

**LAUNCHING WORKSHOP OF THE PROJECT ON CAPACITY BUILDING IN
CLEAN DEVELOPMENT MECHANISM (CDM) IN BURUNDI**



**White Stone, June 20, 2013
Bujumbura - BURUNDI**

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1. Introduction

A launching workshop of the project on capacity building in CDM 'URC-MEA-Bu' funded by UNEP-Risoe (Denmark), was organized in Bujumbura – Burundi on June 20, 2013.

The agenda was presented by Mr. Didace Rwabitega, the Assistant to the National Coordinator of the DNA in Burundi.

In her introductory remarks, Ms. Renilde Ndayishimiye, the Director General of Geographic Institute of Burundi (IGEBU) welcomed all the participants for having responded to the invitation. On behalf of the Focal Institution representing the Country in the UNFCCC, she expressed her gratitude to UNEP-Risoe for the efforts in financing this ongoing project on capacity building so that Burundi as a developing country shall be able to understand the process of accessing the funding related to emission reduction due to Greenhouse Gases.

After these welcome remarks, the National Coordinator of the DNA in Burundi presented in details the ongoing project and related issues highlighting the following:

- The UNFCCC and Kyoto Protocol
- Clean Mechanism Development
- The expected outputs from the 'URC-MEA-Bu' project
- Overview on the phases of a CDM project
- Current situation of CDM projects in Burundi

Thereafter, the workshop was officially opened by the Assistant to the Ministry of Water, Environment, Land and Urban Planning.

The representative of UNEP-Risoe, Dr. Todd made also a presentation on the origin and objectives of the project, and took the opportunity to thank the Government of Burundi for the efforts which are being made in Clean Development Mechanism. He further highlighted that these funds have to be really used to build the capacity of public and private sectors in developing properly the CDM projects that are eligible to carbon funding.

2. Technical Presentations

2.1. The UNFCCC

The first technical presentation was made by Ms. Renilde Ndayishimiye, the focal person for the UNFCCC in Burundi. She indicated that Burundi is already committed in this international convention by achieving the following:

- Ratification of the Convention
- Elaboration of the First and Second Communication on Climate Change
- Elaboration of the National Action Plan Adaptation on Climate Change
- Elaboration of National Policy and Strategy on Climate Change

She therefore conclude that all these official documents contain the national projects that match with the government in terms of the development of the Country taking into account the climate change aspect.

2.2. Environmental challenges in Burundi

This technical presentation was made by Ms Bernadette Hakizimana, the Director of Environment and Focal person for Kyoto Protocol in Burundi.

She mentioned that Burundi is nowadays facing the following main environmental challenges:

- Soil degradation
- Climate Change
- Water pollution
- Loss of biodiversity
- Pressure on natural resources

2.3. Action Plan for the Project on Capacity building ‘URC-MEA-Bu’

The presenter Mr. Didace Rwabitega indicated that the DNA has established in Burundi in 2010, but functioned so far with limited human and financial resources. He gave an example where the private companies had financially supported some workshops so that their PINs can be analyzed. He thereafter presented the Action plan for the project funded by UNEP-Risoe, this was the planification job done by the DNA Coordinating Team comprising the National Coordinator, Assistant, Technical Advisor and an Accountant.

The action plan was presented as a table consisting of 6 main outputs with corresponding activities, Start and End period:

- 1- An operational DNA capable of approving projects consistent with the host Burundi's sustainable development priorities
- 2- Technical capacity of national experts and consultants in CDM project identification, design, and implementation has been built.
- 3- The CDM Capacity Building Component has contributed to the creation of CDM-friendly regulatory and business environments through raising awareness of government officials and policymakers.

4- The CDM project appraisal skills and capacity of local financial institutions has been built by the CDM Capacity Building Component.

5- The CDM project appraisal skills and capacity of local financial institutions has been built through CDM capacity building component.

6- Burundi has been promoted by the CDM capacity building component as a CDM destination through production of national portfolio of potential.

2.4. Forest definition

The Expert Savin Sabumukiza documented his presentation from many definitions of different sources such the definition of FAO, UNEP, UNFCCC, COMIFAC, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and the definition in the Burundian new forest code.

The compilation of these different definitions by the consultant came up with a definition corresponding with the national context and useful in Burundi for approval procedures of CDM projects.

2.5. Sustainable Development Indicators in Burundi

The Expert Claude Nimubona first told the audience that ‘Sustainable Development’ definition depends on organization and differ from a country to another, but has always to be characterized by three dimensions such as social, environment and economy. Therefore the sustainable development indicators should cover all these dimensions.

The Consultant documented his assignment from 2 national documents such as CSLPII and Vision 2025, and the Millennium Development Goals as international source.

In the context of Burundi, the Expert concluded that the sustainable development indicators should defined by considering the following sectors: economic development, climate change, transport, sustainable production and consumption, public health, conservation of natural resources and biodiversity.

For each sector identified, the Consultant suggested a number of sustainable development indicators witch taken in consideration for approval procedures of CDM projects in Burundi.

2.6. Approval procedures of CDM projects in Burundi

The National Coordinator of the DNA Burundi demonstrated to the participants the process to be followed by a CDM project up to the final approval starting from the PIN, he therefore indicated that the project cycle is detailed in the Burundi CDM brochure on pages 35 and 36. The presenter Ms Evariste Sinarinzi further mentioned that this brochure has been elaborated in order to guide public and private companies in formulating their projects.

He highlighted that the Clean Mechanism Development is one of the three Kyoto protocol’s mechanisms having the following assets for the hosting country:

- The CDM project should match with the country priorities for sustainable development
- The CDM project is benefic for different category of communities
- The CDM project should be able to create employment

3. Conclusion and recommendations

The issues raised by the participants during the launching workshop have shown that the CDM procedures are still unknown even if Burundi had ratified the Kyoto Protocol.

Another observation was that the DNA members are most of the time not available for different sessions.

It has been suggested that this project should contribute to the enhancement of knowledge of Experts and scientists of different institutions involved in climate change. The public and private companies should also benefit from this UNEP-Risoe funding to build their capacity.

The institutions represented in the DNA Burundi were recommended to nominate an alternative candidate to participate in the upcoming technical trainings to be organized in the framework of 'URC-MEA-Bu' project.