From the 25th to 28th June 2013, the West Africa Rural Foundation (WARF) organized a training workshop on Knowledge Management and Capitalization of Experiences, in Dakar, Senegal. Ten participants from Ghana and the Gambia took part in the workshop.
Knowledge Management and Capitalization of Experiences (KMC) are essential practices for organizations and development projects. The mobilization, management and communication of knowledge from experiences, approaches and innovations constitute a key factor for improving the performances of individuals and organizations to achieve desired development results. Development projects and organizations in Africa constantly need to acquire the competences and skills for defining and implementing relevant knowledge management policies and strategies. Since 2004, WARF has acquired relevant expertise in this area through a number of capacity development workshops and a regional initiative on knowledge management.

The training intended to train participants to be able to conceptualize, plan, implement and evaluate strategies for knowledge management and the capitalization of experiences of their organizations or projects. For that, they learned how to elaborate plans for knowledge management and identify technical and human resource requirements for their implementation.

At the end of the workshop, some of the participants agreed to share their thoughts and impressions...

Felix Daramaani Monitor and evaluation specialist for Northern and Rural Group Programme (NRGP), Ghana.

I came to update my knowledge on the modern tools on capitalization. At the end of this workshop, I can assure you that I am absolute impressed by what had been delivered to us. The methodology of the program was hands-on. From now on we are going to review at our programme level, and publish a delivery report. I very much appreciated that.

Amina Alhassan Bin Salih Gender specialist for the Northern and Rural Group Programme (NRGP), Ghana.

The workshop has been very enlightening. The objectives were to acquire skills on Knowledge Management and Capitalization which I believe is very important for promoting gender equality. When it comes to gender equality, and its promotion, we are often confronted with a variety of cases that are all different and not always easy to comprehend. Thus, we need to replicate the good ones and discard the bad ones. The workshop has been very effective, very practical, very hands-on, and very pleasant.
Workshop on Knowledge Management and Capitalization of Experiences

Paul Siameh  *Producer Organization Specialist, for Northern and Rural Group Programme (NRGP), Ghana.*

My objective, in coming to this workshop was essentially to update my limited knowledge on Capitalization of Experiences. I must say that I have received what I expected from this training session. In our programme, we are buffing the sea of many experiences but, unfortunately we did not have the necessary skills to capitalize on them for others to benefit and share. When we return home, we will go through the numerous experiences we have recorded during the past four years, and apply to them the lessons we have learned during this programme. We intend to put the lessons into a form that we can share with other players, stakeholders, and partners in our programme.

Samuel Nyamekye  *Zonal Coordinator for Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme (RTIMP), Ghana*

I am happy and excited for having taken part in this training on Knowledge Management and Capitalization. It has equipped me with skills that will allow me to be able to document our experiences. I am happy for the way the facilitation went, all the facilitators were sharp and spoke articulate English. I gained a lot of knowledge I initially did not know, with regards to capitalization though we do write lots of reports. Coming here and attending this workshop has opened my eyes on what can be done to help identify and analyze experiences, and share them with others. I am really happy for having attended this training.

John Amachi  *Monitoring and evaluation Specialist for Root and Tuber Improvement and Marketing Programme (RTIMP)*

I came to take part in the workshop on Knowledge Management and Capitalization, my expectations have been met
and I am now confident that when I go back, I will be able to use the knowledge that I have acquired, in order to share the experiences and knowledge of my project.

Sherrif T. J. Sanyang  
Assistant Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for Livestock and Horticulture Development Project (LHDP), The Gambia

This is the first time for me to attend this kind of training, even though I have been several times in Dakar. The training has been wonderful, the interaction with the trainers and with WARF in general have been equally wonderful. This four day interaction have been absolutely great and the training itself enlighten me much more about Knowledge Management and Capitalization.

Abdoulie Malick Touray  
Monitoring and Evaluation Officer for Livestock and Horticulture Development Project (LHDP), The Gambia

I can honestly tell you that my expectations have been met. I have attended another training workshop on Knowledge Management and the Capitalization in Abuja, Nigeria, but this one has been very different to that in many ways. Now things are very clear in my mind. From now on we can come up with a good capitalization plan, we can identify all those experiences lying idle in folders and closets and which have not been documented, identify adequate processes, capitalize on them and share them with colleagues. Definitely, my expectations have met especially as there was an added value to this training which is learning how to spread the word through web resources like blogging and how to properly archives those resources. There has been a remarkable improvement which leaves me with a candid feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment. My colleague and I are discussing the possibility to work together and thanks to the support of WARF and our CPU, we can come up with a plan by December that will be centered on helping policies and women whom are the main focus in our project.