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PEOPLE, RULES, AND ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION OF ECOSYSTEM RESOURCES (PROSPER)

REPORT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATIONS
OF A COMMUNITY RIGHTS FORUM

JANUARY 2014

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FORUM
(CONTRACT DELIVERABLE NO. 10)

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DISCLAIMER

The author's views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

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ACRONYMS

AML	ArcelorMittal Liberia
APM	Advanced Participation Methods
BCC	Behavior Change Communication
CF	Community Forestry
CFDC	Community Forestry Development Committee
CFMA	Community Forest Management Agreement
CFMB	Community Forestry Management Body
CFWG	Community Forestry Working Group
CRL	Community Rights Law
CSO	Civil Society Organization
FDA	Forestry Development Authority
FFI	Fauna and Flora International
NBST	National Benefit Sharing Trust
NGO	Nongovernmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NTFP	Non-timber Forest Product
PROSPER	People, Rules and Organizations Supporting the Protection of Ecosystem Resources
PUP	Private Use Permit
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

1.0 INTRODUCTION

As a means of supporting the development of community forestry as a viable option for the management of Liberia’s forests, the People, Rules, and Organizations Supporting the Protection of Ecosystem Resources (PROSPER) project is developing the capacity of forestry stakeholders to implement and advocate for community forestry and its attendant rights. One of the primary means proposed to accomplish this is the development of a community forestry forum that would advocate for citizen and community rights with regard to tenure, property rights, and protection and management of forests. Building on the existence of the Community Forestry Working Group (CFWG)—a group of loosely associated civil society organizations (CSOs), projects, and government entities that had previously worked together under the Forest Department Authority’s (FDA) chairmanship to develop the Community Rights Law (CRL)—PROSPER proposed to reconstitute the group and develop its capacity through outreach and awareness training and provide opportunities to apply these skills. This process was initiated early in the life of the PROSPER project, and this report documents the efforts made to create this forum. At the time that this report was compiled, the CFWG was a cohesive body with multiple stakeholder members who, working together, were designing and providing effective outreach and awareness strategies to advocate for community rights. This report documents the development of this group’s activities and satisfies Contract Deliverable #10 of the PROSPER contract that requires Tetra Tech to support the development and operations of a “[n]ational level forum advocating for citizen and community rights with regard to tenure, property rights, protection and management of forest resources.”

2.0 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN

2.1 CONSTITUTING THE CFWG

Revitalization of the CFWG was PROSPER's main task in the project's first quarter. Collaboration on the development and implementation of a national outreach campaign was identified as a means to provide focus for the group, and to develop much-needed skills in the various members on outreach and awareness-raising. To that end, PROSPER sponsored a two-day workshop in August 2012 for CFWG members to identify important outreach themes and analyze lessons learned from past outreach efforts that could inform the collaborative design of a Year 1 information campaign. The workshop discussions, facilitated by a participation expert, Gary Forbes, resulted in a general commitment on the part of CFWG members to reactivate their group with a focus on national-level coordination and advocacy. Participants agreed to conduct community forestry outreach campaigns through the CFWG in order to support their advocacy mandate. They reviewed lessons learned from outreach and awareness-raising on natural resources management and environmental management issues, and generated ideas and themes for the first annual outreach campaign that PROSPER would support. PROSPER continued to coordinate with the co-chairs of the CFWG throughout the month of September in preparation for an October outreach campaign design effort. A summary of findings from this meeting is found in Appendix 1.

2.2 THE OUTREACH CAMPAIGN AND CAPACITY BUILDING

In the second quarter of the project, PROSPER continued support to the CFWG through development of themes and materials for use in the outreach campaign. On October 16, 2012, PROSPER facilitated a day-long workshop with media and outreach members of the CFWG. The group adopted the theme "Making Community Forest Rights Real" and developed multiple messages to support the outreach campaign. The PROSPER Deputy Chief of Party presented to the group on the issue of private use permits (PUPs) and their potential impact on community forestry and community rights, highlighting the need to create awareness of the CRL and community rights in general. A copy of this presentation is found in Appendix 2.

In support of the outreach campaign, the incoming Leader, Educational Development, and Outreach Activities, in collaboration with the Outreach and Awareness Advisor, developed an action plan that was shared with the CFWG members actively participating in the outreach campaign (see Appendix 3). During the implementation of the action plan, PROSPER endeavored to involve CFWG members in all aspects of preparation and planning including in the review of Scopes of Work for service providers, review and assessment of bids, identification of venues in various locations, and outreach to local governments. While this proved to be time-consuming, the CFWG participants and PROSPER staff gained skills that would enable them to use similar approaches in their own and future campaign efforts.

The first outreach campaign was launched in Nimba (Sanniquellie and Tapitta) and Grand Bassa in May and June of 2013. A complete report on the activities and participants in the first outreach campaign was delivered to USAID as Deliverable #28 and is available upon request. Materials developed and used for the campaign were consolidated and presented to USAID in fulfillment of Deliverable #11 (currently under review by USAID). Any requested revisions will be made accordingly.

Following the outreach campaign, a series of lessons learned workshops were held in all of the areas where the “Make Community Forest Rights Real” campaign was conducted. The workshop involved all stakeholders (communities, CFWG, FDA, and PROSPER staff) that had participated in the first annual outreach campaign. Activities were designed to gauge the efficacy of the various strategies employed in the campaign. A summary of findings was documented and submitted to USAID and approved in fulfillment of Deliverable #5 (report available upon request). The CFWG, with support from PROSPER, will use these lessons learned and best practices to plan for the second annual outreach campaign, and to develop a “First Annual Outreach Campaign: Lessons Learned and Best Practices” publication that will be forthcoming early in Year 2.

In December 2013, to further build the capacity of CFWG members and in support of development of the second outreach campaign, Morgan Hillenbrand, Tetra Tech ARD’s Communications Specialist, facilitated two behavior change communication (BCC) capacity-building activities for the CFWG/FDA on behalf of PROSPER: a BCC workshop for the design of the Second Annual Outreach Campaign on Community Forestry and a film editing workshop. Fifteen members of the CFWG, including individuals from government, CSOs, and PROSPER staff, participated in the workshop. A major output of the workshop included draft messages and several potential print products that could be used in the second phase of the “Make Community Forestry Rights Real” campaign in FY14. In addition, four individuals from the workshop participated in the two-day film editing training that was designed for participants to acquire the skills necessary to create low-budget films to be played in communities (and other venues) using PROSPER’s mobile media kit.

2.3 SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY RIGHTS THROUGH CFWG OPERATIONS

While planning and preparation of the national outreach campaign dominated the CFWG activities during the dry season of 2013, the project provided updates to the CFWG at campaign planning meetings on events unfolding in the forestry sector events. For example, a presentation by the DCOP in January 2013 following the issuance of Executive Order 44 that effectively shut down PUP logging operators focused CFWG discussions on the future of community forestry and the importance of providing information to communities (see Appendix 4). The Executive Order also spurred expressions of interest in community forests from communities and companies in former PUP areas, as evidenced by the the number of community forestry applications submitted to the FDA. As the application numbers climbed, the CFWG began seriously considering how the group could support the FDA to manage the processing of these applications to ensure compliance with the law.

The CFWG formed a subcommittee to support the FDA to vet the applications for community forestry. PROSPER staff supported a short workshop to familiarize CDWG members with the regulatory process required to establish an authorized community forest. Following this, a small team of CFWG members reviewed the applications for compliance with the regulatory requirements. At the time, 47 applications had been received. This vetting revealed that most of the applications were not in compliance with the regulations (see Appendix 5) and that many had clearly not been initiated by the community or the FDA (as required by law) but by logging companies eager to gain access to land previously promised to them through invalid PUP licenses. As a result, the CFWG decided to develop an outreach and awareness-raising program for applicant communities to explain the process using posters and materials developed during the outreach campaign. The campaign was scheduled to begin in February 2014. It should be

noted that the total of community forest applications received by the FDA increased to more than 70 since the original review by the CFWG.

Outside of the PROSPER sites, the CFWG also became involved in supporting other community forests by conducting site visits and reporting back to the working group. This included reports from the Numopoh Community Forest Management Body in Sinoe County where the community forest is under pressure from Golden Veroleum, a concessionaire that will develop up to 220,000 hectares in the southern part of the country. The Numopoh community also requested assistance from the FDA and CFWG partners to better understand social agreements and what could be negotiated within these contracts. To support the communities in this process, the CFWG put the Sinoe CFMB in touch with three nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) working in Sinoe County on these issues: SDI, SAMFU, and Green Advocates. SDI and SAMFU are regular members of the CFWG, and all three organizations have reportedly been very active in negotiations between the communities and Golden Veroleum.

The CFWG also was approached by representatives from the Bloquia and Neezonia clan groups in Grand Gedeh County regarding their FDA-approved Community Forest Management Agreement (CFMA) and an agreement they had signed in 2011 with a logging company. The process through which the CFMA was formed did not appear to comply with the process outlined in the CRL regulation, according to reports by the community representatives. Further, the community is now in conflict as many oppose the operations because of proposed changes in the location of the logging access roads. Given the reported irregularities, the CFWG informed the community representatives that their agreement may be found to be invalid, thus compromising any other social agreements or benefit sharing schemes that are negotiated with the logging company. The community representatives were advised to write directly to the FDA explaining the issues and to urge an investigation. In the meanwhile, SAMFU, an NGO that works in the area, and SDI, a forest monitoring group, were urged to launch their own investigation. Both NGOs subsequently conducted their own investigations. Reports are expected to be presented to the CFWG in February 2014.

APPENDIX 1. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS FROM A WORKSHOP RECONSTITUTING THE CFWG

1-1.1 CFWG – REACTIVATION AND OUTREACH WORKSHOP REPORT

COMMUNITY FORESTRY WORKING GROUP (CFWG)

Re-Activation and Outreach Workshop

**Held at Kakata City Hall
August 16 – 17, 2012**

This workshop summary was prepared by the People, Rules, and Organizations Supporting the Protection of Ecosystem Resources (PROSPER) Program, through USAID Contract No 669-C-12-00004

A. Introduction

Thirty-two participants gathered in Kakata for a two-day intensive workshop focused on the Community Forestry Working Group (CFWG) which has been inactive for the past fifteen months. Organized by the CFWG with support from USAID Liberia's PROSPER program, participants included various stakeholder organizations involved in the community forestry sector. There were seven representatives from Government of Liberia agencies, ten NGO participants, two representatives of Community Forestry Management Bodies, four international NGO representatives, one from a private sector firm, and eight staff from the PROSPER Program.

The workshop was designed by PROSPER, with input from Lawrence Greene, Technical Manager of Community Forestry/FDA, and co-chair of the CFWG. Gary Forbes, a participation and facilitation consultant for Tetra Tech ARD, led the design effort and was the major facilitator for the workshop. He also trained a group of ten co-facilitators who assisted in the workshop as a way to practice their new skills learned in an Advanced Participation Methods (APM) course held in Monrovia the previous week.

The objectives for the workshop were as follows:

- Analyze the current situation and discuss how to re-activate the CFWG,
- Share experiences, lessons learned and best practices related to outreach and non-formal education approaches,
- Solicit ideas and themes on how to strengthen community forest outreach campaigns to increase public awareness and understanding,
- Build a shared sense of commitment to work together to re-energize the CFWG.

The workshop was organized into two one-day sessions. The first day was devoted to analyzing and discussing ways to re-activate the CFWG, while the second day was focused on outreach for strengthening public awareness. The reason for the first session was based on the growing interest to re-activate the CFWG coming from members representing both the FDA and NGO's, and from the PROSPER program. The second session was an attempt to distill lessons learned and best practices related to outreach efforts to raise public awareness about community forestry issues. The PROSPER program and many of the organizations will be actively involved in outreach efforts over the next few years.

This document of proceedings, prepared by the PROSPER Program, contains the results of the five participatory activities that included assessment and analysis, discussion and recommendation of key ideas, and consensus-building.

The agenda for the two days is listed below:

DAY 1: Re-Activate the CFWG

- Welcome, Opening Prayer and Participant Introductions – Jackson Nobeh, PROSPER
- Overview of CFWG and Why This Workshop is Important – Moses Wogbeh, Managing Director of FDA.

- Opening Remarks by the CWFG Co-chair – Lawrence Greene of FDA
- Presentation on PROSPER Project – Esthella Miller of PROSPER
- Presentation on Community Forestry – Sam Koffa of PROSPER
- Workshop Objectives, Agenda, and Expected Results – Gary Forbes, Facilitator

COFFEE BREAK

- Participatory Assessment of Current Situation
 - Five discussion groups: a) Government agency staff, b) NGOs, c) INGOs and Private Sector, d) CFMBs, and e) PROSPER staff, complete four-box assessment exercise of: accomplishments, lessons learned, current issues and obstacles, and decide why to re-activate the CFWG
 - Groups complete chart and report in plenary

LUNCH

- Analysis of the Major Organizational Elements of the CFWG, by five discussion groups:
 - Mission/mandate
 - Membership criteria and profile
 - Functions/TORs
 - Operating guidelines
 - Financial resources
- Each of the groups presents their recommendations in the plenary, followed by discussion.

DAY 2: Outreach Campaigns on Community Forest Public Awareness

- Welcome and Opening Prayer – Jackson Nobeh, PROSPER
- PROSPER Approach to Outreach and Plans for Future Outreach Activities – Steve Reid, PROSPER Chief of Party
- Review of Outreach Communication – Phil Sedlak, PROSPER
- Lessons Learned and Best Practices Related to Outreach for Public Awareness; a participatory workshop to share insights of participants related to outreach in the following areas:
 - Public meetings
 - Radio
 - Drama/theatre
 - Print materials
 - School-based activities
 - Trainings and workshops

COFFEE BREAK

- Outreach Messages Workshop (i.e. issues/themes/topics/subjects for CF)
 - Consensus-building workshop method to identify 10 key issue arenas or themes
 - Group reflection and prioritization

LUNCH

- Outreach Campaigns Implementation Discussion; the following five questions were discussed:
 - How can we better measure effectiveness?
 - What outreach resources are available (e.g. NGOs, ad agencies, consultants)
 - How do we ensure gender mainstreaming?
 - How do we build skills of local stakeholders related to outreach and communications?
 - How could PROSPER support government agencies and NGOs in their outreach efforts?
- Closing remarks

DAY 1:

B. Participatory Assessment of CFWG Current Situation

Government Agencies (FDA, FTI, VPA, and EPA)

CFWG Accomplishments and Highlights

- **Community rights'** laws (CRL) and regulations finalized and functional
- The National Benefit Sharing Trust (NBST) procedure finalized, board set up, bank account established and opened

Lessons Learned about Organizational Effectiveness

- Participatory process promoted
- TORs need to be approved
- Some communities have begun accessing benefits from forest resources

Issues and Obstacles Blocking Progress

- Lack of funding
- TORs drafted but not approved
- Competing interest and strong agendas among different stakeholders of the CFWG

Why Re-Activate CFWG? Why Now?

- To continue coordination among community forestry stakeholders
- To enhance community forestry in Liberia

NGOs Working in the Forestry

Sector CFWG Accomplishments and Highlights

- TOR and draft work plan
- Participation in the development of the Community Rights Law (CRL) and benefit-sharing scheme
- Multi-sectoral approach encouraged
- CFWG learned from others in the CF sector

Lessons Learned about Organizational Effectiveness

- Social cohesion among members and stakeholders; learned to collaborate and share
- Commitment of members is critical; each organization needs to attend meetings
- Regular interaction necessary

Issues and Obstacles Blocking Progress

- Lack of funding
- Lack of coordination and commitment
- Membership structure and criteria; need to have the right organizations represented and the right people attending the meetings

Why Re-Activate CFWG? Why Now?

- Continuation of mandate for the CFWG
- To maintain a presence at the national level on issues concerning community forest; the CFWG has a two-prong strategy; at the local level and national level
- To be recognized as a national voice
- To be able to do and verify the implementation of fast-track outreach campaigns by members of the groups and to improve coordination

International NGO (Fauna and Flora International [FFI]) and Private Sector (ArcelorMittal Liberia [AML])

CFWG Accomplishments and Highlights

- Development of the CRL regulations
- Development of the CRL laws
- Establishment of benefit-sharing trust board

Lessons Learned about Organizational Effectiveness

- No sustained financial support
- Key stakeholders were identified
- Another organization – a “Community Forestry Users Association”, is probably needed

Issues and Obstacles Blocking Progress

- Enabling environment is weak
- No link to forest users
- What is the role of the Community Forestry Management Bodies (CFMB) on the CFWG?

Why Re-Activate CFWG? Why Now?

- There is a need for some kind of watchdog to check that the proper process for CF application is followed
- No clear reason – why doesn't the FDA complete the tasks of the CFWG?

Community Forest Management Bodies (CFMBs)

CFWG Accomplishments and Highlights

- Identified and brought together the CFWG
- Developed the CRL regulations

Lessons Learned about Organizational Effectiveness

- Helps organizations work together as a unit and be pro-active
- Information sharing helped CFWG to be strong

Issues and Obstacles Blocking Progress

- Lack of source of funding
- No effective flow of information; e.g. advance notes on meetings, meeting minutes
- CFMBs and Community Forestry Development Committees (CFDC) were not involved in the CFWG
- The meetings of the CFWG were always in Monrovia, not in the field

Why Re-Activate CFWG? Why Now?

- Refocusing on community forestry is critical
- Addressing challenges facing the growth of community forestry is needed
- The CFWG enables CF-related institutions to work together for the benefits of all stakeholders

PROSPER PROGRAM

CFWG Accomplishments and Highlights

- Used as a vehicle to finalize the Community Rights' Law (CRL), the CRL regulations, the National Benefit-Sharing Trust Fund (NBSTF) , and NBST procedures
- Provided a platform in the CF sector to converge and compare notes
- Developed its draft TOR

Lessons Learned about Organizational Effectiveness

- Maintaining the group as a structure to allow communities and stakeholders to articulate issues about CF
- Well-defined objectives helped it to grow

Issues and Obstacles Blocking Progress

- Serious resource gap
- Organizational structure problems
- Decentralized organization
- Lack of a defined source of funding
- **FDA doesn't have funding mechanisms** in place

Why Re-Activate CFWG? Why Now?

- PROSPER is interested in working with the FDA

- There is need for a coordination/monitoring organization intervening in CF for quality assurance

C. Analysis of the major organizational elements of CFWG

After an initial table brainstorming exercise, in which each table generated suggestions, ideas, and recommendations for each of the five organizational elements, volunteer groups gathered to review and reflect on the ideas. They were asked to complete a brief report of recommendations to be presented to the group during the plenary session, based on the ideas generated by the table groups, along with their own sense of the emerging consensus related to the topic.

CFWG MISSION and MANDATE

- Advocate for principles of community forestry, providing a national voice to CF issues.
- Advocate for full compliance of forestry laws and CRL regulations.
- Enhance working relationship among CFWG and other stakeholder groups and individuals.
- Serve as a link between grassroots and national level (especially in monitoring and evaluation of CF activities and regulations)
- Serve as a national body to advise FDA and other stakeholder groups on the implementation of CF in Liberia
- Provide a platform for the community forestry sector to discuss and work to resolve CF issues and topics.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- Search for outside funding, non-donor supported; e.g. oil palm producers, concessionaires (working through FDA).
- Establish a bank account with outside auditing.
- Establish an independent board for transparency and accountability.
- Proposals to international NGOs (INGO) and projects to co-implement specific activities supported by the CFWG.
- Estimated annual expenses of \$50,000.
- Membership dues and contributions

MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

- Membership should be by organizations, with individuals representing the organization.
- Organization must have demonstrated interest and commitment in natural resource management (NRM) and CF.
- Should have established offices and contacts in Liberia.
- Should be a legally-registered entity.
- Actively participate regularly in CFWG meetings and activities.

CFWG MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

The group reviewed the idea cards, which were very diverse, suggesting that the issue remains somewhat unsettled. They discussed the reasons for the CFWG's difficulties and attempted to come up with a way to balance competing ideas on who should be on the CFWG. They

recommended a smaller size for the working group, 19 members, based on financial constraints. After their report, there was a very passionate discussion and debate about the composition of the CFWG, and the role of the FDA in the CFWG. Listed below are the group's original recommendations, and the ideas that came out during the plenary discussion.

CFWG Composition:

- Two members representing the coalition of NGOs working in the forestry sector.
- One representative from each of these government agencies: OFDA, MoA, Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Land Commission (LC), Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy (MLME).
- Members from each of other organizations, including;
 - One from FFI
 - One from Conservation International (CI)
 - One from AML (representing the mining sector)
 - Two from LTA ?
 - Three from NCFDC ?
 - Two from CFMBs

Ideas from the group:

- INGOs and private sector should be non-voting.
- Review the original membership composition.
- Ensure gender balance.
- Increase NGO representation.
- Increase community representation.
- Member from National Forest Forum.
- Only Liberian-based organizations.
- Include international organizations like the World Bank (WB) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

CFWG FUNCTIONS and TORs

- Coordinate CF activities (e.g. training).
- Raise awareness on CF issues.
- Design strategy for fund-raising.
- Conduct regular meetings and share minutes and monthly reports.
- Advise FDA on CF issues.
Assist in resolving conflicts.
- Participate in the CF policy drafting and decision-making, policy review, etc..

CFWG OPERATING GUIDELINES

- FDA serves as ex-officio chair.
- Leadership positions of chair, co-chair, and secretary.
- Positions of leadership should be occupied by consensus and elections.
- Meets quarterly but more regularly if necessary.
- Decentralize venue of meetings.
- Provide regular updates to members.
- Leadership tenure should be three years.
- Ministries should allocate some funds for CFWG.

The group engaged in a heated discussion concerning the role of FDA in the CFWG. This included whether government regulations require it to chair the group. Also whether it should play more of an advisory role as opposed to chairing the meetings. Another suggestion was that the FDA play a supervisory role. The issue remained unresolved and needs further discussion and consensus.

DAY 2:

D. Lessons Learned and Best Practices Related to Outreach for Public Awareness

Hints for how to develop lessons learned and best practices were presented by the facilitator:

- **We're looking for what** has worked well in other outreach efforts, and **why**
- Targeted at the community level
- Greatest impact with the lowest cost
- Insights or ideas or models that could be replicated in other places
- What are techniques, approaches, or key messages that are most effective?
- Tangible and descriptive examples of activities, products, etc.

A set of “hints” were presented related to “outreach messages”. They included:

- Outreach messages are a form of persuasive communication; either verbal, written, visually or graphically presented, or presented through art forms (stories, dance, song)
- Contains emotional or motivating elements to engage intended recipients
- Need to be clear, concise, and brief
- Focused on desired understanding or actions
- Simple language and graphics
- Makes aware, or sensitizes, or educates
- Possibly begins to change attitudes or even behaviors

Working in five table groups, each group generated several suggestions for each of the six topics. They were reported and discussed during the plenary. Below are listed the ideas reported on by the groups; duplicate ideas have been removed. There was also considerable sharing and discussion of specific ideas.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Town hall meetings in local language.
- Person-to-person.
- Good facilities to encourage participation.
- Interactive meetings.
- Maintain the direct translation of the message in the local language.
- In the early evening (5-7 p. m.) and blended with cultural performance.
- Open meetings where people can express themselves freely.
- Short meetings are better.

PRINTED MATERIALS

- Lots of pictures of boys and girls effective for low-literacy audiences
- Developing good NRM/forestry pictures and illustrations are a challenge.
- Graphics depicting the issues.
- Short printed messages.
- Use colorful and graphic pictures.
- Use catchy and easy-to-understand words.
- Visual aids.
- Flyers, posters.
- T-Shirts, banners
- Liberian English.
- Poster with photos with check marks and crosses to indicate what to do and what not to do.

DRAMA and THEATRE

- Dancing and story-telling.
- Dramatize the real life issues that is CF related.
- Make audience act as specACtors and not specTAtors.
- Use prevailing issues in the drama.
- Local people dramatize in local languages.
- Cultural performances
- Dramatize through singing.
- Carefully monitored drama theatre can work
- Local topics effective for local drama.
- Using local groups trained by national groups is best.

RADIO

- 6-8 p. m.in the evenings is the best time.
- Quiz show format excites audience.
- Talk shows with jingles, local languages, local discussants.
- Use local community members on radio talk shows.
- Radio spots should be aired in local languages and during peak listening hours.
- Story telling.
- Best on weekends.
- Interactive call-in and talk shows.
- Use frequently-listened-to radio stations.
- Clear, simple and enticing messages.
- Catch opening and closing jingles draw attention and hold listeners.
- Radio spots very effective.

WORKSHOPS and TRAININGS

- Advance information on the training event.
- Needs to be interactive.
- Lots of visual and audio aids.
- Have facilitators who encourage participation.
- Have diverse audience (all stakeholders and beneficiaries represented)
- Follow-up on training delivered.

- Use follow-up committee at the community level.
- Organize training or workshop in response to a particular issue.
- Speak at the educational level of the participants.
- Use case studies.
- Use interpreter who translates well, not their own ideas.
- Incorporate “take-aways’ or “give-aways”

SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES

- Nature or environmental club.
- Field escorted trips.
- Do activities in auditorium for greater impact.
- Periodic forum.
- Encourage competition on a particular issue or topic among students or schools. E.G. essays, debates, posters.
- Talent shows and tournament
- Competition and quizzing.
- Use sports events.

E. Outreach Messages Workshop

A participatory, consensus-building workshop was held to develop the ten (10) key community forestry issues, on which an outreach communication and non-formal education campaign would be based. The workshop started with a focus question:

“What are specific, relevant, and most critical themes, topics and subjects around natural resources, community forest, and environmental management issues at the community level that need to be addressed in order to strengthening public awareness?”

Arenas for Thinking:

- .. Put yourselves in the shoes of communities – what are the pressing issues they face in regard to forest and environmental issues?
- .. Based on what community residents know now, what do we think they NEED to know?
- .. What are the key areas in which forest communities are being negatively affected?
- .. What are elements of non-formal environmental education that need to be emphasized in outreach efforts?

Below are listed the ten issue arenas, each with a consensus title developed by the group, followed by the several ideas expressed on the individual cards developed by one of the seven table teams

Issue Arena # 1: *Community Forest Education Improves Quality of Life*

Issue Arena # 2 *Promote Sustainable Livelihoods for Effective Forest Management*

- Educate forest communities on their rights and responsibilities for managing their forests
- Organize and train local structures to manage CFs
- Improved farming techniques introduced
- Translation and interpretation of the forest laws
- Bring CF understanding to a critical mass
- Regular stakeholder meetings on community forest issues
- Importance of clear information on related laws and relationships in the different approaches in the forestry sector
- Community self-sufficiency rather than donor dependency
- Sustainable and profitable livelihoods promoted
- Sustainable forest management
- Needs assessment on livelihoods and sustainability
- Sustainable forest management, the way to harness local development
- Needs assessment on livelihoods and sustainability

Issue Arena # 3: *Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) Promotion and Harvesting Regulation*

- Promotion of NTFP development
- Diversified products and uses of the forest
- Promotion, development and marketing of NTFPs for income generation
- Need to regulate pit-sawing, charcoal production and hunting, through permits

Issue Arena # 4: *Protect and Conserve Community Forests*

- Threats to community land by multi-national companies for commercial purposes
- Bio-diversity conservation explained and promoted
- Maintenance of community forests is encouraged

Issue Arena # 5: *Community Forest Land Tenure and Property Rights*

- Land ownership for community inhabitants
- Clarify ownership roles and rights of GoL and community over forest resources
- Rationale for demarcating community forest lands
- Land tenure policy
- Land ownership issues around community forestry; e.g. community forests, public forests, private forests

Issue Arena # 6: *Clarify Roles and Strengthen Participation in CF Governance*

- Full interpretation of CRL
- Governance and management of CF
- Define and clarify roles of GoL ministries in awarding concessions
- Community enforcement of CRL
- Define a holistic outreach and awareness on CF management for communities
- Inadequate participation in forests and forest resource management

- Importance of community participation in community forestry

Issue Arena # 7: Community Forest Benefits

- Benefit sharing
- Limited access to forest resources
- Define and clarify benefit sharing mechanism for forest resources
- Benefits of CF explained and promoted
- Benefits of CF to the community
 - Build and facilitate community access to NBSTF

Issue Arena # 8: Cultural Values and People’s Impact on the Forest

- Disregard for cultural values in community forests
- Relationship between the forest and its people
- People’s impact on the forest
- People’s impact on the community forest
- Influence of culture on CF

Issue Arena # 9: Environmental & Gender Friendly Community Forest Management

- Importance of a written CF management plan that the community knows
- Promote gender mainstreaming process in CF management
- Low management capacity in community forestry
- Environmental pollution around DF – does it include you?
- Importance of community watershed management

Issue Arena # 10: Strengthening Conflict Resolution Mechanisms in CFs

- Establish land conflict management committee(s)
- Communication and coordination to reduce conflicts
- Dispute/conflict management mechanisms

F. Prioritization Exercise

The workshop developed ten issue arenas to focus on for outreach communication and non-formal education campaigns. Developing specific, concrete, motivating and impactful messages is the next step. At the end of the workshop exercise the group did a prioritization exercise to rank the issue arenas, using the following criteria:

- Can be clearly and easily communicated to a community audience
- Can be delivered in different media and approaches
- Can raise public awareness and better understanding of CF issues
- Potential for changing attitudes and behaviors

Each participant was given two “sticky dots” to select the two issue arenas they felt best met the above criteria. The ranked order and the number of “sticky dots” are presented below:

# 1	<i>Promote Sustainable Livelihoods for Effective Forest Management</i>	14 dots
# 2	<i>Community Forest Education Improves Quality of Life</i>	9 dots
# 3	<i>Community Forest Benefits</i>	8 dots
# 4	<i>Clarify Roles and Strengthen Participation in CF Governance</i>	8 dots
# 5	<i>Environmental and Gender-friendly Community Forest Management</i>	4 dots
# 6	<i>Strengthening Conflict Resolution Mechanisms in CFs</i>	3 dots
# 7	<i>Cultural Values and People's Impact on the Forest</i>	3 dots
# 8	<i>Non-Timber Forest Products Promotion and Harvesting Regulation</i>	2 dots
# 9	<i>Community Forest Land Tenure and Property Rights</i>	2 dots
# 10	<i>Protect and Conserve Community Forests</i>	1 dot

G. Outreach Campaigns Implementation Discussion

“How do we build skills of local stakeholders and leaders in outreach and communications?”

- Targeted training in outreach methods and techniques
- Translation of key messages
- Use stakeholders as extension agents in transmitting key messages
- Train local leaders in the 10 key messages
- Fundamental training in M&E
- Identify the best media and approaches in the local communities
- Work with local people from the design stage to implementation stage
- Provide incentives for local people to be involved
- Include local authorities in outreach activities
- Include traditional council in outreach activities
- Train interpreters

“How do we ensure gender mainstreaming?”

- **Form all women and girls' awareness committees**
- **Use existing local women's groups**
- **Girl' Guides**
- Mix groups; women/men/youth
- Sporting activities
- Integrate gender into all the outreach activities (e.g. posters, radio spots, etc.)

“What outreach materials and resources are available (NGOs, consultants, etc.)?”

- Local radio stations
- Local drama groups

- **Farmers' Field School**
- Field filming
- IVA – ??? drama group
- Liberia Media for Democracy Initiative (LMDI), Liberia Media Initiative (LMI)– media
- Liberia Crusaders for Peace (LCP)
- Liberians stage
- Work directly with CFMBs

“How can PROSPER support NGOs and government agencies in outreach activities?”

- Training in outreach message development
- Provide resources like print expenses, motorcycle support to mobilize communities
- Provide support to CFDCs and CFMBs for outreach activities

Appendix 1: Assessment of the Current Situation Worksheet

Procedures:

1. Organize into sectoral teams and meet in designated space.
2. Team members individually brainstorm ideas and insights on each of the four topics.
3. Someone volunteer to develop a written list of ideas during team discussion.
4. Team discussion; everyone on the team shares ideas in turn for each of the four topics.
5. As a team, select from the discussion three or four key insights for each topic.
6. Choose a reporter who will share the team's ideas during the plenary discussion.

CFWG Accomplishments & Highlights	Lessons Learned About Effectiveness
Current Issues and Challenges	Why Re-Activate? Why Now?

Appendix 2: Outreach Message Workshop

Focus Question: *“What are specific, relevant, and most critical themes, topics and subjects related to strengthening public awareness and outreach communication around natural resources, community forest, and environmental management issues at the community level?”*

Arenas for Thinking:

- .. Put yourselves in the shoes of communities – what are the pressing issues they face in regard to forest and environmental issues?
- .. Based on what community residents know now, what do we think they NEED to know?
- .. What are the key areas in which forest communities are being negatively affected?
- .. What are elements of non-formal environmental education that need to be emphasized in outreach efforts?

Approach:

- > This is a brainstorming exercise – need to generate multiple ideas > “Priming the pump” to ensure comprehensive and in-depth thinking
- > Important to get everyone’s thinking on this important topic-each of us has experience, interest and expertise in this arena
- > The goal is to get about 10 critical issue arenas as the basis for outreach communication and education
- > We will review the results, prioritize them, get a sense of how we could craft effective messages in future outreach campaigns

Procedures:

1. Individually write down three-four ideas – intuitively, quickly, in response to the focus question
2. In table teams, each member should share his/her #1 idea; someone take notes of all the ideas suggested.
3. Go around team again, each member sharing another idea.
4. Probe for creative, practical, powerful ideas with the team. Team discuss all the ideas, summarizing, merging, and selecting five-seven clear, concise, and most important issues/topics/themes.
5. Write ideas on cards, following the card guidelines presented by facilitator.

Individual Brainstorming:

Participants List
Community Forestry Working Group Meeting
Kakata, Liberia, Aug 16-17 2012

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1-1.2 RECONSTITUTION OF THE CFWG STRUCTURE

18-Oct-12 Report of the Follow-Up CFWG Workshop

A major breakthrough for the launch of the first national outreach campaign through the CFWG on community forestry, LTPR and environmental issues has begun.

On Tuesday 16 October, USAID-PROSPER facilitated a daylong workshop for the Community Forestry Working Group (CFWG) with a total of **17-participants** in attendance. These participants represented **two international organizations, two agencies of the Government of Liberia, three environmental non-governmental organizations** and **five civil society groups**. Organized by the CFWG with support from PROSPER and technical input from Mr. Lawrence Greene who currently chairs the group, the workshop focused on the development of environmental themes and messages in preparation of a national outreach campaign on community forestry (CF) and natural resource management (NRM) in Liberia; and the finalization of the leadership structure of the CFWG.

Key accomplishments

1. *Environmental themes and outreach messages:* Building on the 10-core message arenas developed during the Kakata workshop and presentations made at the daylong meeting, participants developed a total of **28-stimulating environmental messages** encompassing knowledge, attitude, behavior and benefits; and they were clustered under these titles called **Legal & Policy Framework, Community Forestry** and **Improved Livelihoods** to reflect the underlying themes which in the verdicts of the participants are the three key areas of focus for the outreach campaign.
2. *Subcommittee on outreach:* One of the key resolutions which emerged as a result of the workshop was the constitution of a subcommittee on outreach. The following agencies and their representatives were nominated to the subcommittee:
 - Forestry Development Authority (FDA) - Anthony Vanwen
 - Community Forestry Development Committee (CFDC) - Edward Suloe
 - Society for the Conservation of Nature in Liberia (SCNL) Michael Taire
 - Foundation for Community Initiative (FCI) Julie Weah
 - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) - Segran Gomah
 - Friends of Environment and Ecosystem in Liberia FEE - Joel Gamys
 - Rural Integrated Center for Community Empowerment (RICCE) - Salome Gofan
 - PROSPER-Ex-officio/Facilitator (Nobeh) USAID-PROSPER

With support from PROSPER, the CFWG will work with the outreach subcommittee from time to time to ensure the development of the outreach campaign strategy and put in place the necessary modalities leading to the rollout of the outreach campaign in January '13.

3. Reconfiguration of the structure of the CFWG: A session to finalize the structure of the CFWG was exclusively presided over by FDA, the lead of the group. In the past, the CFWG worked with a chairman and a secretary. In the opinion of the FDA through Mr. Lawrence Greene, the structure of the group as it was didn't represent broad participation of civil society organizations and stakeholders in the CF sector; hence, the need to reconfigure the leadership structure of the group was an imperative. With the exception of the chairman, the positions listed below were recommended and subsequently occupied through a nomination process in plenary:

- Co-chairman- Save My Future Foundation (SAMFU)
- Head of Secretariat- Community Initiative Services (CIS)
- Recording Officer- Society for the Conservation of Nature in Liberia (SCNL)
- Financial Officer-Rural Integrated Center for Community Empowerment (RICCE)
- Liaison Officer- Association for Community Rights Defenders (ACORD)

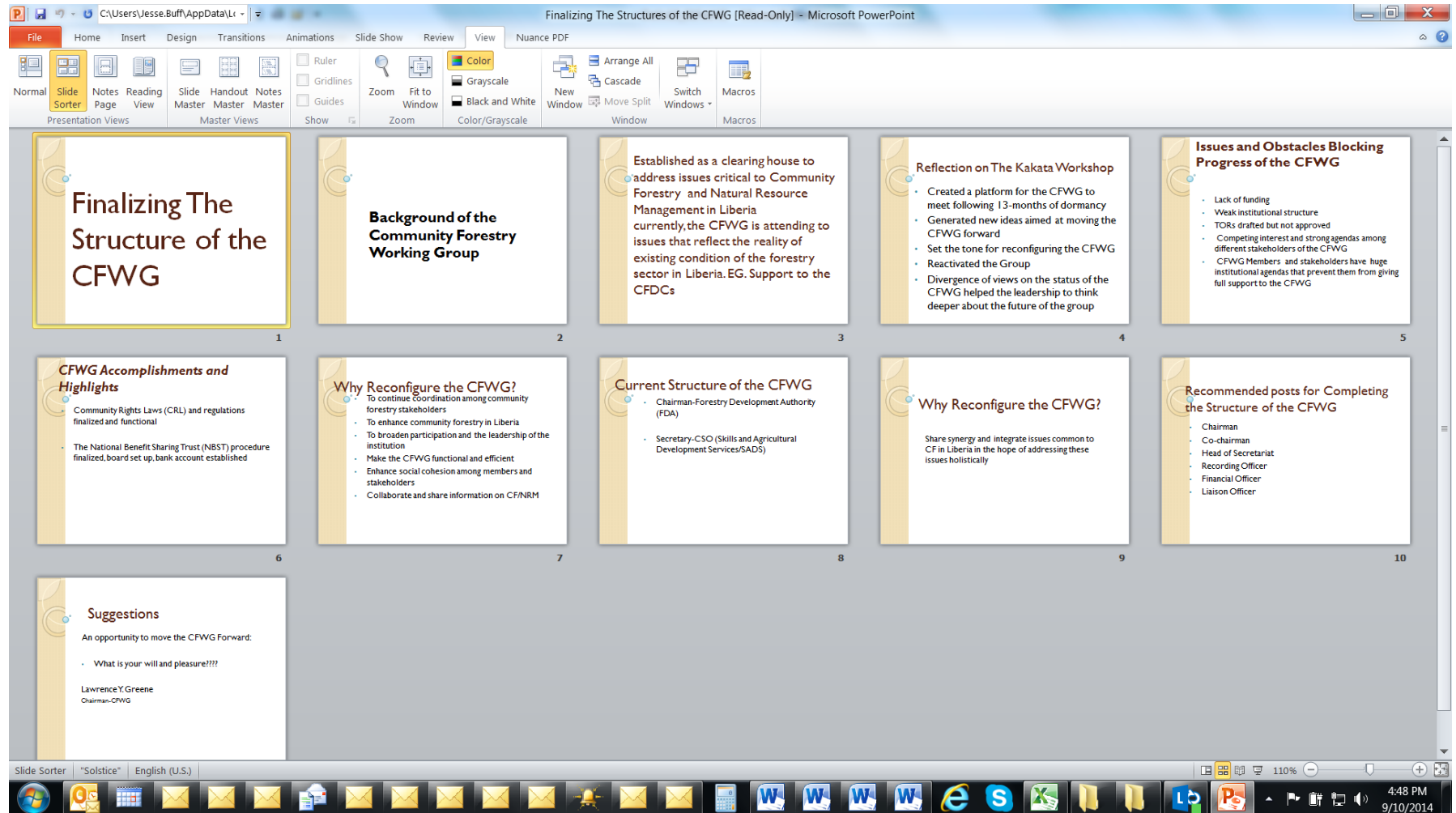
The roles and responsibilities of these agencies and their representatives will be prescribed in their terms of reference which will first be drafted by CIS for inputs from the FDA and partners. Nonetheless, these positions are ad hoc pending the holding of election in the near future.

Outstanding issues

- FDA will officially communicate with the nominated agencies occupying these new positions informing them of their preferment
- Distribution of copies of presentations- there is no permission yet from the author of the presentation made at the October 16 meeting. Therefore, distribution of material in on hold.
- Agencies wishing to work with the outreach subcommittee should feel free to let us know.

Next step: moving forward, PROSPER will lead efforts and continue to support the CFWG and the subcommittee on outreach to develop the outreach campaign strategy, fine tune the messages, engage stakeholders, partners and media service providers to plan and implement the outreach campaign.

1-1.3 PRESENTATION ON THE CFWG STRUCTURE BY L.Y. GREENE



1.-1.4 COMMUNITY FORESTRY WORKING GROUP (CFWG) TERMS OF REFERENCE WORKSHOP

March 30, 2011, Monrovia

Draft Terms of Reference for the Community Forestry Working Group

I. Background

The Community Forestry Working Group (CFWG) was established by the Forestry Development Authority in 2007 in order to facilitate input from communities and other key stakeholders into the development and eventual implementation of laws and policies relevant to community forestry, including the National Forestry Reform Law, the Community Rights Law, and regulations guiding their implementation. With the adoption of these laws and regulations, the role of the CFWG will evolve to facilitate community and stakeholder engagement in their implementation, and to build strong ties between the FDA and forest communities.

II. Purpose

The mission of the CFWG is to serve as a vehicle for public participation in the work of the Forestry Development Authority, to promote ties between the FDA and forest communities, and to promote community-based natural resource management within the metes and bounds of the government forest estate consistent with Liberian law. The CFWG will address all aspects of forest management as appropriate, with particular emphasis on conservation and sustainable use of forest resources, sustainable livelihoods for forest communities, and benefit sharing. The CFWG is an advisory body and its recommendations are not binding upon FDA; FDA however recognizes the benefit of public participation and will accord appropriate consideration to products of the CFWG.

III. Function of the CFWG

The CFWG will advise the FDA on implementation of the enabling legislation, including the National Forestry Reform Law and the Community Rights Law. It will provide FDA with a vehicle through which to solicit public input into forest policy and forest operations, including conservation, commercial forestry, and community forestry, and to engage the public in the elaboration of forest management. It will also consider and advise as appropriate on benefit sharing and sustainable finance of community forestry, standard setting, and interpretation of laws for forest communities and the general public. It may liaise as appropriate with other working groups such as the Climate Change/REDD Working Group and may produce joint statements and programs of work by mutual consent.

In the fulfillment of its mission, the CFWG will promote principles of good governance¹, including among other things:

- Transparency
- Public access to information
- Participation in decision-making
- Accountability

¹ UNDP, 1997. Good Governance and Sustainable Human Development, <http://mirror.undp.org/magnet/policy/chapter1.htm>

IV. Membership

The CFWG will consist of [...should the language here refer to Regulation 101-07? This could be a subset of the list of stakeholders “known to be interested” in forest “policy”, namely, anyone expresses interest in community forestry.]:

V. Structure and Working Procedure

The CFWG will draft rules of procedure and may amend the procedure for selecting new members by a two-thirds majority.

The CFWG will identify up to three working groups to address key issues.

The CFWG should meet monthly on the final Thursday of the month, unless otherwise specified.

The CFWG will designate officers as appropriate, including a Secretary responsible for reports of the meetings. Reports of the meetings will be produced within five working days of the meeting and circulated to all participants for review; they will be adopted at the next meeting.

The CFWG should play a core role in the convening of the National Forest Forum, and should play an advisory role in the development and implementation of the County Forest Forums.

CFWG will be transparent. Its meetings will be open to public observers, but observers will not have standing to make interventions. It will make available for inspection the minutes of all meetings upon request.

CFWG meetings schedules will be published quarterly.

Secretariat support for the CFWG should be sought from FDA and partners in order to ensure effective record keeping and public outreach.

VI. Implementation and Monitoring of Decisions

CFWG’s role is advisory. It will produce an annual public State of Forest Communities report every December, detailing issues and options for community forestry and community-based management of natural resources for submission to the Managing Director of the FDA. This report will document the evolution of participation in the forest sector. The CFWG will disseminate the report widely.

VII. Dissolution of the CFWG

The CFWG may be dissolved through:

1. Decision of the FDA Managing Director
2. Two-thirds vote of the full CFWG (consent of 8 members)

In addition, the CFWG will be considered dissolved if it fails to meet for 12 consecutive months.

APPENDIX 2. PRESENTATION TO THE CFWG: POLICY ISSUES

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Community Forestry

Policy Issues

Presentation to the Community Forestry Working Group
October 16, 2012

1

BACKGROUND CONTEXT: THE FORESTRY SECTOR and LEGAL REFORM

2

Background Context: The Forestry Sector

Pre-2003

- Unregulated exploitation of Liberian Forests
- Concessions covering an area that amounted to 2.5 times the actual area of the country
- Back taxes were owed
- Warring factions funded logging activities
- Overlapping claims to timber
- Lack of transparency

3

Post-2003

Legal framework developed that was a model of international best practice

- Driven by principles of sustainable forest management and planning
- Transparency
- Community Rights

4

Post-2003

Great promise....

- First country to certify and extend EITI system to include timber and not just minerals
- Signed VPA with EU to support export of legal timber
- Taxation supports Liberian economy and development

5

2011-2012 - Return to business as usual??

Liberia's hasty forest sell-off risks more conflict
-The Guardian

25% of Liberia to Loggers
-MSNBC

Liberia's Failed Logging Promises
-BBC

Liberia's Logging Loophole: Selling Off the Forest
-All Africa Press

Illegal Logging endangers Liberia's Forests
-Al Jazeera

6

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COMMUNITY FORESTS

Community Rights Law of 2009

Community Forestry: The governance and management of Forest Resources in designated areas by communities for **commercial and non-commercial purposes** to further their livelihoods and development. NFRL §1.3

Intent of the NFRL


- Empower communities to engage in sustainable forest management

Objectives of the CRL

- Define community and FDA rights and responsibilities of ownership, management, use and benefits
- Establish informed representation

The Community Rights Law (CRL) of 2009

- §2.3b** Forest land holders with Aborigines Grant Deeds, Public Land Deeds, Public Land Sale Deeds, Tribal Land Deed Certificate and Warranty Deeds shall be classified as Community Forest Land
- §2.3c** All deeds mentioned above that have already been authenticated and certified by MLME or the LC shall be classified as Community Forest Land.
- §2.3d** Forest land and customary land as are recognized under the CRL



The Community Rights Law Regulation

- Application to the FDA
 - Statement of objectives
- Payment of fee \$250
- Socio-economic and resource reconnaissance
 - 30-day notice
- Survey, demarcation and mapping
 - 30-day notice and posting
- Community Forestry Agreement signed

BACKGROUND CONTEXT: FORESTRY LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The Legal Framework

The 3 C's Approach enshrined in the law

- Community
- Commercial
- Conservation

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The National Forestry Reform Law (2006)

Requirement for a National Forest Management Strategy (NFRL §§4.4a-g)

Shall classify all lands

- Legal status
- Potential use



Specify areas for the 3Cs:

- Commercial use (FMC)
- Protected Areas
- Community Forestry
- Any other...

1

Questions raised

- Who owns the forest?
 - Deeded land
 - Customary land
- Who represents the community?
- Who may log the forest?
- Who benefits?
- What does a deed convey?

2

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APPENDIX 3. CFWG ACTION PLAN FOR OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

LAUNCH OF 1ST ANNUAL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN: RESTRUCTURED ACTIVITY PROJECTION – FEBRUARY 15, 2013

Activity	Detailed description	Responsible person(s)	Timeline
Identification of Key Audiences/stakeholders in Lower Nimba and Grand Bassa and identify potential facilities for the events for all sites, including Saniquillie	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work closely with the CFWG and the field offices to identify and contact relevant stakeholders in preparation for the launch of the 1st Annual Outreach Campaign; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> National level – MOA, FDA, EPA and LC; ENGOs, CSOs County level – Supt., City Mayor, County Police Commander, Coordinators of GOL Agencies and Ministries (MOA, FDA, EPA, MIA, Lands and Mines), reps of youth groups, reps of women’s organizations, District level – DC, CC, PC, Community level stakeholders – Youth leaders, Women’s leaders, Chiefs, etc. Assess facilities within the provincial cities where event will be hosted, including unique local contexts 	PROSPER and the CFWG (2) subcommittee on Outreach/Heads of field offices	(20-27)- Feb - 13
Reassess key messages for appropriateness and efficacy for inducing change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutinize messages using established filters Assign messages into three categories <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Legal and Policy framework Community forest management/ governance Livelihood opportunities 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach	(18-22)-Feb- 13

LAUNCH OF 1ST ANNUAL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN: RESTRUCTURED ACTIVITY PROJECTION – FEBRUARY 15, 2013

Activity	Detailed description	Responsible person(s)	Timeline
Assign messages to specific tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific messages can be assigned to more than one tool <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. T-Shirts ii. Posters iii. Fliers (procedure for the establishment of Authorized Forest Community) iv. Calendars v. Brochures vi. Radio – Interactive/ jingles/ drama vii. Theatre – Radio/ live performance viii. Cultural shows ix. Sporting events 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach	(19-26)-Feb-13
Production of Print materials and mobilization of other outreach tools	To be produced/ mobilized toward the launching ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. T-Shirts ii. Posters iii. Fliers iv. Banners v. Brochures vi. CRL booklets vii. Radio – Interactive/ Jingles/ Discussions/ Public Notices 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach	20-Feb – 15-Mar-13
	To be produced/ mobilized immediately following the launching <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. CRL booklets – Simplified version ii. CRL Regulation booklets iii. Policy Briefs iv. Theatre – Radio/ Live performance v. Documentary – Telling the 1st Annual Outreach Campaign Story vi. Inter-County School Quiz (Linking 1.1 to 1.2) 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach STTA - Morgan	1-Apr – 31-Jul-13
	To be produced/ mobilized after the rains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Calendars ii. Cultural shows iii. Sporting events iv. Audio Recording of the CRL (<i>Read and interpreted in Liberian English</i>) 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach	1-Aug – 31-Dec-13

LAUNCH OF 1ST ANNUAL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN: RESTRUCTURED ACTIVITY PROJECTION – FEBRUARY 15, 2013

Activity	Detailed description	Responsible person(s)	Timeline
Identification of media service providers and national theater groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Leaders of National Theatre Groups and Media Specialists • Develop SOWs for media and theatre service providers 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach	(18-28)-Feb-13
Design launching ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize venue for events in conjunction with Field Offices and County Officials • Develop program • Identify MCs, Speakers, etc. • Develop talking points for speakers • Determine logistics needs 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach County offices in Buchanan and Tappita	18-Feb – 8 Mar-13
Inform stakeholders about the launching ceremony	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitations and follow-ups to identified stakeholders at every level 	County offices in Buchanan and Tappita/Monrovia team and CFWG	11-25 Mar-13
Launching of Outreach Buchanan, Tappita and Saniquillie	<p><u>Main Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal Launching Ceremony • Airing the “Making Rights Real Video” • Exhibition (Booths/stalls) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tools featuring in the entire outreach Campaign ○ FDA/PROSPER’s Policy and Law Approach ○ FDA/PROSPER’s Sustainable Livelihoods approach ○ Forest-related art of the respective County • Interactive Radio dialogues • Cultural Performances • Theatre – live drama 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach	1-6 Apr-13 Event 1: 1-Apr-13 Event 2: 3-Apr-13 Event 3: 5-Apr-13
Roll out Media Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design Complementary programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Factual Information ○ Edutainment • Identify resource persons • Agree on airing schedules 	PROSPER and the CFWG subcommittee on outreach/Field offices	8-12 April-13 - Onward
Community level outreach campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing and implementing specific campaign forums <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Town-hall meetings ○ Live theater performances ○ Sequence other outreach tools as necessary 	Theater groups CFWG subcommittee on outreach/PROSPER Community Mobilizers	8 April-13 - Onward

LAUNCH OF 1ST ANNUAL OUTREACH CAMPAIGN: RESTRUCTURED ACTIVITY PROJECTION – FEBRUARY 15, 2013

Activity	Detailed description	Responsible person(s)	Timeline
Video Documentary of the first phase of the Annual Outreach Campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the CFWG to master some editing Techniques • Cover the Evaluation Workshops • Support the CFWG to edit the footage from the Annual Outreach Campaign and the Evaluation workshop 	PROSPER team STTA - Morgan	24-June – 12-Jul-13
Evaluation workshop on the CFWG Annual Outreach campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan and design evaluation workshop in conjunction with M&E Specialist & L-MEP • Invite Stakeholder; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CFMBs ○ CFDCs ○ FDA Field Officers ○ PROSPER Heads of field offices ○ CFWG subcommittee on outreach ○ PROSPER team • Select workshop venue 	PROSPER team CFWG Field Offices	(1-5)-Jul-13
Submission of draft annual outreach evaluation workshop report	Compile information from workshop Develop draft Circulate for comments/inputs Incorporate comments/inputs Finalize report	PROSPER team/CFWG reps	31-Jul – 15-Aug-13
Annual Outreach Campaign Continues			

APPENDIX 4. PRESENTATION TO THE CFWG: PERSPECTIVES FROM PROSPER FIELD SITES

Community Forestry

Perspectives from the PROSPER Field Sites

Presentation to:
Community Forestry Working Group
April 16, 2013

Background

USAID Community Forestry Programming in Liberia

- USAID-funded project to assist Government of Liberia to develop and apply a "community forestry framework"; 3-year pilot initiative that ended in October 2011 (implemented by Tetra Tech ARD)
- Field activities in four pilot communities (Nimba & Sinoe Counties) & worked closely with FDA and Land Commission
- Activities continued with USFS/USAID support through May 2012 (LFSP) in Nimba County (implemented by ARD/USDA)
- PROSPER project awarded in May 2012; a five-year (ca. 2012-2017) project that will continue to support the expansion of sustainable forest management and CF in Liberia through education and improvements to human, legal, regulatory and institutional capacities (Implemented by Tetra Tech ARD)

What did LRCFP/LFSP accomplish?

Supported the development of an enabling legal framework

- Community Res Law (CRL)
- CRL Regulation

Not a perfect law....

- Procedural difficulties
- Benefit sharing mechanisms

...but it is the law

What did LRCFP/LFSP accomplish?

Demonstrated that CF is a viable management option for Liberia's forests

- 4 CF Management Agreements covering more than 10,000 ha.
- Co-management agreement for the ENNR (13,000 ha.)
- 4 CF Management Plan
- Management Agreement for West Nimba in draft (10,000+ ha.)

....but most importantly

Communities understand their rights AND responsibilities

"The forests that we agreed to set aside as community forests for conservation purposes have all been awarded to mining companies for exploration purposes." "To spare the government to define or draw a clear line between conservation and concession because we continue to see companies coming with licenses to carry out exploration in those forests set aside by us and the Forestry Development Authority (FDA)." - Steve Thompson, CFMB Chairperson

Forestry Sector challenges

Post-PUP environment

- Demand for access to timber is fierce
- FDA in disarray
- Inability to regulate forest activities
 - LVD coming online but...
 - Limited capacity and resources of FDA staff
 - Corruption
- Willful disregard for the law
- Limited political will for change
- Communities and the nation are losing
 - Revenues
 - Resources

LEGAL LINE OF INQUIRY FOR PUP

Legal line of inquiry to determine PUP validity

```

    graph TD
        Q1{Is it private land?} -- No --> A1[PUP invalid]
        Q1 -- Yes --> Q2{Is land classified as Community Forest under the CRL?}
        Q2 -- No --> A2[PUP valid, subject to regulation]
        Q2 -- Yes --> A3[PUP invalid, CRL applies]
    
```

Example: Tribal Certificate

```

    graph TD
        Q1{Is it private land?} -- No --> A1[PUP invalid]
        Q1 -- Yes --> Q2{Is land classified as Community Forest under the CRL?}
        Q2 -- No --> A2[PUP valid, subject to regulation]
        Q2 -- Yes --> A3[PUP invalid, CRL applies]
    
```

Example: Aborigine Grant or Public Land Sale Deed

```

    graph TD
        Q1{Is it private land?} -- No --> A1[PUP invalid]
        Q1 -- Yes --> Q2{Is land classified as Community Forest under the CRL?}
        Q2 -- No --> A2[PUP valid, subject to regulation]
        Q2 -- Yes --> A3[PUP invalid, CRL applies]
    
```

Example: Individual Fee Simple Deed

```

    graph TD
        Q1{Is it private land?} -- No --> A1[PUP invalid]
        Q1 -- Yes --> Q2{Is land classified as Community Forest under the CRL?}
        Q2 -- No --> A2[PUP valid, subject to regulation]
        Q2 -- Yes --> A3[PUP invalid, CRL applies]
    
```

COMMUNITY FORESTS

CFWG_April2013 - Microsoft PowerPoint

Community Rights Law of 2009

Community Forestry: The governance and management of Forest Resources in designated areas by communities for commercial and non-commercial purposes to further their livelihoods and development. NFRL §1.3

Intent of the NFRL

- Empower communities to engage in sustainable forest management


Objectives of the CRL

- Define community and FDA rights and responsibilities of ownership, management, use and benefits
- Establish informed representation

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The Community Rights Law (CRL) of 2009

- §2.1b Forest land holders with Aborigine, Grant Deeds, Public Land Deeds, Public Land Sale Deeds, Tribal Land Deed Certificate and Warranty Deeds shall be classified as Community Forest Land
- §2.1c All deeds mentioned above that have already been authenticated and certified by the Ministry of Lands, Mines and Energy or the Land Commission shall be classified as Community Forest Land.



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CRL – commercial harvesting requirements

Rigorous standards consistent with the NFRL requirements for FMAC

- May enter into large-scale commercial use contracts for timber products guided by the following sustainable Forest Management standards:
 - selection of company through competitive bidding
 - compliance with the core regulations for commercial logging
 - Approved by the president and ratified by the legislature

Governance structure ensures community representation and avoids elite capture

- Must form a Community Assembly, Executive Committee, and Management Body
- Compensation...???

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The Community Rights Law Regulation

- Application to the FDA
 - Statement of objectives
- Payment of fee \$250
- Socio-economic and resource reconnaissance
 - 30-day notice
- Survey, demarcation and mapping
 - 30-day notice and posting
- Community Forestry Agreement signed

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DISTRICT 4 GRAND BASSA

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From PUP to CFMA???

PUP 25 area

- Social Agreement
- School in Y2
- Clinic in Y3
- \$3/m²




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Willful disregard of CRL by law makers

Representative Influence in PUP 25 area

- Wrote CF application
- Provided funding
- Would not leave a copy of the document for review
- Drafted MOU committing community leaders to agreement with LTTC (owned by a fellow lawmaker)




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... and this week

Grand Bassa Timber Company

- Approached community for a CFMA



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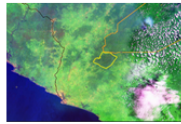
NUMOPOH COMMUNITY FOREST SINOE COUNTY

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Timber interests v. Communities

Numopoh CF

- 1 of 9 forest areas
- Delta Timber Co. (informed by FDA that there is a CFMA)
- Golden Veroleum
- Multiple meetings with the community
- "GVL will cut the forests anyway..."
- Want to take community leadership to FDA to sign social agreement



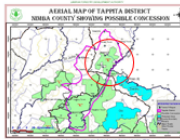
22

Case Study #3 BIG GIO FOREST

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The Big Gio National Forest

- Located in Nimba County
- Classified as a production forest by FDA
- An unallocated FMC
- No private claim to the land at time of allocation



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Slide Sorter | "Blank" | 125%

Customary Claims

- Four Communities**
- Sehzuplay Clan (inc. Doe Clan)
 - Gblor Clan
 - Beauto Community (Krahn, at least 2 clans)
 - Boe & Quilla Communities (rep. 2 chiefdoms and 4 clans)



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Doe Clan Deed

- January 2011**
- Publicland grant (1949)
 - Covers 79,000+ ha.
 - Incorporated a Doe Chiefdom Forest Mgmt Committee (12/2009); registered w/ MFA
 - FDA survey found overlap of 16K+
 - PUP issued on entire area



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Case Study #4
GRAND KRU

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Concessions and Communities

- August 2010: Contract between GOL and GVL
- Sept 2010: Contract between GOL and ARC
- 2010: Community organiz & register Forest Mgmt Group "Friends of Franbarbie"
- 2012 - Appeal to FDA for CF and sent to PROSPER
- NBST funds are "missing"
- Free and informed consent?
- Options for this community?



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WHO IS CREATING THESE CFMA?

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CFMA created in Grand Gedeh but when???

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY
COMMUNITY FOREST MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT
BIBIOLA DISTRICT

NO.	COMMUNITY FOREST	LOCATION	HECTARES/ACRES	DATE	STATUS
1	The People of Kpelle Chiefdom	Kpelle Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Approved
2	The People of Gola and Gola	Gola Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Part of process
3	The People of Gola and Gola	Gola Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Part of process
4	The People of Gola and Gola	Gola Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Part of process
5	The People of Gola and Gola	Gola Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Part of process
6	The People of Gola and Gola	Gola Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Part of process
7	The People of Gola and Gola	Gola Chiefdom, Kpelle County	4,816	November 12, 2011	Part of process

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CFMA – the next PUP?

LIST OF COMMUNITY FORESTS IN PROCESS

NO.	COMMUNITY FOREST	LOCATION	HECTARES	STATUS
1	The People of Kpelle Chiefdom, Kpelle County	Kpelle County	4,816 hectares	IN PROCESS
2	The People of Gola and Gola, Kpelle County	Kpelle County	4,816 hectares	IN PROCESS
3	The People of Gola and Gola, Kpelle County	Kpelle County	4,816 hectares	IN PROCESS
4	The People of Gola and Gola, Kpelle County	Kpelle County	4,816 hectares	IN PROCESS
5	The People of Gola and Gola, Kpelle County	Kpelle County	4,816 hectares	IN PROCESS
6	The People of Gola and Gola, Kpelle County	Kpelle County	4,816 hectares	IN PROCESS

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CFMA – the next PUP?

- 33 Applications at the FDA

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We invite your suggestions & comments.

The PROSPER team welcomes your collaboration and help in applying this governance and livelihoods approach to improve land tenure and property rights for Liberia's precious forests. Please contact the following persons or any PROSPER team member:

- Stephen Reid, Chief of Party
sreid@aid-prosper.com
- Vaneska Litz, COOP/Community Forestry and Land Tenure Advisor
litz@aid-prosper.com

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APPENDIX 5. SUMMARY OF THE REVIEW OF CFMA APPLICATIONS BY CFWG

5-1.1 MINUTES OF CFWG CFMA APPLICATIONS MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

COMMUNITY FORESTRY WORKING GROUP (CFWG) MEETING WITH THE COMMUNITY DEPARTMENT STAFF REGARDING ALL NEW APPLICATIONS FOR VERIFICATION

DATE/TIME: April 23, 2013 at 12: 17PM

LOCATION: FDA Central Office

ATTENDANCE:

Name	Position/Institution	Email
1. Lawrence Y. Greene	TM/FDA	lygreene2002@yahoo.com
2. Sam Koffa	PROSPER	snkofa@yahoo.com
3. Weedor Gray	ESM/FDA	weedorgray@yahoo.com
4. Gertrude Hines	EO/FDA	gertrudehines@ymail.com
5. Sehgran K. Gomah	EPA	gomahism2gran@yahoo.com
6. F. Mulbah Z. Forekpa Jr.	ACORD/Program Officer	fmalbahzig@yahoo.com
7. Rebecca G. Tabolo	SEO/FDA	
8. James G. Kokro	SEO/FDA	jgkokro2003@yahoo.com
9. Samuel G. Korvayan	APO/FDA	samuelkorvayan@ymail.com
10. Thomas E. Garnett	ED/CIS	cisliberiaincorporated@yahoo.com

Welcome remarks were made by Mr. Lawrence Greene Technical Manager, follow by self-introduction

GROUP DISCUSSION

The group discussed the various steps in acquiring an authorized forest community as it relate to the applications sent to FDA for community forest used.

The discussions were basically on chapter 2, section 3 and 4 of the CRL regulation.

Mr. Garnett ask how can these communities get to know how the application should be written in response, Mr. Greene said there will be a field visitation to conduct some awareness

Dr. Kofa asked that, is it possible for FDA to prepare a template which will guard the application process

Mr. Greene said it is possible but also important to educate the people on the way an application for community forest should be prepared. Upon this the group proceeded in the analysis of the application using the check-list below:

Name of Community Forest	Deficiency	Location	Area	Objective
Kparblee	Lack section 4 of the CRL	Kparblee	N/A	N/A
Marloi & Vambo	✓	N/A	✓	Job & social development
Yarpeamah	✓	Bosena - Gotoweia town	150acr, 75hac	N/A
Mesema Maboima	✓	Mesema	N/A	✓
Liason				
Cavalla Forest	✓	G. G. County	N/A	✓
Managment				
Tulaymou	✓		N/A	✓
Geetrol	✓	Located @ the boundary b/w Sino & River Cess county	250,000acr	✓
Nwolila Bokumu	Not in confirmative with the CRL steps	N/A	N/A	Conduct social reconnaissance survey and demarcate the land
Blalah & Geblee Clans	Not in confirmative with the CRL	✓	✓	N/A
Karluway	✓	✓	✓	✓
(DDA) Duo Development Association	-social economic information not available -lack section 4	✓	✓	✓
Tienpo	✓	✓	N/A	✓
Rockcess Development Association	✓	Rockcess	✓	✓
Yeablo Admi District	Lack section 4	Yeablo	100,000acr	✓
Gbarma Lumeh	Not in confirmative with the CRL	N/A	✓	✓
Mabon Region	✓	✓	✓	✓
Semebehum	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mano Gleh	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mafala Region	✓	✓	✓	✓
Binduma	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dubukon	Lack section 4	Dubukon	25,555ha	✓

5-1.2 LIST OF APPLICATIONS COMPILED BY THE FDA IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CFWG

Name of Community	Country	District	Date of Written Application	Date Application received by FDA	Applicant on Request Prepare	Applicant Fee paid?	Proposed Acres/ha	Location of Forest Land/ Area	Info from Applicant			Criteria met?
									Info on	Obj Yes/No	Criteria met?	
Bokomu & Nwolalala District	Gbarpolu	Bokomu	September 30, 2011	Oct. 10, 2012	Yes	(Yes/No)	150 Acres	Gbarpolu	C	C	C	
Gbein Chiefdom	Nimba	Yapea Mah	February 16, 2013	21-Feb-13	Yes	Yes	75 Acres	Nimba	B	A	A	
Kpoblen Clan	Grand Bassa	District #4	April 1, 2013	5-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Bassa	B	A	A	
Boe-Quilla	Nimba	Tappita	April 1, 2013	5-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	C	Nimba	A	A	A	
Seizueplay	Nimba	Tappita	April 1, 2013	5-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	C	Nimba	A	A	A	
Mesembojima	Grand Capent.	Tewor	October 28, 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Capent.	C	C	C	
Binduma	Grand Cape Mt.	Pokpah	28 Oct. 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Cape Mt.	C	C	C	
Semebehum	Grand Capent.	Tomey	28 Oct. 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Capent.	C	C	C	
Mabon	Grand Cape Mt.	Gola Konneh	28 Oct. 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Cape Mt.	C	C	C	
Mano-Gleh	Grand Cape Mt.	Pokpah	October 28, 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Cape Mt.	C	C	C	
Mafala Region	Grand Cape Mt.	Gola Konneh	October 28, 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Cape Mt.	C	C	C	
Gbarma Lumeh	Grand Cape Mt	Pokpah	October 28, 2012	Oct. 31, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Cape Mt	C	C	C	
Marloi & Vambo	Grand Bassa	District #2	2-Oct-12	Oct. 2, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Bassa	C	C	C	
Dubukon	Since	Dubukon	15 Oct 2012	Nov. 22, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Since	C	C	C	
Rockress	Rivercess	SanGbalare	Nov 8, 2012	Nov. 22, 2012	Yes	Yes	25,555 ha	Rivercess	B	B	C	
DDA/Duo Development	Since	Sanquain	October 12, 2012	14-Dec-12	Yes	Yes	C	Since	C	C	C	
Gbair-Gblor	Nimba	Tappita	April 1, 2013	5-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	240,000 Acres	Nimba	C	C	C	

Jelepo
Since
Jelepo
Sept. 28, 2012
Dec. 13, 2012
Yes
Yes
400,000 acres
Since

Yes Information from Applicant
 A. B. C.

Barcoline/ Harmorville	Grand Bassa	District #3A	April 24, 2013		29-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Bassa	A	A	
Sehvi	Nimba	Sanniquelle Mah	April 1, 2013		5-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	C	Nimba	B	B	B
Kpablee	Nimba	Tappita	February 26, 2013		5-Mar-13	Yes	Yes	C	Nimba	B	B	C
Karluway #1	Maryland	Karluway #1	March 18, 2013		22-Mar-13	Yes	Yes	C	Maryland	C	C	C
Karluway#2	Maryland	Karluway #@	March 18, 2013		22-Mar-13	Yes	Yes	C	Maryland	C	C	C
Barrobo	Maryland	Barrobo	October 23, 2012		26-Oct-12	Yes	Yes	C	Maryland	C	C	C
Yeablo Administrative District	Grand Bassa		October 29, 2012		5-Nov-12		Yes	C	Grand Bassa			
Citizens of Deabo Chiefdom	River-Gee	Webbo	March 28, 2013		2-Apr-13	Yes	Yes	100 Acres	River-Gee	C	C	C
Blalah & Gee Clans	Grand Bassa	Glakon	October 23, 2012		Oct. 26, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Bassa	C	C	C
Kiteabo Chiefdom	River-Gee	Webbo	20-Mar-13		March 22, 2013	Yes	Yes	C	River-Gee	C	C	C
Tienpo Chiefdom	River-Gee	Tienpo	8-Mar-13		8-Mar-13	Yes	Yes	35,000Acres	River-Gee	C	C	C
Niplaikpo Community	Grand Kru	Jloh	June 15, 2012		June 27, 2012	Yes	Yes	C	Grand Kru	C	C	C
Cavalla Forest Management Committee	Grand Gedeh	Cavalla	December 10, 2012		Dec. 28, 2012		C	C	Grand Gedeh			
Geetroh Community Forest Management Organization	Sinoe	Geetroh	December 19, 2012		Dec. 20, 2012		C	C	Sinoe			B
Gungbeta	Gbapolu	Bokomu	1-Oct-12		Oct. 10, 2012	Yes		250,000 Acres	Gbapolu	B	B	C
Palakwelleh	Gbapolu	Gou- Nwolalala	1-Oct-12		Oct. 10, 2012	Yes		C	Gbapolu	C	C	C
Kokoyah	Bong	Kokoyah	22-Apr-13		April 19, 2013	Yes		C	Bong	C	C	C
Totoe/ Duo/District #3	Sinoe	Sanquain#3	14-Mar-13		19-Mar-13	Yes		45.073Ha	Sinoe	C	C	C

Tarsue Township District #2	Since	Sanguain #2	14-Mar-13	16-Mar-13	Yes	C	31,282 Ha	Since	C
Gheegbarn Administrative District	Grand Bassa	Glarkon	5-Jun-13	7-Jun-13	Yes	C	20,275 Ha	Grand Bassa	C
Tahn Town	Grand Cape Mt	Gola Konneh	27-Jun-13	1-Jul-13	Yes	C	35,000 hectares	Grand Cape Mt	C

APPENDIX 6. LIST OF CFWG MEMBERS AND REGULAR ATTENDEES, 2013

No	Name Regular Representatives	Organization	
1	Anthony Vanwen	Forestry Development Authority	FDA
2	Aaron N. Kota sr.	"	FDA
3	Lawrence Greene	"	FDA
4	Koko Dennis	"	FDA
5	Andrew Tokpa	Save My Future Foundation	SAMFU
6	Thomas Garnet	Community Initiative Serves	CIS
7	Mulbah Forkpa	Associates and Community Rights Defenders	ACORD
8	Julie Weah	Foundation for Community Initiative	FCI
9	Lee Selekp0	Rural Integration Center for Community Empowerment	RICCE
10	Alex Johnson	Friends of Ecosystem and Environment	FEE
11	Michael Taire	Society for the Conservation of Nature in Liberia	SCNL
12	Titus Davis	Sustainable Development Institute	SDI
13	No consistent Rep.	Liberia Democratic Institutes	LDI
14	Segran Gomah	Environment Protection Agency	EPA
15	Edward Suloe	Community Forest Development Committee	CFDC

NB: Due to gender considerations, institutions were encouraged to invite female personnel from their institution to participate in the meetings.

U.S. Agency for International Development
Liberia Mission
502 Benson Street
Monrovia, Liberia