



Global Steering Committee Holds Fourth Annual Meeting



The DGM Global Steering Committee and partners during the Fourth Annual GSC Meeting hosted at Conservation International's headquarters in Arlington, VA. Photo: DGM Global

The Global Steering Committee (GSC) of the Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM) gathered in Arlington, VA from April 23-25 for its fourth annual meeting. The GSC includes representatives of each of the nine operational National Steering Committees (Brazil, Burkina Faso, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Indonesia, Mexico, Mozambique, Peru, and the Republic of the Congo), as well as one representative of a country outside the Forest Investment Program (Philippines). The GSC also welcomed the participation of an observer from the Interim Committee of DGM Nepal.

For the three days of the meeting, the GSC members discussed the progress of the DGM to date, reviewed and approved a workplan and budget for the DGM Global project's fourth year, and made several important decisions to guide the DGM's work going forward, including:

- Approving a redesign of the DGM Global website to be accessible in the four DGM languages;
- Approving changes to the project's results framework to streamline data collection and improve reporting of results;
- Recommending the identification of opportunities for increased direct access to climate finance for Indigenous Peoples and local communities; and
- Planning the fifth GSC Meeting in Brussels in April 2019 to engage with key donors and stakeholders.

The leadership of the GSC members has been invaluable to the DGM's progress, and their continued guidance and oversight will be essential for ensuring the project's success and the sustainability of the project's results.

Upcoming Events

April 30 - May 10: UNFCCC Climate Change Conference (SB 48) - Bonn, Germany

June 10-15: Latin America Regional Exchange - Satipo, Peru

June 18-19: Asia/Americas Executing Agency Meeting - Lima, Peru

August/September: Africa Regional Exchange & Executing Agency Meeting - Mozambique

Second Asia Regional Exchange – Indonesia



DGM Asia Exchange participants visited the Kajang community in South Sulawesi, Indonesia. The community members wear black to symbolize modesty and humility. During the visit, participants learned about the community's efforts to achieve legal recognition of their customary land. Photo: DGM Indonesia

From February 12-16, DGM Global held its second Asia Regional Exchange in South Sulawesi, Indonesia to facilitate learning and knowledge sharing between Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in Asia on sustainable forestry and climate change

The exchange was co-facilitated with The Samdhana Institute, which implements the DGM Indonesia project, as well as the Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN).

The exchange featured 22 participants from Indonesia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam, along with 1 participant from Peru to promote cross-regional knowledge sharing. They discussed several topics, including the Paris Agreement, the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples (LCIP) Platform, shifting cultivation and land tenure. Representatives from the World Bank and Ministry of Environment of Indonesia were among the participants, bringing their own perspectives and learning from the IPLCs in attendance.

One of the major highlights of the workshop was visiting the Indigenous Kajang community in South Sulawesi. As one of the first indigenous communities in Indonesia to attain government recognition and protection of its land rights, the community's relationship with natural resources reflects its local tenure system based on mutual ownership.

Exchange participants met with government officials from the Bulukumba Regency to learn about the official process of attaining land recognition. Afterwards, they met with Kajang community members. The spiritual leader, the Ammatoa, explained how customary law ensures the maintenance of their forest systems and shared many of their traditional rules that keep this system in place.

This was the third of four learning exchanges that DGM Global will host in its third year, with over 60 IPLC leaders from 20 countries attending one or more of these exchanges. The project will end its third year with its Latin America Regional Exchange from June 10-15, 2018 in Satipo, Peru.

Indigenous Peoples Policy Adopted by Green Climate Fund

The DGM Global Steering Committee and Global Executing Agency are thrilled to congratulate Indigenous Peoples and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) on the adoption of the GCF Indigenous Peoples Policy (GCF/B.19/05). During the GCF's Board Meeting in Songdo, South Korea in March, one of the major priorities of Indigenous Peoples was the adoption of the Indigenous Peoples Policy.

This policy has been a priority for Indigenous Peoples since the GCF's formation in 2010 and will support their access to and equitable benefits from climate finance, as well as their engagement in climate change policy and actions at the global level, a commitment that has already been recognized by the Conference of Parties (COP23) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The official Indigenous Peoples Policy is now available through the GCF website: <https://www.greenclimate.fund/safeguards/indigenous-peoples>

DGM Brazil National Steering Committee Elects New Coordinators

In early February, the representatives of indigenous, quilombola, and traditional communities in DGM Brazil's National Steering Committee (NSC) held a meeting at the World Bank's headquarters in Brasilia.

During the meeting, the NSC members elected new coordinators to lead the committee for the next two years, until 2020. Indigenous representative Srewe Xerente and quilombola representative Lucely Morais Pio took over as Coordinator and Vice-coordinator, positions previously held by João Nonoy Krikati and Maria do Socorro Teixeira Lima.



Srewe Xerente (left) and Lucely Morais Pio (right), the new Coordinators of the DGM Brazil National Steering Committee. Photo: DGM Brazil

For Lucely, a leader from the Cedro Quilombola Community and a representative of the Pacari Network for Medicinal Plants of the Cerrado, the moment demands joining forces: "Let us fight and work together, join hands and do a good job, because the idea is to move forward with the projects and seek resources so that DGM Brasil can continue beyond 2020."

Srewe, who represents the Xerente Indigenous Union (UNIX), shared similar sentiments: "The Committee needs to be more and more concerned with strengthening public policies, especially those related to the environment, and how to attract more resources for the conservation of our Cerrado biome. I believe that many here are already thinking further, because DGM can not rely solely on this donation."

FIP Subcommittee Meeting



GSC Co-chair Mina Setra launched the 2017 DGM Annual Report during the December Subcommittee Meeting of the Forest Investment Program. Photo: Luis Barquin

In December, the Forest Investment Program held its Semiannual Subcommittee Meeting in Washington, DC. This was an important meeting for the DGM, as three countries, Ecuador, Nepal, and the Republic of the Congo, received approval for their Forest Investment Plans.

Mina Setra, as Co-chair of the GSC, was invited to address the Subcommittee and other key stakeholders in a speech where she announced the launch of the DGM's Second Annual Report, covering the period from July 2016 through June 2017. She shared some of the highlights from the report, including an update on the program's level of approved funding, early support for the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform, and efforts by the DGM to link IPLC actions with nationally determined contributions. She also highlighted the importance of continued funding for the DGM so that the program can continue to build on its early successes.

Throughout the event, the DGM shared the report with key audience members and stakeholders. With all the FIP Subcommittee members, donors, and interested observers present for this speech, this was a great opportunity for the DGM to demonstrate its many achievements.

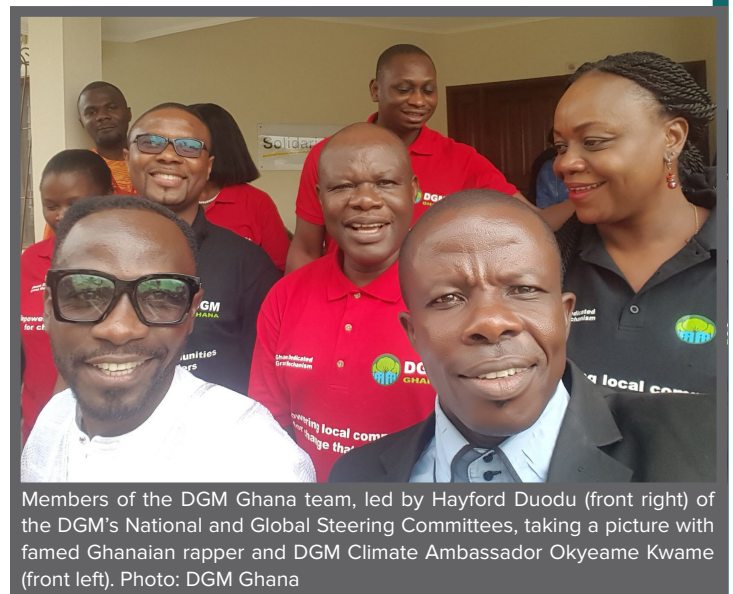
DGM Ghana Launches

DGM Ghana, with support from Solidaridad West Africa as its National Executing agency, held its project launch event in Sunyani on February 6, 2018. The project puts particular emphasis on halting unsustainable land use practices and promoting climate-smart agriculture and agroforestry.

Solidaridad Regional Director Isaac Gyamfi explained that DGM Ghana will deepen understanding of local communities through the dissemination of knowledge and the provision of demand-driven grants to strengthen climate-smart, sustainable land use practices for improved livelihoods.

As with every DGM project, DGM Ghana is led by a steering committee of community representatives. As Chairperson of the National Steering Committee, Mr. Hayford Duodu praised the project's partners for recognizing the unique role of communities at the forefront of the fight against climate change.

Solidaridad West Africa also unveiled popular rapper and artist Okyeame Kwame as Climate Change Ambassador for DGM Ghana. In this role, Okyeame Kwame will share with communities about the impact of climate change and hopefully move them to support sustainable land management and climate action.



Expressing his appreciation to Solidaridad for the opportunity to contribute to the fight against climate change, Okyeame Kwame called on the media to shine a spotlight on climate change as a threat to human survival.

Mr. Duodu shared his optimism that Okyeame Kwame would make a difference in the fight against climate change, citing the artist's popularity in local communities as a key factor for boosting climate awareness and strengthening the project's impacts.

This is a newsletter of the **Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM)**. The DGM is a special initiative under the Forest Investment Program (FIP) of the Climate Investment Funds (CIF) for supporting the engagement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in climate action and sustainable forestry at local, national, and global scales. DGM projects are anticipated in 13 FIP pilot countries, in addition to the Global Learning and Knowledge Exchange Project (DGM Global). The DGM projects are designed and led by members of the communities they seek to benefit, with support from the World Bank as the implementing multilateral development bank, as well as non-governmental organizations that have been selected as executing agencies for each DGM project.



To learn more about the DGM, find us online at:

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