

July - August 2013



Participants during the 1st African Food Security Conference in Nairobi

## Regional

- 1st African Food Security Conference.
- Kenya Wetlands Atlas.
- Ghana EPA visits Nairobi, Kenya.
- Energy Efficient Lighting in Africa.
- Strengthening UNEP presence at country level.
- Rwanda Minister visits Kenya.
- Environmental challenges in Lake Tanganyika.
- UNEP initiates a Stakeholder forum in South Africa.
- UNEP partners with city of Tshwane on Green Economy Initiative.
- Poverty Environment Initiative: Mozambique, Malawi, Burkina Faso and Mali.
- UNEP holds discussions with ARC.

## P2

- Tanneries in Ethiopia get trained.
- Chemical and accident Prevention and preparedness programme for Tanzania.

## Upcoming Events

## P10

- International Day for the Protection of the Ozone layer.
- TunzAfrika Regional Conference.
- Closing workshop on Sustainable buildings Policies in Developing Counties.
- Fifth Special Session of AMCEN.
- UN Day.
- Global South-South development expo 2013.

## Regional

# 1st Africa Food Security Conference adopts Ecosystem based approaches as the first step towards enhancing food security and adapting to climate change in Africa

The 1<sup>st</sup> African Food Security and Adaptation conference was held at the UN Environment Programme headquarters in Nairobi between 21-22nd August. The conference was convened by UNEP in collaboration with FAO and other UN Agencies, governments, research institutions, NGOs, scholars, Donors, and Local governments. The opening ceremony was marked by statements delivered by Mr. Mounkaila Goumandakoye, the Regional Director & Representative, UNEP Regional office for Africa, and Mr. Modibo Traore, FAO representative to the AU and UNECA, and Dr. Tony Simons, Director General World Agro Forestry Centre (ICRAF) among others.

The conference aimed to i) Aggregate the lessons shared into common solutions for food security and climate change adaptation across country application, in building the capacity of the practitioners, supporting policy processes at all levels as well as empowering countries in undertaking bigger actions; ii) Share information on targeted ecological actions that provide opportunities for addressing perennial food insecurity in Sub Saharan Africa; and iii) Identify key challenges and bottlenecks hindering the scaling-up of ecosystem based adaptation practices, and how can they be overcome.

Richard Munang, Africa Regional Climate Change Coordinator, UNEP Regional Office for Africa (ROA), welcomed participants to the conference. Emphasizing Africa's vulnerability to climate change, Munang stressed the need for ecosystem-based approaches to provide cross-cutting solutions to food security and climate change adaptation.

Mounkaila Goumandakoye, Regional Director, UNEP ROA, said that Africa needs new food production models that provide cross-cutting benefits such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, support for farmers, and ecosystem preservation. He also stressed the need to bring to scale isolated success stories and best practices such as agroforestry, on-site water conservation and use of native species, noting the conference had an opportunity to drive changes on the ground.

Modibo Traore, FAO Representative to the African Union and to the UN Economic Commission for Africa, highlighted the interaction between agriculture and climate change and the work of the Committee of World Food Security (CFS) on that issue. Noting that agriculture supported 67% of jobs in Africa, he highlighted the sector's vulnerability to climate change and its dependence on climate-sensitive ecosystem services such as pollination, whose value was estimated at US\$214 billion per year.

Participants then heard an opening presentation on food security and climate change in Africa by Tony Simons, Director General, World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF). Simons highlighted, *inter alia*: the human security aspect of food security; the relationship between land degradation and child mortality; and the need for major in-



UNEP

Photo from Moses Ako



vestments and innovation to make farming systems more resilient. Noting that Africa had a great opportunity to produce cereal, he urged participants to discuss ways to promote investments in this area. He also outlined the opportunity to incentivize Africa's young people to stay in rural areas and to build on the continent's existing political will to revitalize the agricultural sector, as reflected in the African Union's 2003 Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security in Africa.

The main outcome of the conference was a "Conference Declaration on Ecosystem-based Approaches for Food Security and Climate Change Adaptation," which among other things recognizes ecosystem-based adaptation approaches as the first step towards building resilient food systems and adapting to climate change in Africa.

In Conclusion, Edward Kilawe, Subregional Office for Eastern Africa, FAO, said that achieving food security and climate adaptation required joint efforts and collaboration between governments, civil society and the private sector. Noting that the conference had brought practitioners together to share their experiences and determine how they could work together, he emphasized the need to build on the momentum generated to scale up EbA approaches. He urged participants to consider how to move forward and what kinds of actions were needed to promote the work of farmers in EbA.

Mounkaila Goumandakoye, Regional Director, UNEP ROA, drew attention to the upcoming session of AMCEN in Botswana in October 2013 and invited conference participants to attend the session, stressing that Africa was the only continent negotiating a common position on the next UN conference on climate change. He also invited delegates to participate in the Africa Adaptation Knowledge Network (AAKNet), which he said offered an opportunity to exchange ideas and create partnerships.

[http://www.iisd.ca/food/afsc1/brief/afsc1\\_brief.html](http://www.iisd.ca/food/afsc1/brief/afsc1_brief.html)

## The Kenya Wetlands Atlas: Tackling degradation of Spectacular and vital wetlands



UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner at the launch of Kenya Wetlands Atlas

The [Kenya Wetlands Atlas](#), produced with funding from the Government of Kenya and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and technical support from the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), was launched on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2013.

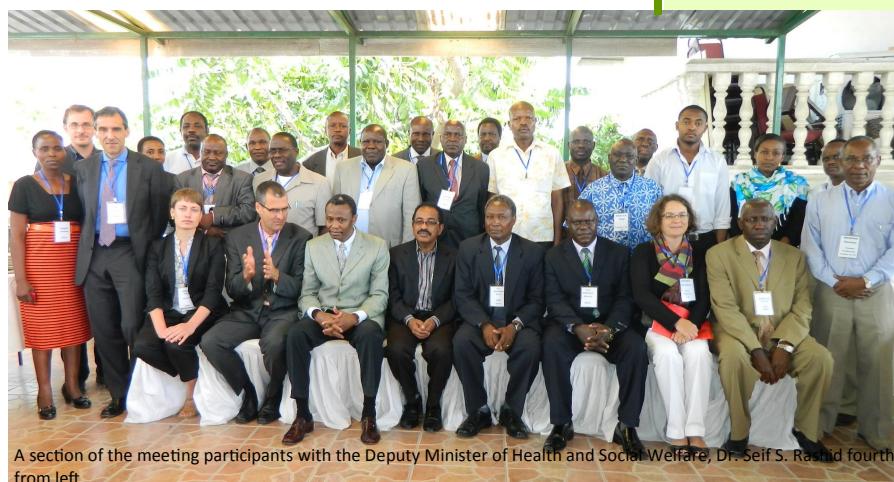
The Atlas detailing the many challenges facing dozens of important ecosystems in Kenya reveals that despite the important role that wetlands play in sustaining livelihoods in

Kenya, they have been subjected to severe pressure and rapid degradation. The government is mindful of the opportunities

lost through wetland and has embarked on a long-term strategy to conserve and enhance its rich and varied wetlands-key natural resources important for agriculture, drinking water, flood defense and tourism-amid concern that many are facing serious degradation and decline.

In order to reverse the worrying trend of degradation, the atlas highlights the need for Kenya to embrace a raft of measures under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands' main pillars of wise use, designating and managing more Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Sites), and international cooperation. During the launch, UNEP Executive Director Achim Steiner, said, "The first step is knowledge, understanding, because only then can governments both put legislation in place and then enforce it. Because it is also the impunity in not maintaining an adherence to the legislation and the law of the country, the planning regulations, the land use regulations, that create what is often called the tragedy of the commons."

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands has been in force in Kenya since 1990, and an environment-friendly Constitution was promulgated in 2010. The Environment Management and Coordination Act and its by-laws contain a number of innovative wetland provisions, the absence of national wetlands policy and a sector-specific wetlands law continues to impede the sustainable management of this vital but fragile ecosystem.



A section of the meeting participants with the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Seif S. Rashid fourth from left.

## Ghana Environmental Protection Agency visits Nairobi, Kenya

A 19-member delegation from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) of Ghana visited Nairobi, Kenya from 29 July to 1 August 2013 to hold technical discussions on sustainable (green) design and construction. The team from EPA was led by the Chairman of the Governing Board, and composed of one Board member, the Executive Director of the Agency, Consultants and other members of the Integrated Green City and Head Office Complex Planning Committee of the Agency.

The main purpose of the visit was to pick up current practices on sustainable urban development and green building approaches, in order to inform a current endeavour by EPA towards developing an Integrated Green City and Head Office Complex in Ghana.

The visit is a response to a request from EPA Executive Director following UNEP mission to Ghana led by Sylvie Lemmet, Director of the Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE) in June 2013.

In addition to technical discussions with UNEP regarding sustainable building and construction, the EPA delegation engaged further discussions with other key stakeholders involved in the promotion of sustainable urban development in Kenya, including UN-Habitat, professional bodies in the built environment, private consultants and contractors and the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development.

UNEP's Regional Office for Africa (ROA) coordinated EPA's meetings with relevant stakeholders who have executed green projects in Nairobi, Kenya and provided logistic support. Some of the buildings visited during their tour in Nairobi included UNEP Headquarters New Office Facility in Gigiri; Standard Chartered Bank Headquarters in Westlands; Coca Cola Central, East and West

Africa Head office in Upperhill and the Strathmore University Building in Madaraka. The team also held discussions with the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) of the Ministry of Lands Housing and Urban Development (former Ministry of Public Works) that took part in the execution of the UNEP Sustainable Buildings Policies in Developing Countries (SPoD) project in Kenya.  
[patrick.mwesigye@unep.org](mailto:patrick.mwesigye@unep.org)

# Regional



## The Transition to Energy Efficient Lighting in Africa



Inception workshop Burkina Faso

ECOWAS government representatives successfully established a regionally coordinated framework to transition to energy efficient lighting at a workshop in Dakar, Senegal on 3 July, 2013. The strategy identifies the complete phase-out of inefficient incandescent lamps by 2020, at the latest. The Ministry of Energy and Mines of the Republic of Senegal agreed to sponsor all events of this efficient lighting initiative, at the request of the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE).

The workshop was held to develop a regional strategy for energy efficient lighting; it was hosted by ECREEE and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) en.lighten initiative, with support of the Club of National Agencies and Structures in Charge of Rural Electrification (Club-ER).

A transition away from general service incandescent lamps to more efficient lighting would save the region an estimated US\$ 220 million each year in energy costs. West African nations together could save a total of 2.4 terawatt hours of electricity, which is equivalent 6.7% of the total yearly energy consumption.

ECREEE, as the leading organization in the field of renewable energy and energy efficiency in West Africa, launched the initiative on energy efficient lighting as one of its priority programs in the ECOWAS Policy on Energy Efficiency adopted in Abuja, Nigeria in July 2013. The use of energy is also identified as a fundamental component of achieving the UN Secretary-General's "Sustainable Energy for All" objectives in the ECOWAS region.

The UNEP en.lighten initiative seeks to address the challenges of accelerating global market transformation to environmentally sustainable lighting technologies by providing technical support for the phase-out of inefficient lighting. The ECOWAS efficient lighting initiative with en.lighten is part of the overall development goal for West Africa to improve access to modern, reliable and affordable energy services, energy security as well as the reduction of negative impacts on the energy system. [Laura.fuller@unep.org](mailto:Laura.fuller@unep.org)

## Strengthening UNEP Presence at Country Level

**A** delegation from UNEP led by Mr. Mounkaila Goumandakoye, the Regional Director & Representative, UNEP Regional office for Africa, visited Kampala, Uganda between the 12 to 14 August, 2013 to hold discussions with representatives from the government, with a view to developing a UNEP-Uganda cooperation framework.

The proposed cooperation framework will define the scope of the collaboration in order to strengthen and consolidate long-term mutual efforts to achieve sustainable development in Uganda.

It will also increase coherence and create synergy within the United Nations Country Team under the UNDAF.

The government of Uganda identified about ten areas of collaboration which include: environmental assessments; green economy, sustainable consumption and production; environmental aspects of oil and gas; climate change; sustainable agriculture and food security, environmental governance and MEAs implementation.

UNEP highlighted that the total amount of support it is currently providing to Uganda exceeds USD 4M.

The UNEP delegation together with representatives from MoWE and NEMA held further discussions with various UN agencies, and with officials from the Embassies of Norway, Germany, Iceland and Netherlands on possible cooperation to support Uganda's efforts to manage the environment.

The Delegation visited the Mukono Municipal Council Solid Waste Management facility that converts urban waste into organic manure and reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions thereby managing solid wastes, reducing gas emission and creating employment.

As part of implementing the proposed cooperation framework, a workshop on geothermal development was held between UNEP and Uganda Department of Geological Survey and Mines which focused on sharing the new geo-scientific information and reviewing the project proposal on Kibiro geothermal prospect submitted to UNEP for technical and financial support for surface exploration studies.

The Minister for Water and Environment Hon. Ephraim Kamuntu and Mr. Mounkaila Goumandakoye, signed an "Aide Memoire" reflecting the agreed road map for development of the cooperation framework.

The Aide Memoire states that all existing UNEP support to Uganda in form of projects and activities will be included in the "Cooperation Framework" as well as in the "UNDAF". Further, that all areas of cooperation will be transformed into "strategic interventions" so as to avoid "ad hoc type" of support.

As a result, the mission created a good opportunity for UNEP to showcase its collective effort and to strengthen its presence at the country level. [Meseret\\_Zemedkun@unep.org](mailto:Meseret_Zemedkun@unep.org) and [Robert.Wabunoha@unep.org](mailto:Robert.Wabunoha@unep.org)



Hon. Ephraim Kamuntu and Mr. Mounkaila Goumandakoye

# Regional



## Welcoming the Rwandan Minister for Infrastructure at UNEP-ROA

**U**NEP-ROA hosted Hon. Prof. Silas Lwakabamba, the Minister for Infrastructure in Rwanda and Mr. Gabriel Negatu, Regional Director for African Development Bank (AfDB) for a meeting held at UNEP, Gigiri on 26 July, 2013. The meeting was preceded by a field visit of the Minister to the Menengai Geothermal field organized by the Kenyan Geothermal Development Company (GDC).

The objective of the meeting was to seek UNEP collaboration in fostering infrastructure development in Rwanda, specifically in renewable energy sector, and to get a better understanding of the UNEP-African Rift Geothermal Development Facility (ARGeo) and its support to Rwanda.



Participants during and after a meeting at UNEP Head Quarters Nairobi

The Government is planning to increase the access of biogas to 70% of the population by developing renewable energy resources, particularly geothermal, through public and private partnerships. This will shift the economic driver from agriculture to manufacturing said Rwandan Minister for Infrastructure. He urged UNEP and the AfDB to provide technical and financial assistance to meet such a goal.

UNEP's Deputy Director, Regional Office for Africa, Desta Mebratu underscored UNEP effective support to Kigali, confirming Rwanda is one of the Countries where UNEP has a number of on-going activities, especially on Green Economy and the Green Economy Scoping Study has already been completed. UNEP is now moving to the assessment phase. Accordingly, UNEP is planning to field a team to Rwanda, with a view to strengthening UNEP's presence at the country level and send a mission in the country as soon as possible in order to fast track the on-going cooperation and process on Geothermal development.

The UNEP-ARGeo Project is a GEF funded project and one of its objectives is to encourage both private and public developers to accelerate development of geothermal resource in the region through mitigation of risks associated with resource exploration. UNEP ARGeo is currently reviewing the draft project proposal received from the Government of Rwanda on the Karisimbi-Kinigi Geothermal prospect area. Rwanda is one of the six ARGeo member countries that could benefit from the project, both in terms of strengthening institutional and infrastructural capacities, and technical assistance for surface exploration studies.

The Minister appreciated the support that is being provided by UNEP to Rwanda more particularly on the development of Renewable energy sector. The Regional Director of AfDB, indicated that the bank was ready to provide concessional funding for projects and programmes to African countries, as well as technical assistance for various studies including capacity building activities. [Meseret.Zemedkun@unep.org](mailto:Meseret.Zemedkun@unep.org)

## UNEP joining UN-Habitat and Regional Economic Communities to Address Water, Sanitation and Environmental Challenges in Lake Tanganyika

The High Level Meeting of Ministers responsible for Water and Environment on the Lake Tanganyika Water, Sanitation and Environmental management Program (LT—WATSAN) was held in Bujumbura, Burundi from 16—19 July 2013. The Regional Team leader for Ecosystem Management in ROA/UNEP participated in the deliberations, along with Representatives of the Lake Tanganyika Basin Countries (Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zambia), Lake Tanganyika Authority, EAC and Development Partners that included UN—Habitat, UNIDO and European Investment Bank (EIB).

The objective of the meeting was to consider a feasibility report by UN-Habitat that would map out the intervention and propose a way forward for implementation of the program.

The Lake Tanganyika Basin countries expressed their support to the proposed program as a positive initiative for addressing numerous socio-economic challenges in line with the recommendation of the 1st EAC Lake Tanganyika Basin Development Conference held from 27th to 29th November 2011 in Bujumbura. This program is expected to unlock the trade and investment opportunities and enhance regional integration.

Lake Tanganyika, the second deepest and the second largest lake in the world (by volume), is an important trans-boundary resource that is critical to the economies of the riparian countries. The lake plays a pivotal transportation role in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa with port facilities in the major cities along its 1,900 km shoreline. Lake Tanganyika Basin is experiencing rapid urbanization, which poses challenges for sustainable management while at the same time offering



The Regional Team leader, for Ecosystem Management with representatives of Lake Tanganyika

opportunities for investment and economic development. There is an urgent need to address the major environmental and economic challenges by expanding water and sanitation infrastructure while enhancing the capacity to plan for the rapid expansion of urban areas, and to put measures in place to ensure that urbanization does not lead to environmental deterioration of the lake.

UN-Habitat, in cooperation with the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the Lake Tanganyika Authority and the Governments of Tanzania, Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi and Rwanda had started preparatory work for the design of the Lake Tanganyika Water, Sanitation and Environmental Management Program (LT-WATSAN) in 2010. The Program is now ready to sail, following a phased approach, with a feasibility study prepared for the first phase. [Mohamed.abdel-monem@unep.org](mailto:Mohamed.abdel-monem@unep.org)

## Regional

# UNEP Initiates a Stakeholder Forum in South Africa

**U**NEP and its partners initiated a stakeholder forum to support implementation of South Africa's environmental agenda, during a workshop held in Pretoria, South Africa on 31 July 2013. This workshop marks the beginning of a series of ongoing consultations to develop a UNEP-South Africa country strategy. Deputy Regional Director of UNEP's Regional Office for Africa, Desta Mebratu, confirmed UNEP's commitment to strengthen its strategic presence in South Africa and the region.

This is in line with the strengthened role of UNEP and the establishment of the UN Environmental Assembly, which reflects the re-organization of the global community on the importance of the environment and the need to strengthen regional and country delivery. Mr. Mebratu further recognized South Africa's strong environmental policy frameworks, expertise and capacity, as well as potential to play a leading role in the region on environmental issues.

UNEP South Africa's value addition lies in taking on a transformational role that prioritizes poverty reduction. In addition UNEP South Africa prioritizes rural and peri-urban areas, as well as the critical role of small and medium enterprises in the country's transition to a Green Economy (GE).

The workshop was attended by stakeholders from both government and civil society organizations, with the following goals:-

- Provide feedback on UNEP global, regional and country level activities;
- Invite strong partnerships with South African stakeholders; and
- Identify key areas of collaboration.

In this regard, UNEP aims to formulate and implement a well thought-through, collaborative strategy that is rooted in existing UN and South African in-country capacity and expertise.

The meeting lauded UNEP's leading role in initiating and progressing work on the GE. The GE is seen as a pathway to link environment with poverty reduction and integrate environment-socio-economic goals. It was suggested that UNEP South Africa continue in this role by serving as a platform for convening issues and partnerships on the GE and Government's environmental agenda. Workshop participants suggested an advisory and liaison role for UNEP in South Africa that will support developing countries to engage with complex global environmental governance processes. In this regard, South Africa-UNEP could further make a meaningful contribution to "south-south" knowledge sharing and capacity building as UNEP has forged a strategic partnership with the City of Tshwane.

In conclusion it was agreed that the meeting will be expanded to include other stakeholders, such as civil society and academia, and will be hosted in person and via an online portal. For further information contact: Cecilia Njenga [Cecilia.Njenga@unep.org](mailto:Cecilia.Njenga@unep.org) or Christelle Beyers [christellebeyers@telkomsa.net](mailto:christellebeyers@telkomsa.net).

## UNEP Partners with City of Tshwane on Green Economy Initiative

With climate change increasingly becoming an area of focus for national and regional governments, as well as non-governmental organizations worldwide, South Africa has committed fully to realizing a green economy and the City of Tshwane (CoT) is at the vanguard. The CoT intends to be the most 'sustainable' city in Africa within the next decade.

Climate change affects virtually all sectors of the South African economy, including and not limited to natural resources, energy, water and other infrastructure development. In addition to being especially vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, South Africa is a major emitter of greenhouse gases due to coal being the country's chief source of energy.

Based on recent estimates, South Africa emits about ten tons of carbon dioxide yearly, per capita. This figure is 43 per cent above the global average, making South Africa one of the world's 15 largest greenhouse gas emitters and the largest on the continent. In view of this, the Executive Mayor of the CoT, Cllr. Kgosiensuo Ramokgopa, has declared that the current political term will focus on the development and consolidation of the City's green and clean initiatives.

UNEP's partnership with the CoT involves, among other things providing the platform for national dialogue to increase public support and multi-stakeholder engagement; conducting green economy scoping studies that identify key opportunities and options for a green economy transition; tailoring and customising models that assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of green investments and related policy measures; and identifying and facilitating policy and fiscal instruments that can encourage investments in high potential green sectors, while assisting the "greening of other sectors".

## Regional

### Burkina Faso's Prime Minister calls on Poverty-Environment Champions to promote pro-poor sustainable development

Following the appointment of 20 Poverty-Environment (P-E) Champions in Burkina Faso last year, the Prime Minister of Burkina Faso, Luc-Adolphe Tiao - himself a P-E Champion - has sent a request to the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development to meet with the PEI Champions to discuss the draft road map on how to enhance high-level political support for P-E mainstreaming in the country.

The P-E Champions play a critical role in advocating for and influencing Burkina Faso's progress towards a sustainable development path. PEI Burkina Faso is currently supporting the development of a comprehensive road map for the P-E champions to take forward in 2013-14 and to raise awareness and catalyze action around P-E issues. : <http://www.unpei.org/latest-news/burkina-faso%20%99s-prime-minister-calls-on-p-e-champions-to-promote-sustainability>



P-E champions

### Mali finalizes its first PEER and plans to take Concrete Steps moving forward

With the support of PEI the Government of Mali finalized a Public Environment Expenditure Review (PEER) in June 2013. The PEER highlights that natural resources and the environment contribute more than 40 % of the GDP and yet the Ministry of Environment only receives 1 % of the national budget and the budget allocations for environmental sustainability are in general irregular and unplanned. This is alarming considering that the PEI supported economic assessment (2009) in Mali indicated that the costs of inaction with regards to environmental sustainability amounts to 21 % of the GDP.

PEI organized a dissemination workshop of the PEER during which the Ministry of Economy and Finance concluded that additional and consistent allocations of budget to pro-poor environmental sustainability are necessary to enhance pro-poor economic development and successful implementation of the PRSP. Following the dissemination workshop the government will review how to best implement the recommendations of the PEER.



Group photo of participants at the launch of the DEMG in Malawi



### Mozambique: MoF appoints two Environmental focal points to follow-up on Pro-Poor Sustainable Development

In 2012 PEI supported the Ministry for Coordination of Environmental Affairs (MICOA) in Mozambique to conduct an Environmental Economic Analysis study and a Public Environment Expenditure Review (PEER). The dissemination of the findings from the studies has opened a window of opportunity to enhance the role that the Ministry of Finance (MoF) plays in promoting pro-poor sustainable development. Following these, two environmental focal points were officially appointed in the MoF in June to take this forward.

They will attend the Environment Unit meetings organized by MICOA and supported by PEI which have become indispensable in terms of strengthening the integration of the links between poverty and environment into annual sector plans.

### Revised Decentralized Environmental Management Guidelines launched in Malawi

The Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) and the Environment Affairs Department on June 26, launched the revised Decentralized Environmental Management Guidelines (DEMG). The guidelines will be critical for mainstreaming environment and natural resource issues into District Development Plans. This is particularly important as Malawi continues to face alarming environmental degradation and climate change which has impacted negatively on communities in rural and urban poor areas whose livelihoods largely depend on natural resources.

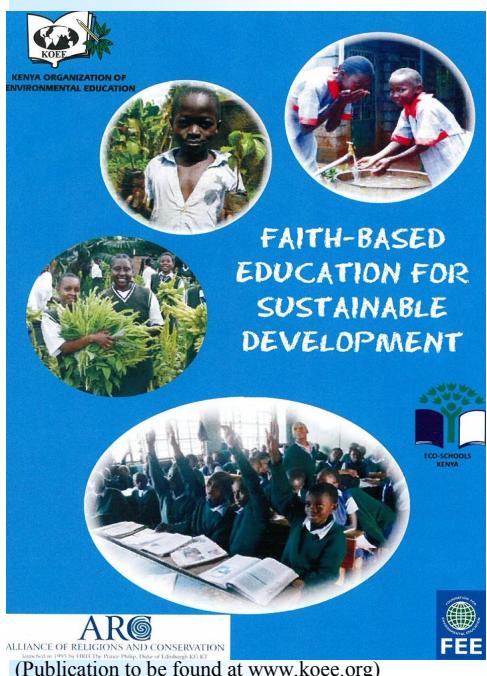
<http://www.unpei.org/latest-news/revised-decentralized-environmental-management-guidelines-launched-in-mala->

# Regional



## UNEP holds discussions with ARC

On March 2012, faith groups aligned to the Alliance of Religions and Conservation pledged to mainstream religious values into education for sustainable development. Their commitment to this declaration led to the launch of the Faith Based Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Toolkit on 18 July 2013. The ESD implementation strategy provides a mechanism for adopting a holistic approach to sustainable development by engaging all sectors and stakeholders. This is in line with the UN declaration to designate the period 2005-2014 as the Decade for Education for Sustainable Development. The toolkit was a joint effort between the Kenya Organization of Environment Education and the Alliance of Religions and Conservation.



The formal and informal approaches of the toolkit ensures that the content is accessible across all sectors and the core issues it addresses of intolerance, equity, justice and attitude change are entirely in line with religious values. The toolkit is designed for use by educators who will localize the content based on the prevailing conditions. The content adapts a multidisciplinary approach and integrates knowledge on the thematic areas of Water, Health, Sanitation and Hygiene, Energy, Biodiversity, Waste Management, Agriculture and Climate Change. It can therefore be incorporated easily in the Kenyan primary school learning curriculum.

Faith-based organizations are among a wide range of major groups of civil society with whom UNEP engages. UNEP continues to encourage and support faith based participation which has led to inspiring initiatives on sustainable development based on ethical approaches. [david.ombisi@unep.org](mailto:david.ombisi@unep.org)

## Tanneries in Ethiopia get Trained in Resource Efficient and Cleaner Production

Upon the request of the Ministry of Industry and Leather Industrial Research Institute, and in collaboration with Ethiopia Society of Chemical Engineers, UNEP provided compliance assistance to selected tanneries based on the development and implementation of Resource Efficiency and Cleaner Production Improvement Programme, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from the 15th-18th July, 2013.

The training focusing on the application of Promoting Resource Efficiency in Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (PRE-SME) toolkit, held at the Leather Industry Development Institute (LIDI) in Addis Ababa gathered 21 participants from LIDI, Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) and representatives from ten tanneries: Abyssinia, Addis, Awash, Ethiopia, Colba, LIDI Model Tannery, Meso, Mojo, Sheba and Walia.

During the training, the UNEP consultant on PRE-SME toolkit application, Dr. Johannes Fresner and Patrick Mwesigye from UNEP took participants through the training programme, using presentations, group exercises, discussions and question and answer sessions. Participating tanneries shared their experiences and good practices already being implemented.

As part of the practical application of the tool kit, visits were conducted to 3 tanneries; Awash, Abyssinia and Batu and the LIDI Model Tannery in Addis Ababa where the relevance of the tool kit to the processes in the tanneries was discussed, which assisted participants to understand and appreciate the tool kit better. Preliminary options for possible improvements in the visited tanneries were also explored.

The training ended with a recommendation to have a one day awareness workshop for top management of all tanneries in Ethiopia to be jointly organized by LIDI, EPA, Ethiopia Society of Chemical Engineers, Ministry of Industry and UNEP preferably before 31 August 2013. [patrick.mwesigye@unep.org](mailto:patrick.mwesigye@unep.org)

## Chemical Accident Prevention and Preparedness Programme for Tanzania

The Inception workshop on Chemical Accident Prevention and Preparedness Programme for Tanzania (CAPP-Tz) was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 31 July to 1 August 2013.

The workshop, aimed to bring different stakeholders on the same level of understanding of issues such as Hazardous substances, Regulatory Framework and Training and Capacity Building needs and the current country situation and future activities for implementing CAPP-Tz under the relevant thematic areas.

At the opening, the Deputy Minister of Health and Social Welfare, Dr. Seif S. Rashid highlighting the importance of the workshop, declared that in order to ensure safety to people and the environment, there is need to understand existing risks and to prepare for them

accordingly. The Chief Government Chemist, the representative of the Swiss Embassy and UNEP representative also emphasized the need to implement the CAPP-Tz project as prescribed so that chemical accidents and their risks of occurring can be minimized in Tanzania. It was who emphasized that.

Stakeholders involved in the workshop were very optimistic of the impact that the project will have on the management of chemical accidents in Tanzania, and the Chief Government Chemist stressed the need for continuous engagement and involvement of stakeholders for a successful implementation of the project. [patrick.mwesigye@unep.org](mailto:patrick.mwesigye@unep.org)

# Upcoming Events

16  
Sept.

**International Day for the protection of the Ozone layer.** *Theme:* "A healthy atmosphere, the future we want".

19-20  
Sept.

## Sustainable Buildings Policies in Developing Countries (SPoD) Project Closing workshop

The closing workshop will present an opportunity for members of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) involved in the project implementation to share their experiences and lessons learnt, explore the opportunities for sustainable buildings policies in The project was being implemented in two pilot cities; Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso and Nairobi, Kenya and chart the way forward in support of mainstreaming sustainable construction and building approaches. Contact: [patrick.mwesigye@unep.org](mailto:patrick.mwesigye@unep.org)

24-27  
Sept.

## TunzAfrika Regional Conference-Lome, Togo

*Theme:* Charting a sustainable and Eco friendly Africa: Harnessing African Youth's Contribution. The main objective of the conference is to provide participants a platform for action learning and exchange around the challenges of the transition to a sustainable Africa and youth contributions towards finalizing the design of TUNZAFRIKA and deliberate on a participation strategy with UNEP, AMCEN and other relevant decision-making bodies on the continent. Contact: [angele.luh@unep.org](mailto:angele.luh@unep.org)

Sept.

PEI Africa Regional team developing new project documents for the PEI country programmes. This includes close engagement with key implementing partners and the organization of stakeholder workshops to discuss and agree on the design and content of the next phase. Contact: [david.smith@unep.org](mailto:david.smith@unep.org)

14-18  
Oct.

## Fifth Special Session of AMCEN-Gaborone, Botswana

The main objective of the Special Session is to provide a platform for African countries to further consolidate and enhance Africa's common negotiating position in the climate change talks and provide a platform for the preparation of the African Regional Flagship Programme as a means of implementation of the Rio+20 outcomes in Africa. The session will also provide an opportunity for the Ministers to review the progress on the evolving structure and function of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) and develop a common understanding as to how African countries could contribute to the process. Contact: [david.ombisi@unep.org](mailto:david.ombisi@unep.org)

24  
Oct.

UN Day

28 Oct.-  
1 Nov

**Global South-South development expo 2013.** *Theme:* "Transition to a green economy: southern solutions in support of sustainable development and poverty eradication." [mia.turner@unep.org](mailto:mia.turner@unep.org)

30 Oct.-  
2 Nov

World Conference on Sport and Environment. Contact [joyce.sang@unep.org](mailto:joyce.sang@unep.org)