



## **Draft Agenda**

### **Sub-Regional Training Workshop for Trainers in Integrated Environmental Assessment and Reporting, 20 – 22 July 2009, Cairo, Egypt**

#### **Background**

UNEP is supporting the implementation of the Africa Environment Information Network (AEIN) initiative which is aimed at providing the scientific basis to underpin the integrated environmental assessment process. The goal is to enhance accessibility to more reliable environmental data and information at national level for the environmental assessment and reporting in the region. A central objective of AEIN is to build capacity for establishing the essential data foundation and information management framework needed to support country-level integrated environmental assessment and reporting, within the broad framework of sustainable development goals and initiatives. The second phase of this initiative came to an end in December 2008 and involved activities in 12 pilot countries and at least seven additional countries, including the One – UN Pilot countries.

Within the Global Environment Outlook (GEO) process, UNEP has developed assessment guidelines to support the national reporting processes and ensure a coherent approach and application of sound scientific methodologies in integrated environmental assessments (IEA). The IEA Training Manuals are targeted at the IEA practitioners and decision-makers at national level. The application of the guidelines and methodologies are being promoted within the framework of AEIN in Africa. The workshop is part of ongoing capacity building and strategic positioning by UNEP to ensure impact of assessment activities on national policies and actions.

#### **Objectives of the workshop**

The objective of the workshop is to (i) carry out refresher training for the national AEIN focal points using the revised customized IEA Training Manuals with special emphasis on the impact strategy; and (ii) agree on national level training strategies for practitioners at national levels. It will serve to equip practitioners with practical approaches and strengthening the institutional and technical capacity of the countries in the Anglophone sub-region in preparing

integrated environmental assessments with a focus on outreach and impact strategy.

The meeting will benefit from the evaluation of the impact of the first and second phase of AEIN implementation in Uganda, Zambia, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Sudan and Mauritius and discern lessons learnt that can inform the development of a comprehensive capacity enhancement strategy to be implemented by UNEP in 2010 – 11 biennium. The meeting will also provide guidance to the AEIN national focal points on strategic engagement in the national processes leading to the development of UNDAFs and other national development plans.

There is growing interest in mainstreaming environment in national development frameworks and programmes. Environmental mainstreaming is the centerpiece of the UN Result Based Management and the Human Rights Based Approach, which is the principal of engagement for all UN agencies at national and other levels. It is also core to ongoing MDG-based planning that is expected to embed environmental sustainability in the national plan. However, field experience to date suggests that scarcity of good quality and adequate environmental data at the national level is a main constraint to mainstreaming. This constraint has also adversely affected the integration of environment in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), a problem arising from an inadequate handling of environment in the Common Country Assessment (CCA) that precedes the UNDAF. This meeting will discuss strategies on how to meet these challenges.

Finally, a South-South Network for integrated environmental assessment and reporting was established in early 2006 with the aim to support policy formulation and informed decision-making processes at national, regional and global levels through innovative use of information and communication technology for networking and knowledge access and management. The overall project objective is to improve environmental decisions and policy-making at regional and sub-regional levels. While the specific objectives of the project are:

- To make relevant integrated environmental assessment information, data, tools, methodologies and approaches available and accessible;
- Establish a mechanism to facilitate and promote exchange of ideas and expertise through peer interaction and networking;
- Enhanced use of ICTs for information and knowledge management and networking; and
- Enhanced capacities of GEO CCs and national partners to undertake IEAs.

The GEO CCs and national partners have played a key role in implementing some of these objectives. In this regard, this meeting will discuss experience(s)

with implementation of the South – South network and how it can be further strengthened.

### **Meeting Participants and Methodology**

The meeting will be attended by senior technical staff who are AEIN national focal points in the Anglo Phone region and the Collaborating Centre coordinators from Africa. It will be facilitated by DEWA Africa Programme and external experts.

The meeting will be both plenary and practical group discussions, supported with strategic presentations, including the GEO modules to guide the discussions as well as the nation level presentations on lessons learnt.

Monday, July 20 - Session 1 - ***Taking stock (Chair: Ahmed Abdelrehim)***

8:00 Registration (Mayar Sabet)

9:00 Opening and Welcoming Remarks

10:00 Introduction and training session objectives (C. Sebukeera)

11:15 Presentation of the Customized version of IEA Training Manual for Africa  
(C. Ambala)

12.00 Discussions

13:00 LUNCH

14:00 Presentation of national and regional experiences (what worked using the IEA manual and what did not work) (***Chair: Gina Bonne***)

*Ethiopia*

*Rwanda*

*Sudan*

*Uganda*

*Zambia*

*Mauritius*

16.00 Tea Break

*CEDARE (Arab Region Environment Outlook)*

*SARDC (Southern Africa Env. Outlook)*

*IGAD (IGAD Region Env. Outlook)*

17.00 End of session

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Tuesday, July 21 - Session 2 - ***Reporting for impact at national and regional levels. (Chair: Frank Turyatunga)***

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- 8:30 Introduction to the session and logistics (Mayar Sabet)
- 8:40 Analysis of the policy retrospective (By Joseph Opio – Odongo)
- What is policy?
  - What is the link between policy and environment?
  - What are the entry points for environment assessment?
- Group work and exercises

13:00 LUNCH

- 14:00 Scenario development, weaknesses and strength (By Washington Ochola)  
***(Chair: C. Sebuakeera)***
- Reasons to conduct forward-looking policy studies
  - Analytical framework for assessing policy options and scenarios
  - Modeling tools for scenario analysis
- Group work and exercises: Practicing scenario analysis

- 16:30 Preparing for data collection and indicator development (By Ahmed Abdelrehim) ***(Chair: C. Ambala)***
- Why is it necessary?
  - What has been the limitation?
  - How is the indicator tool developed by UNEP/CEDARE working?
- (NB: This will be an interactive session aimed at getting input into a strategy to deal with data and indicator issues in the region)

17:30 Session evaluation

Wednesday, July 22 - Session 3 - ***Getting the message across (Chair: Clever Mafuta)***

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- 8:30 Introduction to the session and logistics (Mayar Sabet)
- 8:40 Why is strategic positioning essential (By Frank Turyatunga)
- 9.00 Introduction to outreach and marketing (By C. Sebuakeera)
- 9.15 Concepts and tools for outreach and marketing (By C. Sebuakeera)
- 9.45 Fitting IEA in the UN Country Programming process (By C. Ambala)
- 10.30 Tea Break
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11.00 Sharing experiences – the IEA Community Platform (By I. Kinuthia)

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- What is it?
  - How will it help our work?
  - What is your role?
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12.30 Final training programme evaluation

12.30 Closing ceremony

13.00 Lunch

14.00 – 17.00 Field Visit (Mayar Sabet)

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