

ANNEX 8: FINDINGS – CLIMATE CHANGE COMPONENT

A8.1 INTRODUCTION

In 2011, LEF applied for and was successful in getting Supplementary Climate Change funding from Comic Relief, which covers the cost of incorporating climate change outcomes into the main LWMW project. The climate change mitigation initiative aims to introduce micro and small entrepreneurs, decision makers and the wider slum population to appropriate low carbon technologies, with clear climate change mitigation benefits, as opportunities for new, profitable product lines, either for manufacture or distribution, primarily within the LWMW project target locations. This will in turn, reduce consumption of fuel wood, charcoal, gas and kerosene used in domestic cooking and lighting, with consequent natural resources conservation and health impacts.

The approach to the climate change mitigation initiative is informed by lessons learned from LEF's experience in the slums of Kampala of promoting briquette making from organic waste. This has resulted in a number of positive outcomes, including: cleaner and healthier neighbourhoods; reduction of solid waste to landfill; reduced household energy bills; improved household health; increased uptake of low carbon energy; and, very significantly, employment and income creation. The climate change mitigation initiative is thus using the network of MSEs being built up through the main grant in three slum areas of Douala.

The initiative started in October 2012 and will end on 31st January 2015 with the main grant.

A8.2 Anticipated Outcomes

The anticipated outcomes of the initiative are:

- 3,000 slum dwelling mainly women-headed households and six public institutions (schools, dispensaries, local government offices) across three slum locations in Douala will have adopted at least one new low carbon product to provide sustainable energy by 2015, thereby contributing to a measurable reduction in carbon emissions and the establishment of a local green energy market.
- By 2015, civil society and development policy makers in Douala municipality are more aware

of low emissions energy options and their decisions are based on informed choices about opportunities to mitigate climate change.

- LEF will, by the end of 2015, make a 10% reduction in the footprint of UK and overseas operations, based on a structured analysis of the current and optimal scope for all existing programmes to be considered in terms of their 'climate benefits'.

A8.3 Activities

The activities towards achievement of the three outcomes fall under three main components:

- Promotion of low carbon markets in Douala slums.
- Low carbon energy awareness raising in Douala.
- Development of LEF climate change strategy.

A8.4 Partners

FCTV is working with a number of partners in implementing the activities to achieve the anticipated outcomes.

CIPRE

CIPRE is an implementing partner in the main LWMW project. It was also a named partner in the application for funding, whereby, FCTV was to be the main implementing partner responsible for micro-enterprise development, awareness raising and liaison with government; and CIPRE was to provide technical trainings to enterprises and local government. However, it does not have the requisite technical capacity in low carbon energy technologies and products.

Schneider Electrical

Schneider is providing technical and financial support in the form of expertise and sponsorship of various project activities, such as functional skills training workshops.

UN-HABITAT

FCTV is partnering with UN-HABITAT to implement a solar bulb project in Douala and Yaoundé. The low cost technology initiative involves fitting waste plastic bottles filled with water into corrugated iron roofs of houses which suffer from a lack of indoor lighting during

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daytime in slum areas. The lighting produced by one solar bulb bottle is equivalent to that produced by a 50 watt incandescent light bulb. The technology will allow slum dwellers to better carry out indoor tasks during the day and reduce their electricity bills.

A8.5 Progress of Activities

The start-up of activities was delayed due to difficulties in finding a Climate Change Officer with the right competences and skills in low carbon technologies and both business development; but they are now well under way.

Promotion of low carbon markets in Douala slums.

- A low carbon product study was carried out by a consultant, which included the identification of potential products and partners for the project. As a result, relationships have been developed with three international low carbon energy product companies—D. Light, Schneider Electric and Waka Waka); and FCTV is currently working closely with Schneider.
- A business skills gap survey of MSEs selected from the LWMW database, to analyse strengths and weaknesses and identify training needs, was conducted by a consultant.
- Fifteen (15) slum-based entrepreneurs, identified by FCTV and Schneider Electric, participated in a two-day functional skills training workshop, sponsored by Schneider, which focused on the marketing and commercialisation of low-cost solar products.
- Five MSEs have been identified to pilot the low carbon business products identified through the product research study. This activity will commence in Year 2.

Low carbon energy awareness raising in Douala.

- Following an extensive preparation phase to define the best strategy and to ensure locally appropriate, clear and understandable messages about the complex issue of low carbon energy, information and communication materials have been designed, which distributed during the civic education campaigns.
- FCTV has established a relationship with the CLUVA (Climate change and Urban Vulnerability in Africa) project, and will

conduct a series of six jointly organised one-day seminars.

Development of LEF climate change strategy.

- A consultant carried out a carbon audit of LEF for the period 2011/12, which showed that LEF emissions are, per capita, similar to other UK international NGOs, with air flights being the highest source of emissions (80%).
- A consultant is currently working on a climate change assessment framework which will inform the development of the LEF climate change mitigation strategy. The strategy will be embedded in all LEF's programmes, including those of its partners.
- A training needs assessment of FCTV and CIPRE teams was carried out in December 2012, and a tailor-made training on Climate Change developed and delivered to ten staff members in February 2013.

A8.6 Key Findings

1. The main problem with the climate change component, according to the Climate Change Officer in his interview, is that it was not properly planned—particularly because key stakeholders were not consulted. There is also no logframe—but an M&E framework has since been developed.
2. There is only one FCTV staff member, the Climate Change Officer, employed full-time on the climate change component. CIPRE was supposed to provide a staff member to work with the Climate Change Officer, but as mentioned above, CIPRE does not have the technical capacity. The Climate Change Officer is thus working with other partners and volunteers. He is consequently often overstretched; and more so because of his responsibilities in the solar bulb project, for which UN-HABITAT has not provided any funding for staff time.
3. FCTV and Schneider have an excellent partner working relationship, with the latter actively participating in implementation of various activities, both personnel-wise and financially.
4. The working relationship with UN-HABITAT is far less successful. UN-HABITAT is not an active partner, and hardly communicates with the Climate Change Officer.

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5. The volunteers working with FCTV on the UN-HABITAT solar light bulb project are working without protective gear of any kind, as is the Climate Change Officer, which is not only extremely dangerous, but also contrary to

occupational health and safety principles and regulations. It is all the more hazardous because most of the volunteers are university students who do not have any training in construction.

A8.7 CONCLUSIONS

AND

RECOMMENDATIONS

The aims and anticipated outcomes—specifically Outcomes 1 and 2—of the climate change component are relevant to the main LWMW component.

In particular, introducing MSEs to appropriate low carbon technologies and products will help diversify the current focus on plastic waste recycling, which is especially important as the sector is at risk of getting over-flooded in Douala, and has limited market opportunities at present in Port Harcourt.

CONCLUSION 1: PARTNERSHIP WITH SCHNEIDER

FCTV has developed a very good partnership relationship with Schneider Electrical. The two are collaborating very well on the implementation of a number of activities, such as the functional skills training, for which Schneider provided technical and financial support.

CONCLUSION 2: PARTNERSHIP WITH UN-HABITAT

The partnership with UN-HABITAT, on the solar light bulb project, is plagued with problems.

The climate change component has been ongoing for about 13 months and is being managed and implemented by the Climate Change Officer, who is successfully working with partners and volunteers. CIPRE was supposed to be an implementing partner but does not have the requisite technical capacity.

RECOMMENDATION 1

It is recommended therefore that FCTV maintain and develop the partnership, which has potential benefits for the sustainability of not only the climate change component, but also the main LWMW project.

RECOMMENDATION 2

FCTV should demand that UN-HABITAT provide funding for staff time, and also for protective gear for the Climate Change Officer and any other staff or volunteers who are or will be actively be involved in the installation of solar bubs, which involves climbing on, often flimsy, roofs, and is therefore extremely hazardous. If UN-HABITAT is not prepared to do so, FCTV should terminate the partnership.

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