Session 3: Element A: Laying the groundwork for the NAP process and addressing gaps

Project: Enhancing Resilience to Climate Change by Mainstreaming Adaptation Concerns into Agricultural Sectors

Lessons learned - Liberia

Anthony Digèn Kpadeh
Ministry of Lands Mines & Energy
National Climate Change Adaptation Consortium
E-mail - kpadehanthony@yahoo.com
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Objective: To increase resilience of poor, agriculture-dependent communities and decrease vulnerability of agricultural sector to climate change in Liberia

Outcome 1: Strengthened institutional and individual capacity to plan and manage climate change in the agricultural sector in Liberia.

Outcome 2: Innovative, sustainable, socially appropriate adaptive measures piloted at the community level.

Outcome 3: Lessons learned and best practices from pilot demonstration measures, capacity development initiatives and policy changes disseminated to stakeholders and development partners.
Key steps

• Baseline assessment of agricultural county level institutions – including capacities and livelihoods

• Capacity needs assessments for identifying and managing climate risk
  - at national level – Ministry of agriculture, 2 National universities
  - Sub-national (level) in 2 counties – agricultural and environment and forestry division
Key steps cont...

- Climate risk management strategies developed based on climate risk assessment
- After the national and sub-national capacity needs assessments, a capacity building programme was designed and is under implementation
Challenges in the development of the capacity building programme

• Lack of climate information
• Lack of mechanisms for coordinating the management of climate risk
• For this programme, the other divisions are not involved in the implementation of the project
• Needs identified by the programme are not linked with sectoral planning and budgeting processes
The Project Success at all levels

1. Raised awareness of national leaders e.g. MOA, Related Ministries and agencies, the Climate change committee Cabinet, Food Security and Nutrition Technical Committee (FSNTC), to the treatment of climate change to agriculture. (e.g. GOL is in support of the process and welcome intervention that will enhance Climate change adaptation in Liberia.)

2. Develop a detail knowledge and communication strategy to addressed intended project outcome (e.g. Website that has been incorporated into the Ministry of Agriculture.

3. Modules on science and Social –Economic aspects of CC Adaptation has been introduced by two highest learning Institutions (University of Liberia and the Cuttington University).

4. An assessment on the Biological and Social –Economic imparts on CC on the farming activities of selected crops in the pilot project Districts at the Counties level.

5. Implementation Manual for the Capacity Development Plan (teaching Curriculum, training program for extension workers, Climate resource center in pilot Counties and develop a national research program.)
Challenges for the NAP process in Liberia

• Currently Liberia does not have specific national climate change adaptation policies in place. Liberia seeks to utilize the NAP process to mainstream climate change into their current development policies, and influence various government departments to drive the process.

• Liberia aims to integrate climate change concerns into their National development planning, from the perspective of finance and planning. We also require a system for updating medium – to long – term plans and processing adaptation information.

• Liberia is also seeking to build capacity to conduct adaptation assessments to start the NAP process. The Government of Liberia plans to utilize existing institutional structures to conduct assessments to help identify the countries’ vulnerabilities to the various climate change pressures.
Thanks for your attention

Anthony Digén Kpadeh
Ministry of Lands Mines & Energy
E-mail kpadehanthony@yahoo.com