

UN-REDD Programme – Civil Society Representative Nomination Form

Please limit response length to two pages. Nominations must be submitted to csoselection@un-redd.org by Friday, 11 September 2009. Self-nominations are accepted.

1. Name of the candidate: NSIKAN-GEORGE EMANA
2. Name of organization or network: GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION (GADA)
3. Title (if applicable): Ms
4. Country: NIGERIA
5. Language(s) spoken: ENGLISH
6. Please describe the primary interests and functions of the organization and community/constituency that the candidate represents and what countries the organization is active in.

GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT ACTION (GADA), a gender-based NGO in existence over the last fifteen years is dedicated to advancing the course of the poor and other vulnerable segments of the society particularly women. GADA has worked to ensure the socio-economic empowerment of women, their cultural rights as well as enhancing their political ambition. GADA works through its networks utilizing its strength within coalitions to advocate for the voiceless while strengthening citizens' abilities and capacities to take advantage of development programmes and interventions initiated by government, the private sector as well as development partners.

The Gender and Environment desk of GADA which evolved as a result of concerns about women's ability to access natural resource rights in local communities to support their socio-economic ventures, impacts of strong gender relations in local communities which hinders women from acquiring land rights, performing roles outside their socially constructed roles, accessing strategic opportunities to enhance their lives; shrinking outputs of farm activities, declining farm yields in these rural communities as well as poor women and men's vulnerabilities to climate change performs the following roles:

- a. Acting as an interface between local communities and policy makers and implementers both at national level and state level
 - b. Providing inputs to policy development in the environment sector with harvested concerns and views of climate change affected communities.
 - c. Undertakes field projects in pilot communities to better manage natural environments.
 - d. Assisting in the implementation of environmental laws, policies and best-practices by mobilizing organizations, providing resources, training people and monitoring results.
7. Describe briefly the organization's experience gathering and representing the diverse viewpoints of a range of communities or organizations, and disseminating and coordinating information and communications among a network of communities or organizations.

A strong component of GADA's work is in working with a range of stakeholders and actors at different levels and this is a huge strength of all thematic desks of GADA. The gender and governance desk of GADA has recorded a lot in gathering and representing views of a wide range of communities and organizations. Significant achievements have also been recorded in terms of co-ordination and dissemination of information by our livelihood desk due to GADA's strategy of targeting policy-makers, women and men in public life, civil society actors, categories of marginalized

persons (that often include women) and those poorly represented in national decision-making in Nigeria. Some of these notable landmarks include:

- Utilization of the provisions of many international convention and protocols like the 1995 Beijing Conference as well as the 1999 Nigerian Constitution to promote gender equity. This has helped in building the capacity of women to participate actively in public life. A few of the projects includes:-
 - GADA is working with NigeriaCAN, a coalition of NGOs, Government and CSOs working on and promoting policy formulation and development of institutional frameworks around issues of climate change issues. In this process, GADA works with few local communities in one of the states in North-central Nigeria to aggregate the views and concerns of rural population on impacts of poor development policies, changing weather patterns and gender-related concerns.
 - Through the management of the Federal Ministry of Women Affairs Women Political Empowerment initiative in the last four years, GADA has built considerable expertise in dealing with target beneficiaries and stakeholders, gathering relevant information and disseminating same.
8. Describe briefly your organization's background and experience with multilateral agency programs, social and environmental issues related to forests, and the role of forests in response to climate change, including REDD.
- GADA has since its inception worked with several donors and development partners to advance its mission and vision. Some of these partners include the European Union, Norwegian Embassy, Global Fund for Women, Heinrich Boell, Ford Foundation and Action aid International, Nigeria. In these relations with donors, GADA has advertently and inadvertently promoted donors missions and programmatic objectives in the course of implementing funded programmes.
 - GADA through self-funding carried out a study in Shiroro, Niger state, North-central Nigeria on the implications of poverty and climate change on gender. Following the outcome of the just concluded research, GADA is proposing through seeking funding support from the Japanese Embassy, the implementation of a project on building the adaptative capacity of poor women and men in Shiroro, strengthening institutional capacity and helping political office holders and other key policy makers to articulate a framework for integrating environmental policies as well as managing adaptation.
 - GADA works to assist communities sustainably manage the use of natural resources particularly forest management so that they can balance livelihood needs and needs of the ecosystem upon which they depend on for services.
9. Describe the financial, technical and/or advisory arrangements your organization has with the UN-REDD Programme, as well as the governments of the UN-REDD pilot countries, NGOs, or private sector organizations as they pertain to the UN-REDD process.

GADA is in the process of establishing a technical arrangement with the UN-REDD programme though it has demonstrated its commitment to the programme by registering with the programme. However, GADA is registered with Tanzania Natural Resource Forum and with the *On the Frontlines of Climate Change* (a global forum for indigenous people and vulnerable communities.) GADA is also registered member of several climate change institutions within and outside of the sub-region including Earth Watch.