

FGLG-Tanzania

Progress report 2012



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**TANZANIA
FOREST GOVERNANCE LEARNING GROUP
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2012 REPORT**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) is an informal alliance of in-country groups and international partners currently active in seven African and three Asian countries. Issues of FGLG in Tanzania are based on the illegal timber trade campaign implemented by the Tanzania Forest Working Group (TFWG) and REDD pilot projects issues which are all touching the livelihoods of the rural community and very well linked to timber harvesting. The campaign is based on governance shortfalls study commissioned by the Tanzanian government trying to demonstrate how effective and equitable natural resource governance is absolutely critical to development and livelihoods in Tanzania and the REDD activities are initiations undertaken by TFWG members piloting on the implementation of REDD in Tanzania.

Through consultations with the Tanzania Forest Working Group (TFWG) it was possible to develop activities for the year 2012. The two outputs the group focused on were: “Output 1: Forest rights and small forest enterprise: Identifiable contributions to improvements made in key decisions about forest rights, capabilities and enterprise that foster locally controlled forestry” (these contributions will primarily be responses to the Mama Mitsu campaign; and, “Output 2 REDD: Identifiable contributions made to an effective and equitable national REDD+ approach and practical governance improvements that enable REDD+ to support PFM.” In each of the outputs this report is presented based on developed detailed activities for the year 2012.

Most of the activities implemented in the two outputs were coordinated with some partners in the Tanzania Forest working group. This is to take advantage of what they are already doing and the expertise available from them. In this respect FGLG supported four meetings of the TFWG members, held on the 29th February 2012, 11th May 2012, 18th September 2012 and 27th November 2012 (Minutes attached). The other meeting facilitated by FGLG was a meeting of the REDD pilot projects to validate the benefit sharing from REDD to communities held on the 15th May 2012. In the TFWG meetings it was generally observed that FGLG provides a good opportunity for TFWG to develop and share lessons on forest governance – within Tanzania and with neighboring countries and at international levels – and to prepare joint advocacy actions.

Apart from the information sharing from Mama Mitsu campaign there are a number of NGOs that are also members of the TFWG piloting REDD+ projects in Tanzania and had no platform where they shared their findings or concerns. Each of the pilot projects is implementing its activities in a different area although most of them are funded by the Norwegian Embassy. They had no fund and a mechanism to coordinate them and share their concerns. FGLG was able to fill this gap, and served as the platform where all REDD+ implementing projects gathered and shared what they have and develop common stands for advocacy. Three meetings were organized and conducted one being a validation meeting of the UN REDD project in Tanzania – feedback of an evaluation report, the second one was mainly an information sharing and validation of “REDD+ Benefit Sharing Research and Report” which identified other key REDD-related issues for REDD pilot projects to discuss and develop strategies for further engagement together in Tanzania commissioned by TNRF. The third one was a preparatory session for the Doha COP meeting in which very few members participated.

This twelve month report therefore has tried to highlight the objectives of FGLG in relation to the two out puts mentioned above, the progress made and reasons for some of the planned activities not being well addressed, challenges faced during the implementation and how they were addressed and possible outcomes observed.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) is an informal alliance of in-country groups and international partners currently active in seven African and three Asian countries. It is facilitated internationally by the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) and is currently financially supported by the European Union and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). FGLG's aim is to connect those marginalized from forest governance to those controlling it, and to help both do things better. Since 2003 the FGLG has been carrying out focused studies, developing tactics and tools, holding learning events, and working as a group to effect change. FGLG is working in ten countries - Cameroon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Vietnam.

The Tanzania FGLG team is convened by the Tanzania Forest Working Group (TFWG) of the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF). Issues of FGLG are based on the illegal timber trade campaign implemented by the TFWG and REDD pilot projects issues which are all touching the livelihoods of the rural community and very well linked to timber harvesting. The campaign is based on governance shortfalls study commissioned by the Tanzanian government trying to demonstrate how effective and equitable natural resource governance is absolutely critical to development and livelihoods in Tanzania. On the other hand the REDD activities are initiations undertaken by TFWG members piloting on the implementation of REDD in Tanzania.

Therefore, the role of FGLG here in Tanzania is to coordinate the discussions and share them with wider stakeholders such as development partners, media and so forth and that FGLG Tanzania will also link these institutions with the government due to the trust and relationship we have built with for example the Tanzania Forest Service. For FGLG Tanzania to be effective it is extremely important for the future of MMC and its implementing partners related activities and for the REDD pilot projects to draw evidence from community members in the villages that demonstrates governance related shortfalls to the public and donors. This could be in a form of a documentary taken from the field or hard documentaries developed by communication/information experts.

Generally, the activities carried out in year 2012 are aligned to the 2010-2013 period which were closely linked to developments with the Mama Mitsu programme and the REDD pilot projects. They both aim at influencing decision making in forest governance and a credible national REDD approach and practical REDD support for PFM. The main objective of this project is to connect those marginalized from forest governance to those controlling it, and to help both do things better and under this project there are two specific objectives;

- 1) Forest rights and small forest enterprise improved; through identifiable contributions to improvements made in key decisions about forest rights, capabilities and enterprise that foster locally controlled forestry (these contributions will primarily be responses to the Mama Mitsu campaign).
- 2) REDD initiatives; through identifiable contributions to an effective and equitable national REDD+ approach and practical governance improvements that enable REDD+ to support PFM.

There were good developments in the implementation of activities after the launch of MMC in July 2012. In line with this and in collaboration with FGLG/TFWG members a number of activities were implemented. There were also consultations between the government of

Tanzania and Mozambique whereby agreements were made and signed between the two countries. These agreements were in an MOU which gives areas of collaboration which include sharing of information on timber trade between the two countries, technical training in forestry, REDD and PFM development issues.

In the same reporting period TRAFFIC/WWF CEAI has undertaken a number of consultations meeting with the two governments to undertaking a study on timber trade. The study being undertaken is on the drivers and outcomes of the timber trade between East Africa and China. During the same period it was possible to to organized and conducted one meeting of the UN REDD project in Tanzania – feedback of an evaluation report and also had an information sharing meeting of a study for validation of “REDD+ Benefit Sharing Research and Report” which identified other key REDD-related issues for REDD pilot projects to discuss and develop strategies for further engagement together in Tanzania a study commissioned by TNRF. This report therefore presents an overview of the achievements, challenges and outcomes for the twelve month’s (January to December 2012) implementation of the project.

2. PROGRESS MADE

This section outlines the progress made from January to December 2012 towards the Outputs, through the general and specific actions in the 2012 work plan. In some parts it will link to other reports that were written while implementing the activities.

Output 1. *Forest rights and small forest enterprise: Identifiable contributions to improvements made in key decisions about forest rights, capabilities and enterprise that foster locally controlled forestry (these contributions will primarily be responses to the Mama Misitu campaign).*

There are three general actions under this Output this year:

1.1 Use the findings on the illegal timber trade between Tanzania and Mozambique developed by TRAFFIC/WWF CEAI, and develop a further video, and present them to both government and the public. Specific actions are:

- Presentation in a breakfast meeting followed by press releases.
- Make a video documentary from the field and hold round table discussions with representatives of the two countries (Mozambique and Tanzania).

The plan was to conduct two breakfast debates with media coverage and having a round table discussion all based on video documentaries of timber trade between Tanzania and Mozambique. This was not fully implemented due to a number of reasons. For the case of the breakfast debate we managed to have one slot on the 27th July 2012 and the other slot was given to other TNRF programs.

In regard to video documentary of timber movement between Tanzania and Mozambique, TNRF film crew had a tight program but have finally managed to get the footage and hopefully by mid January next year 2013 the documentary will be ready to be shared with the government of Tanzania and may be the government of Mozambique. This initiative will provide evidence to build support for the Mama Misitu Campaign if timber is still moving from the south and east of Tanzania either legally or illegally as the campaign is also focusing in the southern part of Tanzania. The documentation was selected to highlight evidence from the ground as there are still reports of illegal movements of timber and forest products between Tanzania and Mozambique. It is said that traders can easily get permits from Mozambique that from Tanzania.

back to Tanzania as commodities originating from Mozambique.

In the mean time the government may not be fully aware of the situation and communities owning these resources do not see the value of them and as such do not take actions. This is why the two FGLG country teams (Mozambique and Tanzania) are trying to address the

real situation. The documentary will therefore, be shared between the government bodies of the two countries and also be used as a learning tool for national and international organizations we collaborate such as FGLG in the learning events and used at the forest governance hearing.

Following the TFWG meeting on 18th September 2012 there was a concern on forest governance issues in the country and that different stakeholders have this concern. It was proposed that a forest governance hearing on what is the progress after the 6 years of TRAFFIC report, what challenges etc. be organized and conducted before the end of the year but due to timing (almost end of year 2012) it was agreed that this hearing be conducted in February. The video documentary being taken (see the previous paragraph) will be used as a starter to stimulate the discussion. Discussants to this hearing have been proposed to be one representative from Development partners (Environment), government (Forestry), private sector, representative from members of parliament, NGO representative and community member's representative. The hearing will focus on testimonies from community-level representatives from reactions from all the others mentioned. A video documentary of the hearing will also be undertaken for the FGLG learning event and sharing with media as media coverage of the hearing will be taken into account and sharing with the government of Mozambique. Apart from the video documentary a briefing paper of the same will be prepared.

1.2 Provide oversight and input to a synthesis of evidence and opinion on the drivers and outcomes of timber trade between Africa and China and related issues of forest management and governance. Use the outputs of the synthesis in Tanzania and help develop the China-Africa dialogue platform with next meeting in China in early 2013.

Specific actions are:

- Develop information and contacts for consultants
- Review draft material
- Prepare one policy brief and make presentations of findings to Government of Tanzania

IIED, WWF CEAI and FGLG Tanzania jointly prepared TORs for undertaking two studies plus undertaking a video documentary of timber trade movements in Tanzania. One of the study looked at the perceptions of timber trade between Tanzania and china while the second one was looking at the movement of timber between Tanzania and Mozambique. Consultants were hired and materials for the study made available to the consultants. The work was undertaken in the months of November to December 2012 and reports made available.

The study on China-linked impacts of Africa forest governance – review of evidence and perceptions of the findings develop in Tanzania complimented with similar work done in China has been completed. Out of this study an information brief will be developed in year 2013 and make presentations of the findings to Government of Tanzania and China in year 2013. The results of this study will also be presented to the forest governance hearing and the China-Africa platform in year 2013. This study is focusing the whole country and in undertaking it a lot of consultation with different stakeholders (TFWG/government/private sector/community) was undertaken. Consultations were also made between those with the film crew to explore the relationships in the questions being asked in the different areas.

Parallel with this is that a study was also being implemented by TRAFFIC Tanzania to look at the timber movements between Mozambique border and Tanzania "Rapid Assessment of Illegal Timber Trade across the Ruvuma River on the Tanzania - Mozambique Border". The main objective of this study was to understand the current timber and other forest related product movements across the border of Tanzania and Mozambique in order to support the development of a long-term monitoring capacity to assess the extent to which this movement of forest resources contributes to the exploitation of timber resources, and socio-economic development in southeast Tanzania and northern Mozambique. The final report will be

available in January and will also be part of the presentations in the forest governance hearing and in the China Africa platform.

1.3 Monitor outcomes of the use and effects of previous documentaries and other products related to illegal timber trade and forest governance. Specific actions are:

- Make a follow-up documentary on efforts made by community members on addressing corruption in timber trade
- Write three field testimonies with MPINGO project

Using the MAAJABU – TNRF film crew a four minute documentary was developed to be used as a promotional material to timber trade based on the Mama Misitu campaign. This short documentary was presented to some development partners and government staff and was seen as a very good educative tool. There were a lot of concerns on what is happening in the timber trade chain after showing this short documentary. It will continue being used in the Mama Misitu campaign at national levels and has been posted on our website.

The cross border timber trade study which was being implemented jointly by TNRF and the East African Wildlife Society has come to an end and findings were shared between senior members of the governments of Tanzania and Kenya. The reports (main report, a summary report and a report of the proceedings of the workshops held) are now available. We also have them on the website. They have been distributed to government offices (Regional and District offices concerned – Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Tanga), relevant ministries (Finance, Natural Resources and Tourism), the three border posts (Namanga, Hilili and Horohoro), and East African Community protocol and to all the partners involved in the research.

The other plan was to make a documentary of the forest products trade between the border posts of Tanzania and Kenya (Holili, Namanga and Lunga Lunga) but this was not possible due to time constraint. The film crew was also very busy and as such this activity was not possible. It will be done when the MMC starts moving in the areas where the first or pilot activities (may include all or some of the following districts Kisarawe, Kibaha, Kilwa and Rufiji) will be implemented.

The idea was to make a follow up documentaries in collaboration with TFWG members on efforts made by community members on addressing corruption in timber trade in the districts where the Mama Misitu campaign is operating. Footage of it has been made in Kisarawe and Kibaha and a documentary will be available in mid January. These will be used in the forest governance hearing so that the impact of it is strengthened and have more media coverage with a lot of information available.

Writing three field testimonies with MPINGO project and TFCG was also seen as an important tool to demonstrate what is happening in the field. Testimonies were taken in Kilwa (MPINGO) and Kibaha (Tanzania Forest Conservation Group) where communities were explaining the challenges they are facing in their respective areas. These testimonies were used in the MMC launch event on the 1st July 2012 and are also on the TNRF website.

Output 2 REDD: Identifiable contributions made to an effective and equitable national REDD+ approach and practical governance improvements that enable REDD+ to support PFM.

There are three general actions under this Output:

2.1 Produce reports/media inputs etc. on lessons learnt from the pilot REDD projects.

Specific actions are:

- Making one breakfast meeting presentation
- Write one briefing paper

- Develop one video documentary on benefits from community perspectives

The plan was to have a brief paper developed in collaboration with the REDD pilot projects and present it to the breakfast meeting but as TNRF had only one slot the presentation was not possible as mentioned in 1.1 above.

TNRF has worked on a report to show the status of cost benefit sharing focused on REDD in Tanzania. As said the plan was to write a technical report on experiences/lessons from pilot projects and based on this conduct a one breakfast debate share them with government and public and make it public through media and at the same time make a develop one video documentary on benefits from community perspectives.

A technical report was written and equitable benefit sharing exploring lessons for REDD in Tanzania which was followed by a summary report of the same. These documents are available and have been shared in COP 19 in Doha. Presentations in Tanzania was not possible as there was no much time to do it but has been circulated to the REDD+ pilot projects and government of Tanzania (REDD Task Force).

A documentary on REDD+ benefits to communities is also in progress. Footage has been taken from Kilosa, Kondoa and Shinyanga areas where REDD activities are supported by TFCG/MJUMITA, AWF and TaTEDO respectively. A lot of technical support was given by the FGLG Tanzania convenor in Kondoa and Shinyanga. It is expected that once the documentary is out will be aired on radio and TV.

2.2 Coordinate the pilots REDD projects and provide a forum for discussion on key governance issues for advocacy. Specific actions are:

- Make presentations at the meetings and produce one information brief

A meeting of the REDD pilot projects was held on the 15th May 2012 with the objectives of:

1. Information sharing and validation of "REDD+ Benefit Sharing Research and Report"
2. Identification of other key REDD-related issues for REDD pilot projects to discuss and develop strategies for further engagement together

The report is available and on TNRF website. A consultant was hired by TNRF to undertake the research and all REDD pilot projects made comments on it. They also approved the use of their logos in the final report.

Another meeting was held in response to member requests, TNRF to facilitate a process of a joint feedback statement from the pilot projects on the second draft of the national REDD strategy. The meeting was not held but email discussions with the REDD pilot projects made it possible to give a joint statement with their inputs and was presented to the Tanzania REDD Task Force early September 2012. An information brief was developed and was ready for sharing in Doha.

One meeting was convened by FGLG and held on the 20th November 2012 with some of the REDD pilot projects. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues for COP 19 in Doha, what messages they would like to take forward and how they should work and give feedback to members in Tanzania. Participating members were from TFCG, TNRF, TFS and two members from the REDD secretariat but the invited members from the REDD Task force could not show up. After the meeting it was also agreed that there should be a feedback meeting after Doha to reflect what came out and more members to be invited to the session.

2.3 Support Mozambique/Tanzania REDD dialogue and experience exchange with possible extension to Malawi.

Specific actions are:

- Information brief

REDD Dialogue and experience exchange through 1/ Meeting Maputo of TZ and MZ CSO and Government entities 2/ Document results of meeting and follow up actions 3/ Disseminate dialogues and experience sharing through one briefing document. Other follow up areas of interest between Tanzania and Mozambique include exchanges in timber trade issues, PFM and forestry technical knowledge in training with some representatives from NGO sector in Tanzania. A memorandum of understanding between Tanzania and Mozambique was signed in April 2012 and implementation of the agreement is in progress (MOU attached).

There was nothing taken up on this as the main output here was the signed MOU between Tanzania and Mozambique forestry protocols. Actions on the MOU have not yet started but after further explorations may be a place for engagement in the next years to come. In the signing of the MOU there were representatives from both the governments of Mozambique and Tanzania (Forestry sectors), representatives from the TFWG (TFCG and TRAFFIC/WWF CEAI).

Development and resourcing of FGLG -Tanzania. There are three general actions this year:

3.1 Finalize membership recruitment by getting the involvement of private sector and government persons. Specific actions are:

- A meeting will be held in May to discuss the composition of the team and discuss how to strengthen its forum

The issue of FGLG membership and the relationship between FGLG, REDD and related initiatives within the TFWG activities was well discussed with the TFWG members in a meeting held on the 11th May 2012. FGLG was seen as a vital support to the TFWG initiatives and should not duplicate issues. It was also seen as an opportunity to strengthen the governance initiatives in a more strategic and focused way when members use their expertise and experiences jointly. The meeting lead to the development of a draft TFWG strategy (attached) which has already been sent to members for their inputs and the final version will be distributed in January 2013 with some tentative work plans. It was therefore concluded that FGLG members are part of the TFWG when it comes to specific topical issues then they can meet and carry the activity forward and if necessary invite some other members from government as may be required.

Generally, FGLG was seen as an opportunity for the TFWG initiatives to facilitate the platform for sharing and disseminating information related to forest governance and take common actions for advocacy. This could be forest governance information that could be shared within the group in country or between countries or at international levels in learning events.

3.2 Conduct quarterly meeting for FGLG country team members and one meeting in a year to finalize project activities for the following year and agreeing on other procedures. Specific actions are:

- Forum meeting and discuss how each member can contribute to the outcomes of the activities and specifically the added value of FGLG in promoting innovative communications

One meeting was held to develop the 2012 work plan for year 2012. Jasper Makala, Jumapili Chenga, Noah Mpunga, Paul Nyiti, Elinasi Monga and Cassian Sianga were in the meeting. The work plan was thereafter sent to IIED as a procedure for discussion with other FGLG team countries in the international leaning event meeting. In the TFWG meeting held on the

11th May 2012 it was clearly observed that FGLG meeting will now be within the TFWG meetings since they are the same members but if there is a specific issue specific members may need to sit together and address the situation accordingly.

From another TFWG meeting held in September 18th, 2012 there was a detailed analysis of how the TFWG works, how it relates to FGLG and REDD issues etc. It was clearly seen that FGLG is an advocacy arm of the TFWG and that REDD issues etc. are just projects of TFWG. This necessitated further development of the TFWG strategy document to clearly demonstrate all these issues and make sure that all members of the TFWG understand all these linkages. What clearly aspired now is that FGLG is supporting TFWG and that TFWG works on thematic areas such as CBNRM or REDD. Some members of CBNRM are in some cases members of REDD and it is not easy to split and clearly say these are FGLG members only.

In making sure that the TFWG is clearly know it was also proposed in the same meeting to develop a promotional leaflet for the working group. This promotional leaflet is also being prepared and in finalizing it the strategy document has to be first finalized as they depend on each other.

Four meetings (on the 29th February, 11th May, 18th September and 27th November 2012) for the TFWG were organized and conducted. Number of issues was discussed in the meetings and reports for each meeting and action points are available.

3.3 Participate in the international learning events Specific actions are:

- Learning event to be held in Vietnam.

The Vietnam International Learning Event was held from 26th to 30th March 2012 where all the FGLG country conveners participated. From year 2011 Tanzania FGLG report and discussions held in the international learning event held FGLG Tanzania was seen as making very good use of video documentaries. They demonstrate really problems on the ground and how they have they affect their livelihoods. FGLG Tanzania will continue using video documentaries to capture case studies/testimonies based on either MM campaign or REDD+ pilot projects and continue sharing at international levels.

Participated in training on FLEGT in Ghana from the 16th to the 19th April 2012. The training was for Anglophone countries in Africa and as I had participated in other FLEG initiatives in SADC countries I was invited. It was an interesting training as it demonstrated how different countries are using different systems to track legal/illegal timber trade between Africa, Asia and Europe and how to control it. In that meeting I participated with Dr. Ismail Aloo from the Tanzania Forest Service.

3. CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNT

General challenges

While implementing the activities of the year there were some specific challenges that were observed. These include;

- Getting actual evidence from the films documentaries has been really a challenge as some of the government staff are not so open to realities. Sometimes even community members are scared of the situation as they reflect what may happen to them if they expose some issues that touch the interests of their village government leaders etc. Here is where we make sure that what we produce does not give some negative impacts to our informers and have to convince them that we will not expose anything without their concerns. It also takes time before such a confidence is built.
- Getting feedback from TFWG members can sometimes be difficult as each member has his own interest and would love to fulfill his goal first. This is sometimes made possible to get

feedbacks by making phone calls or calling a meeting to discuss the issues if we need immediate feedback.

- Getting involvement of the government can take a lot of time due to normal government bureaucracies but we make use of other meetings such as in the SWAP meetings to relay some of our concerns.

MAMA MISITU PROJECT

The challenges encountered during this reporting period are not very much different from those of last year. MM campaign was on its inception phase and we could do little on the ground and at the same time we were struggling on how we can make the best use of FGLG support to the TFWG activities. However we managed to do the following;

1. Host a meeting of TFWG where we discussed its links FGLG, REDD+ pilot projects and other forestry related issues as a whole. A total of twelve organization participated (MDI, TRAFFIC, TFCG, LEAT, FEMINA, JET, WCST, JET, TRAFFIC, WWF-TCO, TASONABI, TFCG, WWF-CEAI, IUCN and TNRF). From the meeting discussion there is a possibility of developing a strategy for TFWG and how FGLG can support the strategy.
2. There were a lot of personal efforts made visiting MMC project implementing partners in their respective offices and discuss what is expected from them. This was done during the month of March and April to discuss on each partners work plan and budget and what we expect from them. Focus was mainly to those who were not frequently communicating on the status of their preparation to finalize work plans and budgets for the implementation of the campaign.
3. Two meetings were held with Merja Makela and Anna Kantola from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland in regard to progress of MM activities before the inception phase and a visit by journalists from Finland who wanted to understand what is MM campaign and why such a campaign.

NATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

1. REDD Task Force technical committee

There was a training on gender mainstreaming in the National Strategy and action plan for REDD+ held in Bagamoyo from the 28th to 30th August 2012. The training was for three days but I managed to attend for two days as the first day collided with the MMC Steering Committee which I had to attend. Such meetings cannot be avoided as they are very important to build the profile of TNRF.

2. SWAp Steering Committee

The Forestry and Beekeeping Sector Wide Approach Steering Committee was held on the 21st September 2012. Among the agenda points being discussed is the MMC. This agenda was a permanent agenda even in the pilot phase. It is an opportunity for the work of NGOs to be shared in front of Development Partners and government people. Other Ministries such as the VPO office environment, PMO-RALG and Ministry of Finance are in this committee without forgetting the MNRT. As the MMC Manager was out of the country I made a presentation of the campaign and members were very positive about the actions being taken by the project.

3. NAFAC meeting

As a member of the National Forestry Advisory Committee member attended the fourth meeting on the 19th and 20th September 2012. Among the agenda discussed in the meeting was the where about of the draft National Forest Policy. The meeting was informed that the draft policy was delayed because as a condition a Kiswahili version of the same was to be developed. It also lacked data which is now available after the Ministry's finalization of the forest inventory. The meeting was informed that the Swahili version is out and will now be taken to the cabinet. Thereafter the document will be available.