



Global Knowledge Sharing Fund

Application format

Name of KS initiative:	Women, Poverty and the Environment: Lost Rights, Lost Resources	Contact person:	Phil Franks
CO/Region/Unit:	ECARMU and SWARMU	Email:	Phil@ci.or.ke

What knowledge do you want to share?

What knowledge do you want to generate, share, and/or use? Share the main learning objective of this Knowledge Sharing (KS) initiative.

To better understand how women are affected by degradation of, and/or reduced access to, natural resources, and the underlying causes, and, by inference, some of the broader reasons for the marginalisation of the environmental agenda within development discourse.

Why is this knowledge relevant to CARE?

Why do you consider this knowledge relevant to CARE's mission/vision? How is the main objective of the KS initiative related with other objectives and goals of your area, unit, CO?

As in many development agencies, in CARE we often find that environmental concerns are marginalised. Yet the problems faced by the rural poor, and women in particular, related to their natural resource base are central to their own fight against poverty. As highlighted by recent Millennium Assessment, a number of the MDGs cannot be achieved unless key environmental constraints are effectively addressed. At the level of CARE we also have to take these issues more seriously if we are to achieve our own vision.

With its large portfolio of projects working on rights to, and management of, natural resources CARE is very well placed to make this case. In so doing we will be addressing the need to make this case within the wider development arena as well as within CARE itself.

This initiative is an activity of CARE International's Poverty and Environmental Network under its strategic direction #1: "Increase awareness and recognition within CARE at all levels of the central importance of natural resources governance and conflict to the fight against poverty and social injustice."

How do you intend to share the knowledge?

What are the main activities of the learning process? Which knowledge sharing method(s) will you use?

Using a simple action research process this initiative will support the development of a set of case studies on how women are affected by degradation of and/or reduced access to natural resources in their local environment (see attached concept note for more details). These case studies along with an analysis of underlying causes of the problems identified will be presented in a c 20 page booklet. Given the focus on women there will be a particular emphasis on gender equity and the gender dimension of the causal analysis. The booklet will be distributed widely within and outside CARE.

One specific use of the case studies will be in CARE learning workshops on Natural Resource Governance and Conflict which will be held in May 2007 (for Africa) and September 2007 (for Asia) where the case studies will form the basis of a session on understanding the underlying causes of gender inequity in the governance of natural resources. These workshops will be funded by the CARE Poverty and Environment Network

Who will benefit from this knowledge?

Who are the people involved in the KS initiative and how will this knowledge be useful for them? Who (outside the group) will find this knowledge useful and why?

The regional workshops will be targeted at CARE staff working in natural resource governance and conflict management – including staff at project as well as sector level. However the primary purpose of this initiative is to influence opinion outside of the natural resources and environment (NRE) sector within CARE. As indicated by the objective, we aim to change the way people see NRE programming within CARE itself and contribute to similar initiatives at national and international levels.

How will you measure success?

How will you know if you achieve your main learning objective? What are the indicators of success?

Country office level - greater recognition to environmental concerns of the rural poor in general, and women in particular, in LRSPs

All CI Members – more attention to environmental constraints (and especially climate change) within all programming sectors

CARE US in particular – increased investment of unrestricted funds in support for agriculture, natural resources and environmental programming

Although other activities will contribute to achievement of these targets, the case studies and analysis to be developed by this initiative have been identified as a crucial building block.

What are the associated costs of your KS initiative?

Please develop a brief budget and include it with your proposal. If you have a match (money or in-kind) include it as part of the total budget.

Design and printing \$6000 (from the PE Network)

Consultant to conduct studies in 3 countries \$5000 (from Global knowledge sharing fund)

Originally we had planned that the case studies in each of the 7 countries (see concept note for details) would be done by CARE program staff supported by communications staff from ECARMU and CARE Denmark. This has worked OK for 3 countries (Ghana, Niger, Ethiopia) but we have found that the remaining 4 COs do not have the necessary expertise. For 3 of these cases we now need to contract a consultant to lead the exercise. The 7th country will probably be dropped. This application requests funds to support this consultancy input (from a consultant based in Tanzania who is frequently used by CARE)..

In addition to the funds mentioned above CARE's PE Network and ECARMU will be providing input in kind in terms of developing the overall analysis, and editing and layout of the booklet.

Do you require any assistance?

Will you need any support? If so, from whom and for what?

Kent Glenzer has already assisted with comments on the original concept note