**NOTE TO FILE:**

**INAUGURAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Date: 29 May 2013

Place: Erata Hotel

Time:

Participants: List attached

**Opening – COCOBOD DCE**

**Self Introduction**

**Workshop Objectives – Atsu**

 Presentation

**Opening Remarks – JB**

**Opening Remarks – Jephthat**

 Cocoalife is looking for a new chance

**Keynote Address – COCOBOD DCE**

**Project Overview – Atsu**

 Presentation

Q) E. Opoku: One major issue threatening environment is the issue of illegal mining. Can we include the topic?

- DCE: Yes, we can discuss.

Q) CRIG: Issue of population growth. Regulation on certificate

 - On 30th, We will discuss at COCOBOD in the workshop.

 Q) COCOSHE: At the end, farmers are most important beneficiaries. But we don’t see farmers in the project document. In the SC, it is same governmental constitutions. There is no local private actors even when we talk about PPP.

 - Atsu: Level of farmer’s association in the SC, we will look at it again.

 Q) GIZ Sustainable Cocoa: How many people do you intend to train until 2015?

 - Atsu: We don’t have an exact figure. We are selecting pilot communities. We need everyone’s assistance in defining the number of communities and people.

 Comment) DCE: Farmers and Sustainability is one of the most important issues. But most activities are based on farmers.

**Project Activities, Implementation Modalities and Outcomes**

 Presentation

 Q) COCOBOD?: Concerned of the absence of real farmers.

 - Atsu: Most activities will be piloted at community level. Once the communities are selected, we eventually have to engage.

 - Joseph: How do we make sure that we bring them onboard? As we move forward, let’s find a way to include them in every point of decision-making, to further upstream. We will re-look at the process.

 Q) Director Research: What if we use 200 selected communities from CCP?

 Q) FC Wildlife Division: It is a very important project. We should be able to look at the relationship. If farm is not well managed, forests will still be resources of livelihood, causing deforestation. Policy should go down to that level.

 Q) Atsu: Site selection. We need help from CCP.

 - Jephthat: We have 200 communities over 4 regions, 9 districts, with three IPs.

 - Cocoalife CARE: We are conducting activities (CREMA, training, natural resource awareness raising)

 - FC: Rather than inventing the wheel, there are lots of success stories. Let’s scale them up.

 - CRIG: Land tenure – Land Secretariat?

 - Director Research: Land Administration is already in place. We have to stick to CCP districts first rather than going nationwide, see what happens, and narrow down.

 - CRIG: Start with one or two districts first?

 - COCOSHE: What are impacts?

 - Cocoa IP(?): Work at Eastern regions

 - CRIG: LBCs and chemical companies also play important roles.

 - DCE: This programme should focus on farmers. …. ?!

Q) Justice: 1) Community education – is there an overall strategy for communication?

 - Jephthat and Atsu answered.

 Q) Atsu: Mass Spraying programme?

 - Amoah: We can also look at spray service providers.

 - WCF: WCF is funding.

 - Amoah: We can look at cooperatives, training the cooperatives for spraying.

 - Cocolife: already organized farmer’s group.

 - COCOBOD?: Farmers access to chemicals.

 - Amoah: had a meeting with input suppliers and assured there inputs will be made available.

 - Amajaro: We have certification scheme. Farmer’s awareness is there. The problem is the availability of inputs. LBCs are major stakeholders in the industry. LBCs support the farmers to produce more cocoa, otherwise the business collapse. Company is focusing on provision of services to farmers to boost the production. Providing chemicals and teaching them how to use. 45,000 farmers. We should tap into existing experience.

 - COCOBOD??: Training is very important.

 - Atsu: (in response) We are trying to use COCOBOD’s national extension system.

 - Amajaro: Land Tenure is a key issue. Is it going to work?

 - CARE: (in response) We have to do it from where we have strength. If we target overall policy change, it is difficult. We put in system that farmers can protect their land. It can be an alternative to changing policy.

**Breakout Session**

1. **Mass Spraying**

Q) Atsu: How to do certification? Some LBCs are also already doing.

Q) COCOBOD: Certification is expensive, if we don’t get donor, local companies cannot do it. It is a way forward but people should consider their ability to do.

A) CRIG: This is going to be a pilot at limited number of communities, so we can.

Q) Amoah: Project can look at cost and benefit of certification.

A) Atsu: COSA is doing similar, benefits of certification for farmers. If we have to look not only at economic benefits but include environmental and social (social networking, etc) benefits.

Q) COCOBOD: unapproved agrochemical?

A) COCOBOD: Spraying gangs are going to use chemicals for cocoa, supervised by COCOBOD.

Q) FC: In terms of certification, illegal cocoa cultivation in forest considered?

A) COCOBOD: Mapping of location and history of the farms. We have to look at where the farms are. There are global campaigns.

Q) FC: How best can we harmonize?

1. **Research Gap**

Q) COCOBOD: Irrigation. Is it feasible to irrigate cocoa?

A) Research(?): Yes very much. We are piloting, cocoa along river marks. We also use

boreholes.

A) COCOBOD: We are talking about big irrigation projects, but we can look at small-scale irrigation. For example for cashewnut, farmers use simple technology utilizing a small bottle.

Q) Atsu: Does COCOBOD/CRIG have demonstration site for irrigation?

A) Yes. Commitment is important.

Atsu: Economists will also conduct cost-benefit analysis.

COCOBOD: Restoration. Also, COCOBOD never promotes zero shade plantation!

CRIG:

FC:

Farms in the border with Cote d’Ivoire. They encroach forest reserve.

Atsu: Slashing. The recommendation from CRIG.

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1. **Forestry/Land Tenure**

Atsu/FC: There is a Japanese project with FC to map forest degradation.

**Mechanisms for Collaboration between Project Stakeholders**