

Good Practice Exchange

Forests are a major source of livelihood in Kwale County. *Kaya* forests, which account for a larger proportion of forests in the county. Although *kayas* have been sustainably managed through traditional systems that have been achieved largely through in-depth knowledge of the local environment, they continue to reduce in number and size. This is partly explained by population growth, unsustainable agricultural practices, mining, charcoal burning and climate change (MoENR, 2015).

In a bid to curb forest loss and degradation, Kwale County has established Charcoal Producers Associations. The County has also allocated some of its budget to awareness creation, tree planting and capacity building for charcoal producers. Despite these measures, it is evident from the previous Good Practice Exchange Workshop that the forest sector continues to face threats from charcoal producers, rapid population growth and conversion of forest land to other uses. It is against this background that ILEG (with adelphi) plan to hold a good practice exchange workshop themed 'Forest Conservation, Management and Governance for Climate Change Resilience in Kwale County.'

This good practice exchange is the second of a series of four such events to be held in 2017. It builds on previous discussions from the good practice exchange workshop on Local climate action in December 2016 and the Good Practice exchange on water resource development, management and access for Resilience in the face of climate change which underscored the importance of conserving water catchment areas. The good practice exchange workshop will bring together approximately thirty participants drawn from Community Forests Associations (CFAs), Charcoal Producers' Associations, policy makers in the forestry sector at the county level and other interest groups including civil society and the private sector in Kwale and neighbouring counties of Mombasa and Kilifi.

The aim of this workshop is to enhance an understanding of issues in the forestry sector and motivate the relevant stakeholders to take up best-fit options to improve forest governance. Specifically, this workshop seeks: To effectively engage key stakeholders in planning and budgeting for forests and forest-related goods and services in the face of climate change; To foster learning through peer-to-peer and information exchange on forest conservation,

management and governance for resilience in the face of climate change; and To provide opportunities for participants to showcase their innovations in forest conservation and management.