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# Cross-Cutting Capacity Development (CCCD) Project

Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS)

*Rehearsal Learning-by-doing Training Workshop* **REPORT**

TEMPRO HOTEL, Buchanan City, Grand Bassa County

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Organized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) thru the CCCD Project with collaboration from the UNDP and funding support from Global Environmental Facility (GEF)



*Group Photo of Participants at the EKMS Rehearsal Learning-by-doing Training Workshop (NOTE: All photos credit goes to Alloysious David, Media & Communications Head/EPA)*



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## Introduction

The Environmental Protection Agency through the Cross-Cutting Capacity Development Project in collaboration with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and funding support from the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) held three days' gender inclusive rehearsal learning-by-doing training on how to use or navigate the Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS) and the management of existing and new data and in keeping with Rio Convention obligations through the EKMS platform. The training workshop brought together EKMS Officers and Knowledge Brokers at key natural resource management institutions. The event was held from September 8-10, 2021 at Temprow Hotel, Buchanan City, Grand Bassa County. Participants arrived on September 7, 2021 and departed on 11 September 2021.

The **overriding objective** of the 3-day gender inclusive rehearsal learning-by-doing training was to enhance the effective use of the EKMS Platform and introduce the new plugins and their functions, and to also strengthen the capacities of the EKMS Officers and Knowledge Brokers to effectively upload and validate data, and information placed on the EKMS Platform.

**The specific objectives of the gender inclusive EKMS rehearsal learning-by-doing training to use the EKMS and the management of existing and new data and in keeping with Rio Convention obligations through the EKMS Training included:**

- ✓ Strengthen pool of technicians from Natural Resources Management (NRM) institutions able to use the new technical innovation to collect, store and share environmental information.
- ✓ Increase the technicians understanding of what environmental knowledge is and how to validate data, information and knowledge.
- ✓ Improve communication strategy
- ✓ Institutions' knowledge and skills improve in knowledge management and retrieval.
- ✓ Institutional capacity built to code new and existing data, information and knowledge.
- ✓ Increase institutions benefits with an effective knowledge management strategy.
- ✓ To Enhance collaboration and knowledge sharing mechanism.

The Cross Cutting Capacity Development (CCCD) Project is funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Trust Fund

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or Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) TRAC resources, and in kind Co-financing by the Government of Liberia through the Ministry of Finance & Development Planning (MFDP). The project is being implemented by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the CCCD Project management team in collaboration with the UNDP. It has three main objectives:

1. Integrate global Environmental needs into Management Information Systems and Monitoring;
2. Integrate Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) provisions into national policy, legislative, and regulatory frameworks, and
3. Update National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)

The respective outcomes of the project objectives are to ensure that Liberia makes better decisions to meet and sustain global environmental obligations. At the end of the Project, it is hope that Liberia will have the capacity to coordinate efforts, as well as best practices for integrating global environmental priorities into planning, decision-making, and reporting; particularly, to strengthen a targeted set of national capacities to deliver and sustain global environmental outcomes within the framework of sustainable development priorities. The project also has four linked components with specific outcomes which include:

- 1) **Component-1:** Establishment of an Integrated Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS)
  - Focuses on the establishment of an Environmental Knowledge Management System by integrating and reconciling relevant existing systems
  - Seeks to use the latest tools and innovations, including technological, to access and create new knowledge that would allow for better decisions to be made to protect the global environment.
  - Seeks also to provide the learning by-doing training so that stakeholders make best use of the system
- 2) **Component-2:** Enhanced institutional and technical capacities for mainstreaming
  - Seeks a set of institutional development actions to use the EKMS for improved mainstreaming and monitoring
  - Seeks systemic capacity building by strengthening the enabling environment i.e. relevant policies and legislative frameworks to make and legitimize the long-term use of the EKMS

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- Strengthen institutional arrangement within existing management structures and operational procedures
- 3) **Component-3:** Improving awareness of global environmental values
- Seeks to raise the overall understanding and greater value of how addressing global environmental obligations under the RIO Convention contribute to addressing important and immediate socio-economic development priorities
- 4) **Component-4:** Updating of the National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA)
- Seeks to update 2005 capacity challenges
  - Seeks capacity development and action plan and
  - Reproduces revised NCSA Report

To achieve the project’s components and outcomes, the CCCD project management team has conducted several technical capacity enhancement trainings, among other initiatives within it’s almost four years’ life spent. This workshop was held under the theme: “Rehearsal Training Learning by-doing Environmental Knowledge Management System (EKMS)”.

Liberia remains one of the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) that is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change sure as sea level rise, erosion, flood, and other forms of harmful human induced environmental activities. The Rio Conventions, which this project seeks to address, and other environmental portfolios are designed to express the interest of the environment in government proceedings and form instrumental part of national environmental governance.

### Background

The Environment Knowledge Management System (EKMS) platforms is a multi-year cross sectoral engagements that support collaboration among Government staff, research centers, think tanks, practitioners, and private firms in tackling global environmental challenges. Environmental related projects often are weak in terms of incorporating learning and assessment mechanisms. Moreover, those implementing environmental projects and tools face multiple challenges and little incentives to take advantage of existing knowledge and

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research as well as to incorporate the lessons learned from other projects. Also, environmental practitioners in Liberia often face obstacles to documenting the results of their projects. In some cases, monitoring and evaluation models and components are incorporated into project design merely to comply with donors' technical requirements, with little practitioners' ownership. As a result, evaluation and the documentation of results are perceived as a burden rather than adding value to project implementation. Through its Knowledge Component, the CCCD aims to support practitioners' learning and to provide technical assistance to improve the documentation and assessment of results.

The EKMS strengthens and enhances gaps and weaknesses in stakeholder engagement, information management and knowledge, organizational capacities, environmental governance, monitoring and evaluation and improves consideration of global environmental priorities into national planning. It will further knowledge on innovative ways of incorporating learning into practice and on how to demonstrate and document results, and better mechanisms for generating and managing knowledge on the how to implement the three Rio Conventions, advancing peer learning and exchanges, and strengthening government entities and civil society networks.

The EKMS Platform supports the Liberian Government by building connections between initiatives, stakeholders and those working on sustainable development on the ground, and by creating a dynamic system of knowledge and information exchange. It also strives to draw on and complement a growing agenda on the Rio Conventions within the Nature Resources Management (NRM) Sector and external partners to scale up environmental initiatives. The Liberia Knowledge Platform builds on and strengthens existing knowledge networks on environmental issues, and also links networks and partnerships of GEF, GCF and bilateral grant recipients to promote collaborative learning and sharing of knowledge, foster South-South knowledge exchanges, and deepen collaboration among grant recipients as well as with research centers, universities, practitioner networks, and think-tanks, among others.

There are many creators of knowledge, which are often disconnected from one another. Universities, research institutions, development agencies and multilateral donors undertake research studies and produce codified knowledge on Rio tools and interventions. Simultaneously, those implementing Rio Conventions related projects on the ground accumulate tacit knowledge on environment. However, these different types of knowledge are not always shared and synthesized in order to inform better environmental or Rio Convention approaches. The EKMS Platform helps facilitate exchange of available knowledge on Rio Convention and environmental tools and practices and connect different institutions, organizations, and individuals generating knowledge around the environment.

The value added of the EKMS Platform is related to its capacity for providing easy access to and leverage to available knowledge on the environment. Currently, knowledge on environmental tools and practices, and their impact, is widely dispersed among different institutions, locations, and individuals. The EKMS Platform will synthesize, host, and facilitate access to different types of knowledge: research, or codified knowledge produced by academic institutions and/or resulting from formal assessments or evaluations of environmental interventions; practitioner knowledge, or tacit internal know-how informing the practice of people implementing environmental related interventions and programs; citizen knowledge, social media, etc.

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The EKMS Platform also adds value by leveraging Liberia's convening power to attract knowledge and facilitate networking. The platform allows Liberia to draw on the NRM institutions and external partners' vast repository of sustainable development knowledge, experience and resources, and to leverage Liberia's international convening power to attract knowledge contributions, create a strategic space for constructive engagement between Agencies, and connect different stakeholders in order to enhance development effectiveness.

Liberia EKMS provides innovative ICT and social media tools for networking and knowledge exchange. It promises to be a one-stop, online resource tailor-made to support environmental initiatives, with built-in knowledge exchange and peer-to-peer learning features. It aims to provide a focused site to foster effective environmental interventions among a range of actors and sectors. The EKMS has several modules; mainly,

- Functional Module that integrates knowledge repository, networking, learning, and Exchange, which aimed at raising awareness, supporting networking and professional relationships, enhancing knowledge, and sharing experiences.
- The Networking module is a user friendly information hub, with interactive and social networking capabilities. It provides users with networking information and tools, and serve as a base for dissemination in order to expand the knowledge component's overall reach and impact.
- The Learning module provides a forum for learning and training in order to foster institutional and practitioners' capacity. Real time and asynchronous learning capacities are incorporated into the platform, complemented by learning guides and video conferences.
- The Exchange module supports virtual S-S interaction for participating agencies and other practitioners. It promotes the diffusion and exchange of good practices and lessons learned, and the development of new shared-knowledge, thus building trust among actors
- Learning and Exchange modules, whose specific membership is control by administrator-defined in accordance to each particular area's aims and audience. Executive Directors, senior staff, partners, and other users (practitioners, researchers, thinks-tanks, policy makers, etc.) are provided access rights in accordance to specific needs and contribution. Membership of these modules combine open access for specific activities, and active brokering to mobilize and identify demands from other interested parties

The audience for the CCCD Knowledge Platform comprises sustainable development practitioners and policy makers as well as development agencies' staff, and also includes CSOs involve in the environmental sector to enhance their institutional development, capacity and/or implement social environmental initiatives. Furthermore, sustainable development practitioners – including CSOs, academics, research institutes, think-tanks, etc. which currently have limited opportunities to access and share the results of knowledge generated by Rio Convention initiatives and to connect with others that are conducting similar projects and facing common challenges in other countries and regions. The audience also includes policy makers including legislators, who often have limited understanding of the

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Rio Convention tools and challenges arising from implementing development initiatives aimed at strengthening sustainable development. Finally, the audience includes staff from the UNDP, GEF, GCF, WB, UNEP and other development agencies as well, that need to mainstream environmental tools in their sectoral work. The EKMS Platform addresses all these audiences, with a view to finding common grounds and building a shared responsibility for advancing and scaling up sustainable development. The EKMS Platform enables the following:

- ▶ Uploading of data and information
- ▶ Access to & sharing of environmental knowledge and practices
- ▶ Dissemination of results and lessons learned
- ▶ Dissemination of evidence base & research
- ▶ Networking/connecting
- ▶ Linking entities, practitioners, academia, important instruments, think-tanks etc.
- ▶ Leveraging global lessons on EKMS
- ▶ Learning
- ▶ Dissemination of existing knowledge products from relevant sources and other practitioners sharing their informational sources and experiences to inform knowledge creators

Furthermore, the EKMS Platform hosts, manages, shares, and disseminates relevant knowledge, and facilitates connections and networking around sustainable development. It serves not only as a critical source of knowledge and information on environmental tools and projects, but also as a mechanism through which GEF grant recipients, CSOs, experts, interested citizens and potential partners can connect and network to share and generate knowledge and collaborate, thus improving the effectiveness of sustainable projects. However, it will specifically:

- ✓ Facilitates top-down and bottom-up mechanisms of knowledge sharing and dissemination including lessons learned and on-the-ground results from sustainable development activities captured through the M&E framework embedded in GEF grants and strategic plans of the government entities
- ✓ Supports synchronous and asynchronous interaction among a diverse range of development actors seeking increased collaboration, learning and adaptation
- ✓ Provide CSOs and networks with training and learning opportunities on the EKMS and the results of its initiatives
- ✓ Strengthen existing NRM networks and communities of practice and support emerging ones such as open forums



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- ✓ Facilitate technical assistance (TA) to practitioners and CSOs

### **Training Objectives**

The training workshop was organized by the EPA through the CCCD project management team in collaboration with the UNDP. The workshop links and supports component one of the project. The specific objectives of the workshop included:

- Technicians understand what environmental knowledge is and how to validate data, information and knowledge
- Improved and clear understanding of the nature and value, current practice and research on information and knowledge management (EKMS) in the digital environment improved
- Technicians understand how to collect, store and share environmental knowledge
- Improved institutions Knowledge and skills in knowledge management
- Increase institutions benefits with an effective knowledge management strategy
- Participants to know how collaboration and coordination enhance data collection, storing and sharing for sustainable development

### **Outputs**

The three-days rehearsal learning-by-doing training workshop on how to use, access the EKMS and to demonstrate its value at improving a more holistic and resilient construct of selected sectoral plans in keeping with Rio Convention obligations was organized by the EPA in collaboration UNDP, expected to have achieved the following:

- Technicians understand what Environmental Knowledge is and how to validate Data, Information and Knowledge
- Participants have systematic knowledge and clear understanding of the nature and value, current practice and research on EKMS in the digital environment improved
- Technicians are able to collect, store and share environmental knowledge
- Institutions Knowledge and skills improved in knowledge management
- Increased institutions benefits with an effective knowledge management strategy
- New era of collaboration and knowledge collection, storing and sharing enhanced

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## **Participants**

The workshop was gender inclusive, attended by over 62 participants from NRM EKMS officers and brokers from line Ministries, Agencies, and CSO. About 24 participants were females while the remaining 38 were males.

## **Modality**

The workshop activities included the following:

- Registration and breakfast
- Opening statements
- Technical presentations
- Group exercises
- Practical demonstration of technicians on how to upload data and information onto the EKMS
- Presentations of each institution websites and discussions

The workshop was supported and facilitated by several Presenters/Facilitators for the technical presentations; mainly, the EKMS platform designers, EKMS knowledge officers and brokers from line ministries and agencies, and a Rapporteur who was responsible to take notes, do recaps and compile workshop report.

## **Opening Formalities**

Pre-start activities should have included welcome remarks by the City Major of Buchanan, representative from UNDP and the EPA Executive Director. However, Dawoda Callor, Head of the EPA Compliance and Enforcement made welcome remarks on behalf of the EPA Executive Director. He welcomed participants and commended them for their turnout and encourage them to contribute and make inputs into deliberation. He throws some insights on the importance of the training workshop and encouraged participants' full participation. The next pre-start activity was the taking of group photos. Upon their returned, all participants were allowed to introduce themselves by calling their names, capacity and institutions; thereafter the working sessions began.

## **Technical Presentations**

The entire three days training was characterized with practical training not the regular power point presentations. However, Aaron S. M. Wesseh, CCCD Project Manager gave highlights about the project.

### **1. Background**

He explained that the project is in line with the GEF-6, CCCD strategy objectives 1, 3, and 5 which call for countries to:

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- a. integrate global environmental needs into management information systems and monitoring
  - b. integrate MEA (Multilateral Environmental Agreements) provisions into national policy, legislative, and regulatory frameworks and
  - c. update of the National Capacity Self-Assessment

## 2. Goal

He also explained that for Liberia to make better decisions to meet and sustain global environmental obligations, the RIO Conventions; which include Biodiversity, Climate change and Desertification must be fully mainstream into national development planning. He pointed out that as one of the goals of the project. He said to achieved this, Liberia must have the capacity to coordinate efforts, as well as best practices for integrating global environmental priorities into planning, decision-making, and reporting processes.

## 3. Objectives

The objective of this project is to “strengthen a targeted set of national capacities to deliver and sustain global environmental outcomes within the framework of sustainable development priorities”.

## 4. Project components

Mr. Wesseh presented the components of the CCCD project as follows:

### I. Integrated environmental knowledge management system (EKMS)

- Focuses on the establishment of an Environmental Knowledge Management System by integrating and reconciling relevant existing systems
- Seeks to use the latest tools and innovations, including technological, to access and create new knowledge that would allow for better decisions to be made to protect the global environment.
- Seeks also to provide the learning by-doing training so that stakeholders make best use of the system.

### II. Enhanced institutional and technical capacities for mainstreaming, develop, and utilize policies and or legislative frameworks for effective implementations of the three RIO Conventions

- Seeks a set of institutional development actions to use the EKMS for improved mainstreaming and monitoring
- Seeks systemic capacity building by strengthening the enabling environment relevant policies and legislative frameworks, to make long-term use of the system
- Strengthen institutional arrangement within existing management structures and operational procedures

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### III. Improving awareness of global environmental values and knowledge

- Seeks to raise the overall understanding and greater value of how addressing global environmental obligations under the RIO Convention contribute to addressing important and immediate socio-economic development priorities

### IV. Updating NCSA to reflect post 2015-SDGs and current opportunities to strengthen national capacities

- Update 2005 capacity challenges
- Capacity development and action plan
- Produce final NCSA Report

#### 5. Expected outputs

- Technicians understands what environmental knowledge is and how to validate data, information and knowledge
- Participants have systematic knowledge and clear understanding of the nature and value, current practice and research on information and knowledge management (EKMS) in the digital environment improved.
- Technicians are able to collect, store and share environmental knowledge.
- Institutions Knowledge and skills improved in knowledge management.
- Increased institutions benefits with an effective knowledge management strategy
- New era of collaboration and knowledge collection, storing and sharing enhanced

This was followed by presentations and discussions on institutional websites. The institutional ITs, Environmental Knowledge Officers and Brokers. The essence was for the technicians to inform and share with colleagues the status of their websites, what the types of knowledge/information is shared, how, when and who is responsible to share/manage the websites, and what are the current challenges. The institutions that presented include:

1. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
2. Forestry Development Authority (FDA)
3. Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)
4. Ministry of Gender Children & Social Protection (MGCSP)
5. Ministry of Internal Affairs (MIA)
6. Ministry of Mines & Energy (MM&E)
7. National Legislature
8. Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI)

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9. Ministry of Public Works (MPW)
  10. Liberia Land Authority (LLA)
  11. Ministry of Transport (MoT)
  12. Ministry of Finance & Development Planning (MFDP)
  13. National Fishery & Aqua-culture Authority (NaFAA)
  14. Liberia Maritime Authority (LMA)
  15. WASH Commission
  16. Liberia Institution of Geo-Information Services (LISGIS)
  17. Ministry of Education (MoE)

Each institution where ask to demonstrate how to upload and share data on the EKMS platform.

### **Issues arising after presentation presentations**

- Cost to open and maintain a website
- Posting information
- Who will be responsible to post data to the EKMS
- How and kind of data to be inputted
- Some websites are currently not functional, i.e. MGCSP and Legislature
- Political interference
- Ministries, Agencies & Commissions (MAC) agreed to have EKMS link on their websites
- EPA & MoT should collaborate to deal with vehicle emission
- Environmental data must be useful and accessible
- Environmental information validation by environmental brokers
- Sustainability plan for the EKMS platform, and the environmental Officers and Knowledge Brokers
  
- The need to utilize the EKMS social Media-WhatsApp/Facebook, to enhance coordination and collaboration
- Category of environmental data

### **Issues arising following the various presentations:**

- Cost to open and maintain a website
- Posting information
- Who will be responsible to post data to the EKMS
- How and kind of data to be inputted

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- Some websites are currently not functional, i.e. MGCSP, Legislature & NaFAA
  - Political interference
  - Ministries Agencies & Commissions (MAC) agreed to have an environmental page on their websites menu
  - The need to repeal the Acts of relevant environmental MAC to avoid duplication of functions
  - Land use and management identified as environmental issue
  - EPA & MoT should collaborate to deal with vehicle emission
  - The need for EPA to coordinate with Liberia Maritime Authority (LMA) and NaFAA for monitoring fishing vessels, marine and costal governance (this needs to handle by the leaderships of the three institutions)
  - EPA is working on a plan to build capacity for marine monitoring
  - Environmental data must be useful and accessible
  - Environmental information validation to be validated by Environmental Knowledge Brokers
  - Category of environmental data

Another technical presentation was made by the EKMS designer team. Highlights from the presentation were:

### **Overview of the EKMS**

- Information that will help policy makers make better decisions, strategies and activity plans linked to the environment and people who affect the environment
- Continues work with Environmental Knowledge Brokers

The goal of the EKMS community standards

- To encourage the upload and creation of social and scientific data and information and create an accurate information environment

Content Files/Format

- Policies
- Study reports
- Activity reports

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- Meeting reports
  - Work plans
  - Factsheets
  - Research documents
  - Books
  - Videos/photos
  - Concept notes
  - PowerPoint Presentations
  - Guides, Leaflets, Feature articles and Newsletters
  - The files are in Word, Excel, PDF, JPEG, audio, video and others

#### The Role of the Chief Knowledge Officer

- The EKMS is administrated by a Chief Knowledge Officer (CKO)
- The Chief Knowledge Officer (CKO) is the knowledge leader, responsible for ensuring that the government of Liberia maximizes the value it environmental sector achieves through "knowledge"
- The CKO is responsible for managing intellectual capital and the custodian of Environmental Knowledge Management practices for the Government of Liberia.
- Produce Site Analytics and monthly newsletters

#### The Role of Institutional Knowledge Officers

- There are Knowledge Officers and Brokers at each institutions
- Their responsibilities include collecting and categorizing knowledge, and monitoring the use of knowledge from their respective institutions

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- Knowledge Officers have been trained in ways of capturing, packaging and categorizing knowledge

#### Seeking Consensus from Team on what to upload

- Institutional Knowledge Officers must talk with their team, especially the Knowledge Brokers about what data or information they are uploading on EKMS.
- Institutional Knowledge Officers must have a support team and have them contribute ideas for knowledge management system articles to proactively answer questions that they get all the time.
- Involve Knowledge Brokers, Communications and M&E staff

#### **EKMS Rules & Guidelines**

- Personal information and opinions are not allowed to be uploaded in the EKMS.
- Language that incites or facilitates any form of violence is not allowed
- We do not allow users to use misleading or inaccurate information to collect likes, followers or shares
- We require users to connect on the EKMS using the name that they go by in everyday life especially in their workplace so we can hold one another accountable
- We don't allow false data or information on the EKMS
- EKMS does not allow users to post content that breaches someone else's intellectual property rights, including copyright and trademark.

#### **Next Steps**

- Collect content from Institutional Knowledge Officers
- Engage Knowledge Brokers in the various institutions
- Promote the EKMS Discussion Forum
- Develop EKMS Sustainability Plan



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The final day of the workshop was again characterized with more practical demonstration of the EKMS-accessing, usage, uploading and sharing data. This was facilitated by the EKMS team. This session demonstrated how to navigate the Menus of the EKMS platform, use and update information. This session also covered:

- Training Evaluation
- Formal Closing Remarks

Some major highlights that came out during the in-between presentations as recommendations, concerns or inputs from participants included:

- Challenges of data sharing
- Approval channel
- Means of data sharing
- Types of data to share
- Rules, guidelines & regulations for the EKMS data platform
- Types of knowledge
- Uninformative in national systems versus e-government policy similarities
- What information/data the EKMS will host
- Compulsory regulations to compel sharing EKMS data among agencies
- The need to validate data before sharing
- Data collection
- Storage & sharing
- Importance of data sharing
- Appreciating previous efforts of data sharing, i.e. the e-government
- Sustainability plans for the EKMS

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- Why share data- political & social implications
  - Appropriate data inform effective decisions making
  - Environment data versus LISGIS data generation
  - We should not be political about data sharing
  - How can open data be advanced versus new technology?
  - What needs to be done to manage renewable resources
  - Enhancing policy makers knowledge on environmental issues for buy in/supports
  - Increase environmental awareness at schools, communities, etc.
  - Participants to serve as environmental awareness creators
  - Cost of generating data & why share my data, importance, why & how
  - Knowledge data sources
  - Environmental data must be useful and accessible
  - Environmental information validation
  - Category of environmental data
  - Category of environmental data and registry
  - Other environmental information (MEAs)
  - Structure of data intake

## **Wrap-up & Closing**

The closing formality was characterized with remarks from two participants; a male and female, and Aaron S. M. Wesseh, CCCD Project Manager. The two participants in their separate comments commended the workshop facilitators, particularly GEF and UNDP for the funding and supervision. They promised on behalf of their colleagues to make good of the knowledge and share it. For his part,

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the Project Manager commended the participants and facilitators for deliberations and participation and promised to ensure that all their inputs will be considered in the full continues development and completion of the EKM platform. He appreciated GEF for such a opportunity for Liberia. He stressed the need for country ownership after the Project time expires. He concluded by informing the participants that a high-level meeting of sectoral agencies and ministries is being organized to bring to these policy makers the importance of the EKMS and why should they give it national support.