



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



for a living planet[®]

Global Conservation Program Cooperative Agreement

LAG-A-00-99-00048-00

*Special Report –
Performance Monitoring Report
10/01/2005 - 09/30/2006*

for

World Wildlife Fund

Date Submitted: November 24, 2006

Submitted by:
Judy Oglethorpe

*Quantitative data may be reviewed on the spreadsheet marked Annex I.

Eastern African Marine Ecoregion FY06 Narrative

Indicators 1 and 2: The EAME program does not plan to increase the area under improved management. Focus has turned to improving the management itself.

Indicator 3: The 3 policy successes this reporting period included (as elaborated in the annual technical progress report):

- Increasing the capacity of government fisheries personnel to negotiate Fisheries Partnership Agreements (FPAs). Greater capacity will allow African nations to negotiate a more fair agreement with the European Union regarding the long-distance fishing access agreements they press African nations to sign. With USAID funding, EAME Secretariat's FPA models were used in the Brussels negotiations by the Government of Mozambique.
- EAME Secretariat is involved in building capacity among the EAME countries in areas related to sustainable fisheries management including FPA. To achieve this, EAME Secretariat used USAID resources to coordinate and facilitate a regional workshop to promote sustainable and equitable fisheries access agreements in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO). The workshop brought together all the fisheries directors from the WIO states, representatives from relevant national, regional and international players in WIO fisheries, including representatives from European Union, World Bank, and other development partners. Workshop recommendations included the establishment of a forum of Directors of Fisheries in WIO, capacity building, stakeholder involvement in relevant initiatives towards fisheries management, generation and facilitation of a regional management plan as a framework for fishing access arrangements in the region, and linking FPAs to development targets.
- With USAID funding, EAME Secretariat has taken the lead in supporting the stakeholders' consultative process and the review by various experts of the draft Kenya National Fisheries Policy. This is a key guiding document that stipulates the direction a country should take to improve the lives of the people and the national income through the fisheries resources, particularly habitat protection for spawning, and gear specification to reduce habitat destruction. EAME Secretariat has been asked to continue working with Kenya Fisheries Department on getting the policy endorsed by the Kenyan Parliament.

Future policy change targets will focus on further work in the FPA sector, as well as perhaps Turtle Excluder Devices (TED) and Bycatch Reduction Devices (BRD) legislation if the opportunity arises.

Indicator 4: WWF GCP2 funding for Quirimbas NP and for the EAME Secretariat work leveraged \$340,000 in DFID funding. Kiunga MNR leveraged \$77,900 for Successful Communities from Ridge to Reef: WWF's population-health-environment project funded through USAID's Office of Population and Reproductive Health. The population and health workers greatly increased community buy-in to conservation approaches funded by GCP. WWF has also received \$125,000 from Johnson & Johnson for the third and final year of its projects in Kiunga MNR and Quirimbas NP geared towards linking the physical health of the community with the conservation of their natural resources. When communities are healthy, they are better able to manage their natural resources responsibly. When natural resource management is

underpinned by access to health care, family planning, and food security issues, these communities are more able to conserve natural resources and support conservation objectives.

Indicator 5: WWF built the capacity of approximately 40 people through our long distance fishing access agreement and pre-assessment for community fisheries certification work; trained 12 protected area managers through our learning program; trained approximately 30 new local fishermen in Kiunga through our gear exchange, involved the community in PA management and fishing sanctuary work; and trained approximately 30 local community members in Quirimbas NP through our work with the expanded fish replenishment zone. These efforts to increase capacity have also increased participation in WWF's conservation efforts.

Indicator 6: Estimating the economic gains for Kiunga MNR is not possible at this point. We will strive to get a sense of the economic gains next year, but this will require additional funding for house to house surveys.

In Quirimbas NP, we estimate that approximately 150 households (approximately 400 people directly and indirectly) have benefited economically from the USAID supported fisheries work in the park over the last years.

For the wider EAME Secretariat, it is not possible to estimate the economic benefit of individuals, as the region covers the coastal regions of 3 countries, and the activities are primarily policy oriented.

Forests of the Lower Mekong FY06 Narrative

Indicator 1: Improved Management

90,000 hectares were conserved in the Dry Forests of Cambodia through Srepok Wilderness Area and surrounding areas through improved management supported by new infrastructure, new personnel, additional training, and a draft management plan.

40,000 hectares were conserved in the Central Annamites through landscape and forest conservation work in Song Tanh Nature Reserve and surrounding areas through increased law enforcement. WWF initiated a landscape-scale training program for nature law enforcement personnel in partnership with WildAid Foundation Thailand. Over 100 rangers from across the Central Annamites were trained. Additionally 8 rangers were trained as trainers.

Indicator 2: Improved Biophysical Conditions

Continuing effective management of previous acreage

Indicator 3: Improved Policy

Dry Forests Ecoregion, Laos and Cambodia

There were 2 major policy wins in the Dry Forests; approval and endorsement of the Lower Mekong Dry Forests Ecoregion Plan that now provides a policy framework for making strategic interventions, and the launching of the Eastern Plains Dry Forests, conserving a protected area complex of over 2 million ha.

- The Lower Mekong Dry Forests Ecoregion (LMDFE) Conservation Plan was finalized in November 2005, and the WWF Dry Forests Conservation Action Plan in March 2006. The LMDFE conservation plan has been revised and adapted to fit with the Lao Government's request to combine the LMDFE plan with the previously completed Greater Annamites (Saiphou Louang in Laos) plan into the nationally endorsed NBSAP (National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan) format. In Cambodia, the process of submitting the plan to the government was delayed due to the time required to analyze the jurisdictional implications of a national conservation plan designed for joint endorsement by the two main environmental ministries. The conservation plan is currently expected in the first quarter of FY07.
- WWF worked to secure more concrete commitments from the key natural resource ministries with jurisdiction in the province - the Ministry of Environment (MoE) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF). Cooperation between ministries is fundamental to ensuring a coordinated approach to addressing the key threats in the landscape through integrated and collaborative landscape planning, improved protected area management, and improved community livelihoods, including ecotourism development and sustainable forest development. In December 2005, a high profile event in the landscape provided the opportunity for the two key ministries (MoE and MAFF) to voice the government's support to improving protected area management in the landscape. As a result of the event, a protected area complex of over 2 million hectares has been declared a protected area by the Government.

Annamites Ecoregion, Vietnam

There were also 2 major policy wins in Central Annamites regarding Protected Areas in Quang Nam province:

- The proposed Ngoc Linh Nature Reserve received provincial government endorsement for establishment after 7 years of impasse and the province sent an official letter to Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) requesting its establishment;
- Tay Giang Saola area has been proposed for gazettelement as a 'landscape conservation area' by the provincial government

WWF Vietnam also established a policy unit to mitigate the most urgent, broad scale pressures on biodiversity in the ecoregion in 2005/6. To address these wider policy issues WWF Vietnam established new partnerships and ventured into multi-sectoral discussions with a wide range of private and public sectors groups. Based on the needs of the Vietnam program and ongoing projects, WWF Vietnam decided to concentrate on five streams of work. The identified themes were: *sustainable agriculture, sustainable aquaculture, sustainable financing, sustainable livelihoods and sustainable development*. With three new staff hired, the policy unit is now firmly established and working across all programs and projects within WWF Vietnam and the wider WWF-GMP area.

- In the area of agriculture policy, the focus of this work has been on sustainable cocoa production in the Southern Annamites landscape, close to Cat Tien National Park. A provincial workshop facilitated by WWF brought together producers, buyers (MARS, Cargill and Olam), research institutes and the government to look at the sustainable production of cocoa in Lam Dong. With these stakeholders WWF is planning to move into the next phase of introducing sustainable cocoa production into the province. Some of the analysis from this work highlighted the growing problem of cashew expansion into Cat Tien National Park. As a response, the agricultural team will look to introduce solutions to this growing threat. Finally the agricultural team has also identified sugar as an important commodity to focus on, and they completed a report on its current state in Vietnam.
- Another key focus area for the policy team is issues of infrastructure, in particular dams, which are impacting some of our priority sites. There have been varied degrees of success and frustration. WWF Vietnam worked closely with ADB, mainly through the SWEDCO EIA, to minimize the impact of the SBIV dam on Song Thanh nature reserve. After prolonged discussions, in which we requested to be part of the Advisory Group for SB IV, our request was turned down. However, we continue to be involved in the SB IV EIA as well as a broader cumulative assessment of the four proposed dams in the area. We are discussing with ADB consultants the possibility of using the A Vuong Dam to test a 'transfer payments' mechanism, where a small part of the monies earned from electricity generation is used for environmental and social projects. ADB is currently in discussions with EVN on the introduction of such a mechanism as part of their power sector reform process. WWF will continue to work with ADB and EVN in this basin and in the Southern Annamites landscape. Direct discussions with EVN have proved less fruitful, and we have found that working through ADB may be our best means to influence EVN.

Indicator 4: Funds Leveraged

The Forests of the Lower Mekong program leveraged \$188,000 in USD and \$259,000 in non-USG funds – totaling USD \$447,000.

Indicator 5: Number of People Trained in Natural Resource Management

In the Annamites, WWF initiated a landscape-scale training programme for nature law enforcement personnel in partnership with WildAid Foundation Thailand. Over 100 rangers from across the Central Annamites were trained. Additionally 8 rangers were trained as trainers.

In the Dry Forests, USAID support was used to provide overall assistance to the design of the project's CBNRM activities, PA management improvement, and ecotourism development activities, with the following results:

- Basic field ranger training conducted for 25 rangers. This is the second time this course has been run and individual staff improvement in the various components taught was tested, measured, and monitored;
- Established a Community Extension Team to lead the CBNRM activities within the Srepok Wilderness Area.

Indicator 6: Economic Benefits

In the Annamites, 17 communes have benefited through conservation and development activities. In the Dry Forests, at least 5 communities have benefited through a combination of sustainable livelihoods and conservation management practices. The male/female ratio is not yet known.

Terai Arc Landscape FY06 Narrative

Indicator 1: 10, 00 ha of Forests in TAL under Improved Management

By working at the national, landscape and local levels, over 10,000 ha of forests were conserved through community based forest management. Due to the program's successful interventions in restoration, control of illegal activities and other conservation initiatives, the movement of flagship and mega-fauna species has been recorded in the corridors. For example, currently habitat occupancy of corridor forests by tigers is 34% and the presence of ungulate species in the corridors is increasing. Similarly, during this reporting period two tigers were recorded in camera traps for the first time in Khata corridor.

Indicator 2: We continued effective management of previous acreage.

Indicator 3: There were two major policy successes in the Terai Arc Landscape.

Govt of Nepal Endorsed the TAL Implementation Plan

The Implementation Plan, a combination of the Financial Plan and Partnership Plan of the Terai Arc Landscape (2004 – 2014) was finalized through support of WWF-US and Business Experts from IBM. WWF-Nepal coordinated and facilitated the whole process of formulation of the Implementation Plan. MFSC endorsed the Implementation Plan on 14 July 2006. The endorsement of the Implementation Plan is a big success in terms of mobilizing concrete integrated implementation of TAL through a partnership among various agencies, programs and organizations working in the TAL.

Natural Resources and Biodiversity Conservation Included in the Nepal Interim Constitution

A group of conservation organizations - WWF, SNV Nepal, DfID, IUCN, and TMI (The Mountain Institute) - met with the Interim Constitution Drafting Committee of Nepal. The delegates submitted their written suggestions regarding provisions for natural resources and biodiversity conservation for inclusion in the interim constitution. As a result of this effort, the interim constitution now includes:

- A provision on peoples' right to live in a clean environment;
- A provision on the state's responsibility to invest in utilization of existing water and other natural resources in order to develop a self reliant economy;
- A provision requiring the state to prioritize involvement of the local communities in management of natural resources;
- A provision emphasizing the state responsibility to protect the environment and endangered species, ensuring that physical development activities have no negative impact;
- A provision on biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and equitable benefit sharing of the management of natural resources.

Indicator 4: Matched by WWF sources

Indicator 5: Number of People Trained in Natural Resource Management

To strengthen community forest management, thirty-one new Community Forest User Groups (CFUG) were formed, comprising 600 individuals, and 1,860 ha of community forest were handed over to them. TAL assisted with site level planning and capacity building, and coordinating meetings with CBOs, local stakeholders and partners which enhanced the planning processes and coordination with CFUGs.

More than 1093 households benefited from livestock and veterinary management and alternative livelihoods training.

Indicator 6: Number of People Experiencing Increased Economic Benefits

An unknown number of households benefited from the approximately \$100,000 in Non Timber Forest Products that was traded from the project sites through enhanced marketing of income generating activities. The male/female ratio is not known.