

Tanzania Forestry Working Group August 2007 Summary Report – Cassian Sianga

Planned activities for the month of August

- Writing of the advocacy and public awareness initiative (consult key partners and institutions, conduct a liaison group meeting and circulate proposal to FWG members) for comments.
- Conduct a FWG meeting to present findings of the advocacy initiative and way forward.

Achievement and reasons for deviation

- The main task for the month has been on the continuation of developing the advocacy initiative based on the TRAFFIC report. This work continued while in the office in Arusha with consultations of the FWG members being made. The campaign proposal was then written and circulated to the FWG members for comments prior to the meeting which was held on the 13th August 2007.
- Travelled to Dar on the 29th August 2007 and had a consultative strategic plan on how we should present the proposal to donors. This consultative meeting was held with Dr. Andreas Böhringer office who is also a member of the DPG.
- A FWG meeting was held on the 13th August 2007 and the main agenda was the timber trade campaign proposal. Minutes of the meeting are available separately.

Activities done and were not planned but were demands from member organisations

- Worked with Julius Achiula of TNRF and Simon Milledge – TRAFFIC in the translation of the English summary report of the TRAFFIC report to Kiswahili due to requests from people to have it in Kiswahili. This Kiswahili report will soon be on TNRF website.
- Participated in a stakeholders workshop for Dar Es Salaam Charcoal Programme held on the 9th to 10th August in Bagamoyo organised by WWF. The objective of this workshop was to bring together key Stakeholders of the Dar Es Salaam Charcoal Programme to develop a sound programme framework to address the cooking energy problem facing Dar Es Salaam residents. Focus was on efficient charcoal (wood energy) production and use which if well implemented will ultimately reduce deforestation of the Coastal Forests and degradation of the coastal environment in general. TNRF's presence was felt important as we have been involved in a lot of forest policy issues which in the country.
- Worked with Julius Achiula - TNRF to translate the popular version of "A plain language guide to the Environment, Land, Forest, Beekeeping and Wildlife policies and laws of the United Republic of Tanzania". This guide was reviewed by EMPAFORM and implemented by TFCG/CARE International. During the FWG meeting held on the 13th August discussed with Edgar Mgeta on the translation work and handed him the translated material. TNRF has been involved in the development of this document.
- As a task force member of WWF developing a five-year comprehensive capacity strengthening programme for environmental organizations in Tanzania gave some views on a proposed document prepared earlier by stakeholders in Dar Es Salaam. This was done through email as it was not possible to attend the meeting in Dar due to limited resources.
- Was invited by OIKOS for three days (15th to 17th August) workshop with the aim of getting stakeholders, experience and inputs for establishing a Joint Forest Management Plan for a pilot project being implemented jointly by OSOTWA – a CBO, MERU USA plantation project and OIKOS East Africa – an NGO based in Arusha. The aim of the project is to develop a Joint Forest Management Plan and Agreement where village communities can manage and use the forest resources to improve their living conditions in a government forest area. TNRF's input was to assist in the linking of forest resource use and management with existing policies and regulations.

Activities for the month of September

- Finalizing the campaign proposal, send copies to members and possible donors for funding.
- Start collecting proposals/issues from members which they would like to discuss in the next FWG meeting after finalisation of Mama Mitsu proposal.
- Participate in the National Forestry and Beekeeping Programme Review, stakeholder's workshop