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**BRIEF PROJECT/ PROGRAMME TECHNICAL PROGRESS REPORT
Half-year (6 Month) Report**

Project/ Programme Name	Natural Resources Management (NRM) Implementation Support through Livelihood Approaches for improved Quality of life and biodiversity Conservation in Tanzania: 2005-2011.
Project Number	623 – A – 00 - 06 – 00003-00
Reporting Period	July - December 2009
Project Start Date (FY)	2005
Date Report Completed (MM/YR)	January /2010
Report Completed By	Dr. H. Sosovele and D.Kweka

1) Progress on Activities and Related Financial Issues

WMA Establishment

During the reporting period, the programme facilitated and achieved the following:

- (a) The preparation of WMA implementation strategy following government approval of the new Wildlife Act, 2009. Once in operational the strategy will: provide guidance to Government, NGOs, local government, private sectors, and local communities on how to develop WMAs; highlight how best WMA concept can be implemented in order to scale-up the implementation of WMAs in Tanzania and secure more and tangible benefits to local communities, districts and the nation; and also address key challenges that the WMA owners, private sectors, implementing agencies and partners have been facing throughout the piloting phase and suggest strategic options to overcome those challenges.
- (b) The finalization of the Authorized Association (AA) Constitution and starting the registration process for the AA Consortium. A meeting to finalize the AA Consortium was held and the constitution adopted. Currently, the application for the registration has been launched with the Registrar of Society in Tanzania and soon a certificate will be issued. The AA Consortium will be an apex organization specifically to be used as a forum for AAs to articulate, meet, discuss and seek to achieve their rights and goals. The preparation of these regulations costed more resources than what was planned for because of the Government requirement to have all the regulation prepared simultaneously and at once. The Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism was under heavy pressure from the Parliament of Tanzania to ensure that the regulations are prepared as soon as possible to allow the operationalization of the Wildlife Conservation Act to commence. The Program thus utilized resources that were meant to develop regulations for the implementation of the Environmental Management Act- Cap 191 since this activity could be rescheduled and implemented later.
- (c) The preparation of Village Land Use Plans (VLUPs) for 22 villages forming JUKUMU WMA. The VLUPs have been prepared and are being reviewed .Once this process is complete, the process to prepare the Resource Zone Management Plan (RZMP) for

- (d) During the same reporting period, meetings were convened to deliberate on the investment problems between a Tent with A View Company and JUKUMU WMA. It was then established that the Company need to pay all the payments due to JUKUMU as agreed in the contract. The Company and JUKUMU signed a legal binding agreement in which the Company will pay JUKUMU all their dues over a period of 10 months starting from January 2010. In addition, it was also noted that the contract the Company entered with Kisaki Village was invalid because it was entered on a business that was considered part of the JUKUMU WMA. Kisaki village is a member of the JUKUMU WMA
- (e) The Wildlife Division is preparing seven new regulations which will operationalise the implementation of the Wildlife Act 2009. The regulations are for: Wildlife Management Areas; Consumptive Utilization of Wildlife Resources; Ranching Farming and Sanctuary; Non-consumptive Utilization of Wildlife Resources; Prospecting and Mining in game reserve; Consolation for loss of livestock, life crops and injuries; and Administration of Wildlife unit. The consumptive regulations consist of four other regulations namely tourist hunting; trophy and subsistence hunting, animal capture; and trophy dealers' license.
- (f) The WMA Implementation Strategy. The program facilitated the preparation of the Strategy for the Implementation of the WMAs in collaboration with the Wildlife Division. The Strategy is aimed at guiding the WMA process in Tanzania taking into account the new Wildlife Policy of 2007 and the Wildlife Conservation Act of 2009. The draft report is ready and stakeholders are reviewing it. A stakeholder meeting will be held in 2010 to obtain comments from various stakeholders and to finalize the strategy.
- (g) The Policy programme through Millennium Challenge Account – Tanzania (MCA-T) funding has facilitated sensitization on Wildlife Management Regulations to Tunduru and Songea Districts at District Council level as well as for the CBOs forming the Tunduru and Mbarang'andu WMAs in Tunduru and Songea districts respectively. In addition, through MCA-T funding the Programme has facilitated the preparation of the Resource Zone Management Plans (RZMP) for Tunduru and Mbarang'andu WMA. Tunduru WMA has already been granted Wildlife Resources User Right while the RZMP for Mbarang'andu WMA has just been completed. Through MCA-T funding constitutions for the NALIKA and Mbarang'andu CBO which respectively manage the Tunduru and Mbarang'andu WMAs, were reviewed and new leaders have been elected in accordance to the reviewed constitution.
- (h) The RZMP for Liwale WMA and application for Wildlife Resources User Right has been submitted to the Director of Wildlife. However, the WD has not issued a user right to Liwale citing existence of boundary conflict between Liwale and Selous Game Reserve. The program will facilitate discussions and fresh demarcation of the boundary in order to enable Liwale obtain? a user right and begin formal business arrangement
- (i) The training of eight WMAs in the area of entrepreneurship, business planning, project management, negotiation and contract management skills, leadership and laws governing investments in the WMA. The eight WMAs are *Liwale (Magingo)*, *Pawaga-Idodi (MBOMIPA)*, *Tunduru (Nalika)*, *Songea (Mbarang'andu)*, *Enduimet*, *Ikona*, *Makao-Meatu* and *Makame-Kiteto*. The training targeted nine participants from each WMA. These are: Two members from CBO's planning and Economic Committee; two representatives from District Natural Resources Advisory Board; CBO's Chairman,

- (j) The Program held a planning meeting for WMA Conservation Corps (Financial Crisis Initiative FCI or the Cash-for-Work Program) from 12th – 18th December 2009. The planning meeting was attended by representatives from US Department of Interior (DOI), USAID (Mission Office), WWF-TCO, AFRICARE, African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Wildlife Division-Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (WD), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and National Construction Council (NCC). The program will involve infrastructure developments such as roads, bridges, entrance gates, ranger posts, walking trails, offices, camp sites, multipurpose visitors' centers, signage and interpretative materials in the WMAs of Ipole, Ikona, Burunge, Enduimet and MBOMIPA. The aim of this program is to cushion the local communities from economic crisis while strengthening conservation. In ensuring that the objective of the funding is realized, large proportion of the money will be used to pay the labor force coming from the local communities. A ground breaking event for the program is planned in Burunge WMA in the week of 15-20 March 2011.
- (k) NRM-Policy Implementation Program initiated in December 2009, the process of preparing Conservation Business Plans (CBP) for the Songea and Tunduru WMAs. The CBPs will construe the already developed and approved Resource Zone Management Plans for Tunduru and Songea/Namtumbo WMAs and translate them into business plans to be used to secure investors. Furthermore; the CBPs will identify other natural resource business ventures beyond tourism in the WMAs as a means of dependence on tourism related activities, human pressure to the WMAs and hence to enhance the WMAs sustainability.
- (l) During the reporting period, the programme had to cancel the implementation of preparation of Regulations for Environmental Inspectors and Economic Instruments due to delays in preparing contracts at the WWF office. The delays necessitate the Government of Tanzania (DoE under VPO) to start preparing the said regulations using their own funds. While the government using won funds is a positive aspect, it only created problems resulting on low burn rate on the part of the program. There is a need therefore to avoid such situations and to ensure that planned and agreed activities are implemented as quickly as possible.

2) Outcomes and Impacts Achieved

The past six months have seen more communities intending to establish WMAs out of the previously piloted 16 WMAs. This has been attributed by the programme facilitating the government in making the WMA operational. For example two of these new areas are located south of the Ruaha National Park and three are formed around Katavi-Ugalla Ecosystem. The WMAs around Ruaha are *Umemaruwa* (ca. 400Sqkm) covering villages in Njombe and Mbarali Districts and *Waga* (ca. 170 Sqkm) which covers villages in Iringa, Mufindi and Mbarali Districts. The proposed Waga WMA is located south of Ruaha National Park, extending into the Usangu wetland, an important bird area in

Tanzania. These areas are critical for biodiversity conservation and have the potential to generate increased income to the local communities through tourism.

The three other new areas are located south of Ugalla Game Reserve and south of Katavi National Park. These are Ubende (855 sqkm), which has 10 villages, Mpimbwe (372 sqkm) with five villages and Kamsis which has three villages.

Others areas that are also preparing to establish WMAs include Igombe/Sagara in Urambo District; Malagarasi in Kigoma; Mpanga/Kipengere in Mbeya and Makete; Natron South in Longido District and Natron North in Ngorongoro District.

During the same period, areas under conservation (outside the core protected areas) have grown substantially and will increase once the demarcation for these new WMAs is completed.

Capacities in conservation of key flagship biodiversity species, such as elephants, lions and leopards have also increased with WMAs becoming more responsible for the management of the resources in their areas. With this improvement, opportunities for tourism visitor experience in the WMAs have increased.

Several capacity building programmes focusing on business planning, project management, transparency, good governance, and leadership and financial management have been offered to WMA managers. This capacity building has resulted in more awareness among the Authorized Association members of the critical role of administrative and governance matters leading to enhanced management of the WMAs.

Several of the WMAs that have business agreements have received revenue from tourism activities. In addition to money from the investors in the WMAs, several of the WMAs with hunting blocks have also received financial allocations from the Wildlife Division for hunting activities taking place in their WMAs. However, details of the amounts accrued will be obtained in 2010 following official calculations at the end of the hunting season

3) Challenges and Strengths Affecting Performance

The programme has not been able to accomplish some of the activities as planned due to delays in getting feedback from stakeholders, WD or WMAs/AA members. For example, the launch of the AA Consortium and WMA implementation Strategy were delayed due to administrative bottlenecks. The registration of the AA Consortium was delayed because of the lack of clarity regarding the legal interpretation of governing positions in the association that will be filled through employees instead of volunteers. The delay to conclude the WMA Implementation Strategy was caused by slow response from WD to comment on the draft report. These activities will be concluded in 2010.

There were also delays in preparing contracts at the WWF office, which also contributed to delays in starting various consultancies/activities. For example the preparation of VLUPs for JUKUMU WMA which could have cleared the way for the preparation of the RZMP for JUKUMU was delayed.

Although the Government has made steady progress in the implementation of the WMAs, there are still challenges that must be addressed in order to sustain the current achievements and to realize

additional benefits. The main challenges facing the programme in this regard are inadequate capacities (in human capital, know-how, facilities, timely interventions, new ideas for linking business and conservation). Some of the challenges will be addressed in the new phase that is starting in January 2010 in which the main thrust of the program will be the development of the WMAs and associated supportive elements.

4) Adaptive Management

The program has often adopted mechanisms to overcome bureaucratic bottlenecks by ensuring constant follow up with relevant authorities as well as raising concerns with key decision makers in the respective organizations. For example, delays within WWF have been noted and steps taken to ensure that contracting issues will no longer be a bottleneck by designating a full time finance staff who will serve as a Financial and Contracts Officer. In addition, the program shall support capacity-building interventions to the WMA Support Unit and the Wildlife Division to become a strong and proactive unit that will provide oversight, leadership and coordination of the WMA process in Tanzania. The program will also support meetings and sensitization workshops for the AAs, WMAs, local government, NGOs, and private sector in order to raise the awareness and knowledge on WMA issues. As a strategy to overcome some of the bottlenecks including inadequate human capacities, the program will employ additional staff and work very closely with WD to improve their WMA Monitoring Unit.

5) Communications/Stories

More than 80 participants from different CBOs received an entrepreneurship training course from University of Dar es salaam Entrepreneurship Center. This training equipped the WMAs managers to be able to tackle management and investment challenges in their respective WMAs.

At the end of 2009 the programme has managed to secure more funding for the next five years to continue support its activities. Within the current programme framework, an increase of \$ 5,800,000 will be obligated for the next 18 months to support for infrastructures developments such as roads, bridges, entrance gates, ranger posts, walking trails, offices, camp sites, multipurpose visitors centers, signage and interpretative materials in selected five Wildlife Management Areas, namely *Ikona, Enduimet, Mbomipa, Burunge and Ipole* through a cash-for-work arrangement. The programme will be implemented as part of the Financial Crisis Initiative in which, cash-for-work activities will be implemented in the selected WMAs. This arrangement will generate employment opportunities in rural areas and enable local households to receive incomes that would assist them to cope with the pressures of an ongoing financial crisis. Other benefits include increase attractiveness to the investors, improve WMA infrastructures and therefore enhance conservation of biodiversity.

Also for the next five years, the programme will receive about \$9,200,000 to provide support for a program in enhancing conservation and community gains through the implementation of Wildlife Management Areas and environmental policies. The CBNRM program will be implemented to support capacity building for the central and local government, the AA Consortium, establishment of new WMAs and support to the existing WMAs to be fully capable of managing their businesses.