

## **Stakeholder Engagement Plan**

**JUNE 2021**

**MULOMA WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

**(MUWODA)**

*Promoting sustainable livelihood as incentives for conservation of Yawri Bay*

**Yawri Bay, Moyamba District, Sierra Leone**

## **Grant Summary**

1. **Grantees Organization:** Muloma Women’s Development Association.
2. **Grant Title:** Promoting Sustainable Livelihood as incentives for conservation of Yawri Bay
3. **Grant Number:** N/A
4. **Grant amount (US Dollars):** \$24,975
5. **Proposed dates of grant:** 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.
6. **Countries or territories where project will be undertaken:** Yawri Bay, Mayomba District, Sierra Leone
7. **Date of preparation of this document:** June 2021

## **8. Introduction**

The urge by local communities to meet their basic needs catalyse the threat to the conservation of the Yawri Bay Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). As local communities in the project area depend heavily on natural resources for their livelihoods, it becomes difficult for them to conserve natural resources.

During the information sharing conducted late in 2019 by MUWODA at end the Project titled “Demonstrate sustainable livelihood in Communities for conserving Yawri Bay Areas” funded by Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund in Bumpah chiefdom Moyamba district, the establishment of beehives was recommended as the preferred sustainable alternative livelihood activities requested by the communities in the Yawri Bay KBA.Key Biodiversity Area.

In response to this, MUWODA in partnership with CEPF will be supporting 4 local communities within Bumpah Chiefdom (Mongbeschain, Monkorogbo, Bumpah and Walia) in the Yawri Bay KBA to implement an alternative sustainable livelihood project focused on NTFP, especially apiculture (bee keeping) which will act as incentives for the conservation. It is envisaged that the project will empower people in 4 communities (Mongbeschain, Monkorogbo, Bumpah and Walia) in the Yawri Bay KBA through tailored trainings and technical support to engage in sustainable beekeeping activities in and around their community forests.

## **9. Summary of Previous Stakeholder Engagement Activities**

Consultations were held with key stakeholder groups including women, youth, NGOs, CBOs, traditional and religious leaders for this project in the 4 proposed project communities (Mongbeschain, Monkorogbo, Bumpah and Walia) in the Bumpah chiefdom Moyamba district.

Key issues discussed were the successes and lessons learn during the Project “Demonstrate Sustainable Livelihoods in Communities for Conserving Yawri Bay Area” and advocacy need on conservation of the Yawri Bay KBA in the Moyamba district.

Promoting sustainable livelihood as incentives for conservation of Yawri Bay KBA project proposal was discussed with various key stakeholder. It was agreed at the partnership meeting to share summary of the current proposed project with stakeholders during the project induction meeting.

## **10. Project Stakeholders**

- Important sub–groups within the communities such as the traditional leaders (chiefs, youth leaders, women leaders), elders, women, youth, farmers, miners, hunters, fishermen, bush meat traders, landowners.
- Ministry of Agriculture.

- Ministry of Environment.
- Moyamba District Council.
- Traditional authorities for the project (ie. Paramount Chief).
- Government authorities for the project area and Moyamba District.
- Community Radio.

## 11. **Stakeholder Engagement Program**

MUWODA's approach to stakeholder engagement in the proposed project is to integrate stakeholder engagement with all planned activities. There is therefore no stand-alone stakeholder engagement Programme but all activities will mobilize key stakeholder.

There are several goals of the stakeholder engagement:

- Ensure all activities are designed to reflect the reality of the situation in the project area and contribute to meeting the expected results for the community members.
- Ensure that all stakeholders have a good understanding of the project and what it is trying to achieve so that they can make informed decisions with respect to activities supported by the project.
- Multiple methods will be used for all stakeholder engagement and will vary from one activity to another. The following gives examples of methods:
  - Community interest in beekeeping established through focus group discussion about livelihoods activities with men and women separately.
  - Informal discussions with community members.
  - Community members informed about the possibility of livelihoods project through town hall meetings..
  - Participation in the project activities formalized in a MOU with MUWODA outlining the roles and responsibilities of each party, witnessed by the local authorities of community members and MUWODA.
  - Relevant traditional authorities kept up to date about progress through discussions with project staff.
  - Feedback from the participants obtained through focus group discussions.
  - At harvest time, the results of the beekeeping activities are shared through interviews with participants on community radio.
  - Posting photos of the beehives and honey harvested, wax, etc. on bulletin boards in each community.
  - Senior stakeholders are aware of the results of the beekeeping project through updates given at coordination meetings (ie. circulation of project reports to DC, Ministries of Agriculture and the Environment).

## 12. **Consultation methods**

As noted above, multiple methods will be used for stakeholder engagement and will vary according to activity and stakeholder group. Consultation with stakeholders will take place throughout the life of the project. The consultation methods that will be used include:

- Town hall meetings with the whole community or particular sub –groups (e.g. women, loggers).

- Surveys/questionnaires (e.g. questionnaire for participants in a training activity, before and after the activity).
- Focus group discussions with specific groups (e.g. groups of women to discuss/livelihood activities).
- Informal meeting/discussions with community members.
- Key informant/interviews (e.g. interviews with some individual hunters).
- Workshops (e.g. a workshop with community leaders to discuss issues of VSLA).
- Discussions at meetings of stakeholders.

### 13. **Other Engagement Activities**

In a very real sense, all the community-based activities in the proposed project are engagement activities. As noted above, MUWODA will sign an MOUs with the direct beneficiaries (beekeepers) in which they commit to sustainably manage their community forest and MUWODA commits to support the communities to improve their livelihoods.

Specific activities include:

- Project inception meeting in Moyamba with key stakeholders including government agencies, NGOs, District council and Paramount chief of Bumpeh chiefdom.
- Creation of sustainable income generating activities based on beekeeping.
- Training on establishment of a small loan Programme (VSLA).
- Mobilization and sensitization on the importance of beekeeping.
- MUWODA staff attend training on CEPF project implementation in the first month

### 14. **Timetable**

Stakeholder engagement is integral to all project activities and all project activities mobilize key stakeholder. Therefore, the schedule for stakeholder engagement is in fact similar to the schedule for the whole project implementation.

Some upcoming key activities to note include:

- Discussion of CEPF project with Line Ministries, DCs: 1<sup>st</sup> week of July, Bumpeh Town; KBA Management Committee.
- Radio discussions on conservation Yawri Bay KBA - July to December, 2021
- Establishment of MOUs and signing –2<sup>nd</sup> week of July.
- Training in Pre/Post Beekeeping activities - September to December, 2021.
- MUWODA staff attend training on CEPF project implementation – July 2021
- Training on basic business skills including VSLA - October to November, 2021

### 15. **Resources and Responsibilities**

All staff at all levels will carry out stakeholder engagement relevant to their particular areas of responsibility. For example, the Project Manager is responsible for engaging with the stakeholders at the large through town hall meetings to introduce the project to the 4 communities or the senior stakeholders in Moyamba. The Forest Management Specialist has responsibility for carrying out surveys in the

communities where they work. The M&E officer has responsibility for carrying out focus group discussions with participants in a training activity.

Given the way which stakeholder engagement is integrated within all project activities, there are no resources allocated specially to stakeholder engagement but incorporated into the different budget lines.

#### **16. Grievance mechanism**

The project will provide local communities and other interested stakeholders with the means by which they may raise a grievance with MUWODA, the CEPF Regional Implementation Team, the CEPF Secretariat. Affected Local communities will be informed of the project and the existence of a grievance mechanism. The email address, telephone number and physical address of MUWODA, the CEPF Regional Implementation Team and the CEPF Grant Director will be made publicly available through announcements at public meetings, through notices placed on community building boards, and via announcement on community radio. We will share all grievances and a proposed response with the regional Implementation Team and the CEPF Grant Director within 15 days.

If the claimant is not satisfied following the response, they may submit the grievance directly to the CEPF Executive Director @ [ceptexecutiveconservation.org](mailto:ceptexecutiveconservation.org) or by postal mail. If the claimant is not satisfied with the response from the CEPF Executive Director, they may submit the grievance to the World Bank at the local World Bank Office.

#### **17. Monitoring and Reporting**

Stakeholder and third-party involvement in the monitoring of project impacts will take place through the following activities:

- Baseline/Final socio-economic survey administered with households in the project area.
- Focus group discussions and/or questionnaires with participants in all livelihoods training activities.
- Focus group discussions and questionnaires with all participants in the small loan Programme.
- Before and after self-assessment by MUWODA staff of their ability to support community livelihoods activities and support community-based forest monitoring.
- End of project evaluation of the MUWODA project will include focus group discussion and key informant interviews with stakeholders.