United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

Performance Review and Assessment of Implementation System

4th Reporting and Review Cycle - 2010

Report for Participatory Ecological Land Use Management - Uganda
### General Information Section

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Collaborative reports by accredited Civil Society Organizations

Are you submitting a report on Best Practices that was prepared in collaboration with different accredited organizations?

No

Specify the name of the organization(s)

If yes, please provide the full names and acronym of the organizations on whose behalf the present report is submitted. Kindly ensure that any duplication will be avoided: only one organization should submit a collaborative report on behalf of all the other organizations.

No answer provided
C. Best practices

According to decision 13/COP. 9, Annex V, UNCCD best practices shall be collected according to seven themes: 1. Sustainable land management (SLM) technologies, including adaptation; 2. Capacity building and awareness raising; 3. Desertification, land degradation and drought (DLDD) and SLM monitoring and assessment/research; 4. Knowledge management and decision support; 5. Policy, legislative, institutional framework; 6. Funding/resource mobilization; 7. Participation, collaboration and networking.

While themes 2 to 7 represent different elements of the enabling environment needed for the implementation and dissemination/up-scaling of sustainable land management (SLM) technologies (indirect impact), theme 1 comprises all actions on the ground that have a direct impact on desertification, land degradation and drought mitigation.

In particular, as specified in document ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5, paragraph 12, theme 1 ‘SLM technologies, including adaptation’ refers to SLM technologies that directly contribute to the prevention, mitigation and rehabilitation of desertification and land degradation on cropland, grazing land and woodland, with the aim of improving the livelihoods of affected populations and conserving ecosystem services. Successful implementation of SLM technologies is the base for achieving strategic objectives 1, 2 and 3 of The Strategy. Theme 1 also integrates five of the strategic areas defined by decision 8/COP.4, namely: (a) sustainable land use management, including water, soil and vegetation in affected areas; (b) sustainable use and management of rangelands; (c) development of sustainable agricultural and ranching production systems; (d) development of new and renewable energy sources; and (e) launching of reforestation/afforestation programmes/ intensification of soil conservation programmes.

ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5 provides definitions for ‘practice’, ‘good practice’ and ‘best practice’. These definitions are included in the common glossary that shall be referred to by Parties and other reporting entities while reporting to UNCCD, according to decision 13/COP.9, paragraph 8.

The template for reporting is based on the general structure for the documentation of best practices contained in ICCD/CRIC(8)/5/Add.5, paragraphs 40 to 43; it is tailored to the documentation of best practices related to theme 1 ‘SLM technologies, including adaptation’.

Best Practice #1

Property rights
Clarify if the technology described in the template, or a part of it, is covered by property rights:

No

If yes, please provide relevant information on the holder of the rights.
(max 100 words)

No answer provided

Section 1. Context of the best practice: frame conditions (natural and human environment)

Title of the best practice
Farmer Led Documentation and Knowledge sharing

Location (if available, also include a map)
In Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia.

Attachments:
none

If the location has well defined boundaries, specify its extension in hectares
Hectares (ha)

No answer provided
Estimated population living in the location
Number of people
   No answer provided

Prevailing land use within the specified location
   • Cropland
   • Grazing land
   • Woodland

Other (specify) (max 30 words)
   No answer provided

Brief description of the natural environment within the specified location
Climate: (max 50 words)
   The three countries involved in the Farmer Led and Knowledge management project are located in the Eastern and southern part of Africa with tropical kind of climate. (Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia)

Soil: (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Topography: (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Prevailing socio-economic conditions of those living in the location and/or nearby
Income level: (max 50 words)
   The project mainly focused on and was implemented by Small scale farmers whose major source of income is the agriculture products.

Main income sources: (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Land tenure and land use rights: (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Short description of the best practice
max 250 words
   Farmer Led Documentation (FLD) is an empowering process in which local communities take the lead role in the documentation process. FLD ensures that relevant experiences and good practices at the community level are visible as a starting point for further Farmer Led agricultural development. FLD is an approach that was developed as a participatory communication strategy that would involve the farmers directly thus reversing the traditional cycle of government and development agents bringing information as well as services and impressing them on the local farmers. The FLD approach provides local farmers with a role of being their own knowledge managers, problem solvers and decision makers.

On the basis of which criteria and/or indicator(s) (not related to The Strategy) the proposed practice and corresponding technology has been considered as ‘best’?
max 100 words
   • Level of adaptation by small scale farmers.
   • Results of the entire project.
   • Level of sustainability of the practice.

Section 2. Problems addressed (direct and indirect causes) and objectives of the best practice
With respect to DLDD, the best practice directly contributes to:

- Adaptation

Main problems addressed by the best practice
(max 50 words)

- Farmers have a lot of hidden expert knowledge which could be harnessed to solve their day to day problems. The farmers needed and were willing to document this knowledge and share it with others if they were allowed to take the lead in the process.
- Farmers were faced with the challenge of illiteracy, financial constraints, lack of advanced technologies and lack of skills to document. FLD was to address these challenges by encouraging participation of the marginalized groups, use of the locally available documentation methods to ensure sustainability.

Outline specific land degradation problems addressed by the best practice
(max 100 words)

No answer provided

Specify the objectives of the best practice
(max 50 words)

- To enhance and strengthen the capacity of farmers to document their knowledge and experiences for shared learning horizontally and vertically.
- To build the capacity of development practitioners to integrate FLD into their work.
- To enhance and strengthen networking and information sharing on FLD.
- To strengthen, promote and upscale FLD methodologies and practices among farming communities and development practitioners.

Section 3. Activities

Brief description of main activities, by objective

Objective 1
(max 50 words)

- Implement 6 diverse FLD methodologies which ensure at least 50% participation of marginalized groups piloted and shared widely.
- Building the capacity of Farmer led and Farmer Oriented networks and organisations enhanced in the use of FLD for advocacy and lobbying.

Objective 2
(max 50 words)

- An exchange and dissemination workshop on FLD.
- FLD integrated into the different development organisations projects and programmes.

Objective 3
(max 50 words)

No answer provided

Objective 4
(max 50 words)

No answer provided

Short description of the technology
(max 250 words)
Farmer Led Documentation is a technology where by the Small Scale farmers take the lead role in documenting their farming practices. FLD involves the use of locally and readily available documentation methodologies like pictures, note taking, songs, recordkeeping and many others.

Technical specifications of the technology – if any
max 250 words

No answer provided

Section 4. Institutions/actors involved (collaboration, participation, role of stakeholders)

Name and address of the institution developing the technology

Name
Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Uganda

Address
Plot 155, Kira Road, Kamwokya.
P.O Box 35804, Kampala- Uganda

Was the technology developed in partnership?
Yes

If yes, list the partners:
- 1. Oxfam Novib
- 2. PROLINNOVA international

Specify the framework within which the technology was promoted

- National initiative – government-led
- National initiative – non-government-led
- International initiative
- Programme/project-based initiative

Other (specify) (max 30 words)
No answer provided

Was the participation of local stakeholders, including CSOs, fostered in the development of the technology
Yes

If yes, list local stakeholders involved:
- If yes, list local stakeholders involved:
  1. East and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) Uganda
  3. Rural Empowerment Network(REN)

For the stakeholders listed above, specify their role in the design, introduction, use and maintenance of the technology, if any.
max 250 words

All the stakeholders listed above played the role of implementing the FLD Pilot project with their respective farmer communities by integrating in their already existing projects. They used technologies like still photos and record keeping.

Was the population living in the location and/or nearby involved in the development of the technology?
Yes
If yes, by means of what?
- Participatory approaches

Other (specify) (max 30 words)
No answer provided

Section 5. Contribution to impact

Specify to which strategic objectives of The Strategy the technology contributes
(more than one box can be ticked)
- 1. To improve the living conditions of affected population
- 2. To improve the conditions of affected ecosystems

Describe on-site impacts (the major two impacts by category)
Production or productivity:
1. (max 50 words)
   Documentation in the farms (book keeping) and at trainings by the farmers helps them keep a close eye on the progress of their plants and knowing what to do in case of any problem. This guarantees improvement in production/productivity.

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Socio-economic level (including cultural level):
1. (max 50 words)
   • Book keeping/record keeping has always been a good practice therefore farmers that practice FLD by keeping track of their expenditure and income became more economically stable.

2. (max 50 words)
   • Culturally farmers would document through telling short stories, music, myths and drawings. FLD encourages the use of these practices as documentation methodologies, therefore it encourage the use of cultural practices.

Environmental level:
1. (max 50 words)
   Farmer experiences in conservation farming practices for adaptation to climate change and FLD were documentated, shared within the community and disseminated i.e. publication on farmers’ experience with conservation farming was produced.

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Other (specify):
1. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

Describe the major two off-site (i.e. not occurring in the location but in the surrounding areas) impacts
1. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided
Impact on biodiversity and climate change

In your opinion does the best practice/technology you have proposed positively impact on biodiversity conservation?

Yes

Explain the reasons:

max 250 words

While farmer Led documentation does not directly impact on biodiversity. The improvement in farmer farming practices through documentation leads to positive impact in biodiversity conservation.

In your opinion does the best practice/technology you have proposed positively impact on climate change mitigation?

Yes

Explain the reasons:

max 250 words

No answer provided

In your opinion does the best practice/technology you have proposed positively impact on climate change adaptation?

Yes

Explain the reasons:

max 250 words

No answer provided

Has a cost-benefit analysis been carried out?

No

If yes, summarize its main conclusions:

max 250 words

No answer provided

Section 6. Connection to other UNCCD themes

Specify if the technology relates to one or more of the other UNCCD themes

- Capacity-building and awareness-raising
- Knowledge management and decision support
- Participation, collaboration and networking

Section 7. Adoption and replicability

Was the technology disseminated/introduced to other locations?

Yes

If yes, where? (add as many rows as necessary)

Location:

- The Pilot project beneficiaries were very few compared to the entire population surrounding them. While the development organization that were piloting this project could only reach a few small scale farmers in Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia. Other community members adopted and replicated these activities.

Were incentives to facilitate the take up of the technology provided?

Yes
If yes, specify which type of incentives
- Financial incentives (for example, preferential rates, State aid, subsidies, cash grants, loan guarantees, etc)

Can you identify the three main conditions that led to the success of the presented best practice/technology?
Examples of conditions leading to success may include: highly motivated local governments, farmers organized into well structured cooperatives, extremely favorable weather conditions, etc. For each 'condition of success' you are able to identify, specify whether in your opinion such condition is: (a) linked to the local context and thus cannot be replicated elsewhere; (b) replicable elsewhere with some level of adaptation; (c) replicable elsewhere with major adaptation.

1. (max 50 words)
   Highly motivated development organizations that were willing to integrate FLD within their already existing project and programmes. This shows that FLD is replicable elsewhere as long as the development organisations and agents (NGOs), local governments are willing to work together to build the capacity of the small scale farmers.

2. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

3. (max 50 words)
   No answer provided

In your opinion, the best practice/technology you have proposed can be replicated, although with some level of adaptation, elsewhere?
Yes

If yes, at which level?
- Local
- National

Section 8. Lessons learned

Related to human resources
(max 50 words)
- It is important to consider all aspects of human resource in FLD projects

Related to financial aspects
(max 50 words)
No answer provided

Related to technical aspects
(max 50 words)
- A difference was made by participation of farmers. It enriched the knowledge sharing process as they understood issues better. By taking the lead, farmers were empowered to own the process and the knowledge.
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| **Name of the Authorizing Officer** | Mrs. Stella Grace Lutalo |
| **Date of Authorization** | 20/01/2011 |
| **Signature** | |