



REPORT

SOUTH-SOUTH LEARNING EXCHANGE VISIT ON UNDERSTANDING BEST PRACTICES FROM THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CAPACITY BUILDING INITIATIVE FOR TRANSPARENCY (CBIT) PROJECT IN UGANDA



Liberian delegation and Ugandan counter-parts in a group photo

March 21- 29, 2021

Kampala, Uganda





Monday- March 22, 2021:

Departure Liberia and Arrival in Kampala:

A 12 man Liberia delegation comprising representatives from the Ministry of Mines and Energy of the Republic of Liberia, Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia, Conservation International- Liberia, including CBIT/NDC hubs from the Ministry of Transport , Ministry of Agriculture, Monrovia City Corporation, and the Forestry Development Authority departed Liberia on Monday 22nd March 2021 for Kampala, Uganda via Nairobi, Kenya and arrived Kampala in the morning hours of Tuesday 23rd March 2021.

Tuesday-March 23, 2021:

Introduction of Liberia Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Project staff and Africa Innovations Institute (AFII):

The Liberian delegation comprising the Assistant Minister for Energy of the Republic of Liberia, The Manager- Multilateral Environmental Agreements at Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change National Focal Point- Liberia, CBIT National Focal Point for Liberia, CBIT Liberia Project Management staff, CBIT Liberia NDC Hub focal points upon arrival in Kampala, Uganda met with a team from Africa Innovations Institute (AFII) who coordinated the implementation of the Ugandan CBIT Project as well as the organization of the exchange visit.

The meeting was characterized by a round of introductions. Dr. Fewlly Mugizi Tusiime, Project Manager, Uganda- Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) project took off time to welcome the delegation to Uganda and provided a brief insight as to the exchange visit agenda including planned meetings with relevant sectors during the mission. For his part, Assistant Minister for Energy at the Ministry of Mines and Energy of the Republic of Liberia- Mr. William T. Thompson thanked Africa Innovations Institute for coordinating the exchange visit and looked forward to an insightful mission. The Manager for Multilateral Environmental Agreements at the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia and UNFCCC Focal Point Liberia- Mr. Jefferson F. Nyandibo thanked Africa Innovations Institute for the warm hospitality accorded the Liberian delegation and expressed optimism that the exchange visit will open new frontiers for knowledge sharing.





Wednesday- March 24, 2021

Opening Proceedings and Technical Presentations:

The day commenced with the arrival and registration of participants both from Liberia and Uganda.

This was followed by the official opening session of the south-south exchange visit which was held in the Kagera Hall at Hotel Africana in Kampala, Uganda.

Mr. Sanyonga Derick of the Ugandan Ministry of Water and Environment apologized for the delay in the official commencement of the opening proceedings due to the absence of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Environment -Republic of Uganda who was due to make an official statement and formally declare the South –South exchange visit open.

He further extended warmest facilitations to the Liberian delegation and welcomed all participants to the technical working session.

Thereafter participants reviewed the work programme for the day and started with self-introductions. The Ugandan delegation introduced themselves followed by the Liberian delegation.

In Opening remarks, Hon. William T. Thompson- Assistant Minister for Energy, Ministry of Mines and Energy Republic of Liberia recognized the presence of all dignitaries of the Ugandan Government as well as key sector technicians from Uganda. He also recognized fellow delegates from Liberia.

He on behalf of the President, H.E. George Mannah Weah and people of Liberia extended friendly and warmest greetings to the people of the Uganda and lauded them for the hospitality and warm reception accorded the Liberian delegation upon arrival in Uganda. He emphasized the impact of climate change and environmental related issues that continue to affect Liberia and other parts of the world and anticipated that the south-south engagement will enhance effective coordination and cooperation between the two countries in finding practical solutions to climate change and environmental related impacts.

In separate remarks, a representative of the Commissioner of Climate Change Department- Ministry of Water and Environment, Mr. Bob Natifu apologized for the absence of his boss due to other national engagements but was quick to mention that his boss is very passionate about the exchange knowledge sharing visit by the Liberian delegation and hoped that both countries would learn from each other the best practices available.





He then highlighted the cardinal objectives for the exchange knowledge sharing visit which included:

- Knowledge of how the Greenhouse Gas Inventory (GHGI) and the MRV system works
- Challenges and recommendations relative to the GHGI and MRV systems
- Lessons/Best Practices learned from the Uganda Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency(CBIT) project

He ended by thanking Liberia for selecting Uganda for the exchange learning visit.

Dr. Felly Mugizi Tusiime, Project Manager- Uganda Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Project and also Africa Innovations Institute welcomed the Liberian delegation to Uganda. She also took off time to introduce the Ugandan CBIT project management team. This was followed by a brief presentation of the Uganda CBIT Project.

The presentation took into consideration the following key elements:

The Ugandan CBIT three (3) components:

- **Component 1:** Strengthening Capacity of institutions in Uganda to comply with transparency as required by the Paris agreement

Key results of Component 1

- Instructional frame work for robust GHGI and MRV
- Inter-ministerial cooperation and MOUs on and GHG data collection processing and transmission
- Technical guide on GHG data sharing
- Integrating Gender in GHGI and MRV operations by establishing gender focal points in 5 sectors also conducted gender sensitization of 46 government institutions including the private sector

Component 2: Focuses on capacity building for GHGI and MRV. The CBIT project implementation developed protocols and tools for activity data collection for the following sectors: Agriculture, Energy Transport and Waste. The Uganda CBIT team also succeeded in developing the Ugandan MRV portal for information and knowledge sharing.

Dr. Felly M. Tusiime highlighted some of the challenges the project implementation faced such as:

- Lock down due to the Covid 19 outbreak;
- Limited resources, etc.





She also said that gains were made despite the challenges.

Lessons learnt & Best practices from the Ugandan CBIT Project Implementation:

- Effective stakeholder engagement proved meaningful for the successful implementation of the CBIT Project;
- Working with and building on existing structures led to the successful implementation of the project;
- Involvement of women in the CBIT project implementation was outstanding;
- Frequent and transparent communication led to a successful implementation of the Uganda CBIT project.

SECTORAL PRESENTATIONS:

AGRICULTURE

James Lwasa from the Ugandan Agriculture sector made the presentation. His presentation highlighted the following:

- Overview of institutional frameworks within the Ugandan agriculture sector;
- Tools used to enhance Data collection and Data Quality control within the agriculture sector
- Overview of the IPPC guideline for Completeness Assessment for Agriculture
- Challenges as gaps in data and limited resources support to fill in those gaps

FORESTRY

The Forestry sector presentation gave an overview of the instrumental arrangements and the role played by other sub sectors.

The forestry sector experience additionally focused on three (3) areas as follow:

- Strengthening Institutional arrangements for robust GHGI &MRV system,
- Building capacity of key stakeholders and
- Testing and piloting the
- GHG Emission inventory and MRV system and this were their major achievement





TRANSPORT SECTOR

Madam Juliet Atino presented for the transport sector and considered the following in her presentation:

- Introduction and an overview of Ministry of Works and Transport (MoWT) – Uganda;
- GHGI development in the Transport Sector;
- Methodology;
- Activity data Emission Factors within the transport sector;
- Assumptions within the transport sector;
- Quality Assurance/ Quality Control (QA/QC) processes and MRV.

She also listed the following challenges and gaps in her presentation:

- That the data used in all modes of transport was not categorized (Energy Balance),
- Data for Water Transport and Off Road Transport were limited, etc.

Some lessons learned were as follows:

- Being familiar with IPCC guideline for development of national GHGI is critical;
- Variation on data collected: *Eg, We observed that Aviation jet kerosene from Energy balance have a slight difference with data received from Civil Aviation Authority. (2016-2018);*
- Quality assurance for data collected is important all levels.
- Continuous capacity building on Climate Change is essential
- Developing appropriate NDCs, NAMAs, data collection tools, indicators in line with sector mandates and Capacity Building for sector top management is crucial
- Categorization of data used (other than using Energy Balance)

ENERGY SECTOR

Justine Akumu presented for the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development- Uganda
She presented on the following:

Completeness Assessment

Ugandan emission estimates 2016-2019 (CO₂)

1.A.1.a Main Activity Electricity and Heat Production.

1.A.1.c Manufacture of solid fuels and other energy industries

1.A.2 Manufacturing Industries and Construction





Some lessons learned were

- Recruiting officer/technical experts to support sector inventory management;
- Establishing sector based and project based (NAMAs)- MRV systems;
- Applying for climate financing using emission reductions;
- Alignment with renewable energy policy and draft energy policy;

IPPU SECTOR

A brief presentation was made from the IPPU sector which highlighted the following categories estimated:

- i. 2A Cement and Lime production
- ii. 2C Iron & Steel and Lead production
- iii. 2D Lubricants, Paraffin wax, and solvents use
- iv. 2H Food and beverages
- v. 2F F-gases
- vi. 2D4 Road paving with asphalt

Challenge(s) included the following:

Limited Knowledge about climate change and its impacts and contribution of the IPPU sector among both the regulators of industries and the sector players.

The IPPU sector is expected to expand rapidly over the next five (5) years in Uganda with investments expected in primary production of steel, oil refining and the petro chemical industry that is ongoing.

There are still resource gaps (Expertise and tools) in monitoring and mitigation of climate change emissions in industries.

Some lessons learned in order to enhance the work of the IPPU sector were:

- The Revised National Industrial Policy incorporated aspects of climate change. It has an objective (No 5) that highlights the climate change aspects of industrialization. Among its proposals is, up scaling of resource efficiency and cleaner production practices in industry;
- The Policy also establishes the design and implementation of Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions for key manufacturing subsectors. Key among them, will be cement and ceramics, iron and steel, food processing among others;
- The amendment of the East African Community (EAC) Customs Management Act has enabled better control the importation of obsolete technologies and equipment.





In closing remarks, Mr. Bob Natifu, Commissioner- Climate Change Department, Ministry of Water and Environment Uganda thanked the delegation for choosing Uganda for the exchange visit. He mentioned that it was perfect opportunity to afford technicians from both countries to share experiences. He noted that there are a lot of commonalities that do exist between Uganda and Liberia and as such the learning experience visit should be one such way to explore these commonalities.

For his part, Mr. Jefferson F. Nyandibo- Manager, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) - Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia and UNFCCC National Focal Point Liberia thanked the Government and people of Uganda for the warm hospitality, stating that he felt at home. He was quick to mention that Uganda is a unique case in point; in that Africans now have an opportunity to learn from a fellow African experience rather than travelling to the West to acquire knowledge. He also noted that there is a lot to learn from the Ugandan CBIT project implementation that will be replicated in Liberia. He called on the younger generation to continue to do more in finding ways to reduce climate change impacts. He admonished his colleagues from Liberia to pay keen attention to the best practices of Uganda and replicate back home.

Questions and answers arising from presentations

The following questions or concerns were raised after the various presentations

- I. What was the main challenges for the Uganda CBIT project not meeting up with 35% bench mark of gender inclusion?
- II. What method was used to incorporate gender?
- III. What are the challenges in getting data from institutions?
- IV. How was the turning over of the CBIT project to the Government of Uganda done?
- V. How was data collected in the forestry sector?
- VI. How were engagements with the private sector done?
- VII. What are the strategies for sustaining the GHGI/MRV system after being turned over to the Government of Uganda?
- VIII. How is data being collected from the various category of waste?

Responses to the Questions arising

- a. Data collection was a serious challenge however, enabling environment, national policy and continuous engagement with various stakeholders were instruments used in the data collection process. Yet, there are still challenges.
- b. Turning over and sustainability of the system by the Government of Uganda enables policy makers to understand the relevance of the GHGI/MRV system and constantly reminds





them of the various international agreements and protocols that the Government of Uganda has signed unto and must implement.

- c. On the issues of gender inclusion, constant engagement with women highlights their important role in the outcomes of the project as well as encouraging sector focal points to involve more women.
- d. Academic institutions were involved and engaged as there were constant engagements with them.

Thursday- 25th March 2021

a. Visit to the Ugandan Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development

The Liberia mission/visiting delegation as ushered into the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development of Uganda by Madam. Justine Akumu a staff of the Ministry.

A formal reception of the Liberian delegation at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development of Uganda was done by Mr. John Tumuhimbise, Assistant Commissioner- Renewable Energy and Mineral Development representing the Permanent Secretary who also presided during the meeting.

Opening prayers were done including welcome and introductory remarks. The formalities included introduction of senior staff at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development- Uganda as well as members of the Liberian delegation.

Hon. William T. Thompson, Assistant Minister for Energy-Ministry of Mines and Energy of the Republic of Liberia in separate remarks, expressed thanks to the Government and people of Uganda for the warm hospitality. He also thanked Africa Innovations Institute and Conservation International for organizing the exchange learning visit. He was quick to mention how appreciative the Liberian delegation was to be warmly received by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development- Uganda staff.

Mr. John Tumuhimbise- Assistant Commissioner Renewable Energy and Mineral Development- Republic of Uganda who chaired the meeting started by giving an overview which included the mandate of the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development as well as the gains and efforts made by the Ministry to support the CBIT project implementation in relations to GHGI and MRV in the energy sector of Uganda.

This was followed by a presentation made by Justine Akumu on their annual emissions from the energy sector using the IPPC guidelines but emphasized that data collection was a challenge. Hence, some data were extrapolated and some assumptions were made to enable them make their





emissions report. She informed participants attending the meeting that efforts have been made to refine inventory in the next report of the country.

Some lessons learned

- Recruiting officer to support sector inventory management,
- Establishing sector based and project based (NAMA) MRV systems,
- Applying for climate financing using emission reductions and
- Alignment with renewable energy policy and draft energy policy



Liberian delegation pays courtesy visit at Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development-Uganda





b. Visit to the Nikivubo Waste Water treatment Plant

The Liberian delegation visited the waste water treatment facility of the National Water and Sewage Corporation of Uganda where the delegation was taken on a tour the site and getting to understand the processes and treatment that waste water undergoes. The plant engineer Madam. Scovia Owomugisha took off time to explain the chronological processes waste water treatment undergoes at the facility.

She highlighted the processes from the primary collection to the secondary then to the sorting where the residue of rich profile soil is collected and then filtrated further, treated and stored in various tanks which are later discharged and used as biomass gas for electricity generation at the facility and manure for agriculture. She also informed the delegation that efforts were been made to start processing biomass gas for energy generation from the waste water treatment plant.



Liberian delegation and Ugandan counter-parts tour Nikivubo Waste Water Treatment Facility in Kampala, Uganda





c. Visit to the National Forestry Authority (NFA)-Uganda

The delegation later visited the National Forestry Authority (NFA) where they were welcomed by Mr. Sam Kissa. This was followed by self-introduction.

Mr. Kissa gave an overview to the visiting delegation of the establishment and mandate of the National Forestry Authority.

He also highlighted the role the National Forestry Authority (NFA) played in supporting the CBIT project implementation in Uganda as it relates to the GHGI and MRV by highlighting the following:

- Compiling GHG Emissions for the FOLU sector using IPCC tool 2006;
- IPCC guidelines with emission factors.

He also informed the visiting delegation that there is an established the MRV Portal which serves as a one stop data centre and hosted by the Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) Uganda and serves as a tool for climate mitigation actions (Data collection and compilation).

The visiting delegation was later taken to the Geo-Information System (GIS) lab where they were shown demonstrations to show forest and land cover maps as well as tools used to generate these maps.



Liberian delegation pays courtesy visit at the National Forestry Authority of Uganda





d. Visit to the National Trees Seedling Centre-Uganda

The visiting Liberia delegation and Ugandan counterparts also visited the National Trees seedling Center of Uganda. The delegation was met on arrival by **Mr. Mwodi Martin Kegere**, Manager of the center who gave a brief background of the center and outlined the variety of indigenous tree species that has been preserved at the center overtime. He also noted that many of these tree seedlings were been exported based on the request of countries in Africa and as well some parts of the world. The lab technician at the center then took the delegation to the tree seedling laboratory and explained the processes involved in preserving these seedlings. He also took the delegation to the field site to see some of the nurseries of various types of trees tagged with their names and medicinal benefits.



Visit to the National Tree Seedling Centre, Uganda (Pics 1) & Tour of the Tree Nursery (Pics 2)





Friday- March 26, 2021

a. Visit to the Climate Change Department, Ministry of Water and Environment-Uganda

Visit to the Climate Change Department (CCD) of the Ministry of Water and Environment was aimed at getting a full insight on the functionalities and practical usage of the MRV portal set up at the Climate Change Department of the Ministry of Water and Environment as well as gather information and knowledge sharing on climate change related interventions.

A senior representative of the Climate Change Department representing the Commissioner-Climate Change Department, Bob Natifu formally welcomed the delegation to the Uganda and the Department. A round of self-introduction followed.

The delegation was given an overview of the climate change department mandate. Later, the senior representative elaborated on the gains and achievements made over time with various climate change agreements and protocols ratified by the Government of Uganda. He also noted that there was a climate change bill been prepared for onward submission to parliament for enactment into law. He also informed the delegation that Uganda has a National Climate Change Policy where thirteen (13) areas focus on adaptation, while nine (9) areas focus on mitigation. Additionally it was mentioned that Uganda is preparing its third National Communication and currently reviewing its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC). He said by 2030, Uganda commits to reduce GHG emissions by 22%. It was also noted during the meeting that Uganda is set to redefine the country's reference area, long emissions development strategy (LEDS). Expansion of stake holder and other key partners' engagement and development of partnership with CSO, stakeholders, youth and women groups are also steps that the country (Uganda) hopes to achieve, the senior official at the Climate Change Department mentioned.

He however made us to understand that Liberia and Uganda are on a similar path towards raising climate change ambitions.

On that note, Mr. Arthur R.M. Becker, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) Liberia National Focal point for Liberia and Project Officer, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) at the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia provided some information on the gains made thus far and the current status of the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia with regards Climate Change interventions nationally. He elaborated on the level of sectoral coordination between the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia, line Ministries, Agencies and Commission as well as International partners. He also outlined several key policies the Government of Liberia has in place related to climate change interventions. He





also mentioned the reporting requirements that Liberia has fulfilled thus far and the dived into providing update on Liberia's current Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) revision process with focus on the existing sectors, emerging sectors as well as other key considerations. Mr., Becker then outlined the Government of Liberia effort to promote a green and sustainable economy.



After courtesy visit to the Climate Change Department- Uganda





Mr. Sangonga Derick from the Climate Change Department made a short presentation on the GHGI and MRV system of Uganda. He explained how data is collected and uploaded into the system and further elaborated on the following:

- Progress, management and maintenance of the GHGI and MRV
- Enabling environment structure, policy and enabling instrument to support GHGI and MRV
- MRV System
- Institutional Arrangements for MRVs
- MRV Components
- Operational structure of the MRV
- Lessons and Challenges

A practical demonstration of the functionalities and workability of the MRV system was done by Isaac Oriror Orena, the IT Technician/expert assigned at climate change department. He explained how one can login into the system and upload data and how to access information from the system. After the presentation, several concerns were raised by the Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia IT technicians who formed a part of the Liberia delegation.

- What the storage capacity of the MRV system is?
- If the system was an open source that anyone can login?
- If the different types MRVs can be processed at once?
- What measures are put in place to verify data?

Below were responses to the concerns:

- The storage of the system is cloud based but it advisable to have backup for the system.
- Yes the system is open source for all MRV and GHGI focal points to upload their data but are restricted to only the role assigned to them no one focal point interfere with another sector data analysis.
- However, one can download maps and reports for the MRV portal.
- In term QA and QC data are collected by various sectors but they are verified by sector leads before uploading to the system

In closing remarks during the meeting at the Climate Change Department, Mr. Jefferson Nyandibo the UNFCCC Focal Point-Liberia and Manager, Multilateral Environmental Agreements, Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia lauded the efforts of the Climate Change department





of Uganda for the level achievements made and he also thanked the friendly people of Uganda for their hospitality and warm welcome and said Uganda and Liberia have a lot in common, therefore hoped that the knowledge sharing engagement visit will continue and further strengthen relations between the two countries. He thereafter, requested from the Climate Change Department team to share policy documents or other innovative ideas with Liberian counter-parts.

For his part, Hon. William T. Thompson, Assistant Minister Energy- Ministry of Mines and Energy Republic of Liberia lauded the efforts of the Ugandan Climate Change department and stressed on the need for technical staff to engage their bosses/policy makers continuously as they make decisions that affect the day to day life of ordinary people and amongst them been Climate Change related interventions. He ended by extending thanks and appreciation to the organizers (Government of Uganda, Conservation International and Africa Innovations Institute) and all actors involved in making this south –south knowledge sharing visit a resounding success.

On Saturday March 27, 2021, the delegation then took their COVID-19 medical test which is an International requirement for travel.

On Monday 29th March 2021, the delegation departed Kampala, Uganda for Entebbe International Airport for return to Liberia. The delegation then returned home safely in Monrovia on the evening of 29th March 2021.





ANNEX I
PHOTO GALLERY



Liberian and Uganda counter-parts in a group photo



Jefferson F. Nyandibo- UNFCCC Focal Point Liberia make remarks at technical session Held Hotel Africana



Delegation at the National Forestry Authority-Uganda



Delegation pays courtesy visit at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development-Uganda





ANNEX II
LIST OF LIBERIA DELEGATION

No	Name	Position	Institution	Email address/Mobile number
1	William T. Thompson	Assistant Minister, Energy	Ministry of Mines and Energy	telebothompson@gmail.com +231886466262
2	Jefferson F. Nyandibo	Manager, Multilateral Environmental Agreements & UNFCCC National Focal	Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia	jnyandibo@epa.gov.lr +231770216654
3	Arthur R.M. Becker	Project Officer, Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) & National Focal Point, Capacity Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT)	Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia	abecker@epa.gov.lr armbecker@gmail.com +231777556238 +231886556238
4	George Ilebo	Technical Director	Conservation International	gilebo@conservation.org +256772547973
5	Nelson S. Jallah	Senior Project Manager, CBIT	Conservation International	njallah@conservation.org +231776781916
6	James McClain	Assistant Professor	University of Liberia	mcclajam@gmail.com +231770114407
7	Konikay A. Nimely	Focal Point, CBIT/ NDC Hub	Forestry Development Authority	konikaya.nimely@yahoo.com +231886562134
8	Lovetee Vico Jolo	IT Technician	Environmental Protection Agency of Liberia	vicojolo19@gmail.com +231775712888
9	Ujay Vah	IT Technician	Environmental Protection	vahujay@epa.gov.lr +231777428410



CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



			Agency of Liberia	
10	Henry A. Simpson	Alternate Focal Point, CBIT/NDC Hub	Ministry of Transport	hensimpson@yahoo.com +231886544198
11	Jacob Francis Hney	Alternate Focal Point, CBIT/NDC Hub	Ministry of Agriculture	jfrancishney2009@gmail.com +231888478829
12	Sennay Carlor, III	Focal Point, CBIT/NDC Hub	Monrovia City Corporation	carloriii@yahoo.com +231777212461

