

# A Presentation on Livelihood Options and REDD+

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By

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# What is livelihood(s)?

- ▶ A person's or people's livelihood refers to one's or their means of securing the basic necessities of life – food , water, shelter & clothing – Wikipedia
- ▶ Means of support; subsistence – The Free Online Dictionary
- ▶ The second definition will serve our purpose more, synonymous with:
  - Livelihood options
  - Alternative livelihoods
  - Sustainable livelihoods
  - These being an understanding of the livelihoods of poor people – the subject of many missions, initiatives, interventions, projects & programs

# Purpose of a Livelihood Project in REDD Plus:

- ▶ To promote forest regeneration, environmental management & sustainable economic growth by providing forest dependent communities with alternative & sustainable livelihoods through awareness creation, employment generation opportunities and micro-enterprise development services under the REDD+ Program.
- ▶ *(This will address the critical problems created by the country's harsh economic situation, severe unemployment and undue pressure exerted on the State's forests and stem environmental degradation. These factors particularly affect, the disadvantaged, at-risk or vulnerable dwellers of forest communities including women and youth in Cross River State.)*

# *Specific Objectives of the Program:*

- **To reduce poverty in forest communities by providing them with sustainable livelihoods such as hands-on training and experience on short-term Vocational and long-term Apprenticeship Skills as well as Alternative Livelihood Practices, key into local and international forestry, agric and tourism value chains.**
- **To empower participants through microfinance and technical linkages and establishment of Forest Trust Fund models.**
- **To create awareness on the UN-REDD+ Program and involve inhabitants of the forest communities in CRS to enable the State key into the carbon market economy.**
- **To incorporate modern participatory and sustainable forest management practices to engender land reclamation and forest regeneration.**
- **Collaborate with the most successful out of 26 World Bank-assisted initiatives in**

# Objectives (contd)

**Nigeria, the Community and Social Dev Project to implement Community Development (CD) and Community Social Investment (CSI) Plans that foster protection of forest reserves and tree planting to increase the number and size of forests thus boosting the carbon market economy; where possible, build infrastructure and provide the local forest communities with social facilities through the CD and CSI schemes.**

**➤To mainstream gender issues and HIV/AIDS interventions in forest communities.**

**➤To facilitate the realization of CRFC's mandate to sustainably manage, develop and conserve the State's forest resources for the benefit of all stakeholders through the application of sound policies and programs.**

# ***Program Implementation Strategies:***

## ***Collaborate with Partners and Engage Stakeholders:***

**Well calculated community entry, mobilization & sensitization**

**-\*Form a CRFC, Governors' Climate and Forestry/UN-REDD+ CSO Forum to consolidate the existing collaboration with IDAs, INGOs and CSOs**

**-\*Collaborate with other relevant stakeholders in the State engaged in youth employment generation sub-sector including vocational and technical skills training institutions, non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, and public and private-sector organizations, micro-finance, small and medium enterprises, among others.**

# Likely partners

The institutional/regulatory departments, vocational & technical education-based and investment promotional institutions of government in CRS:

- Cross River University of Technology (CRUTECH)'s Entrepreneurship, International Relations and Development Centre (EIRDC), Faculty of Agriculture and Business and Engineering
- State Microfinance and Enterprise Development Agency (MEDA) - CBN/CRSG-funded Entrepreneurship Development Centre (EDC) for South South with Shield Academy Partners Ltd as implementing partner
- CRS-adapted Songhai Farms (of Benin Republic-based) Model in Abi LGA
- Federal Ministry of Science & Technology's Technology Incubation Centre (TIC) in Calabar
- Industrial Training Fund (ITF)
- Institute of Technology & Management, Ugep
- Ministries of Women Affairs; Youth Development and Social Welfare and Community Development
- Federal Ministry of Environment/General Environmental Facility (GEF)/GSA.

# The Private Sector

comprising corporate organizations supporting CSI & promoting their product sales:

Specialized Banks such as NEXIM, Infrastructure Bank (former Urban Dev Bank),

Commercial Banks and Microfinance Institutions (MFIs)

General Electric (GE)

UNICEM Ltd

Dangote Industries Ltd

Niger Mills PLC

Soft & malt drink manufacturers/bottlers (Coca-cola, Pepsi, Fayrouz, etc)

Telecommunication companies (MTN, GLO, Airtel, Etisalat & MTEL)

*Identify Trainers/TOT:* Under this Initiative, identified trainers selected from a Train-the-Trainers (TOT) pool will solely be responsible for the provision of training and administration of technical assistance to beneficiaries, while the GCFTF, CRFC and UN-REDD+ Program will provide the financial service delivery. It is therefore incumbent on the project promoters/sponsors to conduct orientation workshops for the partners and facilitators, and build their capacity through TOT workshops.

*Establish access to microcredit:* One of the most important aspects of the initiative is to ensure that the disadvantaged, at-risk inhabitants of forest communities including women and youth who benefit from the training, have access to micro-credit and other technical inputs to enable them successfully establish their micro-enterprises. Draw seed money from the project funds.



# ***Core Project Intervention Areas/Sub areas: Alternative/sustainable Livelihood***

**(Exploitation of Non-Forest Timber Products – NTFPs) Skills Training:**

**Cultivation and propagation of *gnetium africanum* (*afang* in Efik language or *eruru* in Bokyì dialect) leaf**

**Cane furniture making**

**Grass cutter and cane rabbit domestication**

**Snail farming**

**Mushroom farming/production**

**Honey making**

**Bush mango (inventory, storage & marketing)**

**Cassava processing/packaging\*\*:**

- Bread baking with 30% cassava input
- Garri processing
- Cassava chips production
- Gum production
- Chalk production
- Animal feed production

**Oil palm processing/packaging\*\***

**Poultry production including quail farming\*\*\***

**Livestock Production:**

**Goat's/sheep's pen\*\*\***

**Piggery\*\*\***

**Aquaculture\*\*\***

**Renewable/alternative energy production:**

- Fuel-efficient stoves utilizing brisquets/saw dust/groundnut shells
- Solar energy applications for phone charging, barbing salons, etc.
- Wind-aided energy source
- Improved fish smoking technology/Communal fish smoking ovens

**Compost/manure production & horticulture**

**Fruits, nuts, fibre & seeds processing/preservation/packaging**

**Ornamental flower, medicinal plants processing & pomade making**

***Microenterprise development***

**Develop capacity to set up & manage own enterprises**

**Imbibe saving culture and enhance financial inclusion based on various financial options**

***Employment generation/Job creation***

# *Social enterprise development:*

## *Introduction of fee-for-service as a Sustainability Strategy for a Livelihood Project Centre:*

*To build the financial and operational sustainability into the project center so as to ensure the continuation of project services beyond the end of the project's tenure and financial support as determined by the UN-REDD+ Program, proponents of the Initiative will integrate the new development practice and sustainability strategy of charging a nominal fee for service to each beneficiary. The beneficiary will pay a small fee for training and technical assistance as well as linkages to micro-credit assistance. If for instance an individual beneficiary pays N5,000.00 (five thousand naira), cooperatives or other groups in the target community may be required to pay about N3,000.00 (three thousand naira) per group member multiplied by the number of members in each group. This is meant to foster group formation and boost networking initiatives.*

*CS/CD/CSI as channels of giving back to the community, buying more goodwill through services to be rendered by both project implementing partners and the beneficiaries, and infrastructure to be built or facilities provided for use by dwellers in the communities.*

# *The Life/Leadership Skills component -*

To elicit attitudinal change, prepare for a world of work and create awareness on how forest restoration can be utilized for wealth creation through carbon monitoring to key into the carbon economy in particular and appreciating the essence of the entire UN-REDD+ Program.

*Business Development Services (BDS) to all project clients/beneficiaries, Follow-Up Business Advisory (BAS) and Impact Assessment: Provided up to twelve (12) months following business start-up*

- Access to continuous career guidance and counseling.
- Promote SME in the community
- Value addition & sustainability are key
- Mentoring (motivational talks & attachments, community development/csi)
- Networking/Form business or trade clusters

-Market linkages

# *Proposed Activities under a Sustainable Livelihood Initiative:*

**S**et up databases of biz ideas, prototypes & array of partners

**Sensitization and Mobilization/Community Engagement on UN-REDD+ Program**

**Needs Assessment**

**Revision and development of curriculum, manuals and modules based on:**

**- CBN EDC Training**

**- Wood Processing and Basic Carpentry & Joinery (in collaboration with formal institutions, professional institutes and other consulting partners)**

**- Master trainers' apprenticeship and vocational services**

**Counseling and Orientation Workshops**

**Implement one-on-one/individual & group counseling to ascertain biz interests/inclination, to resolve issues or share experiences)**

**\*Life/Leadership Skills Training featuring cross-cutting/mainstreaming issues**

- Forestry and Environmental issues,
- Emergency Prevention and Preparedness Training (EPPR),
- Gender,
- Health & HIV/AIDS Awareness

**\*Training in Group Dynamics, Cooperative Development & Organization; Facilitation of Group Formation & Cooperatives/Company Registration**

**-\*Microenterprise/Entrepreneurship Development Training for:**

- Loggers
- Carpenters
- Timber dealers
- Other cooperative and trade associations

# ***Other Activities:***

**Hiring of training consultants & volunteers, & conduct TOTs for consultants & community leaders**

**Contribution of training venues by host communities**

**Facilitation of micro-credit and other technical linkages**

**\*Provision of funds for lien deposits in partnership with financial institutions**

**\*Establishment of a Community Service and Resiliency Programs to:**

**\*Pay back to the community, elicit goodwill, community buy-in, ownership and enable projects and beneficiaries withstand shocks during crisis situations while fostering sustainability:**

**- CS by beneficiaries of the Initiative**

**to carry out environmental sanitation exercises beautification schemes donate to orphanages/aged people's homes, etc.**

**\*CD and CSI schemes**

**- to erect water & sanitation facilities including VIP Toilets together with unique "Going Green" branding and complimentary initiatives.**

**Conduct community training on conflict management**

**Form Community Consultative Committees for the project**

# Footnotes

*\*All training modules will emphasize VALUE ADDITION & market linkages and how businesses key into VALUE CHAINS.*

*\*Sensitization workshops, leadership, microenterprise/entrepreneurship & business management training which will be generic & mandatory, while vocational/technical & alternative livelihoods training will be demand-driven & applied to forest communities where they are best suited based on findings of the needs assessment.*

*\* All utility services providers, business registration agencies, tax & licensing authorities, & regulatory bodies governing all forms of business will be well highlighted in the training sessions & during administration of BAS/BDS/BSS.*

*\*\*For processing & production businesses, the Initiative will provide equipment & working capital to the beneficiaries who are expected to match this with a minimum counterpart contribution of not less than 10% and not more than 50% of total project cost in form of land & structures to house project.*

*\*\*\*For sheep/goats, the project will arrange with beneficiaries to cross breed existing local stock with faster growing ones bought from northern Nigeria)*

*\*\*\*For piggery, the Initiative will introduce a Passing-on-the-Gift Component [to every participating family to be given 5 adult pigs including 4 sows (females) & 1 boars (male)]. The beneficiaries will also pass on sows to others as a re-enactment of an age-old African tradition.)*

*\*\*\*For aquaculture, beneficiaries will be encouraged to utilize natural & artificial ponds abandoned in nearby forests while either constructing artificial ponds at home or procuring artificial tanks).*



**THANK YOU!**