



United Republic of Tanzania

FOREST GOVERNANCE MONITORING SYSTEM IN TANZANIA

By, Dr. Felician Kilahama- Director, Forestry and Beekeeping
Division, Ministry of Natural Resources & Tourism

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- **Tanzania is endowed with over 33.5 million hectares (Ha) of forests dominated by *Miombo* woodlands, and species-rich wooded savannah ecosystem.**
- **Two-fifths (about 15 million Ha) are Forest Reserves and forests in National Parks and Game Reserves.**
- **The rest is of the forests and woodlands are unreserved mainly on public land.**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION (Cont...)

- **The National Forest Policy of 1998 and Forest Act of 2002 explicitly recognized the need to bring these unreserved forests under the control of local communities as village forests, through PFM**
- **Over 4.2 million hectares of forest spread across 2,000 villages.**
- **Despite its progressive policy framework Tanzania's overall performance in forest governance is still relatively weak;**

FOREST GOVERNANCE MONITORING SYSTEM

- **Key guiding principles for Good Governance of forests include:**
 - **Equity and justice,**
 - **Empowerment,**
 - **Accountability,**
 - **Transparency,**
 - **Information sharing, and**
 - > **Sustainability**

FOREST GOVERNANCE IN TANZANIA (Cont...)

Factors Causing

- **Inadequate Institutional capacity leading to weak law enforcement, corruption: illegal logging and trade;**
- **Measures to reduce illegality in the forestry sector in Tanzania involve local communities;**



Improved Governance

- **To build the capacity of stakeholders especially:**
 - **At the community level:**
 - Implement environmental management plans, improve awareness for the stakeholders to understand forest and land laws, institute village by-laws to regulate the use of natural resources;
 - Establish Village Forest Reserves with approved Management Plans;
 - **Why?** To empower the Local Communities and other Stakeholders and build their confidence, enhance knowledge and ability to conserve and manage natural resources for their benefits and enable them to play a meaningful role in forest management.

Improved Governance (cont ...)

- ***Forest Reserves:***

- Establish and demarcate Village and/or District/Central Government Reserves;
- implementation of Forestry Management Plans;
- Formulating, reviewing and enforcement of village forestry by-laws;
- Establishing & equipping of village/district Environmental Teams (Natural Resources Committees) that undertaking regular patrols.

Improved Governance (cont ...)

- Participatory Forest Management and Assessment working very closely with the Local Communities;
- national multi-stakeholder consultation for a i.e. with Forest Industries and traders;
- Training of forestry officials and Community Leaders;
- Zanzibar and mainland Tanzania on harmonizing laws and policies (in order to improve controls)



Participatory Forest Resources Assessment

Forest Act, Policy, Guidelines and Programmes

- Tools used to govern and manage forestry resources. The Forest Act (Cap 323 RE: 2002) and its Regulations outlines the Governance procedures e.g. export of logs no allowed;
- Reports
 - Reports received from Villages, Communities, Individuals, NGOs, CBOs, the District;
 - Reports from out-stations including the Surveillance Units;
- **Check points** on main transport routes to verify if procedures followed and curb illegal business;
- Participatory Monitoring through informer system, Independent efforts locally and internationally like “**Mama Misitu Campaigns**”, The TRAFFIC study in Southern Tanzania; Collaboration with the Police Force. All geared to reduce illegal forest products trade (charcoal, timber, logs, poles, firewood etc.), illegal transportation and cheating;
- Licenses issues based on harvesting plans as per the FMP.

Governance Challenges

- Increased pressure on forest resources;
- Rampant illegal forest products trade;
- Inadequate capacity (human and financial resources);
- Transportation of illegal produce at night;
- Some traders not willing to follow procedures hence source of corruption. Some foreign countries behind such moves;
- How to motivate the staff for commitment to perform better than before (getting out of the business as usual attitudes);
- Annual wild/bush fires;
- Uncontrolled artisan mining activities;
- Bio-fuels- booming *Jatropha carcus* farming;
- Shifting cultivation, encroachment & climate change.

Need:

- More capacity building and financing to improve performance or enhanced forest monitoring;
- more collaboration with stakeholders but need motivation;
- PFM and similar arrangements be encouraged but hinged on acceptable cost-benefits sharing.

FOREST GOVERNANCE, MONITORING AND REDD+

- Tanzania is in process to produce the national REDD+ Strategy including the (Readiness Preparation Proposal: R-PP), which will define the implementation of REDD+ activities in the country. This includes defining roles and responsibilities of various key institutions & actors including the local communities. Through the Strategy governance and monitoring aspects as far as REDD+ is concerned will be clearly defined and will ultimately enhance Sustainable Forest Management (SFM).

FOREST GOVERNANCE IN TANZANIA



- *Songe-Bokwa forest was continuously subjected to heavy pressures from livelihood activities, including agricultural encroachment*

Governance Indicators (Cont ...)

beehive



SOME ILLEGAL LOGS IN RUFJI DISTRICT



**Thank You for Your Kind
Attention**

