



Tanzania REDD Initiative Newsletter

Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD)

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- Tanzania records success at the COP 16 showcase
- REDD pilot projects and improvement of livelihoods
- National REDD Task Force gives feedback on COP 16
- Radio ranked number one for communicating REDD issues in Zanzibar
- REDD Strategy gets input from stakeholders
- Another REDD pilot project kicks off

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Tanzania records success at the COP 16 showcase

Tanzania has won praise for the commitment it has shown in implementing the Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) initiative in this piloting period.

The kudos was aired by visitors to the Tanzania booth during the showcasing of Tanzania REDD materials during the COP 16 in Mexico.

The materials showcased include fliers, leaflets, roll up banners, booklets, quarterly newsletters, caps, bags and flash disks, all carrying message about REDD readiness in Tanzania and the achievement registered so far.

Visitors were impressed with the progress made with regard to REDD initiative in Tanzania, with some, especially those from Africa, expressing their interest in learning more from Tanzania.

Other visitors showed willingness to further network and partner with Tanzania in providing technical assistance and input in the development of Tanzania's National REDD Strategy.



A visitor at the REDD booth listening to explanations on REDD pilot projects in Tanzania, as illustrated by the National REDD Task Force member Mr. Evarist Nashanda.



National REDD Task Force Members, at the REDD booth in Cancun Mexico

Cover photo: Dr. Terezya L. Huvisa, Minister, Vice President's Office -Division of Environment (left) at the Tanzania REDD booth in Cancun, Mexico

National REDD Task Force gives feedback on COP 16

In January this year 2011, The National REDD Task Force provided a feedback on what aspired during the COP 16 held in Cancun Mexico end of last year.

The meeting, which was organized by the REDD Secretariat on behalf of the National REDD Task Force, brought together stakeholders to share information and experiences based on Tanzania's participation in the united Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - COP 16 event, held from 29th November to 10th December 2010 in Cancun, Mexico.

The meeting, which brought together participants to the UNFCCC COP 16, was attended by representatives from the Government, Civil Society, Donor Community, Media and Members of Institutions piloting REDD activities in the Tanzania.

From the presentation from Rahima Njaidi, Executive Director of Mtandao wa Jamii wa Usimamizi wa Misitu Tanzania (MJUMITA) , it was reported that the UNFCCC talks made a slight step ahead on REDD negotiations from Copenhagen, although the speed of negotiations is not enough compared with the ongoing impacts of climate change. The world government negotiators came up with a firm but not legally binding agreement. Governments agreed on a set of decisions that will support further talks over the next year of 2011 with the objective of a final outcome at COP17 in Durban, South Africa.

It was further mentioned that the decisions addressing emissions from deforestation, also known as REDD+, did not include everything was hoped for, but provided

a sound foundation for moving a credible REDD process forward and an agenda for the work ahead. If a comparison is made regarding the decisions on forests with the last COP 15 in Copenhagen, it is noted that important progress has been made. However, Ms. Njaidi indicates that the agreement does not explicitly state where long term finance will come from, but requests governments to explore financing options before the next round of climate talks in South Africa.

During the discussion number of issues was emerged that led to develop the Way forward that need to be taken into account by the REDD Task Force and the Government through Division of Environment (DoE) – VPO. These are summarized as follows:

- The REDD Task Force to develop ways in which Tanzanians will be able to benefit with REDD showcasing and other information from the COP 16, like Participating in Sabasaba, national exhibitions and by organizing interactive discussion with Media
- DoE through VPO to organize another stakeholders meeting where government report on COP16 could be presented and shared with stakeholders
- The government should be advised on the need to establish a National negotiation team that also includes CSOs and Private sectors
- Develop a forum where Central Government, CSOs and Private sectors share Country Position on Climate Change issues before presented into the International Forum e.g. COP, so that public get informed and understand the Country position on International climate change matters
- Organize early preparation for COP 17 in order for the country to secure space for showcasing, organization of negotiation team and funding for participants

REDD Strategy gets input from stakeholders



A villager explaining how REDD was well received in her Village during zonal consultation workshop to discuss the draft National REDD Strategy in Morogoro.

REDD stakeholders got an opportunity to air their contributions to the draft National REDD Strategy during Zonal Consultation Workshops, with active involvement of members from the Institute of Resource Assessment of the University of Dar es Salaam and the National REDD Task Force.

The workshops held in six zones in Mainland Tanzania as well as in Zanzibar meant to share input and experiences from various REDD stakeholder groups, including organizations piloting the initiative in respective zones.

Among the issues raised by stakeholders during the workshops are sustainability of the initiative, enhanced community engagement and improving community livelihoods, especially in forest adjacent communities. One of the things unanimously agreed upon and supported by all participants in all zones was that each Council must consider the environment in their dealings. Moreover, stakeholders pointed out that there is a need for REDD to develop a holistic approach combining the mentioned issues under one umbrella.

Commenting on the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation section of the strategy, stakeholders in the Mwanza Zone, which comprised of the whole of Lake Zone, were of the view, among other things that, livestock keeping; agriculture and mining activities; building activities (including road construction) which require clearing of large areas for building materials, need to closely be looked at and mechanisms be

developed to curb the same from happening. They added that Village Land Use Planning be put in place for proper use of land.

On governance of forest resources for REDD+, participants were of the view that the Participatory Forest Management (PFM) be clear, applicable to all forests, and make people feel its benefits. Education and awareness raising on forest management was also mentioned.

The most recent National REDD Strategy workshops were conducted between mid February and mid March this year, 2011. It is put that the comprehensive national REDD strategy, a living document accommodating new insights and input from stakeholders, be completed by December, 2012. The strategy has been developed based on the National framework for REDD developed in 2009 which is based on the objectives of reducing emissions related to deforestation and forest degradation as well as reducing poverty of forest dependent communities.

The consultation workshops were regarded as an opportunity for awareness creation on REDD initiative, particularly on the draft National REDD strategy. A series of presentations were done during the workshops. A presentation on Background to REDD initiative in Tanzania was made followed by a detailed presentation on the draft National REDD strategy, and later stakeholder discussions on the strategy.

REDD pilot projects and improvement of livelihoods

A number of REDD pilot projects currently being carried out have showed their dedication in improving livelihoods of forest adjacent communities, partly by promoting Alternative Income Generating Activities (AIGA), and providing incentives for an improved people-centered forest management activities, thereby putting into practice the concept of Participatory Forest Management (PFM).

The projects, implemented by Civil Society and environmental-based multinationals, including the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), are basically meant to mitigate against an increased population pressure on forests; thus contributing to the achievement of REDD objective of reducing forest degradation, halting as well as reversing deforestation.

This was learnt during a Feedback Workshop on Status of REDD+ Initiative in Tanzania held at Kibaha in February, 2011 with the aim of sharing feedback on the status of REDD in Tanzania which was attended by stakeholders from REDD participating allover the country. The workshop drew representatives from the Government of Tanzania, the Government of Zanzibar, Non Governmental Organizations as well as representatives from the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Tanzania.

The two-day workshop had witnessed a number of remarks from invited guests, including Dr Makame Husi from Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture and Dr Julius Ningu from the Department of Environment in the Vice President Office of the Government of Tanzania.

Background to the REDD program was brought into the open with the government being urged to consider REDD as an opportunity to reduce forest degradation and promote sustainable forest conservation. On his part, Dr Ningu emphasized on the importance of having in place an effective legal framework to reduce degradation.

Presenting on UN-REDD program in Tanzania, the Tanzania UN-REDD Coordinator, Mr. Ernst Ralph, revealed to the audience that, so far, the program has 29 partner countries in Africa, Latin America and Asia-Pacific, of which twelve countries, including Tanzania, are receiving support to their respective National program activities, Mr. Ralph also added that to-date the UN-REDD Program's Policy Board has approved a total of USD 51 million for its nine initial pilot countries, Tanzania on board, and three new countries – Cambodia, Philippines and the Solomon Islands.

During the event, Professor Yanda from the Institute of Resource Assessment (IRA) presented on National REDD+ Development and consultation Plan in which he clarified on how the National REDD Draft Strategy is being circulated. Prof. Yanda unveiled that the draft was published in newspapers and it can be for free on the Tanzania REDD website www.reddtz.org. Moreover, he added that, consultations for more input from stakeholders are currently being conducted in order to consolidate the strategy.

Summing up the workshop proceedings and determining the way forward, participants agreed on a number of issues, central being finalization of the National REDD Strategy as a means for effective coordination in REDD mechanism; and greater community involvement in, among other things, sharing and discussing the REDD strategy.

Radio ranked number one for communicating REDD issues in Zanzibar

In January – March 2011, the National REDD Task Force through a consultant namely Regalia Media, conducted a study to document communication channels suitable for dissemination of information about REDD in Zanzibar. This was the second part of the study as the same study was conducted in the Tanzania Mainland in 2010, which came up with the REDD Information and Communication Strategy (RICS).

The study was conducted in 17 shehias bordering forests either owned by government or community. Sampled shehias from Unguja included Unguja Ukuu, Pete, Kitogani, Muungoni, Ukongoroni, Muyuni C, Paje, Bwejuu, Mtende, Cheju and Bambi. Shehias from Pemba were Mjimbini, Changaweni, Mkia wa Ng'ombe, Bandari kuu, Mjini wingwi and Mgelema.

After the data collection, findings analysed and the draft report produced, the stakeholders workshop which included participants from sector ministries, District Councils from Unguja and Pemba, Research and training institutions, REDD Task Force, IRA, NGOs, and representatives from the 17 shehias was as well convened. In this workshop, the study report was presented and participants had opportunity to make comments. These comments are incorporated in the final report.

From the study, it was found that the most important place where people of Unguja and Pemba receive information is in the Mosque. Apart from the Mosque where more information are religious related, another popular place is commonly known as “Maskani”. These are special areas where people with common interests do meet daily after work hours to discuss various recent issues including political, economic and social. In Zanzibar, these places are more formal than in Tanzania mainland as they are used by political leaders to influence certain political and development issues.

Radio is the most fast and trusted source/means of communicating REDD information in the islands. It helps to deliver information even to illiterates. Cinema shows could be used to deliver REDD information targeting to reach many people at once due to its popularity in the islands.

In terms of written materials, newsletters written in simple kiswahili accompanied with pictures and



A section of workshop participants to discuss findings

cartoon illustrations will also attract both elders and youth to read and receive REDD information easily. Training in seminars and meetings is considered as the most interactive approach that would make REDD and related concepts well understood by stakeholders.

Finally, the study came up with several recommendations:

- In order to reduce cost and foster sustainability, training on REDD should be done in all Zanzibar districts through training of trainers (TOT) where REDD professionals may train selected villagers (to become para professionals) who will in turn train other villagers in their shehias.
- Live Radio programmes with REDD messages should be developed by taking into consideration broadcasting at times when farmers and their families can listen; this includes women who have a heavy workload in most of the daytime. Such programmes should be aired during the



Participants of the study to document communication channels suitable for disseminating information about REDD in Zanzibar.

evening around 19:00 – 21:00 hours. Popular Radio stations including Sauti ya Tanzania Zanzibar, Zenji FM and Radio Al-Noor can be used.

- For effective information dissemination of REDD and other concepts at local level, written materials should be published in adequate quantities, to reach at least one household, each Sheha, each “Maskani” and be distributed on time in primary and secondary schools.
- Popular Kiswahili versions of Zanzibar REDD related Policies, Acts, CoFM guidelines and other REDD documents should be distributed in the Shehia offices (Sheha houses), school libraries and be provided to each extension officer in Zanzibar.
- REDD written materials be provided with illustrations including pictures, cartoons and local photographs of localistic examples (e.g.

local signs of climate change in Zanzibar) and be presented in simple kiswahili language. This design will attract most readers including elders and youth.

- Religious leaders in Zanzibar be used in dissemination of REDD information since mosques are important places where people receive most information. Thus, religious leaders could be part of the para professionals.

Another REDD pilot project kicks off

The ninth Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD) pilot project christened Hifadhi Mapafu ya Dar es Salaam (HIMADA) which means Conserve the Lungs of Dar es Salaam has kicked off following disbursement of funds totaling four million US dollars by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania through the Tanzania-Norway Partnership on Climate Change.

The project will be undertaken in the Pugu-Kazimzumbwi Forest Reserves (PKFRs) found in Ilala and Kisarawe districts in Dar es Salaam and Coast regions respectively, and will last from April 2011 to March 2015. These two reserves are home to many different plant and animal species, making them an important peri-urban haven of biodiversity.

The four-year project in the reserves, which serve as catchments for the Kizinga River and one of recharge areas of groundwater in parts of Dar es Salaam, aims at reducing carbon emissions by curbing deforestation, controlling forest degradation as well as improving carbon stocks in the PKFRs and surrounding areas.

The project is implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) in collaboration with the Forest and Beekeeping Division (FBD) in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Environment Media Network (EMNet), the Ilala and Kisarawe District Authorities and other partners like the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) and the Business School of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDBS).

The project will work on forming strategic partnerships with organizations and institutions influential in effective forest management as well as on improving the livelihoods of the forest adjacent communities in order to ensure successful implementation and sustainability of the project.

This will be done through facilitating the formation of 'Friends of Pugu-Kazimzumbwi' which is expected to engage key players as well as attract public interest in ensuring proper management of the forest reserves. The project will also support the construction of a Forest Resource Centre.

Promotion of sustainable Alternative Income Generating Activities (AIGA) will be tasked to the University of Dar es Salaam Business School.

The project will also embrace education, and information and communication activities in order to attain an improved knowledge and awareness of strategic stakeholders who will play an important role in enhancing sustainable management of the Pugu and Kazimzumbwi forests. There will also be conducted a study at the beginning of the project to examine governance issues in the management of Pugu-Kazimzumbwi forests.

By having a REDD pilot project in the Pugu and Kazimzumbwi forests, Dar es Salaam residents will be able to learn and understand more about the REDD concept and thereby allowing them to take necessary actions towards its achievement. Charcoal is the major source of cooking energy in urban areas in Tanzania, including Dar es Salaam, and it stands as one of the major drivers of deforestation.



The Ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy Ingum Klepsvik exchanging the signed Memorandum of Understanding for implementing REDD Pilot project in the PKFR, with the Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania(WCST) Honorary Secretary Evarist Maembe.