

# African Regional NGOs: An Overview of Institutions

August 1994

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS  
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 CAPE TOWN AFRICAN NGOs ENVIRONMENT IN  
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 VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS  
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 ASIA AND LATIN AMERICA A DIRECTORY OF VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS  
 LOCAL INSTITUTIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS  
 AFRICA  
 DEVELOPMENT  
 ANALYTICAL SOURCE  
 BOOK WITH CASES  
 GROWING ROLE FOR  
 NGOS IN DEVELOPMENT

# **African Regional NGOs: An Overview of Institutions**

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**August 1994**

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## Contributors to This Report

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***Gretchen Merrill, Steve Anderson, and David Hohl* did all the initial work on the Directory (the Annex to this paper). They searched publications, made initial contacts with key individuals, and set up the framework for the Directory. Lastly, they completed the initial Directory. Without their efforts it would not be in the form that it is.**

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# **African Regional NGOs: An Overview of Institutions**

## **Executive Summary**

Many types of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs)--international, regional, national, and local--work in Africa. African NGOs activities have expanded from the focus on management and conservation of soil, forestry and water resources, flora regeneration, and use of renewable sources of energy to also influencing macropolicies in the area of environment and to training and educating grassroots groups.

A wide variety of NGOs exist. *African Regional NGOs: An Overview of Institutions* concentrates mainly on African regional NGOs. "African regional NGOs" or "African NGO networks" are expressions often used when referring to networks established by African nationals and operating in more than one country as well as to those international networks whose headquarters are in Africa. The purposes of the report are to provide:

- (1) A "Directory of African Regional NGOs," with a description of their activities, experiences, opportunities, and constraints;
- (2) Guidelines to better position African regional NGOs in relation to a vision developed at a workshop organized in August 1993 on the theme "USAID, NGOs, and the Management of Natural Resources in Africa"; and
- (3) Potential roles of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. private voluntary organizations (PVOs), and African regional NGOs in the context of the above-mentioned vision.

The first part of the report deals with African regional NGOs, providing a brief description and comment on each. Twenty African regional NGOs and international NGOs based in Africa, for which sufficient information was available, are described. Most of the NGOs have a few characteristics in common: heavy concentration in Senegal and Kenya, little decentralization, similarity in intervention areas, reliance on external sources of funds, and limited fee collection from member NGOs.

In the second part, the report attempts to position African regional NGOs in relation to the proposed vision as mentioned under (2) above. In part it can be paraphrased as follows:

**In the future, that is in 1999, African NGOs must have strengthened their national and regional capabilities in order to better manage and coordinate complex and long-term interventions. At least four regional NGOs Centers in Africa will be promoting improved performance in the area of natural resources management.**

For such a vision to materialize, African regional NGOs capabilities must be strengthened in their current areas of intervention. These are: training, communications and information, research and studies, facilitation, and technical and financial support to local organizations. Some NGOs enjoy years of experience in particular areas that could be beneficial to others. In their day to day activities, African regional NGOs encounter both opportunities and constraints. Opportunities include, among others, the existence of many Regional NGOs which eliminate the need to set up new ones, and the possibility to reach out to a large number of NGOs. However, African Regional NGOs are faced with a number of constraints in the pursuit of their goals. These constraints are technical (staff not adequately trained), institutional (nonrecognition by government), financial (difficulties in securing funds), and managerial (lack of management skills). These problems potentially could be dealt with if the regional training centers foreseen in the context of the vision are operational. One option would be to select these centers from existing African NGOs, which could provide an opportunity for NGOs to take advantage of their complementarities. This report does not advocate one way or the other on the proposed number of training centers, but does agree with their potential usefulness.

The report also provides selected ideas on potential roles of USAID, U.S. PVOs and African NGOs in the pursuit of the vision. USAID could play a major role in the context of the vision--including, among others, more openness of USAID staff members to NGOs' activities; strengthening of NGOs' managerial, technical, and methodological capabilities; and financial assistance to African NGOs. U.S. PVOs could, for instance, share their experiences with African NGOs, provide training and technical support for NGOs staff and grassroots communities, and monitor, plan, and evaluate capabilities of NGOs dealing with natural resources management. African regional NGOs themselves are required to hold national and regional consultations to assess their members' needs and perspectives on the vision. This should help identify actual needs in the following areas: training, information, communications, institutional and technical capacity building, to name only a few.

Lastly, the report recommends some next steps to be followed. One recommendation deals with the assessment of actual African NGOs needs as far as natural resources management is concerned. Another relates to the identification of activities to be undertaken at the regional level. The report also recommends assessing the genuine capabilities of African NGOs in the view of selecting regional training centers proposed in the context of the vision as well as the extension of some projects to other countries.

An Annex to the report includes a "Directory of Regional NGOs" and explains how it was prepared. Each Directory entry attempts to include the following information: address, contact persons, date of foundation, geographic scope of operations, focus areas, description, and publications. The Directory has two listings:

- "Active African Regional NGOs"; and
- "Existing African Regional NGOs" for which little information could be obtained.

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# African Regional NGOs: An Overview of Institutions

## 1. *Introduction*

This report is intended to better document regional African nongovernmental organization (NGO) experiences and constraints. Specifically, it seeks to:

- identify existing African regional NGOs, and more specifically to report on who they are and what activities they are currently involved in;
- discuss the regional NGOs in relation to a vision developed at a workshop organized in August 1993 on the theme "USAID, NGOs, and the Management of Natural Resources in Africa"<sup>1</sup>; and
- Make a few practical recommendations on the next steps to be followed to fulfill the vision.

The report also includes a "Directory of Regional African NGOs," including information such as address, contact persons, date of foundation, geographic scope of operations, focus areas, and descriptions and publications.

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<sup>1</sup> This vision was developed during the workshop and was stated as follows: **"In the future, that is in 1999, African NGOs must have strengthened their national and regional capabilities in order to better manage and coordinate complex and long-term interventions. At least four regional NGOs centers in Africa will be promoting improved performance in the area of natural resources management."** Proceedings are available from USDA Forest Service, International Forestry. The vision statement is found in J. Otto, "Seeking Success: Where and How to look for Success Factors in USAID/NGO Natural Resource Management Projects in Africa," 1993 (available in French and English).

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## 2. *African Regional NGOs: Who Are They? What Do They Do?*

### 2.1 Background

The management of natural resources in Africa is a wide sector that involves many participants, including NGOs that intervene at the local, national, regional, and international levels. African NGO activities have expanded from the focus on management and conservation of soil, forestry, and water resources, flora regeneration, and use of renewable sources of energy to influencing macro-policies in the area of environment and to training and educating grassroots groups.

Some African NGOs have acquired experience and expertise that are worth being put into use, even worth transferring to other NGOs or institutions. Other NGOs--for various reasons, including technical, financial, and managerial constraints--are confronted with numerous difficulties in the management of natural resources.

Listings of national and local African NGOs have been developed and activities of many described. However, no listing exists of African regional NGOs--that is, those working in more than one country--nor is there a single document that describes their effectiveness or diversity of approaches in serving their clients. This document is a first attempt at providing this listing and analysis. It does not purport to be inclusive.

The expression "African regional NGOs" or "African NGO networks" is often related to organizations established by Africans, as well as, those international NGO networks whose headquarters are in Africa.<sup>2</sup> In general, both types of organizations (that is, those established by Africans and international NGO organizations headquartered in Africa) are either directly or through their members, involved in the management of natural resources. In particular, this includes training, communications and information, research and studies, facilitation, field projects, and technical or financial assistance to local organizations.

The difference between an African regional NGO and an international one is sometimes the source of confusion during the process of selecting an NGO to participate in seminars, workshops, or programs in Africa.

The resources of these two groups are often very unequal. The first NGO group is striving to

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<sup>2</sup> They are called "African regional NGOs" because they work in more than one country. They are referred to as "African network NGOs" because they are primarily involved in communications and technical advice and not field-related projects. For the purpose of this paper, these groups are called African regional NGOs.

achieve financial security in the management of their activities; whereas, the second group encounters less difficulties in institutional strengthening needed for their agenda. This paper includes both groups.

The following section provides a brief description of 20 NGOs. It is followed by a summary of observations about them. Then, in the subsequent sections, there is discussion around opportunities and constraints and potential roles of USAID, U.S. private voluntary organizations (PVOs), and African NGOs.

## **2.2 Brief Descriptions and Comments** *(See the Annex for more detailed descriptions)*

### ■ **African Center for Technology Studies (ACTS)**

ACTS is based in Nairobi, Kenya, and seeks to promote the application of scientific and technological results on sustainable development through research, training, and information dissemination. Research and training are undertaken through programs and institutes that work in collaboration with ACTS. Nowadays, these training programs include training in political sciences, postgraduate training, internship, and information management and publication.

With their expertise, ACTS could perhaps work more in collaboration with existing African research centers--for example, CESAO in Burkina Faso and INADES in Côte d'Ivoire (see both organizations below--and assist other African NGOs in the strengthening of their research capabilities.

### ■ **African Water Network (AWN)**

Based in Nairobi, Kenya, AWN aims at promoting water resource development through direct and participatory involvement of communities. It assists NGOs in research work, capacity building through exchange visits, and in-training programs among networks.

Given the low level of exchanges between the communities and the West, East, and Southern African NGOs, AWN is currently keen on boosting these links in order to focus them on water issues through exchange visits.

AWN's focus on water issues and its ability to mobilize and involve African communities is an indication of a need to have more African regional NGOs specialize in specific sectors such as water, land rehabilitation, and energy sources.

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■ **Agence Panafricaine d'Etudes et de Conseils (APEC)**

APEC is based in Dakar, Senegal, and has an objective to strengthen research and study capabilities of African NGOs through training, assistance, and institutional support.

APEC is currently completing a study on opportunities and constraints of the partnership between U.S. PVOs and Senegalese NGOs. This study was initiated by the PVO/NGO Support Office set up by USAID in Senegal to provide assistance to Senegalese NGOs.

The increase in the number of such research groups could be highly beneficial to African NGOs as they chiefly aim at mobilizing local human resources to make them available to NGOs, governments, and community groups.

■ **Association Congolaise pour l'Environnement et le Développement  
Afrique Centrale (ACEEDAC)**

ACEEDAC was created in 1987 and covers Central African countries. The main office is located in Brazzaville, Congo. The Association's main activities include local organizations' capacity building, support to churches to ensure their financial autonomy, **animation (MEANING IN THIS CONTEXT?)**, and assistance to grassroots groups for the implementation of integrated and participatory development.

ACEEDAC focuses on the following areas: training on development issues, promotion of women activities, integration of youth in active life, training and information on environment, and research on technologies.

■ **African NGOs Environmental Network (ANEN)**

The initial concept for ANEN emerged from a 1982 symposium, organized by the Environment Liaison Center International (ELCI) to review NGO roles and environmental problems. ANEN was established in 1986 in Nairobi, Kenya with the aim of achieving the following objectives:

- (1) promote environmentally sound, sustainable, culturally acceptable, economically feasible, and community-based development;
- (2) strengthen technical capabilities and expertise of local NGOs involved in environmental and development issues; and
- (3) promote and facilitate the involvement of local people, particularly women and youth in

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environmental and development activities and issues.

Its creation brought about much hope and expectation, as African NGOs had, during previous symposia and conferences, expressed the need to join an Environmental Network

ANEN is currently going through a restructuring process. Its Board of Directors decided at its last meeting to set up a committee whose mission will consist in contacting African NGOs to get their viewpoints on ANEN's future. Two committees have been set up. The first is responsible for making inquiries with the Network's members to find out the type of organization they would like to have; the second is concerned with the issue of management style. The Forum for African Voluntary Organizations (FAVDO), in consultation with the Youth Association for Environment and Development (AJED) in Senegal, is in charge of the follow-up process.

The first findings of these committees reveal that most African NGOs contacted expressed the desire to see a thoroughly restructured ANEN. A meeting of African NGOs is scheduled to take place at the end of the restructuring process, with the purpose of putting their opinions into practice, as far as ANEN is concerned.

#### ■ **Climate Network Africa (CNA)**

CNA, a network based in Nairobi, Kenya, is a coalition of individuals and organizations seeking to exchange information on climate issues in Africa. The main thrust of CNA is information and communications issues, with its publication *Impact* serving as a tool. The publication generally includes information on research and analysis of climate problems at the African and global levels. CNA's focus on climate is also an indication of the need to have NGOs concentrate on a specific theme in Africa.

#### ■ **Centre d'Experimentation et d'Etudes Sociale et Economique pour l'Afrique Occidentale (CESAO)**

CESAO was created in 1981 to assist development organizations' personnel and farmers on agriculture and health training. The organization is based in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso. Its main focus area is training. **(CAN THIS SECTION BE EXPANDED?)**

#### ■ **Earth Care Africa**

Earth Care was created in 1992 to assist NGO and development organizations in analysis, monitoring, and implementation of development policy and information on environment issues.

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The organization is based in Nairobi, Kenya, and is present in numerous African countries. The main areas of intervention include environment, training, information and communication, policy analysis, and publication.

■ **East Africa Wildlife Society (EAWS)**

EAWS is based in Nairobi, Kenya, and mainly deals with wildlife protection. EAWS is an example of an NGO specialized in field activities. Its best known intervention is the project associated with the protection of the Tana River Reserve in Kenya where it vehemently defends the interests of the people benefitting from the project.

■ **Environmental Liaison Center International (ELCI)**

ELCI is an example of an international NGO based in Africa which is often regarded as an African NGO. ELCI is a coalition of NGOs and grassroots groups designed to foster sustainable development. The Center was established to primarily serve as a liaison between the United Nations system--in particular, the United Nations Environment Program--and NGOs involved in environmental activities.

ELCI, with its new Board of Directors and management, is currently restructuring its programs to better meet the needs of its members. A survey of its members conducted in 1991 and an evaluation of their management style enabled them to further focus on the strengthening of their networking and on communications capabilities.

ELCI could play a major catalytic role in the strengthening of communications capabilities and, chiefly, of access to information on African NGOs. To do so, it appears that ELCI should decentralize part of its activities to cover the African continent as a whole and not only the East African subregion, as seems to be the case.

■ **Environnement et Developpement Action Tiers Monde (ENDA-TM)**

ENDA started as an environmental training program and became an international organization whose headquarters are located in Africa. ENDA's experience with environmental and development issues ranges from support to grassroots communities in urban and rural areas to communications and networking activities for NGOs. The organization is based in Dakar, Senegal.

ENDA has gained valuable experience in the training of NGO leaders which can be successfully

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put to use in any program dealing with capacity building of African NGOs. ENDA's publications in various languages and on natural resource-oriented practical themes is a major source of information for African NGOs.

ENDA is an example of a network which is involved in development and environmental policy issues and in specific programs dealing with natural resources management. This also includes a sustainable agricultural program, an energy-related program, and a water-conservancy program.

ENDA is currently involved, in its capacity as focal point for African NGOs, in the process of formulating the Desertification Convention. This process is one of the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED).

#### ■ **Forum of African Voluntary Development Organizations (FAVDO)**

FAVDO was established in 1987 as a response to the nonexistence of a political institution for African NGOs. FAVDO does not execute field projects but assists its members in this respect. The headquarters are in Dakar, Senegal. FAVDO is particularly interested in African NGO leadership issues, the involvement of women in the decision-making process, the environmental sustainability in Africa, and in African economic issues.

The representation of NGO members from all five African subregions in FAVDO's Board of Directors enables the organization to facilitate all activities benefitting African NGOs.

FAVDO is concentrating all its efforts in the implementation of its three-year program (1993-1996). This covers several areas, including the promotion of popular participation and the integration of African NGOs in civil society, capacity building of member NGOs, the organization of subregional seminars intended for NGOs with a view to developing environmental action programs, and undertaking studies on indigenous knowledge in environmental sustainability.

#### ■ **Institut Africain pour le Developpement Economique et Social (INADES)**

INADES is an African institute based in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, which constitutes a reference in the training area thanks to its 30 years of experience in that field. INADES' training programs involve various sectors, including agricultural technologies, natural resources protection, communications systems, and management. The institute's human capital, mainly comprising African nationals, is an asset for African NGOs' capacity building.

Most of INADES's activities are concentrated in French-speaking African countries. This could

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raise a problem for NGOs based in English-speaking countries that need to benefit from the Institute's experience.

■ **Kenya Energy and Environment Organization (KENGO)**

KENGO is a national network of Kenyan NGOs working in the environmental, energy and community-based development fields. Its establishment was brought about by the United Nations Conference on Renewable Sources of Energy. Based in Nairobi, KENGO specializes in energy issues but also deals with agriculture, forestry and appropriate technology issues.

KENGO's involvement in the formulation process of the Convention on Climatic Changes has expanded its activities and conferred the organization a regional dimension. They work in close collaboration with the Energy Programme of ENDA-TM and are also involved with ENDA as focal point in the formulation process of the Desertification Convention.

KENGO is included in this report because, even as a national NGO, from time to time it carries out regional activities such as those mentioned above. **(EXPAND THIS POINT / PARAGRAPH?)**

■ **Mwelekeo Wa Non Governmental Organization (MWENGO)**

MWENGO is a newly established NGO (1993) planned to be based in Harare, Zimbabwe. For the moment, MWENGO operates from Nairobi, Kenya. Its main fields of interest include information exchanges, research and publication, organization of workshops on participatory development, community-based development, and civic education.

■ **Regional Network of Environmental Experts (ZERO)**

ZERO is a network based in Harare, Zimbabwe, that seeks to promote the mobilization of African experts to undertake research on energy-related issues in the SADCC subregions (a grouping of eight countries in East and Southern Africa).

The mobilization by ZERO of this potential expertise could be a major asset for the building of African NGOs capacity. In particular, ZERO could assist African NGOs in feasibility studies, project formulation, project planning and evaluation, technical training, and research.

The combination of experts and governmental institutions provides an opportunity for ZERO to promote interaction between NGOs and governments. At the same time, research findings and

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publications are not widely disseminated in the whole continent, due to nontranslation of materials into French or other languages.

■ **Réseau Africain pour le Développement Intégré (RADI)**

RADI is based in Dakar, Senegal, and works mainly in the agricultural and irrigation sector. The Network is able to provide technical know-how among African NGOs and grassroots communities in many countries, thanks to the expansion of its activities in Mali, Guinea, and the Central African Republic. RADI's experience in water resources management--combined with health, women and small business activities--could provide a case study to be promoted among other African regional NGOs.

Some of RADI's offices located outside of Senegal have, indeed, been set up by Senegalese coordinators while competent nationals able to carry out the programs are being identified.

■ **Service d'Appui aux Initiatives Locales de Developpement (SAILD)**

SAILD is an international organization headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, with a General Secretariat in Yaounde, Cameroon. Its main targets include local organizations in rural areas to whom it provides technical and financial support.

SAILD-Cameroon enjoys the opportunity of being international and at the same time based in Cameroon. This provides the opportunity for SAILD to develop strong relationships with African networks. SAILD is mostly known for its activities in the agricultural sector in Cameroon and Chad, where the organization is present in the field.

■ **Se Servir de la Saison Seche en Savane et au Sahel (Six S)**

"Six S," a network based in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, is active mainly in the agricultural and water-conservancy sector. It acts as a financial institution and an intermediary assistance institution for grassroots associations. It also undertakes training programs in numerous countries in West Africa, including Burkina Faso, Senegal, Mali, and Mauritania.

"Six S" has 18 years of experience and has been awarded numerous international prizes as an African NGO that stands as a model for its support to local associations in pursuit of technical and financial independence. A case study of its operation could be worth putting into use by other African NGOs.

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### ■ West African Rural Foundation (WARF)

WARF is an international foundation based in Dakar, Senegal. It concentrates mainly on providing financial and technical support to rural local organizations. WARF mobilizes financial and human resources to make them available to local organizations. WARF enjoys the opportunity of being a foundation intended for local organizations as well as the benefit of being close to the organizations it serves.

Financing procedures by WARF generally include feasibility studies and evaluations of strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of local organizations that the Foundation supports. WARF is currently sponsoring a study on the inventory of available technologies on the agriculture sector that are adapted to the savannah area of West Africa.

The challenge that such an international foundation (as well as other regional NGO networks) based in Africa has to face is the mobilization of local financial resources so as to limit its dependency on "outside contributors." In the past, some foundations have disappeared because the main donor has decided, for multiple reasons, not to assist them anymore.

### 2.3 Summary

This list of African regional NGOs is far from exhaustive. It provides, for the time being, a description of those networks for which sufficient information was available. A few observations include:

- heavy concentration of regional networks headquartered in two African countries--namely, Senegal and Kenya--and a non-decentralization of activities;
- similarity in their activities--information, communications, research, studies, and training;
- heavy dependency upon external sources of financial assistance for their activities;
- limited number of specialized networks in specific sectors, such as CNA in climate or AWN in water;
- distribution of intervention areas on the basis of French-speaking and English-speaking groups;
- limited fee collection from member NGOs; and
- lack of transparency of the organizations' financial situation in order to know their budget

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and sources of funding.

Any support to these groups should take into account the above-mentioned elements and try to promote the exchange of experiences among them, not on the basis of French-speaking and English-speaking countries, but rather on what they have to offer to one another.

### 3. *A Vision and African Regional NGOs*

#### 3.1 Background

As mentioned in the Introduction, a vision was developed at a workshop held in Washington, D.C., on August 10, 1993, on the theme "Natural Resources Management in Africa." In part, that vision can be paraphrased as follows:

**In the future, that is in 1999, African NGOs must have strengthened their national and regional capabilities in order to better manage and coordinate complex and long-term interventions. At least four regional NGOs Centers in Africa will be promoting improved performance in the area of natural resources management.**

#### 3.2. What Is the Position of African NGOs in Relation to the Vision?

The functioning regional NGOs described in section 2 may be able to fit into this vision. There is no doubt that African regional NGOs would like to see the vision materialize. They had recommended in the past at several fora or conferences that their capabilities be strengthened in order for them to assist grassroots organizations in the management of natural resources.

African NGOs currently intervene at different levels of natural resources management. These include:

- training;
- communications and information;
- research and studies;
- facilitation; and
- technical and financial support to local organizations.

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African regional NGOs capabilities must, obviously, be strengthened in the various above-mentioned areas of intervention for this vision, or at least part of it, to materialize.

It is essential, to this effect, to recognize that for each intervention area, certain organizations have gained years of experience that are worth being put into use in the context of the pursuit of the vision. Examples include:

- ★ INADES and ENDA-TM have more than 20 years of experience in the field of training, which could be profitable to African NGOs through reorientation of their needs in practical training, as far as natural resources management is concerned.
- ★ Related to information and communications, the experiences of ELCI, CNA, KENGO, ENDA, and other NGOs are worth being studied in order to help African NGOs to have better access to national, regional, and international data on natural resources management.
- ★ Concerning the research work and studies on natural resources, which constitute an important component of the vision, NGOs such as ZERO, ENDA, KENGO, WARF, and ACTS could make their capabilities in that area available to other African NGOs.

Promoting and facilitating the organization of seminars or workshops intended for African NGOs in order to make it possible for them to exchange their experiences and expertise in the natural resources management area are also key elements in the implementation of the vision.

- ★ Networks such as FAVDO, AWN, ENDA, ELCI, and KENGO--with members spread all over Africa--could be facilitators at technical workshops organized for the benefit of African NGOs on specific themes related to natural resources management--e.g., water, land rehabilitation, and energy sources.

Lastly, technical support, which is arguably the most important component of the vision, and is indispensable for African NGOs in implementing better natural resources-related field projects, is at the same time one of the major weaknesses of African NGOs.

- ★ As far as transfer of technological know-how among African NGOs is concerned, NGOs such as KENGO, RADI, WARF, SAILD, "Six S," and ENDA--could let national- and local-level African NGOs benefit from their expertise in this area.

Obviously, this classification of African Regional NGOs' areas of competence in relation to the vision is far from exhaustive. Only an in-depth study could help to accurately identify their genuine capabilities. Consequently, the purpose of this brief classification is only to provide a few guidelines to better position African NGOs in relation to the vision.

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### **3.3 Opportunities and Constraints**

What are the opportunities and constraints of African regional NGOs in relation to the vision? First, one needs to examine what they currently do.

As a general rule, an African NGO undertakes the following activities:

- assess needs of the communities;
- manage on-going projects;
- seek financial assistance for new projects;
- convince the government to have recognition and be involved in the formulation of national policies; and
- participate in national, regional, and international conferences to exchange experiences.

In the implementation of all the above-mentioned activities, African regional NGOs both provide opportunities and create constraints for their members that are worth being highlighted in the context of the vision.

#### **3.31 Opportunities**

The first and most obvious opportunity in the pursuit of the vision is that there is no need to set up new regional African NGOs (very costly from an institutional point of view) as existing NGOs could support activities to be undertaken.

The second opportunity is that many of the regional NGOs have members or offices in several African countries. This could help reach out to the maximum number of NGOs through their communications channels.

A third opportunity relates to cooperative relationships that most of these NGOs have with national governments, UN Organizations, and Northern NGOs. This helps the regional NGOs to access more information that could benefit their national members and also to make their members' needs to be known at the international level.

The fourth opportunity relates to the fact that most of the NGOs do not have field projects. This gives them enough free time to undertake networking activities or studies that local NGOs can carry out.

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### 3.32 Constraints--Technical, Institutional / Financial, and Management

#### ■ Technical Constraints

Despite the efforts made in the transfer process of technical know-how through African regional NGOs, the "technical" staff of African NGOs working in the natural resources management area often have weaknesses that do not enable them to manage complex and long-term projects.

As an example, very often only one person deals with issues related to energy, water resources, policies, environment, forestry, gender, and financial management. This does not mean that the person has the skills needed to operate in all of these areas. Rather, it means that his or her organization does not have the resources to recruit staff to share the responsibilities.

As a result, technical capacity building becomes a top priority in the pursuit of the above mentioned vision. Given the large number of unemployed technicians specialized in natural resources management in Africa; the necessary institutional support would help to direct these technicians towards African NGOs.

#### ■ Institutional and Financial Constraints

In several African countries, it often happens that the Government recognizes the regional NGO to which a *national* NGO belongs, but does *not* recognize the national NGO itself. This situation creates major operational difficulties of an institutional nature for these national NGOs. In Africa, an NGO that is not recognized by its government can still, generally speaking, implement its activities. The danger is that it can be arbitrarily asked, at any given time, to cease its operations in the country, at a time when the people may need the NGO the most.

Despite the urgent need for African regional NGOs to undertake networking activities, it is increasingly difficult to manage an African regional NGO at the institutional level because many donors prefer to finance field projects rather than financing liaison, information, and seminar activities.

This situation explains why many regional NGOs are at times more inclined to seek financing for their operations than to undertake activities designed to strengthen institutions of member NGOs. It should be noted, generally speaking, that international NGOs based in Africa experience less difficulties, compared to African NGOs, in securing funds for their operations, as they are able to find partners who agree to financially support their programs on a long-term basis.

This could mean that African regional NGOs should develop programs and not short-term projects, which many donors are reluctant to finance because they appear to be nonsustainable.

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## ■ Management Constraints

The example of ANEN (now undergoing restructuring because of management problems) shows that management difficulties must not be regarded as secondary issues. Indeed, for an NGO to endure, it has to demonstrate success in conducting activities in a faultless, stringent management context.

In the context of the vision, weaknesses in financial management, human resources, and equipment are genuine constraints. While they require training in management skills, they also call for compliance with certain ethical criteria by the NGOs themselves.

Lastly, the vision has better chances to materialize with NGOs that have taken certain steps or are willing to take them. These include:

- transparent democratic governance within the NGO;
- good will on the part of the regional NGO to serve all African NGOs without distinction;
- good networking facilities: communications and publications; and,
- good capabilities in the areas of research, study, training and evaluation.

While it is rather exceptional to find all these elements in one single NGO, the establishment of regional training centers, if they are to include existing African NGOs as discussed in the context of the vision, would help to take advantage of the NGOs' complementarities.

## 4. *Potential Roles of USAID, U.S. PVOs, and African NGOs*

### 4.1 **Role of USAID**

In the process of updating the listing of African Regional NGOs, appended to this report, some recommendations were made by NGOs on their relationships with USAID. These are similar to the recommendations made at the August 10, 1993, workshop (mentioned above).

The recommendations can be summarized as follows:

- more openness of USAID staff members, especially those in Missions, to NGOs' activities in order to get exposure to their methods;
- involvement of NGOs in USAIDs' planning process through Missions and workshops on the strategies and procedures of the Agency;

- 
- strengthening of NGOs' managerial, technical, and methodological capabilities with the support of USAID Missions;
  - promotion of the effective involvement of people in all activities related to the management of natural resources in Africa;
  - promotion of successful projects implemented by NGOs in the natural resources management area by promoting their replicability in other countries where the need exists; and
  - promotion of intercountry exchanges among NGOs involved in the management of natural resources.

These recommendations are only a reflection of the role that African NGOs would like to see USAID play in the context of the vision.

USAID Missions in Africa could have a major role to play in the pursuit of the vision. Their physical presence in the countries where NGOs work is a major asset in the implementation process of NGOs's capacity building that is discussed in the context of the vision. USAID financial assistance could help start up the implementation of the regional training centers.

Lastly, USAID Missions, as they work in collaboration with African governments in their environmental and forestry national plans, could also promote the involvement of NGOs in the development of those plans.

#### **4.2 Role of U.S. PVOs**

Most U.S. PVOs have working relationships with African NGOs by providing financial and technical support in the management of natural resources through their regional representations, or through cofinanced projects that are intended to strengthen NGOs' capabilities.

The model PVO/NGO-NRMS (Natural Resource Management Support) Project is increasingly regarded as an example to replicate in the rest of the continent because it promotes national NGOs coalitions.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>This project is led by World Learning, Inc., but also includes two other U.S. PVOs--CARE and World Wildlife Fund. The project is funded by USAID and works with NGOs in Cameroon, Mali, Madagascar, and Uganda.

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Given the pressing and immense need for African NGOs capacity building and the scarcity of resources, the support to national and regional coalitions could, indeed, be a good way to reach out to numerous local NGOs--provided those NGOs fully play their networking role, i.e., democracy, information exchange, and members' training.

The implementation of the vision would require the following:

- training workshops for African NGOs personnel and for grassroots communities involved in the management of natural resources;
- technical support to African NGOs and to grassroots communities;
- good communications systems for better information exchanges on natural resources;
- monitoring, planning, and evaluating capabilities of organizations dealing with natural resources management, and so on.

Considering the above, U.S. PVOs could let African NGOs benefit from their experiences while taking into account existing local expertise.

### **4.3 Role of African Regional NGOs**

African regional NGOs have a crucial role to play in the pursuit of the vision. They must assess their members' needs/perspectives concerning the vision through a process of national and regional consultations.

Those consultations will enable the regional NGOs to identify their members' actual needs in the areas of training, information, communications, and institutional and technical capacity building. This exercise should not only bring about a listing of needs, but also the identification of existing national or regional expertise--e.g., training centers, governmental structures, and experienced NGOs that will help to provide beginnings of solutions to the problems.

African NGOs need assistance in evaluating the impact of their natural resources management-related projects in order to provide successful projects that could serve as models, in the context of the vision.

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## 5. *Recommendations*

After going through the description of African regional NGOs, one would notice that they have experiences that could be mutually exchanged, as strengths of some of them seem to be weaknesses of others.

Some NGOs have gained valuable years of experience in the areas of natural resources management and networking. However, because of the lack of effective mechanisms or of difficulties in communications systems, they encounter difficulties in sharing the above-mentioned years of experience with new networks or putting their know-how into good use in Africa.

The strengthening of African NGOs capabilities can materialize only if African regional NGOs agree to focus their efforts on exchanges among themselves. Sadly enough, some African regional NGOs--for multiple reasons, such as financial and communications problems--interact more with Northern NGOs or other networks than with other Africans.

Lastly, in the context of the vision, a few concrete recommendations on the next steps to be followed are made. These are to:

- *Undertake, at the national level and in collaboration with national coalitions of NGOs, a series of consultations gathering experts of USAID Missions, local NGOs, and national or regional U.S. PVOs representatives.* These consultations could identify NGOs needs in the area of natural resources management.
- *Organize subregional seminars on "USAID and the Management of Natural Resources in Africa: Perspectives of African Regional NGOs."* This would help better to define activities to be undertaken at the level of each region in the context of the vision.
- *Undertake a critical analysis of what contributes to organizational durability.*
- *Undertake, in line with the pursuit of the vision, research at the community level on the indigenous knowledge in the area of natural resources management.* The resulting findings could be put into use through documentation and dissemination among NGOs, governmental departments, and developmental institutions.
- *Promote the extension of projects such as PVO/NGO-NRMS to African countries other than Uganda, Madagascar, Cameroon, and Mali.* This would make it possible for more U.S. PVOs to work directly with NGOs on natural resources management.
- *Undertake case studies on the genuine capabilities of a dozen African regional NGOs.* Each NGO's potentials could therefore be further assessed within the regional training centers concept as discussed in the vision.



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*DIRECTORY*  
*OF*  
*AFRICAN REGIONAL NGOs*  
*INVOLVED IN*  
*NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT*

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*Directory of African Regional NGOs Involved in NRM...*

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## DIRECTORY OF AFRICAN REGIONAL NGOs

### How was the Directory prepared?

It was prepared on the basis of the following:

- reviewing publications from a variety of sources;
- information received from key individuals, missions, programs, projects or offices including, but not limited to:
  - USAID/Africa Bureau;
  - UNDP, Africa 2000 Network;
  - UNDP NGO Division;
  - U.N. NGOs Liaison Office;
  - United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office; and,
  - PVO/NGO-NRMS Project, headquartered in Washington, D.C.
- answers to questionnaires sent to major African NGOs networks; and
- updating of information by contacting some African NGOs managers through telephone, fax, and E-mail messages.

### What will one find in the Directory?

One will find a listing of African regional NGOs established by African nationals and international networks based in Africa.<sup>1</sup>

The organizations are listed in alphabetical order, with the following information:

- address;
- contact people;
- date of foundation;
- geographic scope of operations;
- focus areas;
- description; and
- publications.

On the last two pages are listed existing African regional NGOs for which little information could be obtained.

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<sup>1</sup> **Note:** To differentiate between those NGOs established by Africans, and those international NGOs with headquarters in Africa, an asterisk (\*) is placed next to the international NGOs' titles.

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**1. AFRICAN CENTRE FOR TECHNOLOGY STUDIES ACTS**

**Address:** PO Box 45917 ACTS Biopolicy Institute  
Nairobi, Kenya Witmakersstraat 10  
Tel: 254 (2) 741651/744047 6211 JB Maastricht, The Netherlands  
Fax: 743995 Tel: 31 (43) 258499  
Telex: 22448 ACTS KE Fax: 258433

**Contact:** Dr. Celestous Juma, Executive Director and Secretary

Governing Council, 1993

Dr. Robert O. Arunga, Chairman, Board of Directors  
Prof. Reuben Olemba, Chairman, International Relations Committee  
Christopher Aleke-Dondo, Chairman, Finance and Admin. Committee  
Others: Dr. Celestous Juma; Dr. Asenath Signot; Prof. H.W.O. Okoth-Ogendo;  
Prof. S.O. Keya; Prof. J.B. Ojwang; Dr. Tabitha Kango, Prof. Anders Hjort

**Date of Foundation:** 1988.

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Africa

**Focus Areas:** Policy research, training, advisory services and information dissemination on ways of implementing the recommendations of UNCED as reflected in Agenda 21 environmental management.

**Description:** ACTS is an autonomous, non profit making and non partisan research institution. Its revised objective after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development( UNCED) is to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 through policy research, training, capacity development and information dissemination.

The Executive Director of ACTS functions largely as the Director of Research. The overall intellectual leadership for research are provided by the the Director of Research with the support of the Assistant Director of Research and with the assistance of the Professorial Fellows. All administrative functions at ACTS are under the direct supervision of the Director of Administration. Central management is facilitated by periodic meetings of a Research Committee whose membership consists of the Executive Director, the Director of Administration, the Assistant Director of Research, the Programme Coordinators and representatives of the Governing Council. There are currently five programmes: Technology and Environment; Biodiversity and Biotechnology; Sustainable Land Use, Gender in Development; and Capacity Development.

The training activities include: Training for government officials; training programmes for the productive sector; dissertation supervision; research training at degree level; specialist courses; and internships. A publishing program, using the ACTS Press, was established in 1989. ACTS Press is an autonomous wing of ACTS and operates under an independent editorial policy. Several research series have been established and more than 60 books have been published. ACTS also organizes international conferences, seminars, and national forums.

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ACTS collaborates with the United Nations, governmental, private, academic, and other research institutions from different countries. In 1992 ACTS was awarded the Justinian Rweyemamu Prize for "expanding the knowledge base for Africa's development."

Publication: ACTS publishes the magazine *Innovations*, which documents efforts to introduce activities that promote sustainable development in Africa.

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## **2. AFRICAN WATER NETWORK**

**AWN**

Address: P.O. Box 10538  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: (254 2) 556943,  
Fax: (254 2) 556943  
Telex: 23240 ELCCKE  
E-Mail: gn:elcidwr

Contact: Antoine Sendama Mulashi, Executive Director

Date of Foundation: January 1990

Geographic Scope of Operations: Continent-wide. Has constituents in 17 African countries.

Focus Area: Water development

Description: AWN was established through the collective efforts of African NGOs and community groups involved in water development programs. The constituency consists of over 50 NGOs, government institutions, and community groups. The Network is affiliated with international bodies working towards sustainable water and sanitation development solutions.

AWN promotes the development of water resources through the direct and active participation of communities. They produce resource materials, are developing an NGO database, assist other NGOs in carrying out research, strengthen NGO capabilities through exchange visits and internship programs within the Network, establish liaison with all water-related organizations at national and regional levels and offer consultancy assistance, and sensitize government and donor agencies with a view to facilitating appropriate policy formulation.

Publication: Bimonthly newsletter, *Droplets*, in French and English. Also educational material and case studies on water and sanitation.

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**3. AGENCE PANAFRICAINE D'ETUDES ET CONSEILS**

**APEC**

Address: PO Box 12227  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel : (221) 25 55 63 / 25 55 62  
Fax : (221) 25 55 64

Contact: Sidy Mohamed Seck, Coordinator

Date of Foundation: 1992 (by RADI's Board of Directors, see section on RADI)

Geographic Scope of Operations: Africa

Focus Areas: Studies and Research, Technical Assistance and Institutional Support, Training, Environment, Trade, Social Development and Economics.

Description: APEC objectives are to: (1) establish a network of African specialists committed to working with local communities in the study and research of alternative development strategies (2) to develop training programs and institutional support for african NGO and popular organizations with a view to increasing the efficiency of their activities for the benefit of the most vulnerable groups in society (3) to analyse the effects of development projects and programs carried out in africa and recommend corrective measures for their negative impact on people and the environment.

Publication: APEC plans to launch a bimonthly magazine called Initiatives.

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**4. ASSOCIATION CONGOLAISE POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
ET LE DEVELOPPEMENT EN AFRIQUE CENTRALE**

**ACEEDAC**

Address: B.P. 1199  
Brazzaville, Congo  
Tel: (242) 81 33 83 Fax: (242) 81 47 51

Contact: Daniel Kilen Mbila, President

Date of Foundation: 1987

Geographic Scope of Operations: Central Africa

Focus Areas: Training on development issues, promotion of women activities, Integration of youth in active life, Training and Information on Environment, Research on Technologies.

Description: ACEEDAC main activities are to build local organizations capacity, support to churches to ensure their financial autonomy, animation and assistance of grassroots groups for the implementation of integrated and participatory development projects.

Publication: Bulletin trimestriel: ACEEDAC CONTACT.

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**5. AFRICAN NGOs ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK**

**ANEN**

Address: PO Box 12093  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel: (221) 25.55.47/ 25.60.64  
Fax: (221) 25.55.64

Contact: Mazide N'Diaye (President of FAVDO),

Date of Foundation: 1986. The initial concept was from a 1982 symposium, organized by the (ELC) to review NGO roles and environmental problems.

Geographic Scope of Operations: Africa.

Focus Areas: Desertification control, food production, energy provision, genetic resources conservation.

Description: Membership in ANEN is open to all indigenous African environment and development NGOs. As of December, 1988, ANEN had 353 member organizations in 37 African nations. Long term objectives include: (1) Promote environmentally sound, culturally accepted, economically feasible, sustainable, community based development. (2) Strengthen the capacity and technical competence of indigenous African environmental and development NGOs. (3) Promote and facilitate participation and involvement of the local people, particularly women and youth, in environment and development work and issues.

ANEN has a close working relationship with KENGO, with which it shares offices and administrative facilities, and the ELC, which could be regarded as its parent organization. ANEN has a formal working relationship with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); it has been designated as the NGO network that the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) will deal with in relation to NGO matters. ANEN is said to have made the operational decision to keep its central Nairobi office small and to emphasize decentralized operations.

Publication: EcoAfrica, a bimonthly environment and development magazine.

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**6. CLIMATE NETWORK AFRICA**

**CNA**

Address : PO.Box 76406  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel & Fax: (254-2) 729447/48182  
E.mail: cna@elci.apc.org.

Contact: Grace Akumu, Coordinator

Date of Foundation: 1992

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*Directory of African Regional NGOs Involved in NRM..*

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**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Africa

**Description:** CNA is a coalition of individuals and organizations dedicated to the exchange of information on climate-related issues in Africa. CNA aims to improve the chances for environmentally sustainable and socially equitable development in Africa in light of the serious threat of global climate change, by increasing the flow of relevant information from NGOs to scientists and policy makers in Africa and facilitating cross-sectoral exchange and debate. CNA liaises with the International Climate Action Network to increase the effective participation of African NGOs in international climate negotiations.

**Publication:** CNA publishes a newsletter called *Impact*, which provides information about climate change in Africa and in the world.

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**7. CENTRE D'EXPERIMENTATION ET D'ETUDES SOCIALE  
ET ECONOMIQUE POUR L'AFRIQUE OCCIDENTALE** **CESAO**

**Address:** P.O. Box 305  
Bobo-Dioulasso  
Burkina Faso  
Tel: (226) 99 04 90/ 99 04 91

**Contact:** Sama Rosalie, Executive Secretary

**Date of Foundation:** 1981

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** West Africa

**Focus Areas:** Training

**Description:** CESAO's main activities are training of development organizations personnel and farmers on agriculture and health.

**Publication:** None

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**8. EARTH CARE AFRICA** **ECA**

**Address:** P.O. Box 76358  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel/Fax: (254-2) 56 64 28

**Contact:** Dr. Shimawaayi Muntamba, Executive Director

**Date of Foundation:** 1992

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***Directory of African Regional NGOs Involved in NRM...***

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**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Africa

**Focus Areas:** Environment; training; information and communication; policy analysis; publication.

**Description:** Earth Care Africa was created to assist NGO and development organizations on analysis, monitoring and implementation of development policy and information on environment and development matters.

**Publication:** None

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**9. EAST AFRICAN WILDLIFE SOCIETY**

**EAWS**

**Address:** P.O. Box 20110  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: (254-2) 748170,748171,748172,748173  
Fax: (254-2) 746868

**Contact:** Mwamba Shete, Deputy Director

**Date of Foundation:** 1961

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Kenya; Uganda; Tanzania; occasionally, West Africa.

**Focus Areas:** Soil and water conservation; afforestation; pollution control; education.

**Description:** To safeguard wildlife and its habitat as a national and international resource. An Environmental Resource Centre will be set up for environmental conservation information.

**Publication:** *Swara Magazine* (bimonthly); *African Journal of Ecology* (quarterly).

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**(\* ) 10. ENVIRONMENT LIAISON CENTRE INTERNATIONAL**

**ELCI**

**Address:** P.O. Box 72461  
4th Floor, Gateway House  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: (254-2) 562-015 / 562-022, 562-172, 560-476  
Fax: (254-2) 562-175  
Telex: 23240 ELC KE  
E.mail: elci.gn.apc.org

**Contacts:** Rob Sinclair, Co-Executive Director  
Ranil Senenayake, Co-Executive Director

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**Date Founded:** 1974

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Global

**Focus Areas:** Agriculture; community development; energy; environment and conservation; forestry; women in development; formal education.

**Description:** ELCI was created as a result of the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, to provide liaison between the UN system and UNEP in particular and environmental NGOs worldwide. Over the years, its mandate has broadened as its membership has grown. It currently has a membership of over 700 NGOs, more than half of them from the South. Although the UN Liaison function still has importance, ELCI now sees itself much more in the role of network coordinator, responding to the information and communication needs of its general membership

A management review of ELCI conducted in 1991, which included a substantive survey of members, indicated that the organization should review its structure and program strategy with a view to becoming more responsive to its members' needs and, in particular, that it should strengthen its capacity as a communication and networking facility.

ELCI initiatives have included formation of a global pesticide lobby group and African NGO networks such as KENGO and ANEN.

**Publication:** *Ecoforum* and *News Alert*, both bimonthly in English, Spanish, and French. *Ecoforum* is a focal point for NGOs to share information, review activities (in particular UNEP and other UN Agencies), and discuss emerging environmental problems. *News Alert* focuses on current news on environment and development issues. ELCI also publishes *Wednews*, a networking and dissemination tool for the Women, Environment, and Development Network (WEDNET) project.

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**(\*) 11. ENVIRONNEMENT ET DEVELOPPEMENT ACTION - TIERS MONDE**

**ENDA -TM**

**Address:** P.O. Box 3370  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel: (221) 21 60 27/22 42 29  
Fax: (221) 22 26 95  
Telex: 51 456 SG  
E.mail: endadakar @ apc.org. or geo2:enda

**Contacts:** Jaques Bugnicourt, Executive Secretary  
Souleymane Diallo, Researcher, Energy Program  
Abou Thiam, Head of the Natural Crop Protection Team  
Moussa Seck, Researcher, Systems and Prospective Program  
Youba Sokone, Head of the Energy Program  
Sata Tall, Head of International Solidarity Link/Adressotheuqe

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**Date of Foundation:** ENDA was created in 1972 as an environmental training program with UNEP help. It became an association in November 1977 and, in June 1978, an international organization, after an agreement signed with the Republic of Senegal.

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Global. Headquartered in Senegal, ENDA has branch offices in India, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Zimbabwe, Mauritius, Bolivia, Morocco, Mali, Guinea Bissau, Tunisia, and France.

**Focus Areas:**

- Rural / urban environmental development (including soil conservation, sustainable agriculture, forestry, management of natural resources and community development);
- Children and youth (in relation to the environment, employment, and culture);
- Articulation between administrative powers and the people;
- Combined technologies;
- The ecologies and economics of the people of Third World countries;
- Communication for development;
- Action against imported production and consumption models;
- Health and the fight against AIDS; and
- Support for the most culturally threatened peoples, human rights, and the rights of peoples.

**Description:** Half of ENDA's activities are devoted to direct support for rural and urban grassroots groups. The other half concerns research, training, publications, information dissemination, and consultancy services. ENDA facilitates the organization of workshops and seminars.

ENDA's objectives are to carry out research, action, education, and training which help to promote:

- the development and culture of grassroots groups;
- environment development;
- the dissemination of combined technologies; and
- the establishment of development alternatives in the countries of the Third World.

**Publications:** "African Environment" series (in English and French); "Etudes et Recherches" (Occasional Papers) series; "Documents de Base" (Basic Documents) series; *Vivre Autrement Magazine*; *Foyers Ameliores* (Improved Stoves bulletin); *La Lettre Urbaine* (bulletin on Urban settlements); *La Lettre de Rue* (Inter-African bulletin on Children and Circumstances); *Nouvelles de Pronat* (Natural Crop Protection bulletin); *Nouvelles de la Doc.* (Documentation bulletin); *Consommation et Developpement* (Consumer and Development bulletin); *AFRICASO News* (Regional AIDS bulletin).

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**12. FORUM OF AFRICAN VOLUNTARY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS FAVDO**

**Address:** P.O. Box 12093                      Tel: (221) 25 55 47/25 60 64  
Rue 4, Zone B                              Fax: (221) 25 55 64  
Dakar, Senegal                              E-mail: GEO2:RADI

**Contacts:** Board of Directors, 1992-1996 (elected at FADVO's General Assembly in Harare, Zimbabwe, in January 1992):

Mr.	Mazide Ndiaye, Senegal, President
Messrs.	Charles Karemano, Rwanda, VP for Central Africa
	Abdallah Suleiman, Sudan, VP for North Africa
	Hemsing Hurrinag, Mauritius, VP for Indian Ocean
	Sekoai Santho, Lesotho, VP for Southern Africa
Mrs.	Chief Bisi Ogunleye, Nigeria, VP for West Africa
Mr.	Rajen Awotar, Mauritius, Treasurer
Messrs.	Soumaine Adoum, Tchad, Member for North Africa
	Hamad S. El Gharbi, Tunisia, Member for North Africa
Mrs.	Fatouma Said-Bacar, Comoros, Member for Indian Ocean
	Sekai Holland, Zimbabwe, Member for Southern Africa
	Halimatou Traore, Mali, Member for West Africa

NGOs/VDOs from East Africa will soon elect a VP and Member to represent their subregion in the Board. Also members of the Board are the outgoing President (without voting right) and the Executive Secretary (ex officio).

**Date of Foundation:** 1987. FAVDO appears to be a product of several meetings, culminating in the African NGO Conference, May 26-June 6, 1987, in Dakar, Senegal. Formal establishment of FAVDO was an outcome of this meeting.

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Africa

**Focus Areas:** Popular participation in development activities; South-South and North-South cooperation and partnership; community development; environment/conservation; communications.

**Description:** FAVDO has a Governing Council and technical task forces. The Council's first meeting was in Nairobi, July 23-31, 1987. FAVDO is a facilitating agency for networks of African NGOs to (1) identify effective strategies to mobilize human, material, and financial resources within and outside the continent; (2) determine effective use of resources; and (3) provide a platform for coordination, cooperation, collaboration, and mutual support among African NGOs. At its 1987 meeting, the Council initiated action on an African NGO Directory and a Needs Assessment Survey. FAVDO has designed a three-year program (1993-96) with an overall objective to: (1) Promote popular participation, democratization, support of popular organizations, integration of NGOs/VDOs into the civil society; (2) Contribute to the reinforcement of the institutional capacity of NGOs/VDOs members of FAVDO; and (3) Study the indigenous knowledge and practices on environmental protection and develop, with NGOs of the north, a partnership founded on solidarity and mutual respect.

**Publication:** *Echoes of FAVDO* (quarterly); *FAVDO Newslink* (monthly).

**13. INSTITUT AFRICAIN POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT INADES FORMATION  
ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL**

**Address:** 08 - P.O. Box 8  
Abidjan 08  
Cote d'Ivoire  
Tel:(255) 44 31 29/ 44 31 30  
Fax:(255) 44 06 41  
E.mail: geod:inades-fo

**Contact:** Rene M. Segbenou, Director General  
Bata Mathias Konate, Secretary General

**Date of Foundation:** 1962

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** INADES has regional offices in Abidjan and national offices in Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Togo, Zaire, Central African Republic, Guinea, Mali, and Niger.

**Focus Areas:** Community development; soil conservation; urban forestry; afforestation; agroforestry; gardening; agriculture; farm economics.

**Description:** INADES's aim is to train rural adults while taking account of their knowledge and know-how with a view to their social and economic advancement. Its fields of intervention are agricultural techniques, protection of environment, management, communication techniques, and community organization. INADES's methods of intervention are based on adult pedagogy and involve trainees:

- study of training needs;
- distance training with field visits;
- local workshops in the villages of trainees; and
- exchanges trips.

INADES's means are 255 men and women: pedagogues, agronomists, sociologists, economists, secretaries, and employees, who all work with the same ideal and a capital of 30 years of experience in rural adult training. About 40,000 people benefit each year from this training.

**Publication:** *Agripromo*, a quarterly magazine.

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**14. KENYA ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT ORGANIZATION**

**KENGO**

Address: P.O. Box 48197  
Mwanzi Road  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: 749747/748281  
Fax: 749382

Contact: Achoka Awori, Executive Director  
Peter Karinge, Deputy Director

Date of Foundation: 1981

Geographic Scope of Operations: Kenya (also Regional)

Focus Areas: Agriculture; rural development; community development; appropriate technology; energy; environment/conservation; forestry; native peoples/indigenous issues; youth; women in development; vocational/technical training; communications.

Description: KENGO is a national network of development organizations working on environment, energy, and community development initiated prior to the UN Conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (UNCNRSE) held in Nairobi in 1981. Over 60 Kenyan organizations active in renewable energy convened a one-day workshop held in June 1981 that resulted in a coalition of Kenyan NGOs under a steering committee, charged with activity coordination and preparation of input into UNCNRSE. This coalition became KENGO, with activities widened to include environmental conservation.

The objectives are to maintain coordination and exchange information among Kenyan NGOs; to play a catalytic role in initiating, planning, and coordinating NGO projects on renewable energy, forestry, and community development; and to create linkages among NGOs, government, and research institutions.

KENGO has a participatory structure with about 170 community groups and NGOs constituting its General Assembly. A 1985 publication gave the membership as 80 NGOs, indicating substantial growth over a five-year period. Currently KENGO has six programs: Natural Resources, Field Extension, Biomass Energy Technologies, Information Program, Land Use Management, and Regional Woodenergy Program for Africa.

Examples of KENGO's activities in the last 10 years include booklets (*A Pocket Directory of Trees and Seeds in Kenya; How to Collect, Handle, and Store Seed; and Seed Collector's Training Manual*); the Genetic Resources Conservation Project; the Indigenous Fruits and Vegetables Crops Development Project; the Field Extension Program; and training programs and workshops.

Publication: *KENGO News*, a twice-yearly newsletter containing information on community development projects on renewable energy, KENGO activities, agroforestry, and energy conservation issues. KENGO also publishes *RESOURCES* three times per year. This journal focuses on sustainable development in Africa with articles on energy, pollution, indigenous knowledge, and arid lands.

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**15. MWELEKEO WA NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS**

**MWENGO**

Address: P.O. Box 55450  
Nairobi, Kenya

The Ford Foundation  
P.O. Box 41081  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: (254-2) 338123/338124  
Fax: (254-2) 338565

Contact: Ezra Mbogori, MWENGO Chairman  
Kingston Kajese, The Ford Foundation

Date of Foundation: 1993

Geographic Scope of Operations: Eastern and Southern Africa

Focus Areas: Information exchange; training; research.

Description: MWENGO is newly established NGO (1993) planned to be based in Harare, Zimbabwe. Presently the network operates from Nairobi, Kenya. Its main field of interest include information exchange and updates on current research, publications and events, training documents, workshops on participatory development, community development and civic education skills, policy research analysis and advocacy, and NGO management and accountability.

Publication: A quarterly newsletter.

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**16. REGIONAL NETWORK OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS**

**ZERO**

Address: P.O. Box 5338, 44 Edmunds Ave.  
Belvedere, Harare  
Zimbabwe  
Tel: 263 4 791 333  
FAX: 263 4 732 858

Contact: Albert Masheka, Librarian

Date of Foundation: 1987

Geographic Scope of Operations: SADCC Region (Tanzania, Zambia, Namibia, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Malawi, Angola, and Bostwana).

Focus Area: Energy sector.

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**Description:** ZERO is a regional network of environmental experts that promotes and coordinates indigenous research and expertise on SADCC energy issues. Their focus is to encourage the formulation of internally developed policies and plans for the energy sector, through relevant information and studies, which take into consideration the ecosocial system. They mobilize resources to facilitate work in prefeasibility studies, project preparation, project planning and evaluation, research and technical training, and give professional advice to governments, institutions, and organizations within the SADCC region. The network has members in eight of the SADCC countries. These members work in various institutions, both governmental and nongovernmental. The network has a five-member policy making executive committee with a sixth alternate member.

**Publications:** ZERO publishes working papers, books, and a quarterly newsletter, *Energy and Environment*.

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**17. RESEAU AFRICAIN POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT INTEGRE**

**RADI**

**Address:** P.O. Box 12085  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel:(221) 25 75 33 / 25 75 34  
Fax: (221) 25 75 36  
Telex: 1304 SG

**Contact:** Dame Sall, Secretary General  
Saliou Diouf, Program Director

**Date of Foundation:** 1985

**Geographic Scope of Operations:** Burkina Faso; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Senegal; Mali; Central African Republic.

**Focus Areas:** Agriculture; irrigation; ecology/conservation; health; women in development; small businesses.

**Description:** RADI has its headquarters in Dakar, Senegal, and offices in Central Africa, Mali, Guinea, and Guinea Bissau. RADI's objective is to support grassroots economic activity. In the past five years, RADI has helped 17 village associations to develop market gardening projects in Senegal using irrigation methods in order to achieve self reliance and started agricultural projects in Mali, Guinea, and Central Africa. All those projects are linked to training sessions on agricultural techniques and local languages teaching. To better assist community groups, RADI has set up five departments:

- Project Study and Evaluation Department;
- Project Implementation and Coordination Department;
- Training and Alphabetization Department;
- Commercialization Department; and
- Juridical Information Center

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RADI is a member of many African and international NGO networks (ELCI, FAVDO, the international Secretariat for Water in Montreal, etc.) and heavily involved in the UNCED process by organizing preparatory workshops and conferences for African NGOs. RADI has promoted many exchange visits for African NGOs in order to help them benefit from its experience.

Publication: RADI publishes a bimonthly newsletter, *Jef Gel* (Work and Deserve It).

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**(\* ) 18. SERVICE D'APPUI AUX INITIATIVES LOCALES  
DE DEVELOPPEMENT**

**SAILD**

Address: P.O. Box 11955  
Yaounde, Cameroun  
Tel: (237) 22 46 82, 22 62 44  
Fax: (237) 22 51 62

P.O. Box 539, Maroua, Cameroun  
Tel: (237) 29 22 18  
Fax: (237) 29 28 96

Contacts: Bernard NJONGA, Secretary General  
Jeanot MINLA MFOU'OU, Head of Maroua Branch  
Marie-Martine YOBOL, Communication Service

Date of Foundation: 1988

Geographic Scope of Operations: Cameroun; Chad.

Focus Areas: Agriculture; communication; appropriate technology; women in development; support for small business; environment.

Description: SAILD is a nongovernmental organization governed by the Swiss Law whose headquarters are located in Geneva (Switzerland) and its Secretariat General in Yaounde (Cameroun). There are three existing SAILD programs: SAILD Italy, SAILD Argentina, and SAILD Cameroun. A fourth, SAILD Tchad, is in formation. [REWRITE OK?]

As for SAILD Cameroun and SAILD Tchad, they initiate, promote, and support local organizations in rural areas. That is why the activities of SAILD Cameroun are primarily geared towards local organizations. Therefore, SAILD Cameroun operates mainly in rural areas. Its partners are organized groups of peasants or federations of peasants.

To achieve its objectives, SAILD resorts to certain tools that are used by the various structures of its organizational chart:

- The Training Service;
- The Technical Support Service;



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**(\*) 20. WEST AFRICA RURAL FOUNDATION**

**WARF**

Address: WARF  
C.P. 13  
Dakar, Senegal  
Tel (221) 25 49 53/ 24 14 00  
FAX (221) 24 57 55

Contact: Fadel Diene, Director

Date of Foundation: 1992

Geographic Scope of Operations: Senegal; Gambia; Guinea Bissau; Mali; Guinea.

Focus Areas: An intermediary funding organization that allows donors to reach small NGOs and local organizations. Working with farmers by testing sustainable agricultural practices, low-external input technologies, and field workshops.

Description: WARF is an international, nongovernmental, nonprofit institution with a West African governing board and professional staff. Through innovative grant making, it seeks to strengthen rural organizations and promote participatory research methods in Senegal, The Gambia, Mali, Guinea Bissau, and the Republic of Guinea. WARF provides rural organizations with grants and methodological training so that they can better work with farmers to address farmer's problems. WARF's program includes:

- Grants for strategic planning, institutional stabilization, and methodological training;
- Multiyear institutional support grants;
- Follow up monitoring and advice; and
- Linking grants for researchers and local organizations to conduct participatory research on environmentally sustainable agricultural practices.

WARF's grant development procedures include feasibility studies and participatory assessments of grantee organizations' strengths, weaknesses, and programmatic opportunities.

Publication: None

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**21. ASSOCIATION POUR LA FORMATION ET LA TECHNOLOGIE AFOTEC**

Address: Villa 5 Route  
du Front de Terre  
en face Notre Dame du Liban  
Dakar, Senegal

Contact: Baba Abdoul Seck, Coordinator

Geographic Scope of Operations: Senegal; Mali; Burkina Faso; Mauritania; Guinea Bissau;  
Gambia; Cameroun; Côte d'Ivoire.

Focus Areas: Agriculture; environment; energy; water; health; technology.

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**22. EAST AFRICAN ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK EAEN**

Address: P.O. Box 42716  
Nairobi, Kenya

Contact: Patrick Legge

Date of Foundation: 1990

Geographic Scope of Operations: East Africa

Focus areas: Conservation of natural resources and sustainable development through increasing awareness, information, education, and action.

Publication: *EAEN Network News* (annually).

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**23. ECO NEWS AFRICA ENA**

Address: P.O. Box 21136  
Nairobi, Kenya

Contact: Wangu Mwangi

Geographic Scope of Operations: East Africa

Focus Areas: Information; communication.

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**24. SOUTHERN NETWORKS FOR DEVELOPMENT**

**SONED**

**Address:** PO Box 14205  
Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: (254 2) 445893  
FAX: (254 2) 445894

**Contact:** Godfrey MMwereriar

**Date of Foundation:** 1981

**Geographic scope of operations:** Africa region

**Focus areas:** Environment and development action Research