

DRAFT REPORT

1<sup>st</sup> Expert Working Group on  
Integrated Forest Fire Management (EWG - FFM) Meeting

For

The SADC/JICA Project on Forest Conservation and Sustainable  
Management of Forest Resources in Southern Africa

7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

Project for  
**Sustainable Management of  
Forest Conservation and  
Forest Resources**  
in Southern Africa



**Report on the 1<sup>st</sup> Expert Working Group on  
Integrated Forest Fire Management (EWG - IFFM) Meeting**

Content

<b>1. Introduction</b> .....	2
<b>2. Objective of the EWG-IFFM component</b> .....	2
<b>3. Workshop Activities</b> .....	2
3.1. Selection of chairperson.....	2
3.2. Role of EWG .....	3
3.3. 1 <sup>ST</sup> Presentation; (whole structure of fire component).....	3
3.4. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Presentation; (SADC Regional Forest Fire Management guidelines) .....	3
3.5. 3 <sup>rd</sup> Presentation; (Training of teachers- prescribed burning) .....	1
3.6. More deliberations of EWG-IFFM.....	2

---

**Executive summary**

As a results of two days discussion, EWG-IFFM working group,

- **R**ecognized, function, mandate and responsibility of EWG.
- **S**electd Mr. Gabagomotse Mafoko (Botswana) as a chair person for 1<sup>st</sup> EWG.
- **D**eveloped capacity development plan which was proposed by PMU
- **P**roposed joint coordinative training with EWG-FIS and EWG-IFFM, in order to enhance mutual communication.
- **R**evised Pilot operation plan and drafting number of pilots and budget as follow.
  - ◆ 10,000 US\$/pilot ×8 pilots
- **D**rafting criteria of pilot selection.

## **1. Introduction**

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) consisting of 15 Member States, is a framework of multilateral agreement with emphasis on economics. SADC is implementing a regional Project on Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources in Southern Africa, which commenced in June 2015. The objective of the project is to develop the capacity of the SADC region in conservation and sustainable management of forest resources particularly in the areas of Forest Information System (FIS); Integrated Forest Fire Management (IFFM); and Participatory Forest Management (PFM). The Project is supported by the Government of Japan through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

In order to achieve the objective of the project, the First (1<sup>st</sup>) Expert Working Group for Integrated Forest Fire Management (EWG-IFFM) Meeting of the SADC/JICA Project on Forest Conservation and sustainable Management of Forest Resources in southern Africa was held from 7th – 8th November, 2016, Johannesburg, South Africa. The Meeting was jointly held with Expert Working Group for Forest Information System (EWG-FIS).

The objective of the meeting was to develop the training programme for the Expert Working Group for Integrated Forest Fire Management (EWG-IFFM) component and the annual workplan for 2017-2018 as well as criteria for selection of pilot implementation. The meeting was attended by all 15 SADC Member States. The report outlines the proceedings of the EWG-IFFM and the recommendations made.

## **2. Objective of the EWG-IFFM component**

The objectives of the Expert Working Group for Integrated Forest Fire Management (EWG-IFFM) of the project are to:

- i. Develop and/or modify the SADC Integrated Forest Fire Management Guideline
- ii. Building capacity of forest fire management in central level and community level; and
- iii. Publicize the SADC Integrated Forest Fire Management activities

## **3. Workshop Activities**

### **3.1. Selection of chairperson**

The delegate from Botswana (Mr Gabagomotse Mafoko ) volunteered to take the role of being chair with co-chair by Mr Suzuki from PMU.

**Q:** Is the chair position going to be rotation and how often?

**A:** PMU proposes chair position to be rotational to one year interval.

### 3.2. Role of EWG

Recall of joint EWG morning session activities as covered areas was provided by co-chair. And EWG-IFFM member came to conclude mandate of EWG-IFFM as follows.

- i. HOW TO DEVELOP REGIONAL FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES
- ii. IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAINING IN PILOT OPERATIONS
- iii. WORKING GROUP TO DRAFT FOR PILOT OPERATIONS

### 3.3. 1<sup>ST</sup> Presentation; (whole structure of fire component)

**TASK:** EWG-IFFM tasked presenter following presentation to communicate through e-mails over suggestions on how to make guidelines

### 3.4. 2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation; (SADC Regional Forest Fire Management guidelines)

**Q:** On the component for training with the most things in the document at different levels of trainings. What level/ kind of training were prospected?

**A:** Two kinds of training were planned. Training of trainers and cascade training. EWG-IFFM members for training of trainers and community members for cascade training.

**Q:** Why prescribed burning?

**A:** Project management is limited to prescribe burning for its cost and effectiveness.

Noted: After training of trainers and selection of pilot operation,

- Cascade training is essential for community where pilot operations to be selected.
- Training of trainers should be covered by EWG beyond/after JICA funding in sustainable manner.
- EWG-IFFM members considered to look into the situation of what SADC states are doing to help upgrade them, if any collect the guidelines.
- Baseline survey that was carried out for one week in July 2016 could not collect information on guidelines in the short period of time.
- EWG-IFFM members would be required to bring in guidelines in form of information projects.



**Q:** How are the two groups going to be linked? Based on the scheduled trainings (In reference to presented document) for IFFM training, only once when more for EWG-FIS training which would require an interface so that information to link between two EWG.

**A:** Possibly, another joint meeting to be scheduled for 2017 in Botswana, hence training for FIS remains to be highly intense with only a limited number of around 20 members and computer equipment provided per desk.

**Q:** Who will collect the information and who will manage it?

**A:** These activities were belongs to EGW member.

**Note:** Consultation on the issues being raised shall be answer tomorrow after meeting with EWG-FIS officials.

### 3.5. 3<sup>rd</sup> Presentation; (Training of trainer- prescribed burning)

- Only equipment on fires for pilot operations would be provided by JICA and no additional costs in transport and other logistic when running pilot operations, as would be expected to be responsibility for member States selected.
- All equipment to be issued for working on fire course

**Q:** How will equipment be provided in the training, is it per country level?

**NOTE:** After the training the completers of the training of trainers will propose for cascade training. (EWG-IFFM members were assured, JICA will provide the equipment).

**Caution:** The equipment is for community and not for Government officials

**Q:** In Malawi situation, where other types of foresters other than Government seem to exist at different work relations. How will the other groups where foresters are not part of Government be involved without provision of the equipment?

**A:** The SADC member States are differently managed and the resources are found to be different as well as the terrain that overly them. The situation must be left to the different country levels to sort out their differences, so that the proposal's format and score sheet are within the right of EWG to draw and present.

**Noted:** Other small issues, to find out if the training will have involve indigenous natural forest or commercial plantations forest because handling fires in these two types of forests is marked with different challenges.

### 3.6. More deliberations of EWG-IFFM

- When JICA has been overstretched to have not enough funds per budget to cover for the different responsibilities to SADC member states, then would have to be left to the member States themselves to decide to contribute funds in ranges whether 50/50 or up to 75%.
- Co-Chair mentioned, principle would be to encourage SADC Member States to consider that as this is technical cooperation project from JICA, in the Member States budget to include the project in line with sustainability of the project.

**Q:** Necessity of the study tour to Indonesia was being weighed as considered to be part of the schedule being scheduled. What is the feeling of EWG-IFFM?

**A:** Study tours are benchmarking and necessity which may be used to arrive at the hybrid product from a mix with other models by way of benchmarking what would be baseline to make improvement on the intended project.

- To concur with the fact that this was planned at JCC the EWG-IFFM members considered it was not proper to disregard the study tour.

**Q.** Is the study tour meant to accommodate one or two attending for EWG?

Only one (1) as part of EWG-IFFM member.

- Co-Chair noted on the point of benchmarking project by study tour to Indonesia, worthwhile to visit and reminded EWG-IFFM to be in their spirit to propose issues as a rule to the JCC. They would like to pursue and those they feel would have to be reconsidered by JCC.

**Q.** Is it possible to reduce the number of Pilot operations to be covered by the budget of 8,000 US Dollars?

**A:** scale of the pilot operations budget would need to be discussed in the PMU before deciding on whether scale up and where.

- PMU members would be requested to look into what to do of the pilot operations including whether to scale them up.
- In selection of pilot operations, among EWG-IFFM members, some feel scoring is no way to help and consider that equal opportunities be granted to SADC member States to upgrade them all at once without the differences in which they are found to exist.

- In any case it transpired that scoring was to handicap small countries as they would fail to contend for the pilot operation, hence they need much of the assistance in the existing fire incidences prevailing.

**Q.** Which opinion is should be used to follow for selection as criteria would still have to be covered on how to select pilot operation in the next session (tomorrow) , and

- How if the criteria considered now at this point by way of having to involve every SADC member state included for taking part in the pilot operations

### 3.7. Consultation of Day-2

1) PMU secretariat reflected about challenges on pilot operation budget and revision of training course which was raised on 1<sup>st</sup> day discussion.

2) As a result, EWG-IFFM member enable to deliver conclusion as follows.

## Conclusions

EWG-IFFM member,

- **Recognized role and responsibility of EWG**
- **Agree, pilot operation cost shall be 1,000 US\$/pilot and operate 8 pilot sites at most.**
- **Revised training schedule taking into account of linkage between EWG-FIS and EWG-IFFM (annex-1 revised schedule of training)**
- **Developed criteria for pilot operation selection in consideration of different country circumstances (Annex-2 pilot selection criteria)**
- **Recommend to JCC about reconsideration of study tour to Indonesia in aspect of cost-effectiveness.**

(End of document)