

Side Event of the 27th Conference of the Parties (COP27) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt

Financing REDD+ in Africa for Accelerating NDC Implementation through Forestry and Landscape Restoration (November 16th, Africa Pavilion)

JICA, together with the Kenyan Ministry of Environment and Forestry (ME&F), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the African Union Development Agency-NEPAD (AUDA-NEPAD), co-organized this side-event.

Opening remarks were delivered by Mr. Alfred Gichu, Conservation Secretary on behalf of Mr. Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno, Principal Secretary, ME&F, Kenya, who explained the objective of the side event as exchange information about progress in policy measures and technical advancements including National Forest Monitoring System (NFMS) in REDD+ and emerging financial instruments which will enable implementation efforts. It was followed by the keynote speech delivered by Mrs. Estherine Fotabong, Director of Programme Innovation and Planning, (AUDA-NEPAD), who indicated that collective efforts such as AFR100 will improve the livelihoods across Africa while contributing to the biodiversity conservation and ecosystem recovery.

Mr. Alfred Gichu, Forest Conservation Secretary/National REDD+ Coordinator & Focal Point, ME&F, Kenya, gave a presentation about the overview of the REDD+ readiness status supported by various development partners including JICA. Then Mr. Peter Nduati, Deputy Chief Conservator of Forest, Kenya Forest Service, made a presentation on the progress of REDD+ readiness of Kenya including forest reference levels (FRL) and national forest monitoring systems (NFMS) that have been established with JICA's support and further improvements are planned.

The panel discussion was moderated by Ms. Yvonne Nyokabi, UNDP. During the session Ms. Ruth Oghale, AFR Focal Point, Ministry of Environment, Nigeria and Mr. Joaquim Macuacua, National Directorate of Forests, Ministry of Land and Environment, Mozambique, delivered explanations on the technical and policy status of REDD+ in each country, including how communities are involved. Ms. Evelyn Koech, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Mr. Samson Toniok, CEO, National Environmental Trust Fund (NETFUND), Ms. Karen Fawcett, Director, Global Evergreening Alliance, and Ms. Anete Garoza, Founder, 1 MTN also joined the panel and exchanged information about their recent development of innovative finance for land and forest restoration. At the end of the event, Dr. Yasuko Inoue, Expert on Forest Policy and Extension, JICA, ME&F, KFS and Kenya Forest Research Institute (KEFRI) technical cooperation project in Kenya on "Strengthening Forestry Sector Development and Community Resilience to Climate

Change through Sustainable Forest Management and Landscape Restoration,” delivered closing remarks indicating appreciation of the collaboration displayed today, which brings about major changes to forest landscape restoration in Africa, and the contribution of the JICA Project in strengthening technical and policy foundation, including NFMS.



Memorial photo after the event by all presenter's Memorial photo after the event by all presenters



Panel discussion



Mr. Gichu, Conservation Secretary, ME&F (Director of the Project), Delivering opening remarks / Overview of REDD+ in Kenya



Mr. Nduati, DCCF, KFS (CM for the Project) Presentation about NFMS in Kenya



Dr. Inoue, JICA Expert Delivering Closing remarks (photo from livestream)