

UNEP-GLOBAL FIELD EXERCISE PROGRAMME MEETING

Conference Room 4, UN Complex, Gigiri

23 February 2015



Participants

1. **GFE Programme:** 21 Members from 8 Nationalities representing University of Nairobi (UoN), University of Tokyo and United Nations University (UNU)
2. **UNEP:** Mahesh Pradhan, and Mariam Osman, Brian Waswala and Henry Ndede
3. **UN- Habitat:** Grace Lubaale
4. **UNON:** Irene Mwakesi
5. **The community Cooker Foundation:** Janice Muthui and Wakina Mutembe

Background

- The Graduate Field Exercise (GFE) programme involves 34 participants from the university of Tokyo, Wangari Maathai Institute (WMI) graduate students and Professors.
- This is a 14 days exercise (15 -28th Feb, 2015) that will focus on environmental and livelihood issues in informal settlements in Nairobi.
- They have three study themes, i.e. (1) Solid waste management and ecosystem health of Nairobi River, (2) alternative energy sources for the urban poor and (3) urban livelihoods and assets in the informal settlements.

Interactive Discussions

- **Mahesh Pradhan, Chief, Environmental Education and Training Unit, UNEP**, welcomed the and emphasized the importance of scholars in building environmental capacity and leadership
- **Prof. David Mungai, University of Nairobi/WMI**, introduced the GFE programme participants and the objective of the exercise.
- **Prof. Takashi Mino, university of Tokyo** emphasized on importance of the exercise in achievement of sustainable development.
- **Grace Lubaale, Strategic Advisor, UN-HABITAT**, affirmed in his presentation that important assets of the poor vary with time depending on its monetary and intrinsic value.
- **Henry Ndede, UNEP- Kenya Country Programme**, highlighted solid waste management in informal settlement is vital in enhancing the capacity of city dwellers as they emit 60% of the total wastes.
- **Janice Muthui and Wakina Mutembe, The community Cooker Foundation**, emphasized on their presentation on importance of taking up alternative energy initiatives that will bring change and beneficial to the society, economy, health and environment.

Follow-up

- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 41st Session held in UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya on 24-27 February 2015.
- GUPES forum during the World Environmental Education Congress to be held in June 2015 at Gothenburg, Sweden.

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