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Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development

Short Report

UNEP-UNCTAD CBTF Training Workshop on Integrated Assessment for African Countries

19-20 July, UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi

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Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development

UNEP-UNCTAD CBTF Training Workshop on Integrated Assessment for African Countries

19-20 July 2004, UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi

The Training Workshop on Integrated Assessment for African Countries was the first of a series of capacity building activities for Africa planned in the second phase of the CBTF, funded by the European Commission. It targeted African research and training institutions, which are in a position to train others in the future or initiate integrated assessments in cooperation with their governments. The training responded to an important cluster of capacity building needs identified during the CBTF Regional Workshop on Post-Doha Issues on Trade and Environment held in Cape Town, South Africa in May 2003. As described in a special UNCTAD XI issue of the CBTF newsletter prepared on the occasion of the recent UNCTAD XI *Roundtable on Promoting Trade for Sustainable Development* (São Paulo, Brazil, 17 June 2004), focusing on African countries will be a major priority of future CBTF activities.

The 25 participants from North, East, West and Southern Africa included university professors, directors and senior staff from national cleaner production centers, environmental, economic and policy research institutes, as well as a representative from the European Commission (DG Trade). Participants were selected based on recommendations provided by several UNEP Divisions (Region of Africa, Division of Early Warning and Assessment, Division of Environmental Policy and Implementation, and Division of Technology, Industry and Economics), other partner organizations as well as the UNEP Economic and Trade Branch (UNEP-ETB) expert working group on integrated assessment. Representatives of the UNEP and UNCTAD secretariats also participated. Mr. Shafqat Kakakhel, Deputy Executive Director of UNEP opened the training workshop.

The workshop aimed at providing participants with a better understanding of the concept of integrated assessment and providing a forum to discuss experiences and future possibilities of its application in African countries. In preparing for the training workshop, UNEP-ETB developed a draft Training Resource Manual for Integrated Assessment, which was based on experiences gained through 18 country projects on integrated assessment of trade-related policies conducted in different regions. The training workshop provided an opportunity to receive feedback from participants on the training resource manual before its finalization.

In combining input by resource persons, presentations of experiences from the national institutes, which have led previous country projects in Africa, and group work on case studies, the training stimulated very fruitful discussions on the benefits, appropriate methods as well as obstacles of undertaking an integrated assessment. The workshop also provided an opportunity to brief participants on related initiatives on assessment undertaken by the UNEP Division of Early Warning and Assessment, UNDP and the EU. It confirmed the immense interest in the topic and the wealth of experiences already available in Africa. Participants expressed the need to continue the capacity building activities at the sub-regional and national levels targeted towards a broader group of relevant stakeholders including governments, the private sector and local authorities.

The trainees appreciated the training approach and found the training resource manual to be a useful and user-friendly tool on which future training activities could be built. Main recommendations for its improvement focused on further clarification of the differences and benefits of environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment and integrated assessment as well as their interrelations. Participants also suggested including more practical examples illustrating the main steps of an integrated assessment as well as the challenges in the practical implementation.

Subject to availability of funding, the participating African institutions expressed their interest to initiate follow-up activities to the workshop, including national and sub regional training workshops, country projects in sectors relevant to Africa (livestock, tourism, agriculture in arid land, water and energy), and analysis of the actual policy implications of the country studies which have already been carried out. The UNEP and UNCTAD secretariats will brief senior officials from African governments on future CBTF activities during a meeting to be held in conjunction with the WTO CTE meeting (Commission on Trade and Environment) in mid-October 2004 in Geneva.

Annex 1: Agenda

Annex 2: Evaluation and detailed recommendations.

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Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development

Annex 1:

Integrated Assessment for African Countries

UNEP-UNCTAD Capacity Building Task Force - Training Workshop

UNEP Headquarters Nairobi, 19-20 July 2004 (Conference Room 3 and 6)

Agenda (actual)

Monday, 19 July 2004

8:30-9:00	Arrival of participants and registration
9:00-9:45	Opening and Welcoming Remarks (chair Mr. Desta Mebratu) Mr. Shafqat Kakakhel (Deputy Executive Director, UNEP) Mr. Rene Vossenaar (Chief, Trade, Env. and Dev. Branch, UNCTAD) Ms. Eva Kaluzynska (Coordinator, DG Trade Civil Society Dialogue) Mr. Peter Acquah (Regional Office for Africa, UNEP)
9:45-10:15	Tea / Coffee Break
10:15-10:30	Introduction to the Training Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self introductions and expectations regarding the workshop • Objectives and programme of the training (Ms. Vera Weick) • Capacity Building Task Force for Trade, Env. and Development (Mr. R. Vossenaar)
10:30-11:15	Briefing on related initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Africa Environmental Outlook Report (Mr. Munyaradzi Chenje – UNEP-DEWA) • UNDP/UNEP cooperation / SIAP (Mr. Gregory Woodsworth – UNDP Kenya)
11:15-11:30	Introduction to Training Resource Manuals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Resource Manual Env. Impact Assessment (Mr. D. Bitondo, EIA Consultant)
11:30-12:30	Session 1: General Introduction to Integrated Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation (Mr. Jan Joost Kessler) • Discussion and interaction with resource person
12:30-1:30	Lunch break
1:30-2:30	Session 2: Process of an Integrated Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation (Mr. Jan Joost Kessler) • The participatory process on integrated assessment: case of Senegal (Mr. Papa Gora Ndiaye) • Discussion and interaction with resource persons
2:30-4:30	Group activity 1: Case study exercise on Integrated Assessment of trade-related policies (1st set of questions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work on case studies in three groups (China, Nigeria, Senegal) • Preparation of presentations

4:30-5:00	Tea / Coffee break (integrated in group work)
5:00-6:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of results by groups in plenary (three groups) • Discussion

Tuesday, 20 July 2004

9:00-9:15	Summary of the First Day and the Programme for the Second Day
9:15-10:45	Session 3: Contents and Methods of an Integrated Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation (Mr. Jan Joost Kessler) • Discussion and interaction with resource persons
10:45-11:15	Tea / Coffee break
11:15- 12:30	Session 4: Policy Responses and Follow-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation (Mr. Jan Joost Kessler) • The follow-up process in Nigeria (Mr. Peter Okuneye) • Discussion and interaction with resource persons
12:30-1:30	Lunch break
1:30-4:30	Group activity 1: Case study exercise on Integrated Assessment of trade-related policies (2nd set of questions) – continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group work on case studies in three groups (China, Nigeria, Senegal) • Preparation of presentations • Presentation of results by groups in plenary (three groups) • Discussion
4:30-5:00	Tea / Coffee break
5:00-6:00	Recommendations for the Training Resource Manual and Follow-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments by participants • Review and next steps
6:00	Closing <i>NB: Participants return Evaluation Questionnaire</i>



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Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development

Annex 2:

Evaluation and Detailed Recommendations

UNEP-UNCTAD Training Workshop on Integrated Assessment (IA) for African Countries 19-20 July, UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi

Workshop Administration

Participants were mostly satisfied with workshop administration, but offered a few suggestions.

Suggestions:

- Chose hotel closer to UNEP headquarters to avoid traffic jams
- Allocate more time for the training workshop, plan for three days
- Improve and update CBTF website

Training Resource Manual on Integrated Assessment

Participants generally commented that the manual was a useful and user-friendly tool, and provided some recommendations for its improvement.

Suggestions for improvement in general

- Clarify concepts of ownership and initiator of IAs (separate ownership and initiator)
- Address more practical field problems
- Include more case studies / more practical group work
- Elaborate detailed account of how to do an IA (provide a step-by-step approach that shows sequential steps of an integrated assessment)
- Pick up a typical example to illustrate the whole IA process (taking hypothetical country and sector)
- Include merits and demerits of command and control measures, economic and voluntary measures, as well as gender issues, child labour, occupational health and safety, social accountability (e.g. SA 8000), supply chain and corporate responsibility. Elaborate on the role of business and local government authorities
- Provide a clear methodological approach, such as the approach in the UNEP EIA manual
- Explain that studies could be conducted in all kinds of sectors, including the service sector (Cover more sub-sectors in the case studies: livestock, water, wildlife, industrial product etc.)
- Provide checklists for sectoral approaches (sectors)
- Elaborate further on the different versions of IA training programmes (such as one for professionals and the other one for beginners)
- Distribute questionnaires before and after the training to evaluate how trainees were able to grasp the subject

- Provide a clear explanation that the manual is for trainers and not a background document for the participants of the training (the document handed out to the participants needs to be prepared by the trainer taking into account the need of the particular audience)
- Provide references to the work undertaken by other institutions on IA, SEA, EIA, etc. (such as UNDP)
- Emphasize the role of the steering committee and how to set it up
- Provide a French version of the training manual
- Include information on research proposal writing

Suggestions to improve the sessions and case study exercise

- Include information on EIA and SEA (brief presentation) and clarify the difference between EIA, SEA and IA; highlight the additional benefits of policy analysis to influence policy decision-making
- Include benchmarking, product life cycle, cleaner production and EMA as beneficial steps of an IA
- Provide a more detailed introduction to IA (with examples) for those not familiar with IA
- Emphasize multidisciplinary nature if the subject matters
- Expand on identification of the products, which have a noted impact on environment with relation to trade and production
- Expand on quantitative assessment models as well as qualitative methods; demonstrate output/outcomes, include examples of practical applications and difficulties in applying the different methods
- Include examples from case studies in the presentations
- Include more visual effects (diagram, figure, table flowchart)
- Include slides that lead to participation of participants
- Make sure there is a chairman for each group to facilitate the discussion and provide more time for group discussion.
- Enrich information provided in the case studies so that participants can better answer the questions

Follow-up activities that institutions could carry out:

Basel Convention Center: Prepare briefing for all focal points in English-speaking African countries on the importance of integrated assessment; Draft a project proposal to initiate capacity building for senior officials.

CEDR: Subject to funding, update data used in Tanzanian IA study and consolidate the report.

CEEPA: Undertake an IA on livestock in South Africa; incorporate IA in post-graduate studies in environmental economics.

CITET: Conduct IA case studies on tourism and agriculture in arid land.

CSIR-ENVIRONMENTEK: Raise awareness on trade and sustainable development issues.

ENDA: Organize training workshop based on work done in Africa with support of UNEP.

EPA, Ghana: Integrate IA into currently on-going SEA to provide the qualitative analysis for the SEA process.

KEI: Use the IA material as a guide for future training programs.

KNPC: Conduct trainings, awareness raising and actual assessment (in important sectors of the economy); hold a consultative workshop.

NISER: Subject to funding, do training exercise.

UCPC: Propose an IA for Lake Victoria and national policy in sustainable consumption and production in Uganda.

University of Agriculture, Nigeria: Subject to funding, conduct a national workshop on IA.

University of Cairo: Conduct project on IA of fisheries or some industrial products to meet objectives of sustainable development.

Follow-up activities suggested for UNEP-UNCTAD CBTF:

Basel Convention Center: CBTF could help BCC with technical assistance and funding for training activities.

CEDR: For purposes of capacity building, carry out IA in another sector with high investment pressure, e.g. tourism, mining industries; systematically carry out training on IA for senior officials and local governments authorities.

CEEPA: Collaborate with participants on a possible country study; participants to be involved in follow-up workshop to evaluate the capacity building initiated in this area; Send revised copy of training manual to participants.

CITET: Conduct IA case studies on tourism and agriculture in arid land.

EEPRT: Keep contact with the trainees and check whether they have conducted a similar training program in their respective countries and whether EIA studies have been undertaken by the institutions or other organizations in the countries.

ENDA: Support institutions like ENDA to disseminate the training tools and organize a training workshop.

EPA, Ghana: Support training of relevant stakeholders in the IA of Ghana's poverty reduction strategy to further refine the SEA outcomes; conduct IA in the priority sectors emerged from the qualitative SEA process, namely water and energy; support IA training for WTO negotiators and other stakeholders (capacity building).

KEI: Support the development of similar training programs for developing countries in other regions (possible cooperation of UNEP-UNCTAD and KEI).

KNPCPC: Assist in setting up a case study to facilitate skills transfer through learning by doing.

NISER: Support additional training to ensure effectiveness and continuity in the light of evolving understanding and knowledge of integrated assessment studies.

UCPC: Fund sub-regional proposals for IA activities.

University of Agriculture, Nigeria: Consider a regional workshop in four centers or four regions in Africa; invite a few participants to finalize the training resource manual after revised draft is available.

University of Cairo: Request African countries to submit proposals on IA and provide technical assistance to conduct the proposed projects.

Additional suggestions for follow-up activities:

- Expose group that has been trained to real life examples in near future
- Conduct national capacity building workshops in interested countries
- Compile which activities are under way or already implemented by represented countries in the workshop
- Facilitate follow-up activities in trainees' countries
- Assist in raising awareness in countries by facilitating some initiation activities. This could facilitate the launching of country projects
- Support training workshops by regions using the studies from the region
- Provide support for the adaptations of the manual to national and sub-national circumstances
- Analyse the actual policy implications of the country studies, which have already been carried out.
- Inform stakeholders about the procedures for submitting project proposals (within the programme of CBTF)
- Run training workshops with the people that will actually carry out integrated assessment studies (with core people)
- Initiate second round of IAP projects after first results of the current round have been compiled
- Include more people with a background in trade in the next workshop



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Capacity Building Task Force on Trade, Environment and Development

Annex 3:

UNEP/UNCTAD CBTF Training Workshop on Integrated Assessment
for African Countries, 19-20 July 2004, UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi

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