

SADC-JICA Forestry Project organized the Comprehensive Training including ICS and GIS for Forest Fire Management (FFM) in Lesotho.

29 November 2019

The Comprehensive Training including ICS and GIS for Forest Fire Management was held from 18th to 23rd November in Maseru, Kingdom of Lesotho. The training was opened by the welcome remarks of the Minister of Ministry of Forestry, Range and Soil Conservation. The training was attended by 14 participants from 12 SADC Member States, namely Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho (3 participants), Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The training was organized by the Project for Forest Conservation and Sustainable Management of Forest Resources in Southern Africa, which is being implemented jointly by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) since June 2015.

The main objectives of the training were to impart knowledge and skills on:

- 1) Incident Command System (ICS),
- 2) Application of Q-GIS and tablet device survey, and
- 3) forest/wild fire management in mountainous areas through lecture and field visit

Training module included basic ICS training that is useful in firefighting and mutual use between Q-GIS and tablet device that is useful in detection and recovery on forest/wild fire management.

After the training, all participants appreciated that the training was useful for their future work and expressed their intention to use the results of training in their work. The participants are expected to share the skills and knowledge with their colleagues after they return to each Member State.

The project is being implemented for the purpose of enhancing capacity development of SADC Secretariat and the Member States for the sustainable forest management to implement the SADC Forestry Strategy 2010-2020. Main areas of activities are 1) Forest Information System (FIS), 2) Forest Fire Management (FFM), and 3) Participatory Forest Management (PFM).

All the training on forest fire management of the project ended and the next activities (study tour and expert working group meeting) on forest fire management will be held in

February 2020 in Katima Mulilo (Namibia) and Kasane (Botswana).



Welcome remarks of Minister of Ministry of Forestry,
Range and Soil Conservation



ICS training



GIS training



Training participants at Ts'ehlanyane National Park