



IX – PARTNERS

ACDI: Agence Canadienne de Developpement International
 AFDB: African Development Bank
 CIFOR: Centre for International Forestry Research
 COMIFAC: Central African Forest Commission
 EU: European Union;
 GIZ: Deutsche Gesellschaft fur internationale ,
 Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
 GWP: Global Water Partnership
 IUCN: International Union for Conservation of Nature
 PACEBCO: Support Programme for the Conservation of the
 Congo Basin Forest Ecosystems;
 REJEFAC: Youth Network for Central African Forests
 REPALEAC: Network of Indigenous and Local Peoples for
 Sustainable Management of Central African Forest Ecosystems
 REPAR: Network of Parliamentarians for the Management of
 Central African Forest Ecosystems
 UN REDD: United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing
 Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation.
 UNDP: United Nations Development Program
 UNEP: United Nations Environment Program UNFF: United Nation
 Forum on Forests
 WWF: World Wild Fund

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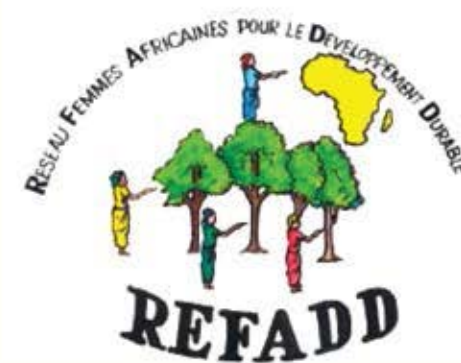
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Africa Women's network
 for Sustainable Development

With the support of :



GENDER AT SERVICE OF SUSTAINABLE
 DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA



I – WHAT IS THE REFADD ?

The African Women's Network for Sustainable Development (REFADD) was established in June 1998 in Bata, Equatorial Guinea on the margins of the second Conference on the Central African Dense Rainforest Ecosystems "CEFDHAC". It is a regional network of civil society organizations made up mainly of women working toward the sustainable management of natural resources, gender mainstreaming and women empowerment. REFADD currently operates in the 10 member countries of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) namely: Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Sao Tome & Principe. Being one of CEFDHAC specialized networks, REFADD is a subsidiary body of COMIFAC which deals with gender and forest management issues in the Central African region.

II – VISION

REFADD seeks to ensure appropriate management of natural resources. Management that takes into account gender concerns in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national and regional policies, programs and projects for sustainable development.

III – MISSION

Promote gender mainstreaming and effective participation of African women in sustainable development processes through their involvement in natural resource management programs, particularly the Central African forest ecosystems.

IV – OBJECTIVES

- Ensure gender mainstreaming and women's participation in the sustainable management of forest ecosystems;
- Development of the regional strategy on gender, REDD+ and adaptation to climate change for the COMIFAC zone ; Facilitation of pilot community initiatives involving women for the sustainable management of natural resources ;
- Promoting Non Timber Forests Products (mushrooms, bamboo, ..) Tree planting, fruit tree domestication ; Rain water harvesting, Solar energy development, cooking stoves; charcoal production using improved technology...
- Training of Trainers on Gender and Advocacy, training of members

- Active participation in national, regional and international initiatives and processes: COMIFAC, CEFDHAC, CBFP, AFLEG/FLEGT, UNFCCC/NWP... Active participation in regional experts working groups on : gender, climate, biodiversity, desertification;
- Participation in international and regional conferences of : COMIFAC, CEFDHAC, PFBC, COPs on climate change, WSSD, Rio+20, World Parks Congress ;
- Raise awareness and improve communication on gender issues and women's participation in the management of natural resources;
- Promote capacity building among stakeholders on gender mainstreaming in the sustainable management of natural resources;
- Encourage experience sharing and lessons learnt at all levels;
- Enhance partnerships, synergies and networking with stakeholders;

V – ORGANISATION AND COOPERATION

General Assembly:

The supreme organ comprising statutory members namely, the Regional Coordinator, members of Country Branches, resource persons and partners, representatives (governments, development partners)

Regional Executive Bureau :

- Regional Coordinator (Cameroon)
- Deputy Regional Coordinator (Rwanda)
- Secretary General (Burundi)
- Regional Treasurer (Congo)
- Regional Advisers (Cameroon, RCA, RDC, Sao Tomé)
- Resource Persons (Cameroon, RDC)
- Countries branches: one focal point in each member country
- Auditors (Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, RCA)

VI – MAIN AREAS OF INTERVENTION AND EXPERTISE

Advocacy on gender mainstreaming and women's participation ;
Development, monitoring and evaluation of programs and projects aimed at:

sustainable management of natural resources,
Climate change mitigation and adaptation,
Community livelihoods and women's empowerment;
Gender mainstreaming in policies and programs;
Conferences and consultations;
Capacity building of stakeholders;

VII – KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Establishment of Country Branches in members countries ;
- Registration and establishment of the Congo Brazzaville REFADD

Regional Coordination Office;

VIII – WAY FORWARD

- Enhance communication and advocacy on gender mainstreaming in laws and policies;
- Capacity building on gender and management of natural resources and emerging themes including climate change, biodiversity;
- Extend pilot initiatives to other member countries; Share success stories and lessons learned from pilot initiatives;
- Ensure gender mainstreaming in national policy documents;
- Conduct training sessions on project design and management for women;
- Strengthen partnerships between REFADD and other relevant initiatives and processes;
- Extend REFADD to other African countries ;
- Ensure monitoring and evaluation of REFADD activities.

