

FONERWA Steering Committee for UNDP Capacity Building Project 29/07/2016

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Meeting Minutes

Date: 29th July 2016

The meeting started at 10h44

Agenda	1:	Introduction	by	Chairperson

- The meeting was chaired by MINIRENA SPIU coordinator on behalf of the chairperson PS MINIRENA who excused herself due to other assignments
- The chairman welcomed committee members and appreciated their commitment which is necessary for the success of the programme.
- He also thanked UNDP for their support to the GoR more specifically in the ENR sector

1. No action required

Agenda 2: Presentation of quarter ending 30 June 2016 performance report

The Fund made a presentation with highlights of the quarter achievements under each project output among which include:

Key achievements:

2.1 Resources mobilisation

- In collaboration with GGGI, initiatives have been undertaken to operationalize the technical assistance facility aimed at strengthening FONERWA's technical capacity primarily in meeting resource mobilization needs.
- The team is working on big projects such as the prospective green city and designing FONERWA business plan with targeted resources mobilisation and institutional sustainability.
- Robust engagement with GCF continued during this quarter on critical activities of: facilitating the GoR endorsement of the GCF accreditation

2. Both the narrative and financial reports for the quarter ending 30th June 2016 were approved



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Master agreement, a precondition for engagement with the global fund,

 recruitment of experts to undertake studies supported by the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) that is aimed as a crucial input to Rwanda's proposal that has been submitted to GCF for funding.

2.2 FONERWA capacity development

- The Fund gathered together private sector players alongside academics and regulators on the evaluation of progress to date of the development of the Rwanda Environment and Climate Innovation Centre (RECIC).
- Also, participation in the launch of the Energy Private Developers event to discuss funding in Renewable Energy which gathered together potential applicants to the Fund is another a potential for resources mobilisation
- A strategic advisor was recruited on call down basis to support in the strategic orientation of the Fund. Also, more call down consultants were added on the team for relevant technical support
- A new structure that supports effective management of the Fund is currently under review and this is expected to be re-aligned with revisions in the FONERWA law.

2.3 Support for good quality proposals and enhancement of result reporting

- Technical assistance is provided to both project applicants and implementers through channels that included face to face, online, document sharing and PD clinic.
- A communication advisor has increasingly added more value to communicating fund activities and progress at both national and international levels.
- A FONERWA PPD course was integrated into the website and is accessible to the public. It is



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designed to support Fund applicants with information on the first phase of submitting a proposal to FONERWA

2.4 Fund result management and dissemination of lessons

- FONERWA launched a new website which is hosted in Rwanda at Africa Olleh Services.
- The new website has improved the quality and overall display and appeal including, content organization, site navigation, functionality and provides knowledge products for the fund and natural resource sector.
- The Fund Result Management Information System (FRMIS) was piloted with a sample of selected funded projects. Inputs from the piloting session by the end users were considered and added in the FRMIS, which is planned for rolling to all implementers during the next quarter
- UNDP and FONERWA have partnered to implement the Online Centre of Excellence to collect and share the best practices of Saemaul model and home grown solutions. The focus is to share best practices and lessons learned on involvement of community in rural development program and integration of home grown solutions into community development plans.

2.5 Financial and administration management

- FONERWA is currently integrated in the Government systems and considered under the GoR performance system
- Most of the systems are managed in line with the GoR procedures while waiting for the proposed modifications of the FONERWA law

Agenda 3: Presentation of the work plan and budget ending 30 September 2016



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It was reported that the unutilized amount from the annual approved budget of USD 250.000 is USD 109,900 (Frw 84,972,709), which amount is all planned for use during this quarter.

Among the major planned activities include; [Annex 2 for details):

- Strengthen the overall capacity of the Fund
- Coordinate with potential donors and develop project proposals for resource mobilization
- Provide Technical Assistance to All Beneficiaries Requesting Support to Prepare PPD/PD
- Develop capacity for private sector targeting/leveraging
- Strengthen FONERWA governance systems
- Support capacity for communication and outreach services with particular support to quarterly call for proposal sessions
- Capacity building and development to all project implementation partners for progress monitoring and reporting;
- Continuously improve Integrated Web Based Platform for FONERWA

Key Challenges

- Most of the expected funding to further capitalise the Fund may take long procedures for approval while there is urgent financial needs for FONERWA to achieve its mandate
- Although the number of projects submitted for funding has seen tremendous improvement and projects under implementation have increased, more effort is still required to improve quality of results.

3. The Quarter ending 30th September work plan & Budget of USD 109,900 (Frw 85,425,316) was approved for implementation

4. FONERWA should organize a meeting with UNDP to plan and engage other Development Partners for resource mobilization of the Fund





 Lack of a structured competitive staff benefits system to attract the right calibre of staff and also sustain the Fund operations 5. There is need to boost capacity development in the ENR sector and hence partnership with the **National Capacity Building** Secretariat would relevant. To this end, a high level strategic meeting was recommended between the two institutions to discuss on the way forward to mobilize resources needed to bridge the capacity gap in the sector.

The meeting ended at 12hrs

Enclosures

Annex 1: FONERWA quarter ending 30th June narrative and financial report

Annex 2: FONERWA work plan and budget ending 30 September 2016

Annex 3: Attendance list

Signed:

Signature & Date
Innocent MUSABYIMANA

Chairperson

Signature & Date Alex Mulisa

Secretary