



**IMPACT OF TRAINING ON
PARTICIPATORY APPROACHES AND
PNTD IN KAGERA RIVER BASIN**



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
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IMPACT OF TRAINING ON PARTICIPATORY APPROACHES AND (PNTD) IN KAGERA RIVER BASIN



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The views expressed in this report, any oversights and errors in the interpretation and analysis of facts, are however, my sole responsibility.

Acronyms

| | |
|--------|--|
| CCRO | Customary Certificate Right of Occupancy |
| FFS | Farmer Field School |
| IGA | Income Generating Activities |
| IP | Implementing Partners |
| LADA | Land Degradation Assessment in Dry lands |
| NAADS | National Agricultural Advisory Services |
| NEMA | National Environment Management Authority |
| NGOs | Non Governmental Organizations |
| NRM | Natural Resource Management |
| PNTD | Participatory Negotiated Territorial Development |
| REMA | Rwanda Environment Management Authority |
| SACCOs | Savings And Credit Cooperative |
| SLM | Sustainable Land Management |
| SLaM | Sustainable Land agro-ecosystem Management |
| SP | Service Provider |
| TCRS | Tanganyika Christian Resources Services |

Executive Summary

The assessment report is purely guided by the consultant' terms of reference¹ (see annex 1).

However it is important to mention that due to unforeseen circumstances the training modules earlier on developed were not circulated in the four countries therefore, reviewing the trainees' capacities to adopt them and suggest adjustments in training materials and action plans was not done. Neither ascertaining the extent of field testing of the training modules at district and communal levels was not carried out.

The report consists of the findings of the impact of the training and the level of application of participatory tools on natural resources management, conflict resolution by communities and relevant institutions. The assessment found that the training made relevant impact, in relation to enforcement and implementation of natural resources policies (including formulation of by-laws), legal frameworks and institutions at the District and community levels. The assessment found that the participatory tools and approaches have been applied or adopted to address natural resources management and land use conflicts with a view to promoting SLM within Kagera River Basin.

It highlighted the level of understanding and application in details of participatory methods/tools in general and the Participatory Negotiation Territorial Development (PNTD) in particular. The assessment listed some of the success stories, best practices, lessons learned and challenges facing the four countries on SLM.

On the evaluation of the progress and effectiveness of transboundary collaboration, joint meetings for the harmonization and enforcement of policies and regulations, dispute resolution and conflict management across borders. The assessment discovered that the transboundary collaboration is more of "a political outfit" with no technical forums for stakeholders to discuss and address issues on SLM and conflict resolution regarding natural resources. The sole methodology used for the assessment was interviews where key informants (trainees) provided feedback on the impact of the training.

The assessment also captures discussions carried out at the District in the four Countries with relevant government institutions responsible for Natural resources management. It explains how to integrate governance issues (Natural Resource Governance Framework) in land use policies, regulations and by-laws.

The assessment report provided the following as recommendations for future activities: 1) Dissemination and translating of training modules in each country; 2) Training by the trained

¹

country (District and FFS/SPs) personnel on participatory approaches particularly PNTD to other service providers; 3) Transboundary committees should be expanded to include technical issues rather than concentrating on political agendas alone; 4) Training of local leaders to enhance sensitization and awareness creation on policies, regulations, laws and by-laws on NRM.; 5) Training of District staff dealing with NRM on how to integrate governance in policies, regulations and laws in each country using different approaches i.e. Natural Resource Governance Framework; and finally, 6) Countries to source for government funding to continue with some of the activities on land/natural resources and conflict resolution Kagera TAMP initiated.

1.0 Introduction

Previous consultancy carried out in 2012 on land and natural resources conflicts (within country and transboundary) identified and recommended capacity building as wanting at the District and community level among resource users. The training therefore was a forum to build the capacity of the participants on sustainable land and agro-ecosystem management (Slam) practices across the basin, taking into account key priorities on policies, regulations, laws, acts and by-laws and various institutions of conflict resolution

The training contributed partly to Output 2.2:- Regulatory actions developed and used to promote sustainable land and agro-ecosystem management. The training objective was to prepare a team of trainers in Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania and Burundi to guide effective implementation/enforcement of policies, regulations, laws and by-laws regarding natural resource management with a view of promoting participatory and sustainable agro-ecosystem management in Kagera River Basin.

The assessment therefore forms part of “ a follow –up activity” to find out the impact of a series of trainings carried out in 2013 in Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda on participatory tools and approaches on natural resources management and land use conflict resolution.

2.0 Impacts of training and level of application of tools of natural resources conflict resolution by communities and relevant national institutions.

2.1 Impact of training sessions on natural resources policies, legal frameworks and institutions.

The assessment was conducted randomly on sampled Districts ² and Community visits (villages/FFS groups) in Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and Rwanda. As a follow up activity, those who were trained in the months of August and September 2013 were interviewed to obtain the

² In Uganda Kabale, Ntungamo, Kiruhura , Mbarara and Rakai Districts. Tanzania Bukoba, Missenyi, Kyrerwa and Ngara. Village visits to Minziro, Murongo, Rusomo and Kirishywa. Burundi Karusi, Gitega and Mwaro provinces and village/FFS visits to Buhinga, Shombo, Gishubi, Giheta, Nyamitore, Magamba and Nyakibari. Rwanda in Kayonza. Kihere, Bugesera and Kamonyi

feedback. District government staff, service providers, FFS facilitators and government authorities in charge of decision making (Councilors, Ward executives and village chairmen) at the community level expressed, the fact that, after trainings they better understood the concepts of sustainable NRM, environment conservation, land tenure, wetlands and forest policies, regulations, laws and Acts safeguarding natural resources and institutions dealings with them.

In Uganda, *Kabale* District agriculture extension officer with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) together with the FFS facilitator from *Kitumba* explained how they have formulated community driven by-laws related to NRM thanks to the training. The FFS groups within the District have provided important platform forums for explaining to the community members at the grass root on government policies, regulations, legal frame works and by –laws on NRM even before formulating new by-laws.

In *Ntungamo* District the FFS facilitator explained that the training was of great benefit to them particularly on land registration and natural resource conflicts because of the close link between land tenure and SLM. He explained that land in the District is still held under the customary tenure system but each family has now clearly demarcated the land as free hold form of land ownership reducing conflicts related to water points and grazing areas. Although the FFS groups operate within the framework of formulated by-laws interaction with non-members has increased particularly on awareness raising on policies, regulations, laws and by-laws on environmental conservation e.g prepare tree nurseries, plant tree nurseries and establish woodlots.

In Tanzania *Rusomo Ngara* District the local leaders (Ward Executive and Village Chairman) explained how they immediately embarked on sensitization and awareness raising on policies, regulation, laws and enforcing existing by-laws regarding environmental conservation and SLaM at the community level. Tree planting campaigns have intensified, institutions such as schools and churches have benefited from tree planting and environmental activities.

On the same note, the local leaders have focused on awareness raising of local communities and working with them to understand statutory steps required to secure their territorial rights at village level. Communal land registration is a ‘work-in progress at the village level’ as a collaborative initiative to secure land rights and improve SLM practices explained the Ward

executive. The leaders base their awareness raising knowledge on the Land Act of 1999, Village Land Act of 1999 and Land Disputes Settlements Act of 2002.

The leaders explained that Village Land Use Plans (based on Land Use Planning Act 2007) have been carried out in *Rusumo* by the government. The villagers have been advised to demarcate customary boundaries (to avoid conflicts) waiting for registration³. The legal instrument of Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO)⁴ according to the local leaders will create much stronger and legally defensible rights for its holder hence improve SLM practices.

In Burundi *Karusi* –Gitega Province, the DPAE and the District facilitator also explained how they have involved the communities in land registration processes at the Commune level to secure tenure rights. They said, the training was useful particularly the participatory approach that has taught us the need to involve local resource users to register their land despite the problem of land scarcity and lack of staff/personnel (only 2 staff for the entire commune) in the Ministry of Lands. The training gave us the confidence of sharing information with other communes on land registration and SLM Practices.



FFS –Giheta, Burundi with their facilitator

In Rwanda the District Lands Officer explained how the training encouraged him to intensify sensitization and awareness raising on land issues, policy, land transaction, procedures for transfers, lease contracts, titles and taxation etc. He explained how they

³ Registration depends on budget allocation for the villages at the District

⁴ Loosely translated *Hatii ya kimili ya kimila*

disseminate information on land registration to the common citizens and steps to follow, from the land holder to Cell Land Committees to Sector Land Committees to District Land Bureaux and finally to the District Land Commission.

The participants agreed that training on policies, regulations, laws and by-laws provided a new dimension and a wider meaning of participation in the formulation and enforcement of by-laws on natural resources management at the village level. Participants from Uganda (*Kabale, Mbarara* and *Rakai*), Tanzania (*Bukoba, Missenyi, Kyerwa, Rusumo, Ngara* and) , Burundi (*Gitega* and *Mwaro*) and Rwanda (*Kayonza* and *Kihere*) echoed the fact that women and men are equal resource users and historical, patriarchal traditions of seeing women as weaker persons have changed. In many villages where the project is implemented women are now involved in decision making processes on SLM, from the family to the village level. A fact supported by the greater number of women members of FFS and Water shed catchment committees. The participants agreed that all the four countries of Kagera Basin have laws that stipulate that women must participate and have representations in decision –making, in many cases they are not represented at all, and if they are present, their active involvement has always been weak.

2.2 Assessment of understanding and awareness of participatory methods

The participants from Uganda (*Kabale, Mbarara*) and Tanzania (*Bukoba, Missenyi*) explained how they have benefited from participatory tools and approaches because they have increased full involvement of District, local communities and other local stakeholders. They operate on the basis that all resource users of a given community have equal rights to participate and make decisions regarding the status of their natural resources and that decisions should not be undermined by the elites or vested interests.

Participatory approaches have encouraged freedom of expression and openness among resource users, an observation from Kabale FFS facilitator. FFS groups are coming up with different ideas on NRM and unique aspects of sustainability. He explained how participatory approaches allow room for all FFS members to express their views and opinions contrary to top- down approaches. In close collaboration with the local government authorities and other NGOs, FFS members have

adopted a community-led, adaptive and learning-orientated participatory approach which is critical for achieving sustained results and outcomes (for instance, development of by-laws and building on what farmers have been doing such as livestock keeping).

In Uganda *Rakai District* the Service Provider explained that participatory approaches have been helpful in “bridging the gap” all the NRM stakeholders (farmers, local leaders, District government staff and NAADS) in the District together in planning project activities. The participatory approaches have enabled FFS groups and communities in general to benefit from trainings on land degradation and SLM assessment such as LADA explained an Agricultural Extension Officer for *Bugamba* Sub-county and FFS facilitator for *Mwizi Mbarara* District. He explained how formerly bare hills (completely eroded) have been rehabilitated thanks to Kagera TAMP Project, a fact that has prompted community members (not members of FFS) to emulate by forming groups to control soil erosion and reduce land degradation, an example is *Rwagaro* in *Mwizi Mbarara* District.

The members’ willingness has been adopted by non-members as well at the sub-county level. A fact, echoed by *Kiruhura* District acting Officer in charge for the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, that the willingness of the FFS and community members have been useful in disseminating knowledge on policies, regulations, laws and formulation on new by-laws. The community members willingness has contributed to the success of controlling bush fires, reducing overgrazing by retaining the required carry capacity (control of soil erosion) demarcating cattle corridors and control of animal diseases such as east coast fever and foot and mouth diseases.

2.2.1 How participatory tools and approaches have been applied

In *Bukoba* and *Missenyi* the trained District government staff working on NRM explained how they applied the participatory approaches through community sensitization and awareness creation on environmental issues e.g afforestation and SLM, developing participatory village land use plans, formulation and implementation of village by-laws to strengthen the developed land use plans.



(see photo Missenyi District)Staff during discussions).

Villages such as *Buturage, Bweji, Byamtemba, Kakindo, Minziro* have zoned land for both communal and individual uses for instance, farmers, irrigation, livestock grazing, forests, tree

plantations, seasonal livestock migrations corridors. In other words the training strengthened the use and expansion of the developing land use plans. The local communities have formed village Forest/Environment Management Committees.

Participatory approaches have been adopted to explain the legislation, policies and acts and where laws and polices contract/conflict on NRM they have adopted the Environment Law (conflicting policies, acts and regulations on NR) which is considered supreme to other laws/acts on NRM explained the District NRM officers for Bukoba.

In *Rusomo* the leaders have applied participatory approaches through convening village meetings (involving all stakeholders) to discuss the dangers of deforestation and promote SLM practices including women. Participatory approaches have been applied to engage livestock keepers/herders to observe carrying capacity and to reduce hillside erosion through grazing. Although the Ward Executive and the Village Chairman explained the initiative was facilitated by the National Land Use Planning Commission and financed by Kagera Tamp Project they applied participatory approaches to enhance understanding at the community level.

In *Kirushya* Ngora District the local leaders (Ward executives and village chairman) who attended the training explained that, they have applied participatory approaches on resource management (environmental conservation) and conflict resolution at the local level. The aspects of involvement of all stakeholders /actors to participate in decision making over NRM issues have been successful at the community level because all views are considered important. The Ward executive explained how he personally, shared the feedback of the training with TCRS and explained why they should apply participatory approaches in their future work.

Uganda participatory approaches have been adopted by FFS groups in formulating by-laws, and *Kabale* District as explained by the FFS facilitator that by-laws are community driven right from the village to sub-county, up to the District level thanks to participatory approaches.

In *Karusi* –Burundi participatory approach have been adopted by the District staff to support and create awareness on government *villagization (villages de la paix)* policy and family planning although the response is very slow because of land scarcity and population pressure.

In *Kayonza* Rwanda sector agronomist explained how participatory approaches have been adopted among FFS (Planting banana and maize) as well as the IGA where farmers design projects that are viable and sustainable i.e goat keeping. He explained that, participatory approaches have been applied among farmers and herders to adopt “zero-grazing methods” and enforcement of rules and by-laws, policies on sustainable land management and land use. The sector agronomist explained, how participatory approaches have been useful in dissemination of knowledge on policies particularly, REMA guidelines on conservation which forms part of community work in Rwanda.

In Rwanda, *Kirehe –Kigina* sector agronomist explained how participatory approaches have been applied by FFS towards SLM practices (bench terraces and agro forestry, application of fertilizers/manure, water harvesting for horticulture) at the District and community level. He noted that participatory approaches have increased women involvement in the sensitization and

awareness creation on SLM among FFS groups (land degradation and bush fires have reduced), their willingness is overwhelming. The approach however, needs to be adopted by local leaders and extension workers to enhance knowledge dissemination on policies, regulations and laws on NRM.

2.2.2 Understanding Participatory Negotiation Territorial Development (PNTD) and conflict resolution

In Uganda the PNTD approach has been applied by FFS facilitators to resolve emerging land conflicts ranging from land fragmentation, boundary encroachments, inheritance rights, land sales among many others. Land scarcity and population pressure continue to remain a major challenge thereby, increasing land conflicts.

In *Kiruhura* District the PNTD has been adopted to address resources conflicts for instance, uncontrolled bush fires (a cultural belief used to clear invasive vegetation species) among agro-pastoralists. The approach has been used to resolve conflicts between agro-pastoralists and pastoralists over crop destruction, demarcation of stock migration corridors, dry season water conflicts and address human –wildlife conflict in the nearby *Lake Mburro* National Park.

In *Rakai* the service provider (Kakuto Community Development Project) explained how the PNTD approach has been used to address conflicts between herders and crop farmers over access to land and encroachment of farming activities in pasture land/grazing land. The herders and farmers have reached a consensus for reducing the number of their livestock, adoption of breeding improvement and livestock paddocking to settle land disputes.

In *Minziro-Misenyi* District the leaders explained how the PNTD approach has been useful in resolving land related disputes and conflict management because of involvement of all stakeholders/actors. They gave an example of a land boundary encroachment dispute that the leaders were resolving that very morning between *Minziro* and *Kigazi* villages. The PNTD end result of a “win-win” situation has created trust and confidence among community members and the leaders.



Village leaders in Minziro, Missenyi District during the discussion

In Rusumo the ward executive and the village chairman explained how they have formulated by-laws aimed at reducing conflicts between herders and farmers. Grazing along the steep slopes are

prohibited and failure to observe the by-laws is penalized.

In *Murongo* the PNTD approach has been successfully applied in resolving land conflicts according to the village chairman the most common ones are boundary encroachment, farmers converting grazing land into farming land. He gave an example of the ongoing land conflict between *Rushanga* and *Murongo* villages over converting grazing land into farm land. He added that, the PNTD is applicable on minor disputes because it is inclusive all segments of the community stand a chance of being listened to unlike the past where we used our authority to influence the outcome.

In *Buhinga*, and *Gishubi* the FFS facilitators explained how they have been using the PNTD to address internal conflicts over land within FFS. In *Giheta*, *Magamba* and *Nyakibari* FFS facilitator also explained how they have been applying the approach to address internal disputes particularly, between local leaders and FFS groups over land.

In *Bugesera* the District Lands officer explained how the PNTD approach has been useful in resolving disputes over land particularly, boundary encroachment and inheritance/family disputes. He confirmed, we at the District have adopted the approach because of its inclusive nature and we move together with the community to understand the processes of land conflict resolution and good land governance.

In *Kamonyi* the sector agronomist explained how he has adopted the PNTD approach to resolve land conflicts within the FFS, committees working for cooperatives and local leaders. We now no longer refer cases to the District level because we address all conflicts at the Cell level.

2.3 Success stories, best practices and lessons learned on participatory approaches.

Success stories

Below are some of the success stories of participatory approaches in relation to natural resources management and land use conflicts with a view to promoting SLM.

- The approach has improved cooperation between local leaders, farmers and the government at the community level.
- Information sharing through exchange visits among different FFS.
- The approaches has exposed farmers to new innovations on SLM and exposed farmers to address their own challenges facing them regarding SLM.
- The approach has motivated farmers to adopt SLM practices such as zero grazing and application of manure

Best practices

- Savings FFS members have registered into SACCOs
- District NAADS in Uganda and the Burundi Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock are willing to adopt the FFS approach.
- Practical approach to SLM and farmers able to see results i.e improving soil fertility

Lessons learned

- The importance of building relationships with leaders from the villages up to the District or Commune level in order to work successfully on land issues.

- Participatory approaches are a very sustainable way for addressing land and natural resources. They allow for open discussions, build capacity and empower communities to better address land and natural resource issues themselves.
- These participatory initiatives have produced locally-accepted agreements on regulating resource use, but they are seldom institutionalized in policies and legislation. As a consequence, enforcement of government policies, regulations and laws becomes difficult, since communities have no formal power for example to penalize trespassers.

2.4 Challenges of participatory tools and approaches

- Community level lack of support in enforcing by-laws such as wetland encroachment due to low level soil fertility and forests destruction for timber and wood fuel
- Implementation and enforcement has been a challenge due to political vested interests/ proposals are hampered by the elites.
- Land scarcity and population growth (Land conflicts are increased in some areas) because of the fragmentation of land into very small holdings at family levels. In Burundi FFS facilitator for *Gishubi* mentioned that land even obtaining an area for piloting FFS activities is a problem
- Land fragmentation is a big challenge to enforcement of SLM in Burundi in as much as the by-laws are formulated community members still cultivate close to the river banks and encroach wetlands to feed the growing population.
- High expectations from the community about the project i.e in Uganda(Kabale) community members that are not part of FFS believe that the FFS members are paid for digging trenches and demand money if not they do not allow the trenches dug on their land co hampering the fight on soil erosion.
- The approaches are time consuming (back and forth), requires a lot of patience and training.
- Difficulty in changing the attitudes of the community on conservation and SLM practices in Burundi, Uganda and Tanzania.
- Customary land tenure system (ownership rights) and contemporary land use management a big challenge for women

- Lack of national integrated mechanisms on NRM at the policy level
- Logistics and financial/ administrative challenges (budget not enough even for the village environmental officers). The Districts staff on NRM and other stakeholders expressed willingness to adopt some of the tools and approaches but with no tangible commitments. They complained of how difficult national resources (financial) allocation is too limited even for their own operations.
- District government staff/personnel and national budget allocation for NRM activities not adequate.

2.5 Progress and effectiveness of transboundary collaboration

Part of the terms of reference was to evaluate the progress and effectiveness of transboundary collaboration, harmonization of policies/regulations, dispute resolutions and conflict management a cross border (community, district and national). Currently the existing transboundary districts defense and security committees are more political than technical in nature this has slowed the pace of progress. For instance, the technical transboundary collaboration was expected to be sparked by the transboundary stakeholders' workshops to discuss among other things, consultancy reports and recommendations on transboundary issues which have not been done and was rescheduled for February 2015. There has been no fruitful progress made toward policy harmonization at the regional or national levels.

On dispute resolution and conflict management the cross border/transboundary District Defense and Security Committees are still charged with enforcement and monitoring mechanisms for promoting good neighbourhoods.

3.0 Integrating Natural Resources governance issues on policies land use policies, regulations and by-laws within Kagera Rier Basin

Discussions/ meetings with District Staff dealing with NRM from the four countries concurred that the huge population (est. of 16 million) within the Kagera River Basin relies purely on the agro- ecosystem for their food security and other livelihoods options. However, effective and sustainable approaches to natural resource and ecosystem governance so far, have proven elusive. Existing within country policies, regulations, rules, laws and by-laws formulation and implementation, decision-making processes, are based on administrative rather than agro-ecosystem boundaries. And, more distinct divisions of authority within Countries whereby sectors /departments of line natural resources make different levels of decision-making frustrating and hindering efforts towards SLM.

Uganda illustrated how patterns of decision-making on formulation of policies, regulations, laws and by-laws, coordination and distribution of resources and authority have hindered management of wetlands and their rich biodiversity. This is an ecosystem of vital importance for thousands of people (farmers, pastoralists and agro-pastoralists) who rely on diverse resources from the wetlands but conservation efforts have been frustrating, according to Kabale District Environment Officer. The governance system comprises of governmental, non-governmental and community actors with formal and informal linkages, including Uganda National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) but protection remains marred by political interests, he said.

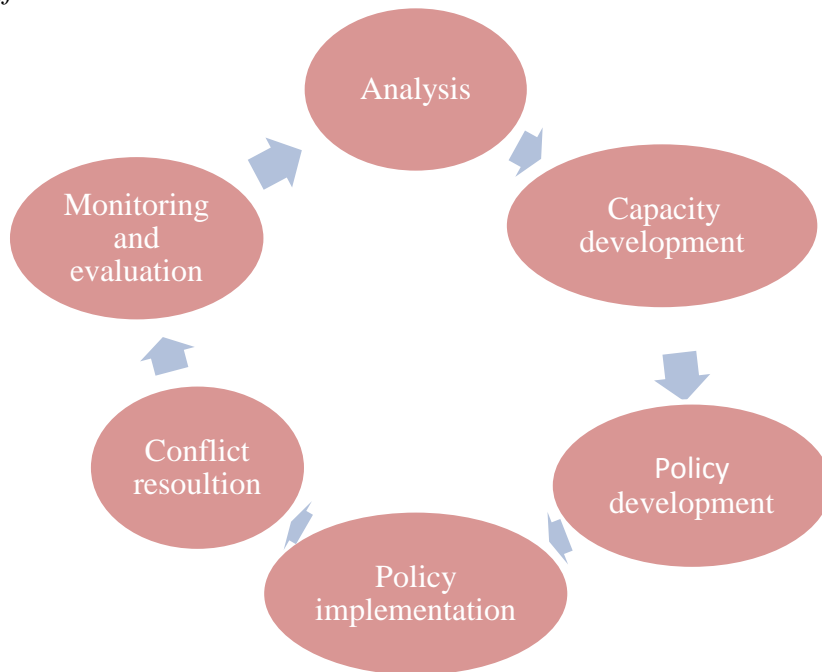
Following earlier assessment (carried out in 2012) what could be called the ‘governance system’ for natural resources and SLM practices included an array of “traditional, community-based” government mechanisms for planning and decision-making and the patterns of coordination and communication among natural resources line ministries/departments. Some countries still consider this type of governance system as the best as it serves the needs of the entire River Basin on SLM and agro-ecosystem management.

3.1 Natural Resource Governance ⁵Framework

The consultant shared with District staff about natural resource governance framework and why it is important for integrating policies, regulations and laws both at the District and Community levels.

Different definitions were shared on governance but the overall was “*Governance is concerned with who decides and how the decision is made*”. The governance of natural resource management includes mechanisms, structures, rules and regulations, approaches and how they are adopted and implemented at the local level. Participatory processes however, were agreed as key elements of integrating governance issues because they contribute to legitimacy and effectiveness of governance solutions and also lower the costs of policy implementation.

The Natural Resource Governance framework has six components that were briefly shared with District staff:



⁵ Governance addresses cultural, social, economic and political dimensions of natural resources. In brief it refers to a set of political, social, cultural and economic processes which are carried out by governments and other stakeholders/actors including institutions (formal and informal) and networks, working individually or in combination. Governance spans a continuum across different administrative, institutional, and political levels, although governance activities tend to be divided roughly into policy ⁵and management

3.2 Challenges of integrating governance on policies, regulations and laws on NR

Regionally/transboundary governance of natural resources is confronted by increased challenges of global processes of climate change and variability, “rhetorics of East African Community integration” and participation of stakeholders/actors. However, the coherence of natural resources and ecosystem management policies are hampered by the diversity (at times conflicting) of policies and legal frameworks and political traditions in the four Countries. Thus, regional governance faces challenges regarding integration of heterogeneous levels of decision making governed by rules of their own and the integration of political discourses.

Within country sectorial approaches or inter departmental natural resource management and development planning carried out along sectoral/departments/unit lines. The earlier assessment found that even attempts to integrate across sectors were based on what could be called a ‘technical approach’ to coordination using district-level forums such as the District Steering Group and District Environment Committee and the like. However, integration of the District and community level is weaker in that community-based structures each operate under different regulations and report to their respective parent Ministries, even though their mandates and responsibilities overlap greatly.

Community involvement is very low and does not extend upward because decision-making at any level higher than grass root is very weak, and as a result there is little sense of ownership of decisions regarding policies, regulations and laws. From the previous assessment it highlighted the fact that, community level institutions had important ‘social resources’ that can be adopted particularly, on resource management and conflict resolution but Community representation and institutional participation at the community level has a disconnect with the District.

Institutional linkages, while strong amongst government departments through the Districts it’s, only very weakly connected to key decision-making processes. The assessment found that those parts of the governance system for which legitimacy and accountability were strongest were only weakly connected to the key coordinating bodies and to the parts of the governance system having the strongest ability to mobilize resources.

Initiatives such as FFS to promote participatory natural resource management by local communities have emerged to be very successful. In these approaches, local users' awareness and knowledge of ecosystems as well as their vested interest in sustaining resources are acknowledged. Members participate in decision making on resource management and are responsible for implementation of SLaM. This recognition of local knowledge represents a paradigm change; thus far policy makers have tended to hold local users responsible for resource degradation.

Conclusion

The assessment of the impact and progress made in relation to enforcement of natural resources policies, legal frameworks and institutions at the District and community levels shows fruitful progress. The manner in which the tools and participatory approaches have been applied or adopted to address natural resources management in four countries explain that the training was a success, particularly, on land use conflicts. Participatory Negotiation Territorial Development approaches (PNTD) has been embraced at the District and Community level and among all stakeholders, a fact that has improved the enforcement of policies, regulations laws and by-laws and related mechanisms for NRM.

On evaluation of the progress and effectiveness of transboundary collaboration there was minimal activities during the year 2014. However, no major tranboundary resource conflicts were reported within the border Districts. Efforts towards harmonization and enforcement of policies regulations and laws at the regional levels are still on course but no commitment from each country was mentioned.

Discussions with relevant government institutions responsible for natural resources management at the District level was very fruitful and technical advice on integrating governance issue in land use policies, regulations and by-laws was well received. The Natural Resource Governance Framework was explained and well understood by the District staff.

Recommendations

- Circulate the developed training modules in each country to aid training on NRM and conflict resolution.
- Organize further training by the trained country (District and FFS/SPss) on participatory approaches particularly PNTD to service providers such as TCRS among others.
- Expand the transboundary committees to include technical issues rather than concentrating on political agendas alone. The meetings should include SLM and other natural resources management and conflict resolution within the Basin.
- Organize follow up training of local leaders to enhance sensitization and awareness creation on policies, regulations, laws and by-laws on NRM
- Train district staff dealing with NRM on how to integrate governance in policies, regulations and laws in each country using different approaches i.e. Natural Resource Governance Framework.
- Encourage/Facilitate countries to source for government funding to continue with some of the activities land and other natural resources and conflict resolution Kagera TAMP initiated.

Annex 1

Terms of References

Specific tasks will include:

1. Assess the training impact and progress in relation to NR policies, legal framework and institutions and application of tools/approaches at district and community levels to address emerging natural resources issues and land use conflicts in each country with a view to promoting SLM.
2. Review the trainees' capacities to adopt the training modules packages and suggest adjustments in training materials and action plans in relation to Output 2 targets (Particularly on lessons learned, best practices, etc). Provide further advice on translation of the modules and accuracy of the content (French and Swahili for Burundi/Rwanda and Tanzania respectively)
3. Assess the level of understanding and awareness of participatory methods particularly the Participatory Negotiation Territorial Development (PNTD) and involvement of stakeholders in enforcement of policies, regulations, laws and by-laws and related mechanisms for NRM.
4. Ascertain the extent of field testing of the training modules at district and communal levels, how effective is the community participation in the implementation/enforcement of policies, laws and by-laws on SLAM, dispute resolution and conflict management and provide necessary technical backstopping
5. Evaluate the progress and effectiveness of transboundary collaboration, joint meetings for the harmonization and enforcement of policies and regulations, dispute resolution and conflict management across borders (community, district, national).
6. Meet with relevant government institutions responsible for Natural resources management at National and District level and provide technical advice in integrating governance issues in land use policies, regulations and by-laws and identify opportunities for collaboration and co-financing for follow-up in the final months and after the project
7. Provide support in the integration of governance issues in the formulation of technical and policy briefs including natural resources conflict and dispute resolution and enhancing equity in access to NR, transparency and accountability.

Annex 2**ITINERARY 09/10/2014-04/11/2014**

| Departure Date | City/Town | Arrival Date | City/Town |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| 09/10/2014 | Nairobi, Kenya | 10/10/2014 | Kigali, Rwanda |
| 12/10/2014 | Kigali, Rwanda | 12/10/2014 | Kabale, Uganda |
| 14/10/2014 | Kabale, Uganda | 14/10/2014 | Mbarara, Uganda |
| 16/10/2014 | Mbarara, Uganda | 16/10/2014 | Masaka, Uganda |
| 19/10/2014 | Masaka, Uganda | 19/10/2014 | Bukoba, Tanzania |
| 21/10/2014 | Bukoba, Uganda | 22/10/2014 | Karagwe/Kyerwa, Tanzania |
| 22/10/2014 | Karagwe, Tanzania | 23/10/2014 | Ngara, Tanzania |
| 25/10/2014 | Ngara/Kabanga, Burundi | 25/10/2014 | Gitega, Burundi |
| 29/10/2014 | Gitega, Burundi | 29/10/2014 | Bujumbura, Burundi |
| 1/11/2014 | Bujumbura, Burundi | 1/11/2014 | Kigali, Rwanda |
| 3/11/2014 | Kigali, Rwanda | 3/11/2014 | Kayonza, Kirehe, Rwanda |
| 4/11/2014 | Cibungo, Bugesera, Rwanda | 4/11/2014 | Kigali, Rwanda- Nairobi, Kenya |