

Workshop report:
Advocacy workshop in preparation of the greening process
of the forthcoming PRSP in Mali –
30 November-1st December, 2009
Bamako, Mali

Background and objectives

Several PEI Africa's mission reports have clearly pointed out the decision taken by national authorities in Mali to green the forthcoming PRSP after the exchange visit organized by PEI Africa for delegates from PEI West Africa countries to learn about the PRSP greening experience of Benin, and the Lead training organized for them in Dakar, Senegal.

This subsequent national advocacy workshop subject of current report was organized to prepare all key national stakeholders for this greening exercise planned for 2011.

The workshop targeted high level decision making actors particularly those in the Ministries of (1) Economy and (2) Environment. All key development bodies were present, particularly:

- The Office in charge of Planning and Development.
- The Office in charge of Budget.
- The Public Debt Office.
- The National Institute of Statistics.
- The Aid Harmonization Office.
- Different representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation.

The main objectives of the workshop were to :

- Provide to decision makers in Mali a deep understanding of PEI objectives and activities, and a clear explanation of the methodological approach required for Environment mainstreaming.
- Discuss at a high decision making level audience the way to translate in concrete terms recommendations from the exchange visit to Benin and the Lead training in Dakar to make the PRSP greening process in Mali successful.
- Exchange information on the forthcoming PRSP mid-term review to make anticipatory arrangements to clearly highlight Poverty-Environment links in the roadmap to be adopted for the greening process.

The workshop

An international consultant was recruited for a few days to provide technical support for the preparation and organization of the meeting and to facilitate group work and plenary sessions. The opening ceremony was chaired by the two Ministries and the GTZ Head of Office in their role of lead Agency of the donors active in the Environment sector in Mali. The PRSP Unit was strongly represented, particularly the second day with the attendance of the Coordinator of the Unit.

a)The opening ceremony.

UNDP in their speech gave the history of PEI in Mali and highlighted the importance of Environment mainstreaming to development processes in Mali. They clearly mentioned the extent to which activities funded by PEI are providing direct support to their Country Programme covering various Poverty Alleviation areas.

The S/M on behalf of PEI-Africa started his speech by explaining how the application over centuries of different economic theories has generated different forms of environmental menaces at global level, before highlighting for the particular case of Mali various environmental challenges revealed by studies funded by PEI. He then congratulated the Malian Authorities for their decision to green their forthcoming PRSP. He also drew the attention to the favourable PRSP greening context the country put in place since the recent organization of national assizes that assigned high priority to Strategic Environmental Assessment(SEA) and other greening processes in Mali. PEI-Africa finally expressed the hope that recommendations from the workshop will boost efforts underway and make great strides towards the PRSP greening objectives.

The last intervention came from National Authorities through the voice of the "Conseiller Technique" of the Ministry of Environment and Sanitation who expressed gratitude to PEI-Africa for the support the programme is providing to Mali, before emphasising the strong commitment of the Government for Environment mainstreaming in Mali. He was happy to state that the workshop will result in a national consensus on political, institutional, economic and financial issues leading to a successful PRSP greening exercise.

b)The plenary session.

Presentations made during the plenary session provided clear explanation of different processes and mechanisms the understanding of which is indispensable for further progress. Five of these presentations need to be highlighted:

The first intervention was the power point presentation made on PEI objectives and activities by the S/M. The presenter explained how two UN Agencies, UNDP and UNEP, in their support to a series of countries, decided to join their efforts to increase countries' capacity to promote sustainable economic development. He explained the particular nature of PEI which is neither a traditional funding mechanism for Ministries of Environment, nor a single Poverty Alleviation Programme, but an initiative assisting countries to manage the link between Poverty and Environment in making sustainable the use of environmental assets and natural resources in countries. Basing his argumentation on results from studies completed by PEI in Mali and other PEI countries, the S/M highlighted the high level environmental cost in Mali which annually goes beyond 20% of GDP, before explaining how the cost of inaction would be severe to the country. He therefore advocated strongly for the PRSP greening process in Mali.

This presentation was followed by one relating to the actions to be taken to implement lessons from the exchange visit to Benin and the Lead training in Dakar. The presenter after enumerating numerous benefits from the two visits, particularly in terms of capacity development, suggested a list of Ministries to be closely involved in the greening process and made concrete suggestions regarding 1)the institutional mechanism to be put in place for the facilitation of the process 2) the information sharing tools to be promoted 3)the coordination approach to be adopted and 4)the actors to be trained.

The third presentation was made by a presenter from the Ministry of Economy and Finance. He provided substantive explanation on the budgeting process in Mali before setting out the criteria used to select projects and programmes for funding in sectorial Ministries. The presentation provided instructive

information since knowledge gained from it will be very useful for further steps of the greening process in 2011.

Another presentation made by the Unit in charge of PRSP monitoring explained the PRSP mid-term review processes and showed how they remain for the Government a key tool to assess national efforts towards aid efficiency, economic growth and sustainable development .

The presentation from the international consultant suggested an organizational framework to be adopted for the greening process. The framework is made of 1) a National Technical Committee(NTC) which will technically implement the roadmap of the greening process 2) a National Expert Group(NEG) made of greening experts and other champions who will be tasked to play a lobbying role before, during and after the greening process. The NEG will also help implement via different PRSP thematic groups the greening exercise using Strategic Environmental Assessment(SEA) or other related approaches 3) an International Support Committee(ISC) made of International Experts of renown and playing a backstopping role to give to the whole process international norms and standards.

The plenary session ended with a case study presentation made by European Union on the SEA application to the transport sector in Mali.

Questions and answers sessions after each presentation enabled participants to better understand challenges at stake and to provide fruitful contributions.

C) The group work

The plenary sessions led to two working groups: one was tasked to assess the organizational framework proposed by the international consultant during the plenary session and the second to suggest a roadmap for the whole greening process.

The first group confirmed the proposed organizational framework, identified members and leading agency for each committee and provided guidelines for its mandate. The second group suggested an overall roadmap to be adopted by all involved stakeholders for the process.

d)Recommendations from the workshop.

The major recommendations emanating from the workshop are as follow:

- 1) The principle of developing a greening process for the forthcoming PRSP was definitely endorsed. More details will be discussed during a smaller meeting between the Ministry of Finance(the PRSP Unit) and the Ministry of Environment(the Minister's high level advisors).
- .2) The workshop suggested an organizational arrangement and a roadmap to be put in place for the success of the greening process. These need to be submitted to the two Ministers to get their final opinion before their official approval by the Government, through a Minister Council.
- 3) The second day of the workshop, GTZ and UNDP announced officially their commitment to work with PEI to support the greening process to make it a success. UNDP Mali and PEI Africa will liaise with GTZ to define a subsequent collaboration framework to ensure full involvement and funding from GTZ and other donors for the process.
- 4)The PRSP greening process needs to be officially launched as soon as possible by National Authorities. This needs to be done to create a legal context enabling all stakeholders including in-country donors to legally support the process.
- 5)There is need to increase capacity of CPS(Cellules de Planification et de Statistique) which are tasked to ensure PRSP monitoring in sectoral Ministries.

AGENDA PROGRAMME DE L'ATELIER NATIONAL DE PLAIDOYER

Projet Initiative Pauvreté et Environnement (IPE) Mali

(Le lundi 30 novembre et le mardi 1er décembre 2009, Radisson Blu Bamako)

PREMIER JOUR : 30 NOVEMBRE 2009	
HORAIRES	ACTIVITES
8h30-9h00	Inscription et installation des participants
9h00-10 h00	Séance d'ouverture de l'atelier : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mot du représentant du Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement (PNUD) ;• Allocution du représentant du Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement(PNUE) /Nairobi;• Discours d'ouverture du représentant du Ministre de l'Environnement et de l'Assainissement (MEA).
10h- 10h30	Mise en place du bureau : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Présidence : Ministère de l'Environnement et de l'Assainissement;• Vice-présidence : Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances ;• Rapporteurs : IPE/Mali. Présentation et adoption du projet de programme.
10h30-11h00	Pause café – Photo de famille
11h00-13h00	Présentation et discussions sur : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• les fondements, la vision et l'approche méthodologique de l'intégration de l'environnement dans la planification du développement national pour susciter l'adhésion des acteurs stratégiques de l'IPE/PNUD/PNUE

	<i>Par monsieur Jean Jacob SAHOU, Chargé de Programme PNUD-PNUE Initiative Pauvreté et Environnement –Afrique</i>
13h00-14h00	Pause déjeuner
14h00-16h00	<p>Présentations et discussions relatives à la synthèse de :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • la visite d'échanges relative à l'expérience béninoise sur l'intégration des préoccupations environnementales dans le DSRP ; • l'atelier régional de formation des ambassadeurs de l'intégration des liens pauvreté et environnement à Dakar. <p><i>Par monsieur Gaoussou dit Emile DEMBELE, Conseiller Technique, Ministère de l'Environnement et de l'Assainissement</i></p>
16h00-17H30	<p>Présentation sans débat</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bref aperçu sur les procédures de la planification budgétaire au Mali. <p><i>Par Mr Drissa SIDIBE, Chef de la section programmation, Direction Nationale de la Planification et du Développement, Ministère de l'Economie, et des Finances</i></p>
17h30	Fin de la journée

DEUXIEME JOUR : 1er DECEMBRE 2009	
HORAIRES	ACTIVITES
9h00-10h30	<p>Présentation et discussions sur :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cadre conjoint d'évaluation des revues annuelles du Cadre Stratégique pour la Croissance et la Réduction de la Pauvreté (CSCR). <p><i>Par monsieur Ahamadou Houna SIDIBE, Chef Unité Développement des Infrastructures et du Secteur Productif du Cadre Stratégique de Lutte Contre la Pauvreté du Ministère de l'Economie et des Finances</i></p>
10h30-11h00	Pause café
11h00-13h00	<p>Présentation et discussions de :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La note de concept sur les dispositions techniques et organisationnelles pour mener à bien le verdissement du CSCR <p><i>Par le Consultant International monsieur Maman-Sani ISSA, Secrétaire Exécutif de l'Association Ouest Africaine d'Evaluation Environnementale (AOAEE)</i></p>
13h00-13h30	Pause déjeuner
13h30-14h30	<p>Présentation et discussions de :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Etude de cas : Evaluation Environnementale Stratégique du projet d'appui au programme sectoriel des transports au Mali <p><i>Par monsieur Famoussa BAGAYOKO, Expert National associé, Responsable de la gestion des procédures d'Etudes d'Impact Environnemental et social (EIES)</i></p>
14h30-16h00	<p>Mise en place de trois groupes de travail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Répartition des participants en trois thèmes pour analyser le processus de verdissement du CSCR du Mali : opportunités, contraintes et perspectives.
16h00-17h00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Séance plénière et restitution des travaux de groupes ; • Divers

17h00- 17h30	Cérémonie de clôture des travaux de l'atelier national de plaidoyer du Projet –IPE/Mali et fin des travaux : <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mot du représentant du Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement (PNUE)/Nairobi.• Discours de clôture du représentant du Ministre de l'Environnement et de l'Assainissement
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