KM Specialist
Date submitted 31.06.2015

1. Practice area : UN-REDD	
2. Mission period (incl. of travel days) From : 4 th May to 10 th May	
3. Type of mission : Scoping Mission to Abuja and Calabar	4. Clients Abuja national level counterparts, Calabar state level
5. Purpose of mission Scoping and preliminary KM Assessment	6. Documents, materials, resources National REDD+ Strategy
7. Mission members Ela Ionescu, Regional KM Specialist Mihaela Secrieru, REDD+ Academy Coordinator Anne Martinussen, Stakeholder Engagement Specialist (UNDP) Daniel Pouakouyou (UNEP) John Forwban (FAO) Elsie Attafuah- Senior Regional Technical Advisor (UNDP)	8. Costs

9. Brief summary of the mission

One of the pilot country in Africa to undergo a KM Needs Assessment is Nigeria a country that in 2010 took the first, tangible steps towards REDD+ and it created the first REDD+ coordination and consultation structures, both at Federal level and in Cross River State. By 2012 a full national programme support amounting to US\$4 million was granted to the country to support the REDD+ readiness efforts. The National Programme experienced significant delays in its implementation and progress in achieving the stated goal has been uneven. The Cross River State initiated internal organization, with a multi-sectoral approach, to build the REDD+ strategy during 2015. A CRS REDD+ Stakeholder Forum was initiated as the ultimate platform for stakeholder coordination in the development of REDD+ related strategies and activity implementation. Despite all the best possible efforts, the UN REDD Programme was unable to complete all the REDD+ readiness work in Nigeria at the end of the National Programme and at the request of the Nigeria Programme Steering Committee, a no-cost extension of 22 months was granted from the 01st of March 2015, allowing the three UN agencies to complete their respective work streams and rapidly setting up the country to the path of REDD+ investment. In light of the above, and given the need to urgently complete the implementation of the national programme during the no cost extension period, a UN-REDD team comprising all the three partner agencies travelled to fielded to Nigeria to meet with Government, and key development partners and stakeholders to discuss and prioritise actions required for the remaining period of the NP.

Thus, in light of the above the mission had two major objectives: 1) participate in the review the progress of implementation of the NP and thus have preliminary discussions on KM activities; 2) and participate in stakeholder forum in Calabar and present KM as the new area of work at global/regional level as well as identifying stakeholder's KM needs and challenges.

9.a Findings

Knowledge Management :

1. KM needs assesment was conducted with the participants of the UNREDD retreat in an attempt to identify the main knowledge users as well as their needs and strengths, knowledge/information priorities and expertise in terms of knowledge and information. A presentation on KM and Communication including the REDD+ Academy was

conducted during the retreat and a discussion ensued afterwards on how best to capture knowledge and transfer it when needed from national level and state level with relevant communities. There were comments from government officials around the lack of a culture of knowledge sharing with other government ministries and the inability to capture knowledge derived from communities to feed into national level policy. There is a lack of formalized structure that encourages sharing of knowledge amongst actors in federal/state and the chain of continuous learning from one another is non-existent.

2. The meeting in Calabar at stakeholder forum brought forward issues of lack of a structured system for capturing knowledge, although there is an effective group composed of Field Coordinators who can potentially play the role of KM Champions and ensure knowledge is circulated from communities to state level and higher to federal. Similarly raising awareness on REDD+ issues and benefits and right targeted messages may be channeled to communities through these champions. During the event there was a presentation on KM and issues were raised around having a common platform accessible to all where relevant documents are being shared. Most reinforced the message that is critical to get REDD+ right at the community level and therefore awareness raising is central part of that achievement.
3. From the Malawi experience it was shared with participants that one community focused on identifying the local word that was agreeable to all as representing carbon rights thus through this word they understood the benefits associated with REDD+ . Thus, a debate ensued amongst community leaders and eventually they have agreed with the right terminology to be used that is understood by all communities. The rich debate highlighted the importance of learning from other countries and the value added of sharing community based level best practices from one community to another and from one country to another.
4. In the working group on KM/Communication during the forum many complained that communities do not know how to capture and share knowledge and therefore it was agreed that the REDD+ Field Coordinators responsible with the day to day REDD+ coordination at community level they will focus more specifically on documenting and capturing knowledge and gather some key lessons learned. The KM specialist will contribute to their revised TOR and share a one page template that will be focused on capturing on a monthly basis on what has worked/challenges/lessons learned and feed into a central database for analysis- which will lead to targeted knowledge products.
5. Most coming from different regions were also interested in printed documents rather than online repository of knowledge as they do not have access to internet in their respective villages. They have agreed to conduct sessions within their own communities upon returning therefore printing reports are most appropriate in these circumstances. This reveals the obvious need in Africa for an equitable balance between printed knowledge products and online access to these products. Finally, they hope to see more easily accessed, concise and well-targeted reports on what REDD+ is to be able to explain the value added of REDD+ to their respective communities.
6. In terms of next steps, an online KM survey would be send to targeted stakeholders- from government, civil society, academia and private sector. However ,things have been stalled due to political sensitivities arising at the state level. Nonetheless, the role of KM is key to bring on board state officials through organizing a south-south learning exchange managed by Regional Programme through KM specialist and to expose high level government officials to other neighboring countries that are successful on the path of REDD+ implementation and enjoy strong political commitment at the highest levels.
7. There was also a meeting with the KM manager for Minister of Agriculture in Abuja and he has shared the KM strategy that stretches across all other Ministries. The ministry has in place a good platform for engaging the other ministries (took 2 years to develop). It would be interesting to continue cooperation with KM counterparts at Ministry of Agriculture as they can provide feasible solutions for the inter-sectorial dialogue needed on the REDD+ process in Nigeria.

9.b Results achieved (key outputs)

8. Participation in discussions with counterparts at national level and UNREDD Retreat- presented KM as a new area of work at global/regional level and raised awareness on the need to capture and share knowledge
9. Participation in stakeholder forum Calabar- presented on KM and the role of communities in sharing knowledge; conducted separate meetings with Field Coordinators and KM/Communication Focal point on their role as KM champions

9.c Expected outcomes and impacts

Smooth, effective and efficient delivery of Stakeholder Engagement and KM strategies by July 2015.

1. Key counterparts:

Abuja: Salisu Dahiru

Calabar: Al Turner, Tony Atah

11. Follow up action matrix

Action to be taken	By whom	Expected completion date
Revise existent KM/communication activities from NP and ensure it reflects existent needs of stakeholders	KM Specialist	15 th April 2015
Communication Strategy re-vamped	KM Specialist	June/August
Revise KM products at federal/state level and suggest a way forward for publication	KM specialist	June/August
Strengthened capacity on KM and Communication for 2 focal points at federal/state level	KM specialist	Sept 2015
Contribute to revised TOR for Field Coordinators/KM champions and share a template for the more systematic way of capturing of knowledge	KM Specialist	July/August

12. Distribution list:

UN-REDD global: Tim Clairs, Josep Gari,

Nairobi: Fabien Monteils, Elsie Attafuaah, Anne Martinusen, Mihaela Secrieru