

COMPAS AFRICA STRATEGIC DIRECTION

DISCUSION DOCUMENT DEVELOPED AT THE AFRICAN LERNING INSTITUTE

JULY 2016, TECHIMAN.

BACKGROUND:

COMPAS Africa is a continental network that seeks to understand the diversity of rural people's knowledge and worldviews and encourage local development that builds on the cultural heritage and resources of African communities for resilient development.. It forms part of a global network that was formed in 1996. It enjoyed funding support from DGIS of the Dutch Ministry for Development Cooperation till 2010 when funding was discontinued. The work of Compas Africa started with conceptualizing Endogenous Development as a guiding principle for resilient development and each continental network developed methodologies and programmes to meet their peculiar contexts. Endogenous development refers to development that respects the culture, knowledge and worldviews of local people but makes room for incorporation of appropriate external knowledge and resources. The Compas Africa network focused initially on increasing agricultural production, gradually shifting to natural resources management, cultural heritage and the use of indigenous knowledge for development

At the ALI training event, participants reflected on and revised the goal and objectives of the network and agreed on thematic working areas for the future work of Compas Africa. A new organizational structure was proposed that will ensure the design and implementation of sub regional programmes and activities and efficient and effective co-ordination. At the end of the discussions 15 participating organizations signed up to be members of the New Pan African Compas. (see Annex 1)

VISION:

COMPAS Africa is a PAN African network that supports rural people, appreciate, test and improve their own knowledge, values and practices and apply this in their own Endogenous Development process to enhance resilient community development.

OBJECTIVES:

- To be a PAN African Network promoting Indigenous Knowledge and Endogenous development for Community Resilience
- To build capacity of network members to promote ED at the Local levels
- To show practical experiences and lessons of using African solutions for African problems through documentation
- To promote inter-continental cross cultural programmes

WORKING STRATEGY

1. Promoting ED and IK for community resilience and Sustainable Development
2. Capacity building of members- For COMPAS to be actively involved and engaged in what it stands for, there is the need to build capacities of regional networks to be able to carry out their work
3. Networking and sharing, for joint mobilization of resources-
4. Work with other networks like AFSA and ABN and like-minded organizations like the COADY Institute, Christensen Fund and others as core partners to promote its objectives and vision.

COORDINATING STRUCTURE

To ensure effective and efficient co-ordination of its activities, the following structure was detailed out.

Office	Location	Responsible	Organization
Continental Coordination	Ghana	Bern Guri,	CIKOD
West Africa Co-ordination	Gambia	Alieu Sowe	NACOGFAG
East Africa Co-ordination	Kenya Uganda	Martin Muriuki Elizabeth Birungi	ICE PROMETRA
Southern Africa	South Africa Zimbabwe	Raymond Alice Ndlovu	SAEDP-SA Mounde Trust

THEMATIC AREAS

1. Capacity Building and Training on Endogenous Development
2. Traditional health and food Sovereignty
3. Culture and Heritage for development
4. Bio-cultural diversity and Natural resources Management

SOME INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES

Theme 1:Capacity strengthening

- 1 Regional training course on Indigenous Knowledge for Community Resilience
2. Training workshop and coaching on Community Organizational development.
3. *Training workshops on working with the ED methodology for traditional authorities, local government staff, peasant farmers associations, local level extension staff, local government health officials.(CK)*
- 4.*Organize intra/inter group learning visits*
5. *Facilitate development of community protocols to influence policy*

Theme 2: Promoting Traditional Health and food Sovereignty

1. *Educational campaigns to revitalize Traditional health practices*
2. Campaign on Indigenous Seed and food conservation
3. *Training on Documentation and profiling of traditional health practitioners and their practices.*
4. Social enterprise to promote indigenous foods and plant medicine
5. *Train Traditional leaders on International conventions on Bio-diversity and natural resource conservation*

Theme 3: Culture and Heritage

1. Do public campaigns on the nutrition and therapeutic values of traditional foods through food fairs at festivals, community durbars, etc
2. *Organize annual cross culture learning school*
3. *Establish the heritage learning centre*
4. *Organize Traditional Home stay learning practices*

Theme 4 : Bio Cultural Diversity and NRM

1. Training workshops to strengthen farmer's skills on agro-ecological farming (AFP)
5. Develop methodological guide for establishing community protocols
6. *Make presentations at District Assembly sessions on biodiversity and natural resource conservations.*
7. *Facilitate institutional and Natural Resource Mapping (CIRM)*
8. *Facilitate development of NRM-friendly by-laws by District or Regional Assemblies (where Applicable*

ANNEX 1

LIST OF SIGNED UP MEMBERS OF THE COMPAS AFRICA NETWORK

NO.	REPRESENTATIVE	ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY	CONTACT
1.	Bern Guri	CIKOD	GHANA	guribern@gmail.com
2.	Raymond Tivafire	SAEDP	SOUTH AFRICA	rtivafire@gmail.com
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14.	Nana Kwaw Adams	ABOFAP	GHANA	Nakdams@yahoo.com

15.	Bereket Weldegiogis	MELCA	ETHIOPIA	Bereket.wolde.d@gmail.com
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