

**EAST USAMBARA FOREST LANDSCAPE
RESTORATION PROJECT**

**MINUTES OF THE 8TH PROJECT STEERING
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20TH MARCH 2010
IN MKONGE HOTEL, TANGA**

MARCH, 2010

AGENDA

1. Opening and Introductions by the Project Coordinator Mr. Sumbi – WWF TCO
2. Review and Acceptance of agenda - All
3. Project Overview by the Project Coordinator Mr. Sumbi – WWF TCO
4. Review of previous meeting minutes and matters arising (Action Plans)
5. Project Update by the Senior Project Officer Mr. Mtui - TFCG.
6. Project Evaluation Update by the Project Coordinator Mr. Peter Sumbi – WWF TCO
7. Project Phase III Work Plan and Launching by the Project Coordinator Mr. Sumbi – WWF TCO
8. Updates on relevant initiatives within the landscape from members of the Steering Committee
9. AoB
10. Closing

Participants

1. Mr. Charles Meshack, Executive Director - TFCG
2. Mr. Peter Sumbi – EUFLR Project Coordinator WWF Tanzania Country Office
3. Mr. Eustack Bonifasi – Senior Project Officer EU FLR Project, TFCG
4. Mr. Salehe S. Kamnge DLNREO – Muheza District
5. Ms. Mwila Mbegu – M & E EU FLR Project, Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
6. Mr. Mialla - Regional Catchment Forest Officer, Tanga
7. Mr. Adam S. Kijazi – RDO Derema Project
8. Mrs – Representing DED Mkinga
9. Mr. Mwarabu S Mwarabu – Representing DLNREO Mkinga
10. Mr. Hamis Sessiwa – Representing Conservator, Amani Nature Reserve
11. Mr. Exper Pius – Representing the Director, EAMCEF
12. Mr. William Nambiza – Project officer EUFLRP, TFCG
13. Dr. George Jambiya – WWF TCO / UDSM

Apologies

1. General Manager - Kwamtili Cocoa Estate
2. General manager – Magoroto Estate
3. General Manager – EUTCO
4. Director – FBD
5. District Executive Director - Muheza

1.0 Opening and Introductions

The meeting was officially opened by the representative of WWF - Tanzania Country Office Mr. Peter Sumbi who is also the Project Coordinator for the East Usambara Forest Landscape restoration. This was preceded by opening remarks, self introductions and selection of a chairperson. He started by providing an overview of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) outlining its structure, aim, roles and responsibilities. He insisted about its major aim of bring together all key stakeholders in the landscape to share, discuss and agree on ways forwards about the project work plan and budget, implementation progress, challenges and problems. He therefore urged all members to actively participate and contribute in all discussions so that in the end we come up with action plans which would enable the project to meet its intended goals.

2.0 Review and Acceptance of the Agenda

The agenda were reviewed and accepted by all participants

3.0 Project Overview by the Project Coordinator Mr. Sumbi – WWF TCO

Following acceptance of the agenda, the project coordinator provided an overview of the project starting by introducing the name of the project, sources of fund and the main implementers as well as other implementing partners. He also informed that the project was almost towards the end of its second phase. Evaluation was just been conducted, the final report was already out and findings were showing that project implementation progress was good and promising. Following that, funds for the third phase had already been secured. Preparation of work plans and budget was taking place and that the same was to be shared during that meeting for further inputs and approval. There was also a launching ceremony scheduled for 24th March 2010 at Dare s Salaam.

4.0 Review of previous meeting minutes and matters arising

4.1 Review of previous meeting minutes

Several typing and numbering errors were noted and corrected accordingly. Subject to those corrections, the minutes were reviewed, accepted and signed by the Chairperson and Secretary as a full and accurate record of the previous PSC meeting.

4.2 Matters arising

4.2.1 Progress on Payments for Environmental Services Project in Zigi Catchment and Pangani Basin

The previous meetings suggested that WWF-TCO and the Regional Catchment Forests Office – Tanga to first of all develop a proposal for funding **Payments for Environmental Services** (PES) activities in Zigi Catchment and Pangani Basin. Secondly, develop business cases and share with various water users as a point of discussion as well as encouraging them to contribute to sustainable management of the Zigi Catchment and Pangani basin.

However, response from the project Coordinator was showing that WWF - TCO in collaboration with Care International – Tanzania had managed to secure some funds (about 50,000 USD) from

the government of Netherland to pilot PES activities at the Zigi Catchment. In addition to that he also said that, the East Usambara Forest Landscape Restoration Project will during its planning session for the third phase allocate some money for the same.

Not much was done regarding to development of business plans and bringing together key water user stakeholders to discuss and agree on their contribution towards sustainable management of the water sources (catchments) and river banks in the landscape. This was therefore left to be discussed during next meeting.

Action: WWF – TCO & Care International – Tanzania to keep on fundraising for management of the Zigi Catchment and Pangani basin. This was due to the fact that the amount of money that has been obtained is not enough to cater for the intended work.

4.2.2 Construction of Deep and Shallow Wells in the Lowland Usambaras

The meeting enquired the progress on construction of shallow and deep wells to tackle the problem of water shortages in the low land East Usambaras (Mkinga and Muheza districts). This problem has also been hindering the progress on establishment of tree nurseries and tree planting activities in the lowland project villages. Therefore, if successful it would somehow improve the restoration work of the degraded areas of the landscape by improving tree planting.

However updates from Muheza District is showing that (DLNREO), through support from World Bank, a total of 12 deep Wells would be constructed in 9 villages. The work was scheduled to start anytime from April 2010 after all the contracting processes are completed. These villages and the number of Wells (in brackets) include Kibandakumba (1), Kigongomawe (1), Kilongo (1), Kisiwani Nkumba (2), Kivindo (1), Kwemhosi (1), Misongeni (1), Mlingano (2), and Ubembe (2). Further updates would be provided during next meeting. However, none of these villages is under the East Usambara Forest Landscape Restoration Project. We couldn't get any updates from the Mkinga District as none of the participants was prepared for that. However, the project Manager was asked to make follow up at their office anytime for they believed that there were some processes going on.

4.2.3 Decision on Future use of the former SHUWIMU Land

The project since its inception has been working to secure future use of the SHUWIMU land which formerly used to be managed by Muheza District Council and currently under the Mkinga District Council. This land (more than 500 ha) has been left uncultivated for a long period of time now and has regenerated into a secondary thick forest whose management is uncertain. It forms a good corridor connecting Segoma Forest Reserve to Manga Forest reserve. It has been threatened by illegal harvesting of timber and other building materials, encroachment and forest fires. Therefore, If legal future management system is not sought at present then we think would even posts more risk and threat to sustainable management of the neighboring forest reserves as a source of forest fires.

However, response from the DLNREO - Muheza has shown that no decision could be made at that time regarding to its future use as there was a case filled up at the District Court of Law and

the decision is yet to be reached. However since the decision making process has taken very long time now and since the project is sincerely seeking to support its sustainable future management and given the project time frame; then Mr. Kijazi while supported by other members suggested that the Senior Project Officer assisted by DLNREO – Muheza should make follow up at the DED's office Muheza. He added that we need to enquire about the real situation for the time being of which would form a good basis for future discussions. We might need to share that with the District Council Members where necessary as well as the District and Regional Commissioner for information as well as seeking their assistance/ support in speeding up the process.

4.2.4 Fuelwood situation in East Usambaras

The project has in the recently years conducted a study to reveal the existing fuel wood situation in the East Usambara Landscape in terms of its supply and demand and its future implication. Following that study there was a strong need of sharing the findings with all stakeholders in the City of Tanga who are sourcing fuelwood in the landscape. The findings including others have shown that demand for firewood is higher than what the landscape could supply at present. Eucalyptus is one of the most preferred tree species due to its high calorific values but communities have stopped planting it based on the notion that it destroys the environment. The gate price per tone is very low that discourages communities to continue with its production. Furthermore, none of the buyers was aware of the situation and its future negative effects on their production. So it was worth it to organize a meeting with them to share the findings and agree on proposals for possible scenarios for securing a more sustainable future supply of fuelwood in the landscape.

Therefore, Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and World Wide Fund for Nature - Tanzania Country Office (WWF-TCO) in collaboration with the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA), Tanga Region has organized two consultative meetings with the companies and industries which are sourcing fuelwood from the landscape for their production. Majorities were very happy with the opportunities they had to share and discuss the findings. However, it was very difficult for them to reach consensus regarding to actions for sustainable future production and supply of fuelwood in the landscape due to some reasons: Firstly, none of them is owned a piece of land where could start production of fuelwood or own a woodlot where he/she gets supply. Secondly fuelwood supply has never been a problem to them. Every time when needs arises there is always people to supply at a reasonable price. So venturing on tree production is unnecessary additional cost to them. Thirdly, the bureaucracy of acquiring land in Tanzania. It is such a long process that discourages a lot and none was sure whether that idea would be supported / accepted by the government or not.

The Executive Director - TFCG also cautioned about the future implications of that situation especially when it comes that they could never outsource fuelwood from the landscape anymore. The situation whereby they would have to pay more as would be forced to outsource firewood from even outside the region of Tanga thus increasing cost of production. The project Coordinator (WWF – TCO) also added that there is a strong need for the project to put more effort on that trying to bring them on board, have more time to discuss and seek to agree on

various scenarios which would tackle the problem. Like also linking up with other key stakeholders / groups with potential fuelwood grower such as schools, youths, women and disadvantaged groups, and individual farmers to discuss and agree on viable strategies and business MOUs for production and selling of fuel wood. He added that this should form one of our key strategies in our planning process for project phase three and whenever necessary use of several approaches like media as well as intervening to their local and international markets would be applied.

4.2.5 Release of the 700ha of forest from Kwamtili Cocoa Estate

Following the facts that, the General Manager and owner of the Kwamtili Cocoa Estate is in favor of managing that forest as a private forest reserve; the PSC members were also concern about the need for close follow up. This would assist in identifying not only the emanating management problems and challenges but also seeking its solution on time. In addition to that, the project should also work to assist in development of the management plan and by-laws, re-surveying and consolidation of the boundaries, mapping, resources assessment etc.

5.0 Project updates by Eustack Mtui – TFCG

Presentation on the project updates was given by the Senior Project Officer – TFCG, followed by comments and contributions from the participants.

5.1 Contributions to the presentation

The Regional Catchment Forests officer – Tanga Mr. Miyalla insisted on the need for further awareness raising campaigns regarding to the threats on sustainable management of the landscape. Illegal timber harvesting and mining as well as forest and bush fires should be given priority in the coming project phase III. In addition to that, the representative of the director for the EAMCEF Mr. Exper emphasizes on the need for sharing the work plans so as to avoid duplication of the work in future. He cautioned that some of the villages which EAMCEF has been / is expecting to fund are also under this project like Kizerui and Zirai villages.

6.0 Project Evaluation Update by the Project Coordinator Mr. Peter Sumbi – WWF TCO

The project coordinator, Mr. Sumbi provided an update regarding to evaluation of the project which was conducted in January and February 2010. He went through the lessons learnt and recommendations as a matter of saving time and also due to the fact that at the end the same report would be available for every PSC members for further references. He said that the project has been doing very well in terms of achieving its intended goals and some tangible outputs have been realized. We are all happy and proud of the success we have made and as a result of that we have managed to secure funds for the third phase. Furthermore the report insisted on the need to strengthen the relationship between the project and the district council of Mkinga and Muheza. The communication between the project and the two districts was somehow weak. The reason is that a lot of changes had been occurred since inception of the project starting from subdivision of the former Muheza district into two to form Mkinga and Muheza districts. As such we don't have a focal person attached to the project from Muheza district thus there is lack of effective communication especially on the monthly updates of the project implementation progress. Some key staffs knowledgeable about the project have retired and some transferred to other work

locations. We have new staff in all our districts and thus there was a need of re-introducing the project. As a result of that, the project coordinator promised to make follow up organizing discussions with the responsible authority especially on the possibilities of attaching at least one staff from each district to work with and linking the project to the district starting from July 2010. The same idea was strongly supported by Mr. Kijazi and Miyalla adding that where possible the project should have an office within one of the districts councils i.e. Muheza or Mkinga.

The report also recommended that we need to review our ToR for the Project Steering Committee to include one representative from the Embassy of Finland – Tanzania. This idea was strongly challenged by Mr. Kijazi saying that the Embassy is in too higher rank to be part of the PSC. However the Executive Director for Tanzania Forest Conservation Group and the project coordinator WWF TCO strongly emphasized that it is very important to have one representative from the Embassy to share work plans and budgets, the implementation progress, challenges, and problems and also discuss ways forward regarding to various issues, problems and challenges we are facing. “It should be noted also that the funds for this project comes from the Government of Finland through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and thus it is worth have them for some technical inputs”, he added.

Following that and for the sake of scaling up to meet all key stakeholders who recently seemed to be important for and for the sake of getting more contributions then, there was a concern for the PSC ToR to be reviewed to include more representatives i.e. one from the Water Authority of Tanga, Pangani Water Basin, Foma Company and one from the Embassy of Finland. Some of these stakeholders are doing things which are linked to what the project seeks to achieve in the landscape.

7.0 Project Phase III Work Plan and Launching by the Project Coordinator Mr. Sumbi – WWF TCO

In the course of sharing the work plan and budget the project Coordinator informed the meeting that the forthcoming project phase three would cover more villages (i.e. 10 more villages compared to the former 18) as well as introducing JFM processes in three Forest reserves of Manga, Mtae and Derema in collaboration with the Regional Catchments forest office - Tanga. It will also work to provide more economic incentives to local communities to maintain forest cover through nature based-businesses and payments for ecosystem services. To secure long term sustainable **financing from REDD** (Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation) and **payment for water services** to cover the costs associated with participatory natural resources management and to provide an incentive for local people to conserve natural forests. He added that, the project including others would work to achieve the following new outputs as per the given period of time:-

- Joint forest management agreements for the three forest reserves are agreed and approved by the local and national stakeholders by 2012.
- Five villages are actively measuring their carbon stocks by 2012.
- Five villages are involved in a pilot REDD initiative by 2012.

- A viable mechanism of payment for water services is researched and recommended to regional and national stakeholders.
- 10 villages receive forest governance (roles and responsibilities) training by 2011.
- Viable benefit sharing mechanisms from payment for environmental services (REDD and Water) established in at least 10 villages by 2012.
- Lessons learned from project are documented and shared widely with other partners by year 2012.

He also took the opportunity to welcome the participants to the official launch of the project phase III on 24th March 2010 at Peacock Hotel, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. He informed that the official letter of invitation would follow immediately after the PSC meeting. He added that the major aim of the launch is to publicize and inform stakeholders and the wider audience about the results of this project from previous interventions and also present plans for the next phase that include three new outputs namely JFM, PES and REDD initiatives.

8.0 Updates on relevant initiatives within the landscape from members of the Steering Committee

The project Manager for the Derema Resettlement and Development Project Mr. Adam Kijazi informed the meeting that his project is finalizing construction of Land Registry Office at Misozwe village for the farmers who have been moved from the Derema corridor. He added that it is the first registry to be established in Muheza District. In addition to that he said that the project has introduced Village SAVINGS & CREDIT Scheme in the project villages of IBC Msasa, Kwezitu, Kisiwani and Kwemdimu. A total of 13 Million have been issued as loans. Since his project is phasing out he asked support from the East Usambara Forest Landscape Restoration Project especially in monitoring and further technical support so as to achieve the intended project goal.

The Regional Catchment Forests officer – Tanga, Mr. Miyalla acknowledged the support he has received from WWF-TCO, the Muheza District Council and FBD during the whole process of surveying and mapping, development of the Derema Management Plan. He added that it has been submitted for final approval and preliminary information was showing it would be endorsed any time before June 2010. He said that the same forest reserve is in a process of being declared a World Heritage Site following the field verification work scheduled for April 2010.

He also informed the meeting that his office was working on upgrading the Magamba Forest Reserve into a Nature Reserve. He declared that a lot of activities had been done including re-surveying and mapping the forest, development of the Management Plan etc and at that time they were on the gazettelement process. He used that opportunity also to ask support from TFCG and WWF – TCO towards making that work successful.

The EAMCEF representative Mr. Exper informed the meeting that they have been supporting community development work in three villages of Kizerui, Misalai and Kazita in Muheza District. These are villages bordering Nilo Nature Reserve. The communities have been supported with beehives to carry out beekeeping activities as an incentive to their participation to

management of the Nature Reserve. In the meantime he added that more funds for community development would be secured soon and thus he asked support from the East Usambara Forest Landscape Restoration Project especially in assisting communities to write up a proposal for the Micro-grants support programme. He added that guidelines would be available on request only just after the call for proposal.

Representative from Mkinga District Mr. Mwarabu S. Mwarabu informed the meeting that they have been and are still planning to do forest patrols in collaboration with the Tanga Regional Catchment Forests Office for the sake of arresting the problem of illegal timber harvesting in their forest reserves, forest fires, encroachment and illegal mining activities. He added that they forced to seek support from the Regional office since they don't have enough staff in the field of forestry for the time being. Some funds have been allocated to buy at least 30,000 seedlings for restoration of the landscape.

Representative from Muheza District Mr. Kamnge informed the meeting that they were working to combat the problem of illegal timber harvesting in some of the forest reserves. In addition to monitoring construction of the deep wells they were also working on resettlement of the farmers who have been moved from the Derema corridor to the lowland.

Representative from the Amani Nature Reserve Center Mr. Sessiwa was more of emphasizing more collaboration with other stakeholders who are interested to invest in the landscape so as to avoid unnecessary duplication of work. For example he mentioned good collaboration observed between EAMCEF, TFCG/WWF and ANR in the landscape. He also added that, sharing our work plans would provide a room to see how best we could either link some of the activities or agree upon who should do what and where in order to save time and resources as well.

9.0 AoB

There were no AoB put forward.

10.0 Closing

The meeting ended at exactly 3:39 pm by the chairperson thanking participants for their time and contributions.

Chair

Secretary

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APPENDIX ONE

MATTERS ARISING AND ACTION PLANS FOR NEXT MEETING

Issue	Action Plan	Responsible person / office
3.2.1. Progress on payments for environmental services project in Zigi Catchment and Pangani Basin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop a proposal for further funding in addition to what we have received. Also seek to develop and share business cases with water users like Water Authority of Tanga, Tanesco, Tanga Cement Factory, Amani Spring water etc just to encourage them to contribute for management of catchments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WWF - TCO
3.2.2 Construction of deep and shallow wells in the Lowland Usambaras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is required on the funding and implementation of construction of shallow/ deep well in the lowland villages of Muheza and Mkinga districts during next meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DLNREO Muheza & Mkinga districts
3.2.3 Decision on Future use of the former SHUWIMU Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress on the follow-up of the current situation at the DED's office - Muheza. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Project Officer & DLNREO – Muheza
3.2.4 Fuelwood situation in East Usambaras	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organize and facilitate further meeting(s) with companies and industries sourcing fuelwood from the landscape to agree on the ways forward towards implementation of sustainable energy sourcing strategies. Linking them with other stakeholders and potential fuelwood producers like schools, disadvantaged groups, women, individual farmers etc to discuss and agree on viable strategies and business MOUs for production and selling of fuel wood. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EUFLR Project
3.2.5 Development of Kwamtili (700ha) Private Land Forest Management Plan and by-laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the progress towards Development of a Management Plan for the Kwamtili Private Land Forest Reserve 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senior Project Officer & Regional Catchment Forests Office -

<p>6.0 Project Evaluation Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on strengthening the relationship between the project and the districts. Progress on re-introducing the project to the districts as well as attaching one staff to the project from Muheza and Mkinga. • Informing and Inviting representative from Water Authority of Tanga, Pangani Water Basin, Embassy of Finland and Foma Company LTD Tanga 	<p>Tanga.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Coordinator & Senior project Officer • Project Coordinator & Senior project Officer
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