PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

AFRICAN UNION INITIATIVE
On
PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF AGENDA 21 IN AFRICA

Expected date of initiation: Jan 2003
Expected date of completion: Jan 2008

Partners Involved:

Governments: African Union Member Countries

Intergovernmental organizations: African Union

Major expected groups:

1. UNDP
2. UNEP
3. UNFCC
4. UNSO
5. Private Sector Companies

 and NGO' s

Leading Partner:
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Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative
Please provide a brief description:

The main objectives of the initiative are:

♦   To critically assess successes and failures in implementing Rio decisions in each member AU country
♦   To focus on the identification of accomplishments and areas where further efforts are needed to implement Agenda 21.
♦   To ensure that all members of African Union must have a safer more prosperous future by dealing with environment protection economic development and social development issues in

a balanced manner.
- ♦ Accelerated economic and social development of Africa with better care for environment
- ♦ Awareness raising at regional, national and local level and further promote Agenda 21 in Africa.
- ♦ Further strengthen the capacity of AU countries in:
1. Conservation of African resources
2. Preservation of environment by making development, tourism, planning, resource use, landscape and sites promotion through the establishment of protected areas that regulate resource uses and respect ecosystems carrying capacity
3. Strengthening of co-operation at all levels-political, technical and local
4. Improving public participation aiming at rising environmental awareness
5. Encouraging improvement of monitoring and information exchange
6. Avoiding over exploitation of common pool of resources, such as water
7. Introduction of new norms and impositions
8. Promotion of saving technologies among consumers
9. Supply of technical assistance
10. To evolve mechanisms and arrangements for capacity building that will facilitate and co-ordinate access to technical and financial assistance to African countries to implement EGA initiated mandate to implement sustainability network in Africa
11. To investigate the situation of information in the environmental sector in Africa and to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the present situation.
12. To organize and control the environment related data collection, storage, and information dissemination
13. To identify the needs of the environmental information systems, such as networks and technology
14. To bridge the data gap and improve information availability for sustainable development
15. To identify capacity building and training needs
16. To propose projects for achieving some of the above objectives
17. To produce action plans to fulfil the above mentioned objectives to meet international standards and requirements of Agenda 21

The aim of EGA initiative is to

1. Development of capability of African Union member countries to work together for environmental protection and management
2. Prepare and adapt regional development strategies which will serve the needs of all African countries
3. Identifying and maintaining inventory of sources of assistance outside those to be provided by African Union
4. Assisting signatories sustainability networked member countries, upon request, to identify and access the sources
5. Encouraging the involvement of private sector and non-governmental organizations in providing assistance
6. To identify the national capacity building needs

SOME OF SUGGESTED PROJECTS
1. Preparing environmental management plans for ecologically sensitive areas
2. Development of tourist activities by respecting carrying capacity and the equilibrium of the

environment
3. Developing water management and solid and liquid waste management plans at a local or national levels
4. Conservation of nature and biodiversity
5. Implementation of telematic tools for environmental management

Please also provide a brief description of the relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

This EGA INITIATIVE   is in pursuance of African Union policy to implement Agenda 21 and to contribute to Sustainable Development by implementing Millennium development goals, NEPAD, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, UNFCC, Kyoto Protocol, convention on bio-diversity etc

Expected results:
Please provide a brief description:

The implementation of this project will result in:
1. Capacity assistance network (See Fig attached)
1. Establishment of appropriate institutional structures capable of managing natural resources
2. Strengthened monitoring system
3. Appropriate legislation to control pollution
4. Rational plans to the use of natural resources to control their exploitation
5. Optimal and appropriate technologies for rational use of natural resources
6. Social and economic benefits
7. Sustainable livelihood of people living in environmentally sensitive areas
8. Preservation of natural resources for future generations
9. Enhanced overall environmental performance of public and private investors and promoting a greener image
10. Transfer of cleaner, greener and environmentally sound appropriate proven energy technologies in African Unity member states
11. Enhanced environmental quality in the African Union member countries**.**
12. Increased foreign investments in African Union
Finally it will give reliable data bases for further developing projects in:
1.Sustainabile Management of Natural Resources
2. Energy, Transport And Sustainable Development
3. Consumption Patterns And Waste Management
4. Health & Environment
5. Capacity Building & Environment
6. Local Management & Sustainable Development

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

1. Environment Information Center	Oct 2006
2. Establishing a national mechanism	Sept 2003
2. identify and define the roles of the different AU institutions	May 2003

3. prepare a series of projects in each sector of environment	April 2004
4. assess the GHG reduction potential in AU	Sept 2004
5. identify the national capacity building needs	June 2004

Coordination and Implementation mechanism
Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

We are currently evolving practice structures in the fields like energy & environment, crisis prevention & recovery, poverty alleviation, Information & communication technologies. This is being achieved by bringing people from different regions in the AU and the environment professionals into voluntary flexible communities based on common professional interest so that they can learn from each other's knowledge and experience and develop new ideas during a series of workshops at EGA. This will provide forums for communication and help network with peers**.**

Arrangements for funding
Please describe available and/or expected sources of funding for the implementation of the Partnership/Initiative (e.g. donor government(s); international organization(s)/financial institution(s); foundation(s); private sector; other major groups, etc.)

Currently we are still in the negotiating process to raise funds for implementation of the various phases of the initiative. EGA is committed to raise funds for all the expenses for organizing workshops and liaison other perspective AU member country donors/sponsors.

Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer
Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

EGA has already initiated steps to achieve particular strengths in terms of the knowledge and expertise for all levels of training activity. Subject matter experts are being involved in selecting the most relevant information. The package will employ only simple, time-tested technologies. Our aim is to improve the performance of our AU client organizations by helping individuals achieve a better understanding of their business

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technologies transfer (if applicable).

We have already initiated a Best Practices Initiative program at EGA. This involves expert groups responsible for the collection, validation and dissemination of both positive and negative lessons learned. These expert groups gather potential lessons recorded from past experiences, determine that they are correct and useful and provide necessary information to concerned policy makers and decision makers. This is achieved by developing standard lessons learned formats for knowledge networks and data bases.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)
We have MOU with several international & regional organization

EGA Initiative in Jamahiriya

EGA guidelines for application of BPP initiative uses system models to enable make smart decisions about future courses of action based on reliable predictions of probable results. It's activities advocate multi level plans. It recognizes that each program and the interaction of its elements is unique. Therefore, each solution will be unique. Consequently, each BPP initiative would be an ever-evolving model of itself, which considers alternatives and plan courses of action that would be a subset of one or more models within the service of environment. Keeping this in view EGA is engaged in designing interactive simulation models by team of experts in statistics, related environmental discipline, computer scientist and specialist in -charge of relevant services.

Monitoring Arrangements

Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD:
(e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)

To insure a successful implementation of the project, the role of stakeholder will be as follows:

(1) Role of government.

- Establish and empower the required infrastructure for information technology such as communication and providing equipment to the evolved institution
- Providing the necessary assistance to others in carrying out their mission
- Providing the needed training for staff
- hiring qualified personnel for information technology and environmental information
- creating a critical mass capable of communicating with external experts and centers of information. Skills may include ability to write project proposals with knowledge on environment information technology etc.
- reduce government restriction on the release of environmental information to be used by regional and international organizations as seen necessary.

(2) Role of semi government and NGOs

- Non governmental organizations are other users of environment information and produce some of their needed information through small projects and research.
- Promoting the importance of environment information for public through media, workshops, and meetings, etc..
- Lobbying for drafting and enforcing of environment information legislation and regulations

(3) Role of donor institutions (UNDP, UNEP, World Bank, ...etc.)

- Providing the necessary experience and knowledge for providing and dissemination of environment information
- Providing the necessary funds for equipment and infrastructure
- Providing the necessary training and capacity building for local

Action Plan Framework

For a successful implementation of the environment information strategy in the environment information community, a set of rules and regulations have to be introduced or adopted**:**

- Proper mobilization for sustainable development at all levels
- To evolve environmental governance processes and institutional arrangements including

defining workable institutional arrangements, addressing finances and instituting a system that empowers all the AU member countries to participate meaningfully and adequately

- Encourage sharing and exchanging information by producing protocols and regulations.

- Enforce budget allocations for information processing and development and training.

- Promote coordination and collaboration among the different sectors, public and private, in environmental information services, especially with the academic institutions.

- Encourage the publication of guidelines and standards to enforce accessibility, reliability and availability of information.

- Enforce intellectual property (IPR) issues, e.g. copyrights, in connection with environmental information e.g. publications, software. IPR laws encourage innovation and including certainly information related to new products. Protection measures are intended to maximize creation and innovation.

- Encourage the use of IT in information processing and exchange.

- Enforce the use of already existing laws and encourage issuing necessary modifications accordingly with international standards and developments.

- Encourage research and development.

- Encourage the private sector to produce and collect, and disseminate environmental management information.

- Create broad guidelines for institutional setup of information generating centres that would encourage planning, execution, coordination, monitoring, regulating and control the information services of the environment sector.

- Setup the administrative body of the ENVIC

- Establish and empower a national coordination environment information centre (ENVIC) at EGA to facilitate national , regional and international cooperation

- Review the activities of the Environment Information Coordinating Committee and include

them in the action plan.

- Review the activities and missions of the major environment organizations to assess their IT needs and training requirements.

- Prepare a detailed action plan.

- Introduce intensive training programs and workshops to reduce the gap in work skills needed on the supply and demand sides.

- Upgrade the present information systems to meet the international development standards and to provide quality and timely information services.

- Develop the proposed information systems.

- Adopt standards for classification of environment information to promote exchange of information locally and regionally & internationally.

- Setup communication systems to promote international and regional cooperation and the exchange of information including the use of the Internet.

- Plan budget allocation for all environment-centers to eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and efficiently utilize resources.

Other relevant information:

Web-site (if available):www.ega-org

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