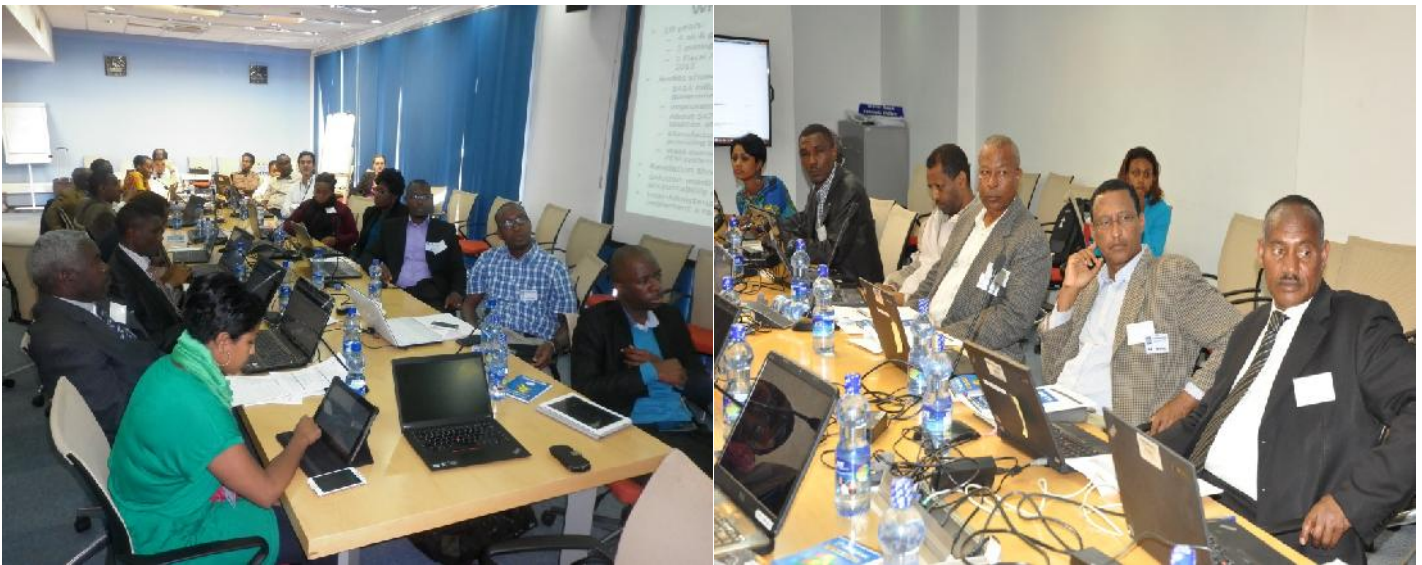


GHANA EITI PARTICIPATES IN EITI COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE PILOT PROGRAM IN ADDIS-ABABA

By Victoria Benson and Dr. Gad Akwensivie, in Accra

The World Bank through the Collaboration for Development (C4D) has developed an online platform focused on developing issues, which enables experts and practitioners to conduct online brainstorming, consultations, and discussions, knowledge-sharing and learning on the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative EITI.



Cross section of participants at the workshop

Before a full roll-out of the on-line facility, six EITI implementing countries; Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Tanzania, Zambia and Ethiopia were selected to participate in the initial practice workshop to kick start the knowledge sharing facility. The workshop took place from 18th to 19th September 2014 at the World Bank Office in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia.



At the workshop, participants were taken through the processes of creating personal profiles, starting and participating in discussions, creating documents, managing versions in documents, creating blogs and using tags, uploading photos and how to use the action and communication sections.

The first Community of Practice workshop also took participants through the Use of Status update, Sharing, @mention, Like and Direct messages, creating contents by emails and following, tracking in communications and email notifications. The platform allows members to conduct searches as such participants were taken through the process of conducting searches on topical issues.



It is expected that, the platform will become fully functional after other regional pilot workshops have taken place for the other regional blocks.

The representatives of GHEITI who were at the COP workshop briefed MSG about the platform in a meeting held by the GHEITI MSG. It is anticipated that, a formal workshop will be organized to deepen the learning experience for members of the MSG.



Before the end of the workshop, there were interactive sessions where participants discussed the EITI challenges they needed knowledge on and the top issues to prioritize to catalyze CoP dialogue. There was also a roundtable Discussion on EITI Country Highlights where each country presented their EITI status, challenges, knowledge exchange needs. At the interactive discussions participants brainstormed the best Strategies to best engage their EITI colleagues back home. Participants also undertook Stakeholder mapping and identifying CoP interests of each. The climax of the two day workshop was the Online practice jam where separate groups took part in the first ever EITI online discussion in real time.



Group Photo of Participants and some Bank Staff after the workshop