



Jumiko la Maliasili Tanzania

Tanzania Natural Resource Forum

INFORMATION ON WILDLIFE IN TANZANIA

**Wildlife for all Tanzanians:
Stopping the loss, nurturing
the resource and widening the
benefits**

BRIEF 5

INTEGRATING WILDLIFE INTO LOCAL LIVELIHOODS: THE IMPORTANCE OF A CROSS-SECTORAL APPROACH

MAIN ISSUES:

- ⇒ In order to maximize wildlife's positive contribution to local livelihoods and economic activity, it is important to take a cross-sectoral approach which coordinates wildlife management with land, tourism, forestry, and livestock sectors.
- ⇒ Wildlife management practices can create conflicts with villages' land tenure rights, particularly through the overlap of Game Controlled Areas and Village Land.
- ⇒ Wildlife management and community-based forest management at the village level need to be integrated in order to provide the most benefits to villages, because wildlife and forest resources often occur in the same places in villages' communal lands.
- ⇒ Wildlife management policy and practice need to be integrated with national tourism sector goals for growth and for benefiting local communities.
- ⇒ Wildlife management needs to be integrated with livestock sector policy and development goals because wildlife and livestock are both dependent on the same grasslands and water resources in many areas and compete with farmers for land.
- ⇒ A cross-sectoral approach is necessary to create the most value for local communities to benefit from their land and resources.

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Improved management of the wildlife sector could provide many more direct benefits to rural communities (see Brief 4). But it also could be managed to support local livelihoods in a more holistic sense. This means that wildlife management needs to be considered in relation to other sectors such as land, forestry, tourism, and livestock, since these resources often all exist together in the same place at the village level.

Land

Secure rights to land are one of the foundations of economic development. One of the main objectives of the National Land Policy (1997) is to ensure that customary rights to land are recognized and secured under the law.

The Land Act of 1999 and Village Land Act of 1999 provide the legislative basis for securing village land rights according to the objectives of the National Land Policy. The laws create three categories of land:

- ⇒ Village Land
- ⇒ Reserved Land
- ⇒ General Land.

Village Land includes all land traditionally used by a community and within the boundaries of a

registered village. Reserved Land includes all the areas designated under various pieces of sectoral legislation, including the Wildlife Conservation Act of 1974. General Land includes all other land that is not Village Land or Reserved Land—such as land under leasehold.

As stated in Brief 2, Game Controlled Areas (GCAs) is Reserved Land where land use is regulated by the law - farming, livestock keeping and settlements are allowed. In almost all instances GCAs were created in areas occupied by local communities.

For example:

⇒ Over 90% of the land in Monduli, Simanjiro, and Longido Districts falls within the boundaries of Game Controlled Areas. But these areas are also all demarcated as village lands where local communities have customary rights of occupancy. This makes these areas both 'Village Lands' and 'Reserved Lands' according to the Land Act's definitions.

⇒ This overlapping classification leads to conflicts about who is in charge of managing these lands, and can undermine the secure rights to land of the people living in Game Controlled Areas.



Communities share their resources with wildlife in Game Controlled Areas

Forestry

Many rural communities which have wildlife populations also possess forest resources on their lands. In order to maximize community ability to benefit from their natural resources, it is important that communities are able to manage wildlife and forestry together in an integrated manner.

Often Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFRs) have been promoted and established in different places without physically overlapping. In some places, VLFRs and WMAs have been established next to each other, such as in a number of the villages establishing pilot WMAs.

However, in order for communities to get the most benefit out of their resources, it would be best if they could utilize wildlife and forest resources (timber, honey, traditional medicines, fuelwood, and building materials) in the same places. In other words, to have the same places designated as WMAs and as VLFRs. The challenge to this comes from the very different procedures which are required for establishing WMAs and VLFRs.

While the procedures for establishing WMAs are quite complicated and costly, the procedures for establishing VLFRs are much simpler. Also, WMAs are managed by community-based organizations which represent many different villages, whereas VLFRs are managed by village governments or by unions of multiple village governments.

Nevertheless, ways for WMAs and VLFRs to be established in the same areas would help communities to ensure that they get the maximum profit from their resources by increasing the different types of income they are receiving, such as from consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife use, timber and non-timber forest products.

What would make the most sense for local communities would be to have 'community natural resource management areas' where both wildlife and forest resources can be managed at the local level, instead of having separate WMAs and VLFRs. With the right policy support, this would be easy to do in many areas that have already established WMAs or VLFRs.



Large expanses of forest are not protected under 'forest reserves' but instead are starting to be managed by local communities

Tourism

Tanzania has set ambitious goals for increasing the number of visitors and the revenue earned nationally from tourism, as well as ensuring that tourism contributes to poverty reduction at the local level. In order to increase the number of tourists and volume of tourism revenue, it is important for Tanzania to develop new areas for tourism and develop new tourism destinations. If Tanzania tries to increase the size of its tourism industry without expanding the area used for tourism, it will result in over-crowding in key sites probably and the degradation of those over-used areas. Thus Tanzanian tourism policy promotes the development of new tourism destinations and new tourism products, including promoting community-based tourism.

When considering the balance between tourism and tourist hunting concessions discussed in Brief 3 from an economic perspective, it is also important to consider the formal tourism policy goals that Tanzania has established for growing the size of the tourism industry. When tourism growth is limited by conflicts with tourist hunting, it may result in undermining some of the country's formal tourism development goals. Achieving those goals can only be done by expanding the diversity of tourism products and areas in different parts of the country.

Livestock

Tanzania has the third largest number of livestock in Africa, giving it a great potential to develop a valuable livestock industry in products such as meat, milk, and hides. Nearly all these livestock are owned by smallholder farmers, with a great proportion of livestock owned by agro-pastoralists. Many agro-pastoralist lands also hold important wildlife

populations and tourism attractions.

The mission of the 2006 National Livestock Policy is "To ensure that livestock resource is developed and managed sustainably for economic growth and improved human livelihoods."

MKUKUTA calls for the livestock sector to increase its contribution to GDP from 2.7% in 2000/01 to 9% by 2010. However, expanding the livestock sector will need to be done in a way which is compatible with other sectoral goals such as wildlife and tourism in order to ensure that growth in one sector does not reduce growth in another.

One way to do this would be to give local pastoralist communities secure rights to manage and benefit from wildlife, addressing the problems facing WMAs as described in Brief 4. One important issue is to support livestock production through traditional pastoralist land use practices and to bear in mind that establishment of intensive livestock production in fenced ranches will in most cases lead to reductions in wildlife populations and thereby reduce tourism potential.

The best way to achieve sustained growth in the livestock sector in rangeland areas is to ensure that land use systems that integrate wildlife, tourism, and livestock production are supported.

Integrating local improvements in wildlife management, tourism development, and livestock production is possible but it requires an intelligent cross-sectoral approach. This integration is important not only to ensure local people benefit from their resources, but also to ensure that land uses which integrate wildlife and livestock are able to best compete with alternatives such as farming which displace both livestock and wildlife.



Livestock and wildlife can exist together if well managed. Communities need integrated policy approaches to achieve this.