Dear Readers, On behalf of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the Sustainable Rangeland Management Project, the National Land Use Planning Commission, ILRI, IFAD, ILC and other partners, I welcome you to this first edition of the project Newsletter. This Newsletter will be produced on a regular basis in order to share our key achievements, news, events and publications. We look forward to sharing these with you, and we welcome your feedback or suggestions.

With Best Wishes,

Dr Maria Mashingo, Permanent Secretary Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries

The Sustainable Rangeland Management Project (SRMP) project works with local and national authorities to secure rangelands for pastoralists, agro-pastoralists, and smallholder farmers through village land use planning and land certification including the provision of Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO). Since establishment in 2010, the project has assisted nine villages in Kiteto district, Manyara region to prepare village land use plans and supported the piloting of a joint village land use planning process across four villages in Kiteto District, Manyara Region, protecting a shared grazing area. Now in its third phase 2016-2020, the project is up scaling the joint village land use planning in several new clusters of villages in Kiteto district as well as expanding the approach to new districts. The project is implemented by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Tanzania, the National Land Use Planning Commission, the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), and local civil society organizations. The project activities have been funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and Irish Aid through the International Land Coalition (ILC).

The project contributes to the ILC’s national engagement strategy which is coordinated by ILC member, the Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA).
OLENGAPA shared grazing area expanded

In 2017, the project focused on the expansion of the joint village land use planning process in Kiteto District from the original three villages – Olkitikiti, Lerug and Ngapapa – to four. During the joint village land use planning process it had been found that this fourth village - Engwangongare – also shared rangeland resources with the original three and had an interest in joining the partnership. This expansion was finalized in November 2017, increasing the shared grazing area from around 23,000 ha. to 30,000 ha. In this process, the OLENGAPA Livestock Keepers Association (OLKA) was established including all those in the villages that owned livestock. The next step is the issuing of group CCROs for the grazing unit by the four village councils, and the drawing up of a rangeland management plan to be implemented as part of a ‘participatory rangeland management’ process. Click here for more information.

National technical working group re-launched

On 5 November 2017 the SRMP national technical working group (NTWG) was re-launched at a meeting held in Morogoro, chaired by Maria Mashingo, permanent secretary, Ministry of Livestock. A total of 21 participants took part including livestock and veterinary officers from regional offices, independent land experts and representatives from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the National Land Use Planning Commission, TALA, the Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALRIL) and ILRI.

The NTWG plays an advisory role of guiding the strategic direction of the project, contributing to major decisions about activities, and providing advice on improving multi-stakeholder collaboration and coordination with other initiatives and/or activities. A major decision was made to upscale the joint village land use planning to three new village clusters in Kiteto District over the next six months before the project moves to other districts to replicate the process.

Stakeholders trained on managing and transforming the dynamics of conflict

Land use conflicts are on the rise in Tanzania negatively affecting smallholder farmers, pastoralists and other land users. A process such as village land use planning can stir up such conflicts because it seeks to formalize previously informal land uses, draw up boundaries between the different land uses, and to establish greater controls and regulations on how land is used. With this in mind, the SRMP organized two training sessions on ‘Managing and transforming the dynamics of conflict: effectively addressing conflict in village land use planning.’

The first training was held in July 2017 for 30 participants from the SRMP, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and partner NGOs. The second training, in November 2017, targeted district commissioners and district executive directors in areas where SRMP is working. Staff of the National Land Use Planning Commission also joined this training.

The training sessions, held in Morogoro, Tanzania gave participants a better understanding of the different stages, causes and triggers of land use-related conflict and the tools and strategies of resolving and/or transforming such conflicts into positive outcomes. The training was well received and requests were made to offer the course to a wider group of stakeholders.

‘The training was excellent and I learned a lot about how to resolve land use conflicts,’ said Tumaini Magessa, district commissioner, Kiteto District.

‘I was equipped with knowledge on conflicts resolution,’ said Jofrey Pima, representative of district executive director in Chemba District.
Training on gender mainstreaming in Morogoro, Tanzania

Mainstreaming gender into a project’s plans and activities is necessary in order to reduce gender inequalities both in the project and within its activities. This process ensures that the needs of both men and women are considered during designing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the project and it encourages project partners to do the same.

On 7–8 December 2017, Josephine Dungumaro, a gender adviser at ILRI, conducted a training on gender mainstreaming for 14 participants from ILRI in Tanzania and project partners.

Topics such as gender analysis, concepts of gender, the position of women and men in decision-making processes, governance and management bodies, different tools and methodologies for improving gender equality were discussed. Currently, Dungumaro is working with the Sustainable Rangeland Management project and partners to apply what was learnt in that training within the SRMP processes and activities.

A Learning Route from Nigeria on innovative practices and tools to reduce land use conflicts

On 22–30 September 2017, PROCASUR Corporation in Africa in collaboration with IFAD, ILC Rangelands Initiative, RECONCILE, Kenya, and ILRI organized a ‘Learning Route’ on ‘Innovative practices and tools to reduce land use conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers.’ The learning route, a tailor-made capacity building tool that promotes experiential exchange and interaction between local people, was organized after a request by IFAD in Nigeria for training for its staff national and state-level government partners. Twenty-four partners visited several case study sites and organizations in southern Kenya and Tanzania where they saw first-hand good practices in reducing land conflicts. The participants were hosted by local communities and/or NGOs in the two countries.

In Tanzania they spent several days with the communities of OLENGAPA in Kiteto District, learning about the joint village land use planning experience, challenges and successes. In Kenya, they visited a group ranch in Kajiado County. Click here for the full report.
Recent publications


Sustainable Rangeland Management Project Brief, Tanzania: ILRI.

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Papers presented at meetings or conferences

