

GUINEA CURRENT LARGE MARINE ECOSYSTEM PROJECT



REPORT OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP ON TRANSBOUNDARY DIAGNOSTIC ANALYSIS (TDA) AND STRATEGIC ACTION PROGRAMME (SAP)

ACCRA, GHANA, 15 – 19 AUGUST, 2005



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1. INTRODUCTION

The production of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) followed by a Strategic Action Programme (SAP) is a requirement for most OP8 and OP9 projects proposed for financing in the GEF IW Focal Area.

A TDA is an objective, non-negotiated assessment using best available verified scientific information to examine the state of the environment and the root causes for its degradation. The analysis is carried out in a cross sectoral manner, focusing on transboundary issues without ignoring national concerns and priorities. It provides the factual basis for the formulation of a Strategic Action Programme, which embodies specific actions (policy, legal, institutional reforms or investments) that can be adopted nationally, usually within a harmonized multinational context, to address the major priority transboundary concern(s), and over the longer term restore or protect a specific body of water or transboundary ecosystem.

In 2001, the GEF commissioned a comprehensive programme of study for its Operation Programmes 8 and 9. The Programme Study found that the emphasis on undertaking a science-based TDA prior to the design of a Strategic Action Programme was appropriate for projects in these Operational Programs. In addition, the Programme Study found that there were a variety of ways in which a TDA could be conducted. Some were more resource-intensive than others, but usually offered advantages in providing greater insight and specificity, thereby providing an improved information base for the formulation of the SAP. However, it also concluded that there was the need for more GEF guidance regarding the nature of TDAs and the manner in which they lead to, and are distinct from, the development of SAPs.

A further exhaustive Programme Study was commissioned by GEF in 2005, which found that although the TDA/SAP process was gradually improving, there were still projects that failed to distinguish between global and local benefits (a fundamental tenet of GEF).

Furthermore many did not identify social or economic root causes of transboundary problems and failed to identify or incorporate stakeholders.

As a consequence of this, GEF, together with its implementing agencies (UNDP, UNEP and World Bank), have developed a set of more formal guidelines to assist with the preparation of a TDA and formulation of a Strategic Action Programme.

As a part of the requirements for most International Waters (IW) projects (which is the production of a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) followed by a Strategic Action Programme (SAP)), the Regional Training Workshop on TDA and SAP was organized by the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) Project to cross check the adopted and content achieved in the development of its TDA which was already at an advanced stage.

2. OBJECTIVE

The main objective of the Training Workshop was to strengthen the capabilities of both individuals and institutions involved in the GCLME Project, as a means for a more effective implementation of the strategies and procedures set up by Global Environment Facility (GEF) International Waters authorities at both local and regional levels.

3. EXPECTED OUTPUTS

- Greater insight into the TDA/ SAP development process attained.
- Standardized procedures and formats for development of TDA/ SAP established.

4. PARTICIPANTS

36 participants from all 16 countries of the GCLME took part in the Training Workshop. The full list of participants is attached in annex C.

5. OPENING CEREMONY

The Regional Training Workshop on TDA and SAP of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project was officially opened on 19th August 2005 at 10:00 am in the Conference Room of the Regional Coordination Unit, Accra.

In attendance were experts in various disciplines drawn from the 16 member countries of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (GCLME) region who were invited in their personal capacity, Cooperating Agencies, UN and non-UN Systems and other stakeholders. Also in attendance was Dr. Lanto Harding, representing Dr. Kofi Konadu Apraku, Hon. Minister for Regional Cooperation and NEPAD, Ghana, and Madam Kadiatou N'Diaye, Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Guinea.

Mr. Edward Osei Nsenkyire, Chief Director of the Ministry of Environment and Science and GCLME National Project Director, Ghana, chaired the opening ceremony. He welcomed the participants and invited them to enjoy the legendary Ghanaian hospitality. He stated that an important target of the first year of the GCLME Project implementation identified in the project document is the completion of the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis as a vital step to the development of a Strategic Action Program.

The Regional Director of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project, Prof. Chidi Ibe thanked the Chairman, the Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, Mr. Jonathan Allotey and other dignitaries for the honor of their presence. He welcomed the participants and especially the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Guinea to the Workshop. He stated that the involvement of NEPAD was due to the multidisciplinary nature of the project and the search for a regional analysis and resolution of common problems stating that the updating of the TDA was crucial to the development of the SAP. He thanked participants for the various contributions they have made towards the smooth take-off of the project and solicited their continuous support in the years ahead.

Mme Kadiatou N'Diaye, Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of Guinea, thanked the chairman, the Regional Director and participants for the opportunity to make a statement. She said it was a pleasure for her and her team from Guinea to participate in the Workshop. She stated that issues relating to the Guinea Current were major preoccupations of her Ministry and Country. She pledged their commitment to work closely with all parties involved in the Project.

Dr. Lanto Harding, Director of Policy Formulation and Analysis of the Ministry for Regional Cooperation and NEPAD, rendered an apology on behalf of the Minister for his inability to attend and delivered the Minister's speech. In his statement, the Hon. Minister indicated his interest in the GCLME Project because of its multinational and transboundary nature. He stated that the Training Workshop was a clear manifestation of the Accra Declaration (1998) and the expected outputs attest to that. In conclusion, the Minister assured the gathering of the Ministry's support for the GCLME Project.

6. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

a. Course Content

In conjunction with the formalized GEF IW TDA/SAP "best practice" approach, a training course was funded by GEF/UNDP under the UN/TRAIN-SEA-COAST Programme and developed by the Marine and Coastal Policy Research Group based at the University of Plymouth, UK. The complete training course consists of 6 modules that cover the entire TDA/SAP process. These are:

- Module 1: Overview of the TDA/SAP Process
- Module 2: The Project Development Phase and Planning the TDA/SAP
- Module 3: Joint fact finding 1: Identification and prioritization of Transboundary issues and the determination of environmental and socio-economic effects
- Module 4: Joint fact finding 2: Causal chain and governance analysis, integration

of the TDA and submission for final approval

Module 5: Formulating the SAP: Development of a long-term vision, preparing and assessing the acceptability of the options, setting targets and drafting the action programmes

Module 6: Governance analysis and stakeholder involvement

b. Adaptation of the Training Course Materials to the Specific Case of the GCLME

Prior to the delivery of the training course in Accra, the course materials were adapted to the specific needs of the GCLME Project where appropriate. This process was carried out in consultation with the GCLME Regional Coordination Unit. Consequently, Module 2 (project development and planning) was not presented. The Workshop programme is shown in Annex A.

c. Course Presentation

The trainer, Dr. M. J. Bloxham presented the course in English with simultaneous translation into French. Each participant was given a set of course materials consisting of all the modules in English or French. The activities that were undertaken during the training week are outlined below:

- A Training Manual was given to each participant prior to the delivery of each module. These guided the learning process and provided additional information.
- Each module was presented to the Group using PowerPoint slides.
- Active participation and group discussions were encouraged throughout the training sessions.
- At pre-determined stages during the delivery, participants were asked to participate in individual progress tests and group exercises, for which ample time was provided.
- Each participant was presented with an electronic version (either CD-ROM or on individual memory sticks) of the complete Training Course (including all the

PowerPoint presentations, Training Manuals, supporting material and Case Studies).

7. KEY OUTCOMES

The TDA/SAP component concentrated on the key elements of the TDA/SAP process. Each Module was divided into 2 components. The first outlined the general principles that underpin it and the second described the key steps towards the development of the TDA and formulation of the SAP.

Module 1 provided an overview of the whole process, including a short discussion on the GEF, its guiding principles, project funding opportunities and where the TDA and SAP fit into the GEF project cycle. It also highlighted the importance of stakeholder involvement and intersectoral co-ordination.

Modules 3 and 4 concentrated on the development of the TDA. Module 3 described the identification of transboundary environmental problems, approaches used to prioritize such problems, and the analysis of environmental impacts and socio-economic consequences. Module 4 focused on the principles and approaches used to develop causal chains, the importance of governance analysis and advice on how to draft the TDA.

Module 5 concentrated on the formulation of the SAP. In particular, it highlighted the importance of bridging the objective findings of the TDA and the sustainable and politically acceptable solutions that ultimately shape the SAP.

The final module (Module 6) presented a further discussion on the importance of stakeholder consultation and participation in the whole process and a detailed discussion on the three aspects of governance analysis (stakeholder, institutional and legal/policy).

8. WORKSHOP EVALUATION

At the end of the course, participants were asked to complete an evaluation form. The results, shown in Figures 1 to 4, indicate that the course was very well received. Box 1 indicates the positive responses given on individual evaluation forms.

Box 1

Participants' comments

- Course structure and delivery was very good
- Concise and effective approach to presentation
- Very comprehensive
- Instructors' command of the subject was excellent
- Course was highly successful
- Topical and straight to the point

Approximately 90% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that the course fulfilled their expectations, was relevant for their work, provided practical solutions and tools and was a worthwhile use of their time (Figure 1).

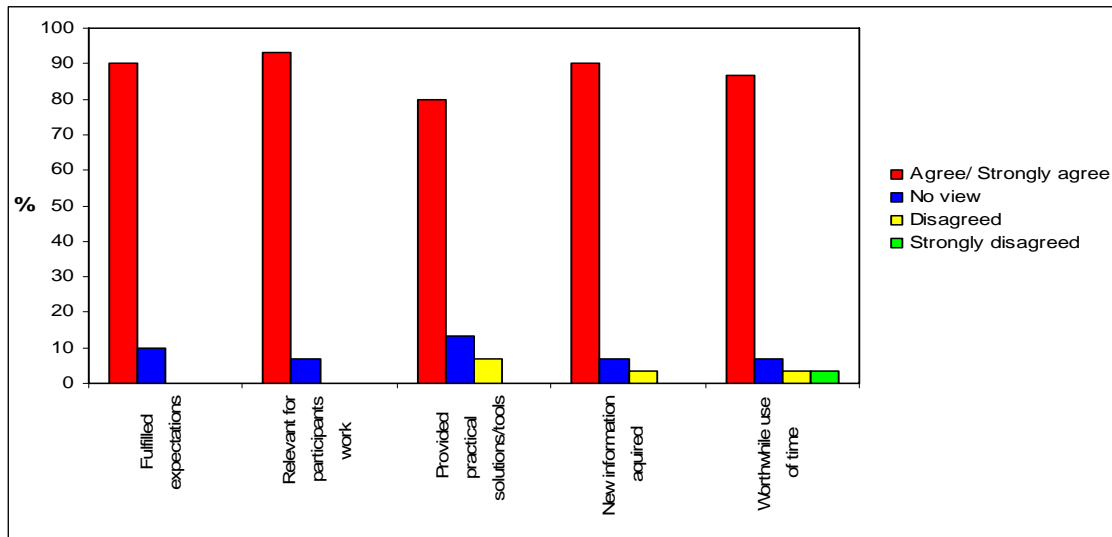


Figure 1: Overall rating of the GCLME TDA/SAP Training Course

When asked whether they felt the objectives of the course were very clear, over 95% agreed or strongly agreed. The majority (77 to 93%) also agreed or strongly agreed that the activities in connection with the course were interesting and useful, the practical work and the written exercises were appropriate and the visual materials were clear (Figure 2).

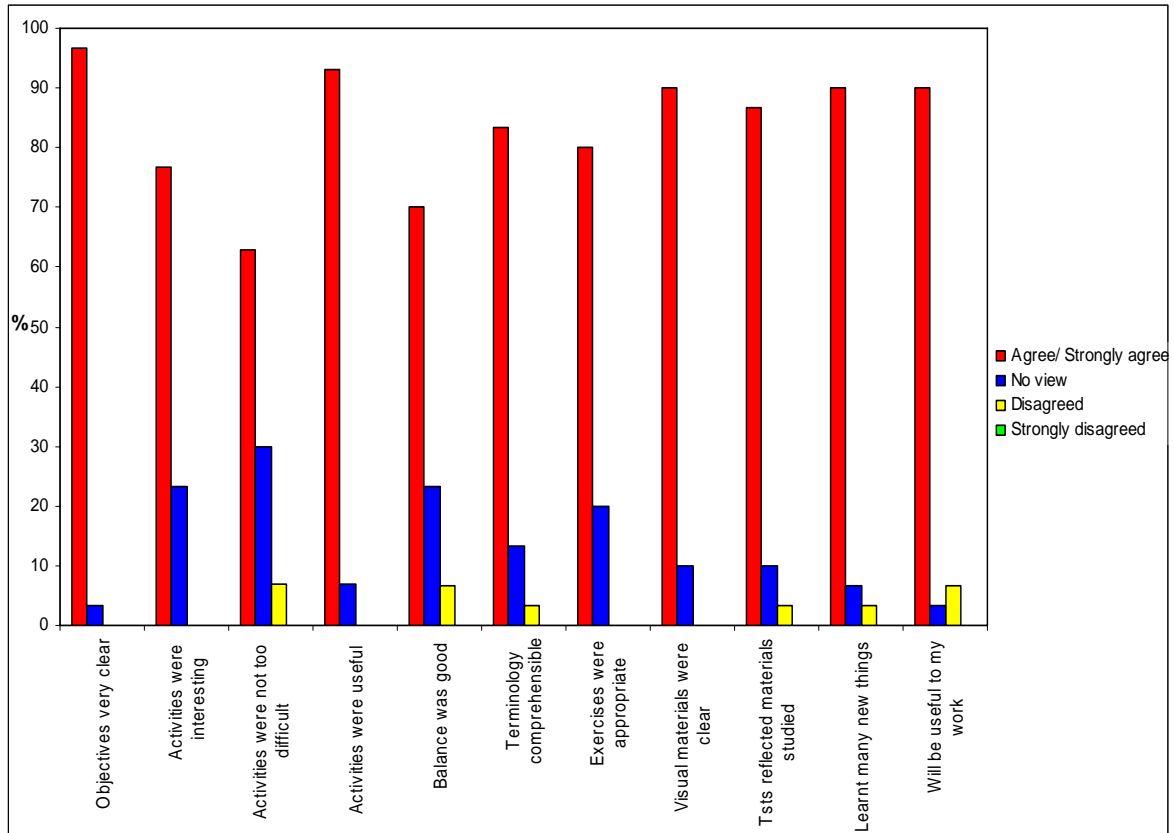


Figure 2: Opinion about learning activities and content of the training material

When asked about the time allocated for the course, the majority of respondents (70%) felt that it was about right (Figure 3). However, 20% thought it was too short and 10% too long. Most participants (73- 83%) thought that the time allocated to lectures/presentations, group discussions/exercises, and discussion with the trainer and between participants was about right, although in all cases a minority (17 – 23%) felt that the time allocated was too short.

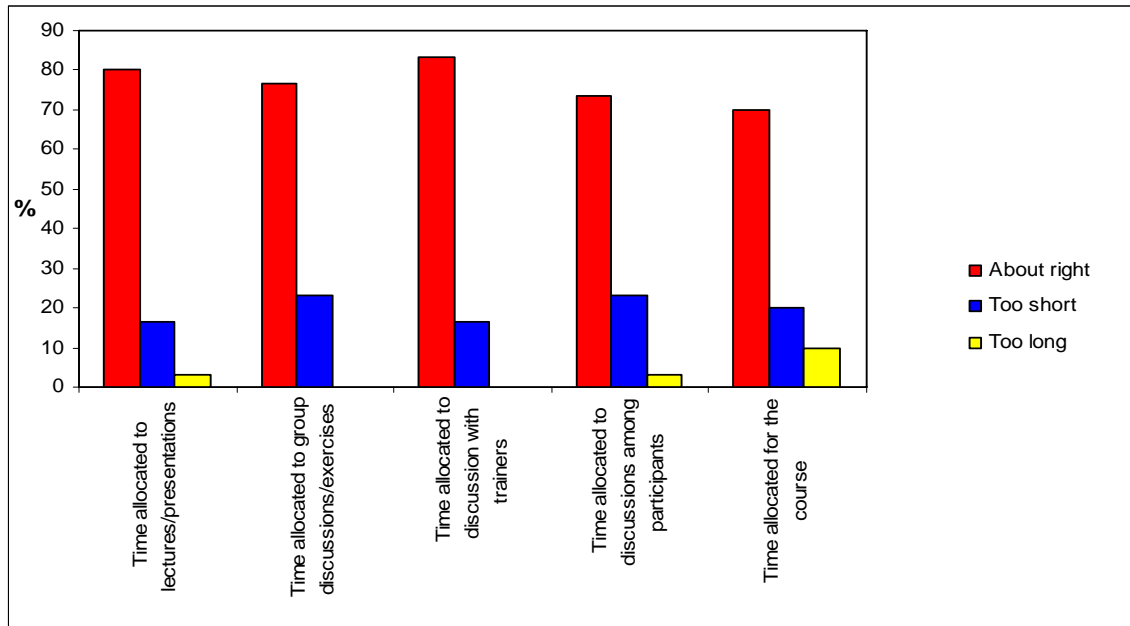


Figure 3: Opinions about time allocation

When asked about their opinions on the delivery of the course, 87 to 93% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that the quality of the presentations was very good, the instructor had a full command of the subject area, the teaching methods used were appropriate and the interaction with the participants was good (Figure 4). The majority (80%) also felt that the interaction between participants was good.

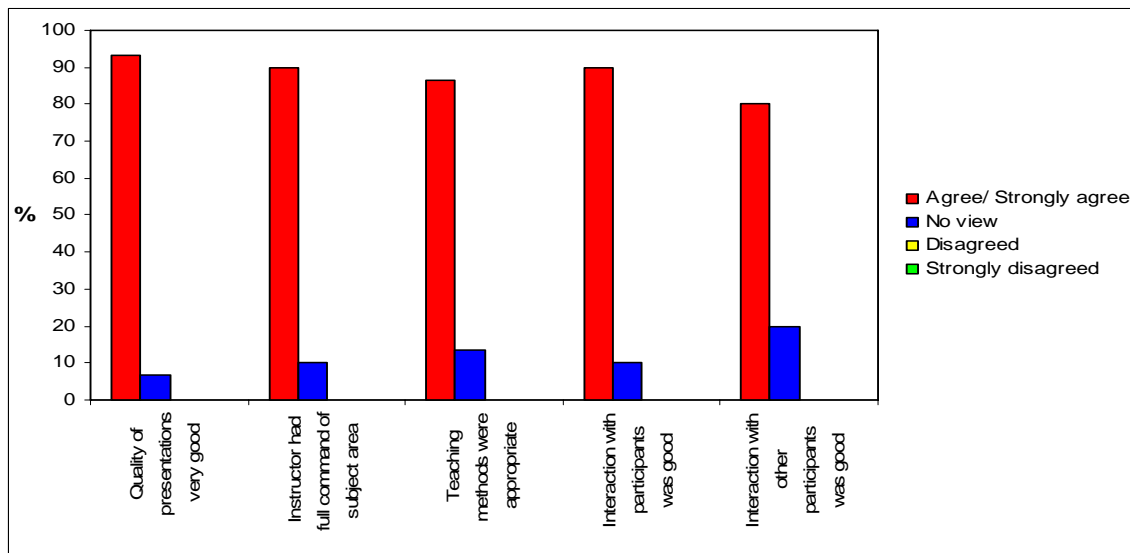


Figure 4: Opinions about the delivery of the course

This evaluation is in line with previous evaluations carried out for the TDA/SAP Training Course Validation Exercise (3-9 October 2004) and the Okavango River Basin Training Course (9-14 May 2005).

9. PROBLEMS

- The Francophone participants felt that there were some difficulties with the translation of certain terminologies from English to French. In addition, the Francophone versions of the course materials were, in a few cases, not complete.
- Regarding the material, it was felt that the Socio-Economic component could have been better presented, although the participants understood that this was not the specialization of the trainer.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the delivery of the training course, the following recommendations were made by both the participants and the Trainer:

- Abridged versions of the course materials should be made available to the participants prior to the delivery of the course.
- Translated Training Manuals should be carefully edited to eliminate errors.
- There should be more than one trainer to ease the workload of the trainer and increase the interest of the participants.
- Materials are needed to identify more practical ways of mainstreaming the various policy, institutional and legal frameworks.
- There is the need to draw from more African examples of TDAs and SAPs.
- More exercises should be provided to back up the presentations.
- The case study material should be offered in paper form, rather than on CD ROM.
- The course should be given over a longer period, run as 2 separate courses, or reduced in size.

11. CLOSING CEREMONY

The closing ceremony was performed by the Hon. Minister for Environment and Science, Ms. Christine Churcher and chaired by Prof. Babajide Alo, Chairman of the TDA Task Team. The Chairman informed the Hon. Minister that at the end of the Training Course, both the participants and the Trainer concluded that the approaches adopted thus far in the development of the GCLME TDA which is at an advanced stage matched almost precisely those described during the Course.

Also in attendance was the Hon. Deputy Minister for Environment and Science, Dr. Gheysika Adombere Agambila and the Secretary General of the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Guinea, Madam Kadiatou N'Diaye. The Hon. Minister, the Regional Director and the Training Consultant made informal closing statements following which the Hon. Minister declared the Training Course ended.

ANNEX A

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION AND NEPAD, HON. KOFI KONADU APRAKU, MP

Mr. Chairman,
Regional Director of GCLME Project,
Distinguished Workshop participants,
Representatives of Ministries, Departments and Agencies,
Distinguished Members of the Press,
Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour and privilege to be invited to open this very important Training Workshop on Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Programme.

For sometime now the Ghanaian Media has been featuring the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project and its activities. Personally, I have been attracted by the Transboundary nature of the project, stretching from Guinea Bissau and Angola.

As Minister in charge of Regional Cooperation and NEPAD, I am particularly attracted by the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis which involves the identification of root causes and impacts of environmental resource management problems mostly at the regional level and the socio-economic, political and institutional context within which they occur. I am also informed that the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis provides a basis for the formulation of a regional Strategic Action Programme (SAP), which defines strategies, and actions to address the Transboundary issues.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,
My attention has been drawn to the Accra Declaration on the Environmentally Sustainable Development of the Large Marine Ecosystem of the Gulf of Guinea.

In the declaration, the Ministers of Environment of Benin, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Nigeria stated among other things their conviction of the validity of the

integrated and sustainable management of the Large Marine Ecosystem to the resolution of problems, including strengthening regional cooperation and development, as well as establishing linkages between local, regional and global decision-making. The resolution of the problems of the Large Marine Ecosystem is unachievable without these linkages.

Mr. Chairman,

The Ministers also believed that the regional networking was an essential component of the system of ocean and coastal governance for the present and years to come. The Ministers declared, among other things, that the transfer of knowledge and experiences among the countries of the Gulf of Guinea Large Marine Ecosystem through the consolidation of networks for joint monitoring, research and capacity building in the field of marine environmental and natural resource management should be enhanced.

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished ladies and Gentlemen,

This Training Workshop is a clear manifestation of the Accra declaration issued some seven years ago. The expected outputs of this Workshop, which are:

- Greater insight into the TDA/SAP development process attained, and
- Standardized procedures and formats for development of TDA/SAP established attest to this.

One of the key focus areas for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), the development framework adopted by the African Union, is environmentally sustainable development. Noting that at the heart of NEPAD is good governance in all spheres of socio-economic development, I wish to take this opportunity to assure you all that the Ministry of Regional Cooperation and NEPAD, which has the responsibility to coordinate implementation of regional decisions, will do everything within its mandate to provide the needed support for the achievement of the goals and objectives of the Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project.

I thank you for the invitation and I wish you fruitful deliberations during the entire period of this Training Workshop.

ANNEX B

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
OPENING CEREMONY	MODULE III: JOINT FACT - FINDING I - IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITISATION OF PROBLEMS AND THE ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS	MODULE IV: JOINT FACT-FINDING 2 – CAUSAL CHAIN ANALYSIS, GOVERNANCE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE TDA	MODULE VI: GOVERNANCE ANALYSIS AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT	MODULE V: FORMULATING THE SAP (CONT.)
COFFEE/TEA BREAK				
MODULE I: OVERVIEW OF THE TDA/SAP PROCESS	MODULE III: JOINT FACT - FINDING I - IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITISATION OF PROBLEMS AND THE ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS (CONT.)	MODULE IV: JOINT FACT-FINDING 2 – CAUSAL CHAIN ANALYSIS, GOVERNANCE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE TDA (CONT.)	MODULE V: FORMULATING THE SAP (CONT.)	THE WAY FORWARD: WHERE DOES IT GO FROM HERE?
COFFEE/TEA BREAK				
MODULE I: OVERVIEW OF THE TDA/SAP PROCESS	MODULE III: JOINT FACT - FINDING I - IDENTIFICATION AND PRIORITISATION OF PROBLEMS AND THE ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS (CONT.)	MODULE IV: JOINT FACT-FINDING 2 – CAUSAL CHAIN ANALYSIS, GOVERNANCE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND SUBMISSION OF THE TDA (CONT.)	MODULE V: FORMULATING THE SAP (CONT.)	EVALUATION OF THE COURSE
COFFEE/TEA BREAK				
MODULE I: OVERVIEW OF THE TDA/SAP PROCESS	DISCUSSION	MODULE VI: GOVERNANCE ANALYSIS AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT	MODULE V: FORMULATING THE SAP (CONT.)	CLOSING CEREMONY

ANNEX C

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