Sustainable Rangeland Management Project (SRMP) Newsletter

Dear Readers, On behalf of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, the National Land Use Planning Commission, ILRI, IFAD, ILC and other partners, we welcome you to the third issue of the project Newsletter. This Newsletter is produced on a regular basis in order to share the key achievements, news, events, and publications of the Sustainable Rangeland Management Project, which supports joint village land use planning and certification of shared grazing areas in order to improve the livelihoods of Tanzania’s rural communities including pastoralists. We look forward to sharing our experiences and outputs with you, and we welcome your feedback or suggestions.

With Best Wishes,
The SRMP Team.

Sustainable Rangeland Management Project

The Sustainable Rangeland Management Project (SRMP) supports joint village land use planning and the protection of rangelands for local rangeland users. 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 the NES Secretariat, housed at TALA (the Tanzania Land Alliance).

Activities included in this Newsletter are the presentation of the first-ever group certificate of customary rights of occupancy (CCRO) issued to a livestock keepers association; the scaling up of joint village land use planning (JVLUP) in Kiteto District; the launch of a project on participatory rangeland management (PRM); the establishment of a pasture seed demonstration plot; and a presentation at the Global Landscapes Forum on landscape-level planning for rangelands.
First-ever group CCRO issued to a Tanzania Livestock Keeper's Association

Over the last five years, the SRMP has been working with the villagers of Orkitikiti, Lerug, Ngapapa and Engang’uengare in Kiteto district to develop joint village land use planning (JVLU) and a joint village land use agreement (JVLUA) protecting a shared cross-village grazing area of 30,000 hectares called OLENGAPA. The OLENGAPA Livestock Keeper’s Association (OLKA) was established as a joint landholding and management body for the area. In September 2018, the first-ever group certificate of customary rights of occupancy (CCRO) issued to a livestock keeper’s association was provided to OLKA. This was a significant milestone in the joint village land use planning process supported by SRMP, and of key importance to land use planning progress in the country and the resolution of conflicts between livestock keepers and farmers increasingly occurring.

During the process of developing the JVLUA, by-laws were developed to guide access, use and management of the grazing land. The village land use plans have also clarified other land uses in the villages for which access, use and management can be strengthened. The process of JVLUP has been scaled up to other clusters of villages (see below), and it is anticipated additional group CCROs to LKAs will follow.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr Victor. C. Mwita, the Assistant Director of Land for Livestock Development in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MoLF) said that “The government supports sustainable productivity of livestock and improvement of pastoral and agro-pastoral livelihoods. Accordingly, provision of CCRO to livestock keepers including pastoralists in Kiteto will reduce the challenges facing these communities and ensure land-tenure security whilst increasing animal productivity through improved management of rangelands.”

Successful scaling-up of JVLUP supported by SRMP secures an additional 120,000 hectares of grazing land for livestock keepers

Following closely behind the successful securing of grazing land for the OLENGAPA community (described above), SRMP supported the finalization of two shared grazing lands across two additional clusters of villages in Kiteto district. The first is across the villages of Amei, Loolera, Lembapuli and Lesoit with a shared grazing area called ALOLLE totaling 95,000 hectares. The second is across the villages of Namelock, Partimbo, Laalala and Ilera with their grazing area called NAPALAI totaling 25,854.26 hectares. The latter built on land use planning work started by NGOs Naadutaro, TNRF (Tanzania Natural Resource Forum) and CARE International. Both sets of villages have established livestock keepers associations (LKAs) and developed by-laws for the management of the land and resources. Currently, demarcation of the grazing areas is underway. Both LKAs are collecting funds for payment of the required fees to certify the grazing areas with group CCROs.

The agreement, signed on the 7th September 2018 in ALOLLE, left community members hopeful of the change this will bring to their villages. After signing the agreement, a community member said:

“Our livestock will now move freely without any disturbances from other land users especially big farm investors who comes into our villages takes vast areas of land leaving us landless.”

Lang’ututi Lengiok, Loolera village.

Dr. Stephen Nindi, the Director General (DG) for the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) stated in response to the success:

“The government is committed to ensure that the process of village land use planning is speeding up so as to improve productivity, conserve biodiversity and reduce land use related conflicts in the country. Securing grazing lands for pastoral and agro-pastoral communities will reduce the conflicts between pastoralists and other land users notably farmers, protected area authorities and investors while improving economic development and sustainable management of rangelands.”

Mr Victor C. Mwita of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries congratulating the OLENGAPA communities on the receiving of the CCROs. Credit: Tanzania Natural Resource Forum

Leaders of the ALOLLE Livestock Keepers Association receive their copies of the joint village land use agreement. Credit: KINNAPA Development Association
Launch of ‘sister’ project on Participatory Rangeland Management Project (PRM)

In early 2018 the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF), working with the MoLF and international partners Resource Conflict Institute (RECONCILE) Kenya, ILRI, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières Belgium, and SOS Sahel Ethiopia launched the project Piloting of Participatory Rangeland Management in Tanzania and Kenya. This is a jointly implemented project in the two countries funded by the European Union, through IFAD, of the Coalition for European Lobbies on Eastern African Pastoralism (CELEP) and the International Land Coalition (ILC), learning from the experiences of PRM in Ethiopia. As with the SRMP, the PRM project contributes to the ILC NES of Tanzania.

The PRM project is being implemented in Tanzania and Kenya, piloting the PRM approach that was previously developed and then scaled-up across pastoral areas in Ethiopia. In Tanzania the approach will be piloted in the areas where JVLUP has been supported by SRMP in Kiteto, and then replicated in other areas.

The PRM approach follows a set of stages and steps that include understanding and mapping the rangeland resources, defining a rangeland management unit (in Kiteto this will be the grazing lands defined through JVLUP), strengthening a rangeland management unit (in Kiteto this will be the livestock keeper’s associations), establishing a rangeland management plan and then implementing this. Capacity building of different actors in the approach will be an important part of the project.

![Image](https://news.globallandscapesforum.org/viewpoint/building-resilience-through-sustainable-rangeland-landscapes-in-tanzania/)

**Stages and Steps in PRM in Tanzania**

1. **Step 1** Identifying rangeland resources and users
2. **Step 2** Defining and securing the rangeland management unit
3. **Step 3** Setting up or strengthening the grazing land management institution
4. **Step 4** Grazing land resource assessment and other data collection
5. **Step 5** Developing grazing land management plan
6. **Step 6** Approval and/or registration of the grazing land management plan
7. **Step 7** Defining and capacity building for grazing land management plan
8. **Step 8** Implementation of the rangeland management plan
9. **Step 9** Participatory M&E

Source: Adapted from Flintan and Cullis 2010

The PRM project is now working with SRMP to finalise the securing of grazing lands in Kiteto and will then start the rangeland management planning process. More information on the project can be obtained from Daniel Ouma, Programme Manager, TNRF Email: d.ouma@tnrf.org

Presentation at the Global Landscapes Forum on landscape-level planning in rangelands

At the end of August the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) was held in Nairobi. In an attempt to bring rangelands into the GLF discussions and agenda, on 30th August the ILC Rangelands Initiative organised a panel on “Bringing Rangelands into the Sustainable Landscapes Agenda.” Dr Stephen Nindi (DG of the NLLUPC) was one of the keynote speakers presenting how planning at a landscape scale in Tanzania makes sense, particularly in the dryland including pastoral areas. He provided examples from the work of SRMP including the landscape-level mapping being undertaking and the JVLUP processes supported. For more information see: https://news.globallandscapesforum.org/viewpoint/building-resilience-through-sustainable-rangeland-landscapes-in-tanzania/

Pasture nursery demonstration plot established in Kiteto District

Accessing seeds for re-seeding degraded pastures is a challenge in Tanzania due to limited production and supply. This impacts on animal production. When community members from the shared grazing area of OLENGAPA requested assistance in reversing degradation found there, the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries helped the community to establish a seed nursery and demonstration plot.

An area of 1.3 ha was planted with Cenchrus ciliaris seed purchased by the Project. Cenchrus is known for its hardiness...
including high drought resistance and ability to withstand heavy grazing. Boniphace Shija, the Ministry’s SRMP focal person, worked with local district livestock officers, NGO KINNAPA, and community members: eighteen pastoralists were trained on how to prepare the land, sow the seed and manage the nursery. Seed from the nursery will be used to restore the pastures and excess will be sold to neighbouring villages. The nursery is being managed by OLKA (the OLENGAPA Livestock Keepers Association).

Communities were hopeful and eager to learn and replicate the nursery in their farms. “Having this knowledge and seeing for ourselves how the grasses are grown will help us cope with pasture shortages, especially during the drought season, reduce conflicts with other land users and improve livestock production” said Baraka Oloisiaji of Orkitikiti Village. The government will continue to support pastoralists in the villages through provision of technical support including how to upscale the pasture farm, harvest seeds and make hay for use during the dry season.

Recent publications


Participatory rangeland resource mapping in Tanzania: A field manual to support planning and management in rangelands including in village land use planning. 2016. https://hdl.handle.net/10568/51348

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