



USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity Annual Report FY21

June 4, 2021 to September 30, 2021



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USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity

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ACRONYMS

CAWM	College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka
CBCTC	Community Based Conservation Training Centre
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EMMP	Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
FY	Fiscal Year
FZS	Frankfurt Zoological Society
GDA	Global Development Alliance
GESI	Gender Equity and Social Inclusion
GWSI	Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and Social Inclusion
GIS	Geographical Information System
GoT	Government of Tanzania
GUC	Grants Under Contract
HESLB	Higher Education Students Loans Board
IEE	Initial Environmental Examination
IP	Implementing Partner
IPRS	Implementing Partner Reporting System
IR	Intermediate Results
JET	Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania
LCWT	Landscape Conservation in Western Tanzania
LGA	Local Government Authority
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
MEO	Mission Environmental Officer
MNRT	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NLUI	National Land Use Information System
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NSSF	National Social Security Fund
OMDM	Okoa Maisha Dhibiti Malaria
PEA	Political Economy Analysis
PECCA	Pemba Channel Conservation Area
PPP	Private Public Partnership
PWTI	Pasiansi Wildlife Training Institute
SHARPP	Southern Highlands and Ruaha-Katavi Protection Program
STEP	Southern Tanzania Elephant Program
TAFORI	Tanzania Forest Research Institute
TAWA	Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority
TFCG	Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
TFS	Tanzania Forest Service
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TOC	Theory of Change
TRAFFIC	Trade Record Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce
TWCAPAP	Tanzania Wildlife Corridor Assessment, Prioritization, and Action Plan (Wildlife Corridors Action Plan)
UCRT	Ujamaa Community Resource Team
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WCF	Workers Compensation Fund
WD	Wildlife Division
WI-HER	Women Influencing Health, Education and Rule of Law

I. ACTIVITY OVERVIEW/SUMMARY

Activity Name:	USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili
Activity Start Date:	June 04, 2021
Activity End Date:	June 03, 2026
Name of Prime Implementing Partner:	RTI International
Contract Number:	72062121C00001
Name of Subcontractors/Sub awardees:	<u>Subcontractors:</u> Trade Record Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce (TRAFFIC), Southern Tanzania Elephant Program (STEP), Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET). <u>Grantees:</u> TBD
Major Counterpart Organizations	<u>Government of Tanzania (GoT):</u> Wildlife Division (WD) <u>NGO/industry associations/CSOs:</u> TBD
Geographic Coverage (Districts, Regions and or Zanzibar)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Kwakuchinja Wildlife Corridor – connecting Tarangire – Manyara Ecosystems (in Babati District, Manyara Region) 2. Tarangire - Simanjiro Plains – a dispersal area for Tarangire National Park (in Simanjiro District, Arusha Region) 3. Kigosi Moyowosi – Uvinza Corridor – connecting Kigosi Moyowosi Complex and Ugalla complex (in Kasulu and Uvinza Districts, Kigoma Region) 4. Nyerere Selous - Udzungwa Corridor – connecting Nyerere Selous and Udzungwa Mountains National Parks (in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region) 5. Amani - Nilo Corridor – forest corridor connecting Amani and Nilo Nature Forest Nature Reserves (in Muheza District, Tanga Region) 6. Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA) – a marine corridor in Pemba Isle. (In the districts of Mkoani, Chakechake, Wete and Micheweni in Kasikazini and Kusini regions of Pemba Island)
Reporting Period:	June 04, 2021 – September 30, 2021

1.1 Executive Summary

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity addresses dynamics that threaten habitat connectivity and the long-term persistence of biodiversity in Tanzania. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili is a \$30.5 million Activity being implemented over a period of five years (2021-2026). This Activity will incorporate a series of interventions that support and strengthen government and civil society capacity for biodiversity conservation in a manner that: i) builds the capacity of the public sector and civil society; ii) increases private sector engagement in conservation and Natural Resources Management (NRM); and iii) strengthens the policy and regulatory framework for conservation and NRM. These interventions together will reduce threats to biodiversity in Tanzania while moving Tanzanian institutions further toward self-reliance.

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili is organized to address three different Intermediate Results (IR):

IR1. Build Institutional Capacities of both Public and Private Stakeholders: Tanzania and Tanzanians require strong and able government institutions, non-government institutions, civil society institutions, and private sector actors to effectively manage the country's natural resources. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili has a purposeful capacity building for all organizations we will work with. We will develop individual institutional development plans, monitor their execution, measure human and institutional capacity development, and move partners toward self-reliance.

IR2. Increase Private Sector Engagement in Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources: Engagement of private sector actors is crucial to protect targeted species and secure their habitats in areas of connectivity. As opposed to core protected areas, areas of connectivity are mostly located outside protected areas and lack clear management structure and active management. Some lands in areas of connectivity are privately owned (private lands), some communally owned (village lands), and some lands are either reserved and/or general lands. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity, through grants and direct technical support, will develop strategic partnerships with private sector actors to: i) leverage investments to improve livelihood of the community members in areas of connectivity, ii) support private sector-led efforts to create awareness on natural resource-related crimes, and iii) leverage investments to improve management of areas of connectivity.

IR3. Improve the Policy, Regulatory, and Enabling Environment for Biodiversity Conservation and NRM: To support the long-term viability of Tanzania's wildlife and natural resources, the development and application of key policies and legislation are needed to provide the legal basis for promoting decision making and conservation of biodiversity. In Tanzania, effective biodiversity conservation and sustainable natural resources management is limited by inadequate supportive policies, regulatory mechanisms, and research-based evidence; uncoordinated advocacy agendas among Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), the private sector, and government; and insufficient government commitment in conservation. These hinder the wildlife sector's capacity to prosper and contribute to economic growth. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili, through a participatory approach, will identify constraints in the policy and regulatory framework and provide targeted assistance to the GoT to address the identified constraints, and harmonize policies that affect wildlife and NRM.

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili key accomplishments this Fiscal Year (FY) 21 include:

- 1) USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity recruited for the following positions: [REDACTED] (Chief of Party), [REDACTED] (Monitoring and Evaluation Manager), [REDACTED] (Knowledge Management and Learning Specialist), [REDACTED] (Communications Team Lead), [REDACTED] (Landscape Planning and Biodiversity Specialist), [REDACTED] (Capacity Building Manager), [REDACTED] (Grants Assistant), [REDACTED] (Grants Officer), [REDACTED]

- ██████████ (Finance Manager), ██████████ (Deputy Chief of Party Technical), ██████████
██████████ (Human Resources Manager), ██████████ (Accountant), ██████████ (Grants
Assistant), ██████████ (Communications Officer), and ██████████ (Monitoring,
Evaluation, Learning & GIS Officer), ██████████ (Deputy Chief of Party Operation)
- 2) USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity secured an office space in Masaki area and procured office furniture and computers for staff.
 - 3) USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team; through a Theory of Change (TOC), Monitoring Evaluation and Learning (MEL), and work planning workshop; developed a situation model and overall Result Chain and general TOC for USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili. Using the general TOC, the team developed a results chain for each of the six selected areas of connectivity namely, Amani-Nilo Forest, Kigosi Moyowosi – Uvinza, Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous – Udzungwa, Simanjiro Plains, and PECCA marine area. USAID approved the Results Chains on September 14, 2021.
 - 4) USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team developed the FY22 work plan considering COVID-19 pandemic challenges and inputs from USAID and stakeholders including Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT). USAID approved the work plan and the budget on September 27, 2021.
 - 5) The M&E unit developed the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili MEL plan, taking into consideration USAID’s updated guidance – How-to Note - Activity MEL Plan. USAID approved the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili MEL plan on September 29, 2021.

I.2 Summary of Results to Date

No annual performance results were achieved (Indicator targets) at the end of this reporting period since the Activity was in its startup phase.

Evaluation/assessment status and/or plans

Assessment Type	Planned for (date)	Status
Conservation Value Chain Analysis in priority corridors: Kwakuchinja, Tarangire-Simanjiro Plains, Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa, Amani-Nilo, Kigosi Moyowosi-Uvinza, and PECCA corridors	September – October 04, 2021	The assessment has been conducted; it is undergoing internal review processes.
National Level Political Economy Analysis (PEA)	September – October 04, 2021	The assessment has been conducted; it is undergoing internal review processes.
Biodiversity Analysis in key wildlife corridors: Kwakuchinja, Tarangire-Simanjiro Plains, Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa, Amani-Nilo, Kigosi Moyowosi-Uvinza and PECCA	September – October 18, 2021	The assessment has been conducted; it is undergoing internal review processes.

2. ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS

2.1 Progress Narrative

On June 04, 2021, USAID awarded USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity to RTI International. In this startup phase, the activity ensured all key staff were recruited. Together with USAID and the GoT, the team participated in TOC, MEL, and planning workshop to develop the first-year work plan. The team developed the general TOC, a results chain for each of the six selected areas of connectivity, the work plan for FY22, the Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) and MEL plan. These deliverables were submitted to USAID on schedule for review and approval. The TOC, work plan and MEL plan were approved by USAID and the team will start the implementation of FY22 work plan on October 1, 2021.

2.1 Implementation Status and Planned Activities

2.2.1 *Intermediate Result 1: Build Institutional Capacities of both Public and Private Stakeholders*

Achievements/Accomplishments

In FY21, the IR 1 team started by making contacts with partners, mainly government institutions, to discuss potential collaboration opportunities to effectively address the biodiversity threats within the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili focus areas. The institutions contacted were MNRT-Research and Training Directorate, Tanzania Forest Service (TFS), Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI), College of African Wildlife Management (CAWM) Mweka, Likuyu Sekamaganga Community Based Conservation Training Centre (CBCTC), and Pasiansi Wildlife Training Institute (PWTI). The potential and proposed areas of capacity building support were shared in the TOC, MEL and work plan workshop held in August 2021 for discussions.

Building on the initial consultation with partners, the proposed activities were aligned with the TOC and the Result Chains, to strategically address the biodiversity threats in the Activity's focal areas of connectivity based on the situation model. The team ensured that the proposed activities would implement a select set of actions from the GoT's Tanzania Wildlife Corridor Assessment, Prioritization and Action Plan (TWCAPAP).

Challenges

- Working from home (due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic) has several challenges such as unstable internet connectivity and erratic power supply.
- Travel restrictions imposed due to the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in relying on virtual meetings and desk research, making it difficult to get reliable information and data and verify their validity.
- Willingness of the respondents, especially government officials, to respond to e-mails on time, undertake virtual interviews, and/or discuss sensitive issues online, has also been a challenge.
- There may be an over-expectation from partners—especially those that received support under the predecessor USAID PROTECT project—regarding Tuhifadhi Maliasili support considering its geographic focus on areas of connectivity.

Planned Activities for Q1 FY22

- I. Assessment of data management system for GoT institutions and data harmonization.

- II. Support CAWM-Mweka and Likuyu Sekamaganga CBCTC to update training curricula to include issues of connectivity.
- III. Support youth and women's internships in Kwakuchinja and Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa corridors.
- IV. Capacity building for CSOs to move toward self-reliance.
- V. Support women's empowerment in biodiversity conservation.

2.2.2 Intermediate Result 2: Increase Private Sector Engagement in Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resources

Achievements/Accomplishments

The IR 2 team participated in the TOC, MEL, and work planning workshop and presented a proposed list of activities for comments from workshop participants.

The team conducted Conservation Value Chain Analyses at the national and corridor levels. The team organized and conducted several online meetings with stakeholders in all six corridors. Key interviewees included the conservation focal person for Kwanini Foundation, a manager and a field officer from Afri-evolve project (spice value addition project), the Zonal Conservation Commander – Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) Western Tanzania, Conservation Commander - Moyowosi Game Reserve, District Game Officer- Kasulu District, Project Manager- Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) Mahale Conservation Project, Director – Upendo Honey Kigoma, and individuals from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT). The draft report is undergoing the internal review process and will be submitted to USAID in October 2021.

Challenges

- Due to COVID-19, data for the Conservation Value Chain Analyses had to be collected remotely. Sometimes it has been difficult to reach the targeted respondents in remote areas via phones and/or internet (e.g., Kigosi Moyowosi-Uvinza and Tarangire-Simanjiro areas). Some facilities in the ecotourism value chains have also been temporarily closed due to COVID-19 and key personnel to provide information are not available (e.g., accommodation facilities).

Planned Activities for Q1 FY22

- I. Finalize the Conservation Value Chain Analyses in all six priority corridors.
- II. Conduct analysis of non-conservation value chains in all six priority corridors.
- III. Assess traditional and non-traditional funding sources/models in different value chains across sectors in all six priority corridors.
- IV. Support creation of awareness efforts to different private sector entities on NRM issues, with a focus on areas of connectivity.

2.2.3 Intermediate Result 3: Improve the Policy, Regulatory, and Enabling Environment for Biodiversity Conservation and NRM

Achievements/Accomplishments

In this reporting period, the IR 3 team participated in the TOC, MEL, and work planning workshop to present proposed activities and develop a corresponding budget for FY22.

In FY21, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili conducted an applied Political Economy Analysis (PEA) at the national level to understand the political, economic, and social processes promoting or blocking change in natural resources conservation in relation to wildlife connectivity. PEA is a powerful tool for assessing and understanding the political dimensions of any context and actively using

this information to inform policy and programming. For any project to succeed it is important to understand how political and economic power are distributed and contested, and to identify the implications for development activities and outcomes. This ensures that the intervention is both technically sound and politically conceivable. The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team worked with RTI Governance Expert [REDACTED] from Uganda, who has vast experience in conducting PEAs, to develop the national PEA report.

In the process, the team developed key topics for the applied PEA, reviewed secondary literature, held interviews and virtual workshops to document opportunities that exist and assess stakeholder levels of influence, interest, and connections that would allow USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili to harness stakeholder engagement in support of the corridors. The team also infused Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) in the PEA process to ensure that gender, youth, persons with disabilities, and the needs of other marginalized populations are addressed in the most appropriate way.

In the next reporting period, The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team will conduct PEAs for each of the Activity's six areas of connectivity.

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team also embarked on desktop research to conduct the biodiversity analysis in the six target areas of connectivity. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity will implement multiple interventions within these areas of connectivity to improve NRM and consequently improve biophysical conditions. To be able to monitor and demonstrate levels of biodiversity conservation effectiveness, as well as inform adaptive management of this Activity and other relevant programs, documenting the baseline on biophysical conditions is fundamentally important. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the analysis used the information available on the internet, earth observations, and interviews with key informants. The draft report is undergoing internal review and will be submitted to USAID in October 2021.

Challenges

- Observing COVID-19 safety protocols meant that the PEA and biodiversity analysis of the target areas of connectivity were undertaken remotely. The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team had to conduct virtual interviews with select individuals to complement the desk studies. The distance study had limitations as respondents were perhaps more cautious on providing candid responses on-line, and there was no opportunity for field observations to engage a wider sample of respondents and verify information obtained online or through interviews.

Planned activity for Q1 FY22

- I. Support launching of the TWCAPAP.
- II. Kickstart the development of a Comprehensive National Wildlife Conservation Strategy.
- III. Implement the first phase of updating the National Land Use Information System (NLUIS) data for three prioritized corridors: Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa, and Amani-Nilo.

3. INTEGRATION OF CROSSCUTTING ISSUES AND USAID FORWARD PRIORITIES

3.1 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Through a subcontract to Women Influencing Health, Education and Rule of Law (WI-HER), USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili developed a Gender Equality, Women's Empowerment and Social Inclusion (GWSI) Action Plan.

The purpose of this Action Plan is to incorporate opportunities to engage and empower women and girls, youth, and excluded groups, such as persons with disabilities and the elderly. These groups often suffer the most from poor NRM practices, weak governance, and lack of livelihood opportunities, yet structural disparities and social norms frequently exclude or limit their participation in biodiversity conservation and NRM efforts.

The GWSI Action Plan summarizes how the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity will operationalize the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili interventions considering women, gender and other marginalized groups in the focal areas of the Activity. It describes specific activities and their associated indicators, outcomes, and links to the overall Activity results framework to incorporate opportunities that engage and empower women and girls, youth, and excluded groups.

The Action Plan is undergoing internal review and will be submitted to USAID on October 4.

The team also infused GESI in the PEA process to ensure that gender, youth, persons with disabilities, and the needs of other marginalization populations are addressed in the most appropriate way.

3.2 Youth Engagement

Through the same subcontract to WI-HER, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili developed a Youth Engagement Strategy that addresses youth engagement and empowerment issues. Encouraging youth to participate in conservation and NRM is not only critical to Tanzania's efforts in these domains but also its economy. Establishing a youth mentorship program to expose youth to different careers in biodiversity conservation and NRM in public and private institutions, is among the actions to be taken by USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili in implementing the strategy.

The Strategy is undergoing internal review and will be submitted to USAID on October 4.

3.3 Grants Under Contract (GUC)

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili has prepared its Grants Manual, which details how the GUC program will be administered. On September 17, 2021, as per schedule established in the activity contract, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili submitted the Grants Manual to USAID for review and approval.

3.4 Integration and Collaboration USAID Implementing Partners Coordination

This year the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team started initial discussions with USAID as to how best to support the larger NRM portfolio through coordination of meetings with the implementing partners. There are currently four implementing partner activities (Landscape Conservation in Western Tanzania [LCWT], Southern Highlands and Ruaha-Katavi Protection Program [SHARPP], Usimamizi Endelevu Wa Maliasili Activity, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity) in the NRM portfolio and USAID emphasized the importance of creating synergies and collaboration to minimize duplication of efforts and realize USAID's NRM larger goals. The first meeting should be held in Quarter 2, where Tuhifadhi Maliasili will work closely with USAID to plan the agenda and key themes to discuss in that coming meeting. Further, USAID requested USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity to use its activities with the government, specifically the MNRT, to portray the larger USAID's NRM portfolio, demonstrating the broader support to the sector.

Collaboration with Other USAID Activities/Projects

In this startup phase, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili has yet to collaborate with other USAID activities.

3.5 Sustainability

Because actual implementation of the first-year work plan is yet to start, we are sharing indicative activities that demonstrate the sustainability built in the FY22 program.

- Through the grants program, the Activity will provide an opportunity to build the capacity of the local partners to become self-reliant, but also enable them to sustain the momentum of corridor conservation initiatives beyond the lifetime of the Activity.
- Strengthen the capacity of key GoT institutions critical to success of wildlife habitat connectivity in Tanzania.
- Leverage the resources of the private sector to contribute to biodiversity conservation and combat wildlife crime.
- Support CSOs and the private sector to work with the appropriate Local Government Authority (LGA) to improve management of natural resources conservation in the selected corridors.

3.6 Environmental Compliance

The team developed the Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) with reference from the Tanzania NRM Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) as specified in ADS 204. The EMMP defines the mitigation measures, monitoring indicators, reporting frequency, responsible parties, and field monitoring issues. The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team submitted the EMMP to USAID for approval along with the work plan on September 02, 2021. The team received comments from Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) and Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) on improving the plan. The team has addressed all the comments including the use of the new EMMP template and climate risk management. The EMMP was yet to be approved by the end of the reporting period.

3.7 Global Climate Change

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili does not receive Climate Change funding.

3.8 Policy and Governance Support

Please refer to the activity implementation progress under IR 3.

3.9 Private Sector Engagement, Public Private Partnerships (PPP), and Global Development Alliance (GDA) Collaboration

Please refer to the activity implementation progress under IR 2.

3.10 Science, Technology, and Innovation

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team used the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation framework and Miradi software to develop a situation model, general result chain (general TOC), and results chain for each of the six focal areas of connectivity namely, Amani-Nilo Forest, Kigosi Moyowosi – Uvinza, Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous – Udzungwa, Simanjiro Plains, and PECCA marine connectivity.

4. STAKEHOLDER PARTICIPATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Stakeholder Engagement

Between August 2 and August 6, 2021, the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team held the first TOC, MEL, and work plan workshop in Dar es Salaam. The participants of this workshop included USAID Tanzania's NRM team, the GoT Director of Wildlife and Assistant Director of Wildlife, STEP (subcontractor), JET (subcontractor) and TRAFFIC (subcontractor). Prior to the workshop, the team consulted other conservation stakeholders, including Kwanini Foundation, CAWM-Mweka, TFS, TAFORI, CBCTC and PWTI.

During the reporting period we also involved and/or consulted the following stakeholders via the process of collecting information for the Value Chain Analysis, Biodiversity Analysis, and National Level PEA: conservation focal person for Kwanini Foundation, Manager and Field Officer from Afri-evolve project (spice value addition project), Zonal Conservation Commander – TAWA Western Tanzania, Conservation Commander - Moyowosi Game Reserve, District Game Officer- Kasulu District, Project Manager- FZS Mahale Conservation Project, Director – Upendo Honey Kigoma, individuals from TNC, UCRT, Chem Chem Association, EBN Hunting Safaris, STEP, and Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG).

Communication

In FY21, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili incorporated communication grants activities in the work plan for FY22. The Activity proposed to implement the following communications grants:

- Awareness raising on corridor issues among communities in three priority corridors: Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa, and Amani-Nilo
- Conservation education/training in secondary schools in Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa, and Amani-Nilo Corridors

To improve the quality and quantity of media reports on connectivity issues, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili partnered with JET through a subcontract and proposed a set of activities to be implemented in FY22:

- Refreshers and master training classes for journalists,
- Support investigative/in-depth reporting on corridor and wildlife crime, and
- Conduct breakfast debates with experts, conservation stakeholders, and journalists.

External Communication

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity developed the communications strategy that will guide implementation of the Activity's communications efforts over the course of its lifetime. The strategy highlights key communication components such as objective, target audience, communication approaches/channels, and key messages. The strategy is undergoing the internal review process.

The team also started preparations for the launching of the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity which is planned to take place on October 28, 2021 in Dodoma. The following communication products were developed to support the visibility of the Activity during the launching event:

- press release,
- USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili brochure,
- spread banner,
- social media updates,

- remarks for USAID, and
- PowerPoint presentation on the Activity overview.

The communications team also prepared a success story on the importance of involving government officials in the work planning process (see *Annex 1*).

5. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

5.1 Staff

During this reporting period the operations team focused its efforts on startup activities to ensure that the office will be ready to start operations by early FY22.

By the end of FY21, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity recruited the following positions:

Name	Position
[REDACTED]	Chief of Party
[REDACTED]	M&E Manager
[REDACTED]	Knowledge Management and Learning Specialist
[REDACTED]	Communications Team Lead
[REDACTED]	Landscape Planning and Biodiversity Specialist
[REDACTED]	Capacity Building Manager
[REDACTED]	Grants Assistant
[REDACTED]	Grants Officer
[REDACTED]	Finance Manager
[REDACTED]	Deputy Chief of Party Technical
[REDACTED]	HR Manager
[REDACTED]	Accountant
[REDACTED]	Grants Assistant
[REDACTED]	Communications Officer
[REDACTED]	MEL & GIS Officer
[REDACTED]	Deputy Chief of Party Operation

At the end of September, the recruitment of the Capacity Building Specialist, Private Sector Engagement Officer, and Procurement and Administrative Assistant were ongoing. It is expected that these positions will be filled in early FY22.

The Private Sector Engagement Manager, [REDACTED] continued as a short-term consultant until the end of September, when the release letter from the government was received. He will start as long-term staff on October 1, 2021.

The Deputy Chief of Party-Operations and Grants was also engaged as a consultant in June 2021. Her status changed to long-term personnel as soon as the Tanzanian work permit was granted on September 1, 2021.

There are two positions that will be on hold: Youth & Gender Specialist and Driver. The recruitment will be done based on the Activity's needs.

5.2 Operations & Administration

Project Registration: To comply with the Tanzanian government laws and regulations, the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity was registered at the Treasury and Registrar of NGOs as per Regulation 13 of the Non-Governmental Organizations (Amendments) Regulations, 2018).

Office space: RTI selected a property to establish the office of USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili. It is in Masaki area and the contract started on August 16, 2021. Partitioning works were completed to condition the office space and the installation of the LAN is scheduled to be completed by October 2021.

Startup procurements: The project completed the procurement of computer equipment and office furniture. The hiring of security and internet services for the office was at the final stage by the end of September 2021.

5.3 Finance

The setup of a bank account is completed. During this period, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili received support from the USAID Okoa Maisha Dhibiti Malaria (OMDM) and Jifunze Uelewe projects to process all payments. In addition, USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili completed its registration with Government of Tanzania regulatory authorities, namely National Social Security Fund (NSSF), Workers Compensation Fund (WCF), and Higher Education Students Loans Board (HESLB).

6. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING

Through the TOC, MEL, and work planning workshop, the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team developed a situation model and overall Result Chain and general TOC for the Activity using the Open Standards for the Practice of Conservation framework and Miradi software. Using the general TOC, the team developed a results chain for each of the six selected areas of connectivity namely, Amani-Nilo Forest, Kigosi Moyowosi – Uvinza, Kwakuchinja, Nyerere Selous – Udzungwa, Simanjiro Plains, and PECCA marine area. USAID approved the Results Chains on September 14, 2021.

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili team developed the FY22 work plan considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic challenges and collected inputs from USAID and other stakeholders including MNRT. USAID approved the work plan on September 27, 2021.

The M&E unit developed the MEL plan, taking into consideration USAID’s updated guidance – How-to Note - Activity MEL Plan (https://usaidlearninglab.org/sites/default/files/resource/files/htn_activity_mel_plan_final2021.pdf) as well as suggesting monitoring indicators and monitoring methods. USAID approved the MEL plan on September 29, 2021. The M&E unit is in touch with Data for Development (D4D) to ensure USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili has an activity profile and access to Implementing Partners Reporting System (IPRS) and can enter indicator targets for FY22 and out-years.

Reporting

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili submitted its July and August 2021 monthly reports on time to USAID.

7. SPECIAL EVENTS FOR NEXT QUARTER

The USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity launch event is planned for October 28, 2021 in Dodoma, Tanzania. It is anticipated the USAID Mission Director and Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism will both attend and offer their remarks.

8. HOW IMPLEMENTING PARTNER HAS ADDRESSED COR COMMENTS FROM THE LAST QUARTERLY REPORT

Not applicable, as no quarterly reports have been submitted to USAID yet.

9. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The total expenditures for all costs incurred under the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili contract for FY21 (June 2021 - September 2021) is [REDACTED]. The tables below provide a detailed breakdown of the expenses incurred in FY21 and the duration of the contract.

Table 1. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Expenditures in FY2021:

Activity	FY21 Expenditures (Jun–Aug 2021)	Sept 2021 Invoice submitted Oct 30, 2021
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Table 2. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Funding Status:

	Contract to Date
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Table 3. USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Expenditures by Contract Budget:

	Contract Budget	Expended Contract to Date	Remaining Budget
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

10. ANNEX I: SUCCESS STORIES

Securing Government's commitment in supporting the Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity

Ministry of Natural Resources Inputs in The First Work Planning



Photo: USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili

The Director of Wildlife Division Dr. Maurus Msuha (left) sharing ideas during Tuhifadhi Maliasili Work Planning Workshop held between August 2 and August 6, 2021, in Dar es Salaam.

“I am very happy with the activities listed in the plan; they align very well with the Ministry’s existing plan for conserving wildlife movement corridors. I assure you my full support during the implementation of the project.”

-Dr. Maurus Msuha,

The Director of Wildlife Division, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

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Securing political commitment from the government is key to the success of any development intervention. It helps ensure a mutual understanding of the activities between the government as a primary beneficiary, and the development partner.

The five-year USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity, which focuses on conserving areas of connectivity for wildlife, began with its first Theory of Change; Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning; and work planning workshop held on August 2 - 6, 2021, in Dar es Salaam. The Director of Wildlife, [REDACTED] from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, was among the attendees. Dr. Msuha applauded USAID for supporting the country to manage its rich natural resources.

“I am very pleased to be part of this workshop, thanks for invitation. I believe our ideas together will contribute to a feasible plan that will improve management of wildlife movement corridors and other areas of connectivity, and we are committed to support this project in any way possible,” [REDACTED] He added, “From the Government’s side, we are so thankful to USAID for their generous support to biodiversity conservation in Tanzania”.

The attendance of the Director of Wildlife was critical during the first planning workshop. His presence and contributions helped the project to align its interventions with the government priorities.

Among others, the workshop secured technical concurrence on the priority areas of connectivity, these include: Kwakuchinja, Tarangire -Simanjiro Plains, Kigosi Moyowosi – Uvinza, Nyerere Selous – Udzungwa, Amani – Nilo, and Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA).

Having [REDACTED] at the first work planning session indicated a full support and government’s commitment in the implementation of the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Activity. Upon approval by USAID, the implementation of the work plan will begin in October 2021 to September 2022.