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The TNRF newsletter is a bi-annual update on the activities of TNRF partners and members, featuring new informational resources and current events in natural resource management.

Improvement to the management of Tanzania's renewable natural resources is only possible through collaboration. **Maliasili Daima!**

New project on local tourism management

In partnership with Ujamaa Community Resource Trust, Honeyguide Foundation and TAS Consult, a new one year project has been launched at TNRF to pioneer a process for community based tourism management in Tanzania. The project addresses the need of communities around highly visited tourism areas in northern Tanzania to become more involved in tourism planning and ensuring that tourism businesses are responsible and benefit communities in these areas.

The significance of community-based tourism models for local conservation and development outcomes is the driving principle behind progressive tourism business partnerships with communities since 1991. **The goal of this project is to use the best practices of community based tourism to produce tourism management plans in a participatory and adaptive way** for four villages in Loliondo and Sale Divisions of Ngorongoro. The team will compile its accumulated experience into an informational toolkit for use in other tourism initiatives between private investors and communities.

Beginning with a series of introductory planning workshops the project team will address management and capacity issues which impede sustainable tourism, environmental management and improved livelihoods. These workshops

will be structured around different priorities and exercises which will bring the stake-holders to the final goal of developing adaptive tourism management plans for the four villages. The workshops will bring together all stakeholders involved in or affected by tourism activities.

The project, which is known as **Social Learning for Adaptive Tourism Management**, is funded by IUCN and the Bradley Fund for the Environment and was initiated by Sand County Foundation and TNRF.



A map of planned tourism management projects

About the partners

Ujamaa Community Resource Trust aims at strengthening the capacity of local ethnic minorities in northern Tanzania, principally pastoralists and hunter gatherers, to better control manage and benefit from their land and natural resources (see pg 6).

The Honeyguide Foundation was initiated to bridge the gap between the communities and the tourism industry—

who both have long-term vested interests in the management of natural resources—in order for both to benefit from tourism economically.

TasConsult provides services to local authorities, local and international NGOs to build capacity for development through strategic planning, programme evaluation and multi stakeholder processes.

In tribute to Dr. Alan Rodgers, 1944-2009

From his early career as a Game Warden in the Selous Game Reserve in the 1960s, to his tenure as a Senior Advisor to ICRAF and UNDP, Alan Rodgers played a substantial role in the conservation movement in East Africa, India and the world. He published widely in scientific journals, mapped unknown forest ecosystems and supported institutions to make conservation work for people.

Alan was instrumental to the development of the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum and set up the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), which plays a major role in coordinating forest conservation in Tanzania. Known for his larger-than-life personality and tireless work ethic, Alan was an influential mentor to many of Tanzania's conservationists and activists today. A full obituary for Alan was published in *The Arc Journal* (no. 23) by TFCG. TNRF extends their heartfelt condolences to Alan's family.





Pastoralist Livelihoods Task Force

Collectively supporting capacity building, research, networking, information sharing and policy advocacy for bridging the gap between pastoralists' needs and national policy to improve livelihoods.

Evictions of pastoralists in Kilosa

The ongoing evictions of pastoralists most recently reached a climax in Kilosa District, where over a period of a month the government forcibly removed resident pastoralists using firearms and tear gas and confiscated livestock.

Pastoralists and the non-governmental organizations supporting them have long taken a principled stand against the evictions, citing them as unfair given the current state of land rights in Tanzania. Population growth and ongoing transfers of public land to private ownership reduce the amount of land for free movement needed for pastoralism. The result is frequent conflict with farmers and investors, such as in Mkomazi, Ngorongoro and Mbarali in recent years. NGOs assist pastoralists to create awareness of the growing pressures, demarcate land, organize community groups and train leadership to effectively deal with conflict. However, none of these local efforts is

sustainable without a strong link to the national policy discourse to establish long term and wide-reaching strategies.

To address the need to engage more effectively with policy makers to find an alternative to the evictions in Kilosa, the Pastoralist Livelihoods Task Force met in April with the Pastoralist Parliamentary Group, a group of Members of Parliament from pastoralist constituencies. During the meeting, Kilosa residents provided bullet shells and tear gas canisters as evidence of the use of violence during the evictions. Meeting participants demanded that the evictions be halted to allow for alternative resolutions to the conflict without recourse to violence.

Two days after the meeting the government halted all evictions of pastoralists, effective 27 April. The ban on further evictions is viewed as a success by pastoralist civil society, which continues to advocate for the

compensation for cattle permanently confiscated during the evictions.

The meeting's success encourages future collaboration among pastoralist civil society to jointly advocate for policy change. Furthermore, a unified pastoralist civil society can link well with policy makers to create change more quickly. The effort to halt the evictions created a win-win situation for Kilosa residents, civil society organizations and policy makers who worked collaboratively to support people's rights to natural resources.

Joint fund to support pastoralists

A major new opportunity for financing pastoralist efforts to secure local rights will be available following the agreement of the donor community and civil society organizations to a 'basket fund' arrangement. The 'basket fund' aims to streamline contributions from the donor community and is administered by CARE-Tanzania.

Mandated to prepare a strategic plan for the development of the fund, the partners of the Pastoralist Livelihoods Task Force view the fund as key to supporting their joint activities with pastoralist communities.

PLTF members are Afya Bora, CORDS, Ereto NPP, FARM Africa, HakiKazi Catalyst, IIED-Kimmage, MWEDO, NGONET, PACCAD, PINGOs, SNV, TANIPE, TAPHGO, TNRF, TVS, UCRT and VetAid-TZ.

The PLTF is chaired by **PINGOs Forum** www.pingosforum.net and hosted by TNRF. For more information on these joint PLTF activities and others, including the research study on the pastoralist economy, and wildlife and wetlands management advocacy, contact Daniel Ouma, d.ouma@tnrf.org.



Bullet shells as evidence of violent evictions of pastoralists



Tanzania Forestry Working Group

Advocating for improved forest management and raising awareness about forest governance issues through a collaboration between 18 leading civil society organizations in Tanzania

Mama Mitsu campaign one year on!

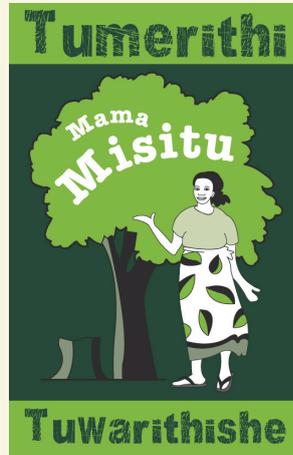
By building public awareness across national and local levels about illegal forest use and the economic value of forests, the Mama Mitsu campaign aims to transform how people in Tanzania manage forest resources.

During the year-long pilot phase, the 18 partner organizations laid the groundwork by developing the character of Mama Mitsu (Mother Forests), engaging local people and government and producing merchandise and publications.

The Mama Mitsu campaign made its **debut on national television (TBC)** and radio (TBC Radio) in February and March by broadcasting mini-dramas about forest crime. The six one-minute TV dramas featured “Mama Mitsu” as a Tanzanian woman outraged over the overt corruption that excludes her community from timber revenue and other forest resources. The episodes conveyed memorable messages on local corruption and the lack of community involvement in forest management.

In response to the dramas **50 calls and text messages per day flooded the campaign office** to report forest crime from 15 regions during a 4-day peak. Callers gave reports of illegal logging, collusion of forestry officials, and charcoal burning. One caller even travelled from Sumbawanga to Dar-es-Salaam where national forestry officials resolved his complaint about being overcharged for logging permits.

In Kilwa and Rufiji Districts campaign partners **Mpingo Conservation Project** and **WWF-Tanzania** lead the local campaign where the challenge is to gain local acceptance. Key local collaborators are member groups of the national community-based forest network and campaign partner called **MJUMITA**. With additional support the MJUMITA network can play a powerful role in influencing public awareness of forest-related corruption by spreading the campaign to other districts in future.



Designing IFM

The design phase of **Independent Forest Monitoring** in Tanzania continues with strong interest and support from government and civil society.

In close coordination with the Forestry and Beekeeping Division (FBD), HTSPE Tanzania Limited – contracted by the Tanzania Forestry Working Group and funded by the Royal Danish Embassy – is designing Independent Forest Monitoring for Tanzania. The goal of IFM is to provide the government and the public with an independent assessment of the status of forest law enforcement. The information will be used by the government and other forest stakeholders to more easily monitor the impact of participatory forest management, a process complemented by the Mama Mitsu campaign on illegal logging. Although shortfalls in forest governance were revealed in the well received 2007 report by TRAFFIC, the design phase is an

important next step in the implementation of IFM in that by collectively exposing weak areas in forest law enforcement it reconfirms the national commitment to secure forest revenue.

The consultant is currently undertaking comprehensive consultations with forestry officials, leading forest conservation and management organizations, the donor community, local government and Parliament as the basis for a proposed framework for IFM. In three regions in southern Tanzania and Zanzibar the consultant observed forest law enforcement operations and made detailed records of all existing procedures and institutional relationships.

Following upcoming debriefings with the FBD, the consultant will test the framework around Tanzania, and then engage with the public in a process of consensus-building on the best way to launch the implementation of IFM.



Carbon and Forestry

The TFWG sub-group on carbon markets and forestry convened its 2nd roundtable discussion in February. In response to a growing number of organizations and businesses expressing interest in experimenting with different approaches to implementing payments for ecosystem services using the growing

carbon markets, TNRF organized the roundtable in Dar es Salaam to give practitioners an opportunity to discuss key emerging issues and frameworks for operationalizing these kinds of initiatives. The sub-group is also part of a wider effort by TNRF to increase the engagement of civil society and the pri-

vate sector with national discussions on climate change issues and to support innovative approaches to natural resource management. An overview of the roundtable is available on the TNRF website at www.tnrf.org/node/8852.



Oil palm seedlings in Kigoma and jatropha products in Babati



©E. Sulle

New research: Biofuels and land rights

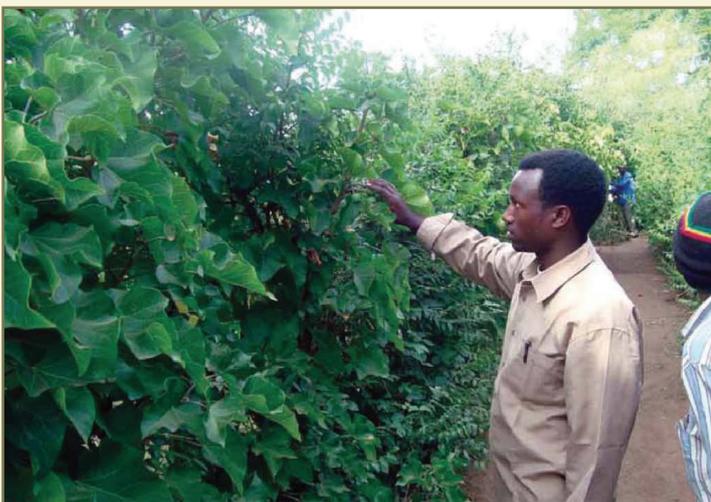
TNRF, through its Forestry Working Group, has just finalized a research study on the impact of the biofuels industry on rural land access, biodiversity and forest loss.

The full report titled, "*Biofuels, Land Tenure, and Rural Livelihoods in Tanzania*", aims to fill information gaps and builds on other recent biofuels studies done in Tanzania by WWF, the Food and Agriculture Organization and HakiArdhi.

Putting the Tanzanian biofuels industry in the global context, the report reviews the investment trends and emerging impacts. Then, based on interviews and documents retrieved during the study in Kigoma, Arusha, Manyara and Coast Regions from four biofuels investors, their host communities and local governments, the report provides new in-depth information on the land acquisition process and existing business models and their impact on community land tenure and livelihoods.

Following the release of the report in May, TNRF, in collaboration with the Policy Forum, organized a public 'breakfast debate' in Dar es Salaam to generate dialogue about the report's findings. The debate was well attended and important contributions were made by key government officials, including representatives of the Ministry of Energy and the Ministry of Agriculture. Also, the general public aired their concerns about the process of developing biofuels policy in Tanzania.

The full research report and a brief summary report (image at left) are available on the TNRF website at www.tnrf.org/node/9587. The research was commissioned by the Tanzania Forestry Working Group in collaboration with and supported by the London based International Institute for Environment and Development with additional support from IUCN.



Developing commercial biofuels through securing local livelihoods and land rights

Information Brief

May 2009

Tanzania Forestry Working Group

With support from:



Jumuiko la Maliasili Tanzania
Tanzania Natural Resource Forum

For more information on the Tanzania Forestry Working Group please contact **Cassian Sianga** - TFWG Coordinator at c.sianga@tnrf.org.



Wildlife Working Group

Responding to issues in wildlife governance through lobbying, advocacy and information sharing

Finding ways to reduce human elephant conflict

Human elephant conflict has been increasing throughout Tanzania and this is becoming an increasingly complex problem. Throughout Tanzania villages exist along migration routes used by elephants in search of food and for calving and breeding. While villagers have the right to cultivate land for their daily needs and economic benefit, elephants depend on the same land as part of their habitat. This has led to an increasing number of incidences of elephants raiding farmland or crop storage areas, which in turn has caused an upsurge in the number of elephants killed as a result of crop protection. TNRF has a special interest in learning how communities manage the conflict with the aim of using the best practices to inform national policy. In collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society and the WWF-Tanzania Programme Office, TNRF continues to monitor interactions between humans and elephants at the community level. It has examined which techniques are proving most effective for reducing Human Elephant Conflict



Chilli infused bricks keep elephants away from crops

© E. Chengullah

both within Tanzania and beyond and how such practices can be incorporated into any national strategy for addressing the problem.

For more information please contact Wildlife Programme Officer, **Enock Chengullah** at e.chengullah@tnrf.org.

TNRF Announcements

New TNRF Strategy: While not diverging from TNRF's founding mission, the new TNRF Strategy for 2009-2011 emphasizes information sharing, advocacy and innovation to improve governance and renewable natural resource management. The new Strategy is online at www.tnrf.org/node/9911.

AGM 09: TNRF's 2009 Annual General Meeting will be held on 28 August at the Corridor Springs Hotel in Arusha, featuring informational seminars for TNRF members. For more information as the date approaches please visit: www.tnrf.org/group/agm

Member Resources

☞ **TNRF Information Brief:** "Developing commercial biofuels through securing local livelihoods and land rights", online at www.tnrf.org/node/9587

☞ **The Maajabu film crew** is available for participatory environmental film shows and production by contacting maajabu@tnrf.org.

☞ **Swara magazine:** A quarterly magazine on wildlife and conservation in East Africa published by the East African Wild Life Society, available at the TNRF office at 14,000 Tshs per copy

☞ **Ujumbe magazine:** A quarterly magazine on domestic tourism, the environment and culture in Tanzania published in Arusha, available at the TNRF office free of charge

☞ **Mwambani Bay news coverage:** An up-to-date webpage of international media coverage of Mwambani Bay development at www.tnrf.org/node/9244



Maajabu film show in Mkuru, Arusha Region



Community Forums

Linking communities with the national policy debate on natural resources through conflict resolution, building the capacity of customary leadership institutions and women.

TNRF and Community Forums

Often the connection between local and national management of natural resources is weak. New laws and policies are often developed with limited consultation with the public. The public then receives the national decisions without the opportunity or the awareness to become involved. While TNRF and its partners among national civil society organizations advocate and share information at the national level, Ujamaa Community Resource Trust (UCRT) strengthens the voice of local leadership at the grassroots level through community forums.

The link between TNRF, national policy makers and the base of customary leadership institutions supported by UCRT increases information sharing and dialogue for improving governance in the natural resource sector.

The partnership between TNRF and UCRT is a model for developing other community based networks for natural resource management with links to national policy making.

Currently, opportunities exist to replicate this partnership with communities around Wildlife Management Areas, within the forestry sector, and in fishing communities.

Community Forums as a movement

Community Forums are a leadership movement that enable customary leadership institutions to support local legal rights over land and natural resources. Unlike many grassroots organizations in Tanzania that run development projects and measure project success by the number of bed nets distributed or by the number of trees planted, UCRT measures its impact through the lens of empowerment, by enabling local communities to address resource governance conflicts in their own communities.

Despite the existence of local government authorities, many villagers in Tanzania feel disconnected from formal decision-making structures. For

this reason UCRT started the Community Forum leadership movement and operates in northern Tanzania to facilitate customary leadership institutions, such as the Maasai *laigwanak* and the Sonjo *wanamije*, to develop the organizational and leadership skills needed to make their voices heard in local and national decision making fora.

Since the Community Forums began in 2007 the leadership movement has spread steadily to four districts: Ngorongoro, Simanjiro, Longido and Hanang. A "community forum" (or, *Mitandao ya Mabaraza ya Mila*, in Swahili) is started with an expression of need from a community for more citizen participation in local decision making processes. Frequently needs include the resolution of boundary conflicts, peace building, ethnicity clashes, as well as the building of unity and solidarity among the pastoralist communities prior to national advocacy.



Bringing together local and national interests for community rights to natural resources



Women's participation in local decision making about natural resources is becoming recognized as a right. © M. Sinandei

Women's leadership forums

Community Forums also extend the notion of leadership to groups outside the longstanding customary leadership. Since 2008 UCRT has supported women leaders to form leadership forums as independent institutions parallel to customary leadership institutions (of men).

Before the forums women had few places to publicly air their concerns because customary leadership institutions are reserved for men and local government authorities often lack the capacity to deal effectively with domestic affairs. Alcoholism, land rights and domestic violence in the community are major problems that women want to address.

Women's leadership is customarily

relegated to the household sphere, where women make decisions about daily resource use. Although traditionally women do not participate directly in community-level decision-making, the decisions made by customary leadership institutions and local government authorities about land use, for example, affect women directly. For instance, the decision to exclude a pastoralist community from a water resource – so that a farming community or investors can use the water for irrigation and hotels respectively – impacts pastoralist women by forcing them to travel further to fetch water for household needs.

Despite the inroads made by UCRT and its partners to organize the participation of women in local decision making, a

major challenge remaining is to educate men in customary leadership institutions about the value of women's contributions in the public sphere.

By mid 2009 UCRT has established women's leadership forums in Longido and Hanang Districts with new forums in progress in Ngorongoro and Simanjiro. UCRT's ongoing work with women leaders is in collaboration with the **Pastoralist Women's Council** and the **Maasai Women Development Organization**, two leading civil society organizations for pastoralist women in northern Tanzania.

For more information contact **Makko Sinandei**, m.sinandei@tnrf.org



Wildlife law updates

Civil society and the private sector are awaiting the release of two major legislative decisions for wildlife management. The Wildlife Bill (GN 9, 2008) and the Non-Consumptive Wildlife Use Regulations (GN 196, 2007) are pending revisions by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Parliamentary and public debates of the Wildlife Bill since 2007 were accompanied by active participation by civil society including the Pastoralism and Livelihoods Task Force, who analyzed the laws and strategically presented recommendations to key policy makers. In reaction to the delayed release of the laws civil society continues to make inquiries, including an upcoming advocacy initiative by the Pastoralism and Livelihoods Task Force. In collaboration with partners, TNRF follows the progress of the laws and maintains related information and documents on the TNRF website: www.tnrf.org/groups/wildlife.

Climate Change and REDD

A key factor for positive outcomes for Tanzania from climate change initiatives will be the consolidation of experiences and information sharing between people and organizations.

Tanzania's response to climate change is well underway with a series of initiatives by government, civil society, academia and the private sector. Among the major initiatives include the United Nations programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) which is hosted in Tanzania by the Institute for Resource Assessment in collaboration with the Tanzanian government and the Royal Norwegian Embassy. The Norwegian government is devoting \$100 million over five years towards REDD-readiness in Tanzania.

In preparation for the international negotiations on climate change policy at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009, the Southern African

Development Community hosted a workshop in Botswana in May, which included representatives from Tanzanian government, academia, civil society (the Tanzania Forestry Working Group) and the private sector.

In May, Oxfam supported a meeting of civil society organizations to share information about the international negotiations process, discuss the role of civil society in influencing government, and set an agenda for future collaboration between civil society organizations.

More information on climate change including key background documents, is posted on the TNRF website at www.tnrf.org/climate.

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Jumuiko la Maliasili Tanzania

Tanzania Natural Resource Forum

Member letters and feedback

Dear TNRF Secretariat,

Allow me also to express my interest on what is happening within TNRF. The updates are topical, insightful and educative. I am particularly interested in tourism projects especially those happening in Loliondo and elsewhere. Would you please share with me ways to get in touch with projects and if possible with the participants involved.

TNRF Member, Iringa

Dear TNRF Secretariat,

I am very much overwhelmed to learn that there are efforts to bail out our motherland from the economic and political mess. I regularly receive hot policy topics from the other think tanks in the forefront of shaping political, economic and security agendas domestically and worldwide. They take the bull by its horns. It is my hope that this organisation does not become another talking shop kow-towing for donor money. This foundation should help in serving our country by being in constant dialogue with the Government.

TNRF Member, Dar es Salaam

Our Donors and Funding Partners

Bradley Fund for the Environment (SCF)
Community-based Conservation Biodiversity Films (Darwin Initiative)
Ereto Ngorongoro Pastoralist Project
Ford Foundation
International Institute for Environment and Development
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