



NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT – NATURAL RESOURCE ACCOUNTING

Peer Review Workshop
Casablanca – 10 June 2015

The Global Development Network launched a call for research proposals on natural resource management and environmental accounting for three countries: Madagascar, Mauritius and Morocco. This project is financed by the *Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et du Développement International* and the *Agence Française de Développement (AFD)*. Three country studies have been selected.

- Madagascar: “Propositions de méthodologies pour la réalisation d’un inventaire national des richesses naturelles”.

The project aims to use methods based on spatial data in order to map land use as well as river and lake water level in Madagascar, in order to build inventories.

- Mauritius: “Governance and economic accounting issues in the Mauritian water sector: towards sustainable management of a natural resource”.

The research will make an assessment of water situation and critically analyze the governance structure in the Mauritian water sector, in order to conduct scenario-based analyses on the impact of changing trends of water use and to eventually design policy recommendations for sustainable use and efficient water management.

- Morocco: “Supporting the sustainable management of coastal tourism in Morocco by quantifying the economic value of beach ecosystems”.

The study will combine physical oceanography and coastal modeling with natural resource economics and will present a scenario of the potential loss of ecosystem services - especially coastal protection - and the corresponding loss in economic benefits to select tourist beaches in Morocco if current practices are continued. It will also indicate what changes in practices are appropriate to prevent the losses observed.

During this workshop, the teams presented the first results of their research to the Scientific Advisors, the members of the Scientific Committee, representatives from the *Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et du Développement International*, from the *Agence Française de Développement*, and the GDN staff as

well. Given the absence of Mr. Harison Randriarimanana, the keynote did not take place but during the round table with the audience, the lively discussions revealed the complexity of the questions related to environmental accounting, especially when it refers to methodologies. In line with GDN's research capacity building mission, the afternoon was dedicated to face to face meetings between the mentors and the teams to take stock on the morning discussions and agree on a work plan to complete the study. The teams were also reminded the importance to use their study to raise the awareness of policy-makers in their country.

This research capacity building program for developing country researchers has a duration of one year. Besides a USD 20,000 grant, the teams benefit from different capacity building services such as mentorships and workshops (methodological, peer-review, policy-dialogue).

The first workshop, held in Mauritius on 29-30 January, aimed at refining project proposals: definition of the concepts, methodology, limits of the country-study. The research teams met with their respective scientific advisor, who is their mentor for the duration of the project. In addition to these face to face meetings, they benefited from collective sessions on Natural Resources Management and Accounting. This workshop was an opportunity for every participant to discuss on the stakes pertaining to natural resource management and environmental accounting. The first day was dedicated to a presentation of valuation methods and tools as well as environmental accountability. The second day focused on governance issues, environmental services accounting uptake by policy makers and other stakeholders.

After this second workshop dedicated to peer-review, the next step will be a policy dialogue that will take place in Paris at the end of November.

Photos and videos of the side event are available below:

<http://www.gdn.int/html/page2.php?MID=3&SID=24&SSID=24&SCID=52&SSCID=124>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8-9fmTVnkik>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9X3MVX7yJWM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WAjeCaVRIF0>

Project Management Team for the Global Development Network: Pierre BERTRAND (Senior Program Associate), Annie SORIOT (Deputy Director of Programs)

For any queries, please contact: nrmgdn@gdn.int