

December 2014

# Forest Governance Learning Group

## Tanzania

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Narrative report for the Social Justice in  
Forestry project

## Author information

This report was written by the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum on behalf of FGLG Tanzania

## About the project

For more information about this report, or the Forest Governance Learning Group and the Social Justice in Forestry project, visit <http://iied.org/forest-governance-learning-group>, or contact: James Mayers, [James.Mayers@iied.org](mailto:James.Mayers@iied.org).

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## Executive summary

The Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) is an informal alliance of in-country groups and international partners that is currently active in seven African and three Asian countries. Issues of FGLG in Tanzania have been 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 are closely linked to timber harvesting. The campaign is based on a governance shortfalls study commissioned by the Tanzanian government to demonstrate how effective and equitable natural resource governance is absolutely critical to development and livelihoods in Tanzania, and the REDD activities are initiatives undertaken by TFWG members piloting the implementation of REDD in Tanzania.

Through consultations with TFWG, it was possible to develop activities for the whole reported period. The group focused on two outputs:

- Output 1. Forest rights and small forest enterprises: Identifiable contributions to improvements made in key decisions about forest rights, capabilities and enterprises that foster locally controlled forestry (these contributions will primarily be responses to the Mama Misitu campaign).
- Output 2. REDD: Identifiable contributions made to an effective and equitable national REDD+ approach and practical governance improvements that enable REDD+ to support Participatory Forest Management (PFM).

This report is based on the detailed activities developed under each output for the years 2010 to 2013.

Most of the activities implemented under the two outputs were coordinated with partners in the Tanzania Forest Working Group. This was to take advantage of their activities and their expertise. In this respect, FGLG supported several meetings of the TFWG members and REDD pilot projects. In the TFWG meetings it was generally observed that FGLG provided a good opportunity for TFWG to develop and share lessons on forest governance – within Tanzania, with neighbouring countries and at the wider international level – and to prepare joint advocacy actions. At meetings focussing on progress with REDD pilot projects, members were able to ensure sufficient discussion of key topics (such as benefit sharing) and to both feed information into preparatory meetings before UNFCCC COPs as well as provide feedback thereafter. All these meetings and associated follow up were focused on changing policy and practice in the natural resource sector by building citizens' voice and skills for improved natural resource governance.

By taking advantage of TNRF's communication channels including films, radio, media and publications, it was possible to elevate concerns voiced by communities and private sector discussion platforms with key government authorities. The main subject discussed in relation to forest governance in Tanzania was timber trade, to which in general there has been a positive reaction from relevant government authorities. Other outcomes of these meetings include civil society inputs to the draft National Forest Policy and MNRT sector review.

Apart from the information sharing as part of the Mama Misitu campaign (a communication campaign to address issues of the illegal timber trade in Tanzania and improve its legality), there are a number of NGOs – that are also members of the TFWG – piloting REDD+ projects in Tanzania. Each of the pilot projects is implementing its activities in a different part of the country, although mostly funded by the Norwegian. Through FGLG support, it was possible to have focused platforms for dialogue where REDD+ pilots shared information and developed common stances for action. Among the achievements include the provision of joint feedback to the National REDD+ Strategy, joint statements given by the group prior to UNFCCC COPs, and participation at the COPs.

This report covers a period of 45 months (from January 2010 to September 2013) and demonstrates the achievements that have been made. In the following section, the report presents an overview of FGLG Tanzania, followed by a description of the main activities implemented, the tactics used to implement them and the progress made. It ends by highlighting the challenges and lessons learnt.

# 1. Introduction

The Forest Governance Learning Group (FGLG) is an informal alliance of in-country groups and international partners that is currently active in seven African and three Asian countries. Since 2003, it has been 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 better connect those marginalised from forest governance and those controlling it, and to help both do things better. Since its inception in 2003, 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 10 countries: Cameroon, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Mozambique, 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). Much of the work of FGLG has been linked to the 'Mama Misitu campaign' (MMC) – the illegal timber trade communication and advocacy campaign implemented by the TFWG – and the experiences of REDD pilot projects, which are all touching the livelihoods of the rural community and are closely linked to timber harvesting and important forest governance issues such as forest access, land tenure, benefit sharing and safeguards. The Mama Misitu campaign stemmed from the 2007 TRAFFIC study of the timber trade commissioned by the Tanzanian government, which aimed to demonstrate how effective and equitable natural resource governance is absolutely critical to achieving development and supporting rural livelihoods in the country. The work of FGLG has also been linked to nine pilot REDD projects – many implemented by TFWG members – which have gathered a rich array of lessons and experiences relating to rural livelihoods, forest management, illegal logging and other drivers of deforestation.

Accordingly, a primary role of FGLG in Tanzania is to convene and create space for dialogue, review, lesson learning and advocacy, and linking with wider stakeholders such as development partners, media, and so on. FGLG Tanzania has been able to link TFWG members and other stakeholders with the government (e.g. the Tanzania Forest Service) thanks to the trust and positive working relationship that has been built up over time. For FGLG Tanzania to be effective, it is extremely important that both MMC-implementing partners and the REDD pilot projects are able to develop documentaries to draw evidence from community members in the villages that demonstrates governance-related shortfalls to the public and donors.

In general, the activities carried out in the period 2010 to 2013 were aligned to developments in the Mama Misitu programme and the REDD pilot projects. Both initiatives aim at influencing decision making in forest governance, a credible national REDD approach, and practical REDD support for PFM. The main objective of this project was to connect those marginalised from forest governance and those controlling it, and to help both do things better. This project had two specific outputs:

- 1) Forest rights and small forest enterprises: 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).
- 2) REDD initiatives: identifiable contributions to an effective and equitable national REDD+ approach and practical governance improvements that enable REDD+ to support PFM.

To ensure that the intended outputs were achieved, a number of tactics were used, including:

- video documentaries to show the reality on the ground;
- presentations;
- breakfast discussion meetings;
- complementary field case studies/testimonies;
- hearings where communities presented real cases on the ground with government giving reactions in the presence of development partners;

- a pull-out (a four-page document on FGLG issues) where the stories from the hearing were translated into simple Kiswahili language with a set of cartoons conveying the same forest governance challenges; and
- press releases.

## 2. Progress made

This section outlines the progress made from January 2010 to September 2013 towards the two outputs, and is linked in some areas to reports that were written during implementation of the activities. Finally, a self-assessment report has been developed which summarises progress and impacts.

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

The four actions under this output are described below.

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

The four specific actions under this output were to:

- make presentations to policymakers and practitioners at breakfast meetings followed by press releases;
- produce a video documentary from the field and roundtable discussions with representatives of the two countries (Mozambique and Tanzania);
- present a timber trade report (Kenya and Tanzania cross-border issues); and
- conduct a forest governance hearing.

Two breakfast debates were organised and conducted during the planned period, the first in Dar es Salaam during 27 July 2012 and the second in Dar es Salaam during 31 May 2013. Members of the TFWG, Development partners group and the media house attended the breakfast debates. A presentation of the timber trade in southern Tanzania was made followed by discussions from the group. A power point presentation focused on the findings of video documentaries concerning timber trade between Tanzania and Mozambique, and between Kenya and Tanzania. These debates received good media coverage, especially with regard to how government should act to encourage legal timber trade and how communities could be empowered to bring greater accountability to government operations. It also helped reveal to the public the amount of money the government is losing from illegal timber trade.

A documentary of timber movements between Tanzania and Mozambique by the TNRF film crew was completed and launched with Mama Mitsu campaign communication products in 2013. In the first quarter of 2014, it will be shared with the government of Tanzania and hopefully the government of Mozambique. The documentary highlights evidence from the ground, as there are still reports of illegal movements of timber and forest products between Tanzania and Mozambique.

Although the precise magnitude of timber volumes moving from the south to Dar es Salaam is unknown, there is some evidence that timber is moving from Tanzania across the Ruvuma river to Mozambique, and also coming back to Tanzania through Mtambaswala border post (i.e. as if the same timber originates from Mozambique). It is said that this practice continues since traders can obtain permits from Mozambique more easily than Tanzania. The government authority in Tanzania proposed to station its staff at the border post and also undertook patrols along the Ruvuma River resulting in the confiscation of substantial volumes of illegal timber. The government also managed to arrest some individuals who have been printing illegal permits (in Portuguese) and have ongoing cases in court.

In the meantime, the Tanzanian government may not be fully aware of the situation, while the communities owning these resources do not recognise their value and do not take action. The two FGLG country teams (Mozambique and Tanzania) have therefore been trying to address the real situation. The documentary will be shared with the government bodies of the two countries and will also be used as a learning tool for national and international organisations with which we collaborate, such as being used at FGLG learning events and at the forest governance hearing.

A study on cross-border timber trade was undertaken jointly by TNRF and the East African Wildlife Society. The findings of this report were shared with senior members of the governments of Tanzania and Kenya, with support from FGLG. The reports (a main report, a summary report and a report based on the proceedings of the workshops held) are available on the TNRF website and were distributed to government offices (the regional and district offices concerned, i.e. Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Tanga), the relevant ministries (Finance, Natural Resources and Tourism), three border posts (Namanga, Hilili and Horohoro), the East African Community, and to all the partners involved in the research. The findings highlighted many concerns regarding the timber business. For example, timber crossing between the countries is relatively fresh (green) while regulations require exports of dry timber to avoid the transfer of plant-related diseases. Another example is that during export, each consignment should have uniform sizes of timber although in reality several different sizes may be transported within one consignment. Both countries have started discussions on the possibility of establishing a memorandum of understanding to see how they can address this situation.

Another study was conducted to improve the understanding of the trade in timber and other forest products across the border of Tanzania and Mozambique. The study focused on the imports of timber to Tanzania and illegal harvesting in southern Tanzania, aiming at developing long-term assessment and monitoring strategies. The report showed that the destinations include Dar es Salaam, neighbouring Kenya (although not known if Kenya is an emerging market or acts more as a transit country), and overseas destinations such as China, India, USA and Europe;. Analysis of checkpoint and district data, in-depth interviews with key informants and the statistics related to timber trade indicated that the amount of imported timber from Mozambique has increased since 2008 and that there is massive amount of timber being traded illegally in many informal entry points/ports. Even the data obtained from relevant offices indicated huge gaps in terms of revenue earned from timber exports against those of imports.

The report listed the following key indicators for illegal timber trade between Tanzania and Mozambique:

- Traders fail to present licenses to harvest forest products as required by the Forest Act No. 14 of 2002, Regulation No. 10;
- Some traders produce business registration forms for the wrong geographic locations;
- Some importers lack Tanzanian phytosanitary certificates; and
- None of the timber found in the southern region was inspected by the Timber Inspector, thus missing the "Import Certificate" required by the Government Notice (NG);No. 69 of 2006 (Regulations Nos. 58 & 59).

In order to address illegal logging in Tanzania/East Africa, the report recommended:

- To establish commitment by both Tanzania and Mozambique to protect forest resources in the border districts;
- To improve enforcement;
- To streamline checkpoints (e.g. from over 30 to fewer than 10) in the southern routes;
- To collaborate across institutions (TFS, Police, Military (Marine) and TISS); and
- To improve PFM at the grassroots level.

Following the launch of the Mama Misitu campaign in July 2012, two consultation meetings were held between the governments of Tanzania and Mozambique. In the first meeting, held in Maputo, Mozambique during April 2012, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the two countries. This MOU covered areas of collaboration such as the sharing of information on timber trade between the two countries, technical training in forestry, REDD and PFM development issues. A second meeting was subsequently held in Dar es Salaam during August 2013 to operationalise the MOU. These activities were supported by WWF Tanzania and WWF CEAI, who are members of FGLG.

In another development, FGLG, in collaboration with the Mama Misitu campaign, conducted a one-day hearing on 26 February 2013 that focused on testimonies from community representatives in relation to

forest governance practices in their communities. A total of 44 people participated in the hearing, including 14 representatives of NGOs that are members of the TFWG and three development partner representatives. The district-level authorities and community participants came from the MMC-implementing districts of Kisarawe and Kibaha, along with their respective MMC-implementing NGO partners. A panel of experts participated in the hearing including government (Tanzania Forest Service, Law enforcers and District Commissioner), private sector and the Chair of the Development Partners Group Environment (DPG-E), who provided their comments and reacted to the testimonies made by community representatives.

Four community testimonies were documented and presented by the testifiers made in a forest governance hearing, with a focus on the following issues:

- levels/availability of knowledge and information among communities (e.g. reporting, harvesting plans, legal and illegal practices);
- community needs from forests;
- corruption and the lack of law enforcement (reporting on agriculture, forestry practices); and
- REDD/PFM Benefit sharing.

The hearing was meant to seek a way forward in addressing forest governance issues in Tanzania. An example of the effects of the testimonies can be cited from Kibaha where communities are now informally benefiting from benefits accrued from the sale of confiscated forest products. At the same time, TFS is in the final process of developing benefits sharing guidelines. A report of the hearing is available and an information brief was produced. A documentary of the same is also available and has been posted on the TNRF website. The event has started creating space for discussions on how to deal with the challenges of forest governance and what can be done to move forward. One of the biggest challenges was that private sector were seen as the actors who are causing all the problems. It was clearly observed that a platform for private sector engagement was necessary so that they also share their concerns. A second importance issue was the question of compliance in the whole timber trade chain. Follow up events were proposed which will be taken up by the Mama Misitu campaign in 2014, including the formation of a private sector platform (starting at district level) and development of a timber trade legality check list.

- 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.

The two specific actions under this output were to:

- conduct a study on evidence and perceptions regarding China-linked impacts on forest governance in Africa; and
- prepare an information brief and present findings to the government of Tanzania.

IIED, WWF CEAI and FGLG Tanzania jointly prepared two study TORs, the first looking at the perceptions of key stakeholders regarding timber trade between Tanzania and China, and the second looking at the movement of timber between Tanzania and Mozambique. Consultants were hired and materials for the study made available to them. The paper analyzed the broader historical and political-economic landscape of relations between China and Africa. It also explored China-Africa forest governance links, looking in particular at timber trade and the effects of China-Africa forest product flows on national economies, local people's livelihoods and efforts to combat climate change. The paper proposed two main types of activities affecting African forests: direct logging and timber trade; and other investments in sectors such as mining, agriculture and infrastructure developments. The paper further demonstrated the factors influencing China-Africa forest governance relations include historical relations, weak governance in Africa, influence of the West, and increasing demand for products in China. The study on China-Africa links was presented to the Africa-China platform.

Finally, the paper demonstrated the competition between local communities and African national government priorities as an important issue. Chinese actors would often unwittingly get involved in this tension when African governments encourage Chinese investments that did not benefit communities, or that would even take land from community-managed forests. The report made three main conclusions:

- African stakeholders have mixed perceptions of Chinese investment in Africa, but this was generally more positive than 'traditional' investment partners;
- more research is needed to fully understand the positive and negative effects of China-Africa forest governance links; and
- China has a crucial role to play in improving forest governance in Africa.

### 1.3 Monitor outcomes of the use and effects of previous documentaries and other products related to illegal timber trade and forest governance

The two specific actions under this output were to:

- make a follow-up documentary on efforts made by community members to address corruption in timber trade; and
- write three field testimonies.

Using the MAAJABU – TNRF film crew, a four-minute documentary on timber trade was made to be used to raise awareness of the Mama Misitu campaign. This short documentary was presented to development partners and government staff and was seen as a very good educational tool. Many concerns were voiced on what is happening in the timber trade chain following the showing this short documentary. Participants proposed that such short documentaries are very important if messages are to be relayed to senior government leaders. It will continue to be used in the Mama Misitu campaign at the national level and has been posted on the TNRF website.

A documentary is also available on the TNRF website.

## **2. 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 were three actions under this output.

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

The three specific actions under this output were to:

- organise one breakfast meeting presentation;
- write one briefing paper; and
- develop one video documentary on benefits from community perspectives.

The original plan was to produce a briefing paper, developed in collaboration with the REDD pilot projects, and to present it at a breakfast meeting. However, TNRF was only allocated one slot during 2012. However, a technical report on equitable benefit sharing and lessons for REDD in Tanzania was produced. In summary, four key issues were highlighted in the briefing:

- I. effective implementation of equitable benefit sharing can help ensure REDD+ reduces emissions whilst realizing substantial benefits for forest communities and not doing harm to vulnerable people;
- II. REDD+ financial incentives and other benefits will need to be shared among many actors at multiple levels, although substantial benefits should go to the forest communities;

- III. establishing effective and equitable benefit sharing is challenging, therefore a mechanism should be designed, implemented and monitored in accordance with social and environmental safeguards; and
- IV. lessons learnt from REDD+ projects and other community based natural resource management initiatives should help inform benefit sharing mechanisms, so that they are equitable, realistic and effective.

These documents were shared at UNFCCC COP 19 in Doha and COP 20 in Geneva. Presentations in Tanzania were not possible due to insufficient time, although the report was circulated to the REDD+ pilot projects and to the government of Tanzania (REDD Task Force).

A documentary on REDD+ benefits to communities was completed, highlighting key questions that REDD+ pilots are struggling to address. These questions are related to the fairness and sufficiency of benefit sharing. For example, are elite community members alone receiving the benefits, and is there a fair national-local system for payments? The documentary tries to answer these questions and demonstrates the need for capacity building of communities, local government and national institutions to implement effective community resource programs, which will bring benefits to all members of the community including vulnerable groups. Footage was taken from Lindi, Zanzibar, Kondo and Shinyanga areas, where REDD activities are supported by TFCG/MJUMITA, CARE-HIMA, AWF and TaTEDO, respectively. A large amount of technical support was provided by the FGLG Tanzania convener in Kondo and Shinyanga. The documentary has been aired on Tanzanian television and radio.

## 2.2 Facilitate the REDD pilot projects and provide a forum for discussion on key governance issues for advocacy

The one specific action under this output was to:

- make presentations at periodic meetings of REDD pilot projects and produce one information brief.

Forum meetings of the REDD pilot projects were held with the objectives of information sharing and validation of the 'REDD+ Benefit Sharing Research and Report'; and the identification of other key REDD-related issues for REDD pilot projects to discuss and develop strategies for further engagement together

In September 2012 another meeting was held in response to member requests for TNRF to facilitate the process of a joint feedback statement from the pilot projects on the second draft of the national REDD strategy. The meeting was ultimately not held, but email discussions with the REDD pilot projects made it possible to give a joint statement that was presented to the Tanzania REDD Task Force. The main concern raised by the pilot projects was related to benefit sharing mechanisms and safeguards.

During October 2012 a meeting was convened by FGLG to discuss issues for discussion at UNFCCC COP 19 in Doha and COP 20 Geneva, including what messages should be taken forward and how feedback should be given to members in Tanzania. Participating members were from pilot projects, government, and two from the REDD secretariat, although most members from the REDD Task force could not attend. After the meeting it was agreed that there should be a feedback meeting after the Doha meeting, to reflect on the outcomes, and that more members should be invited to the session. This feedback meeting was held in November 2012 although the second feedback meeting following Geneva has not taken place.

On 4 December 2013, Simon Milledge from IIED made a presentation on 'Corporate governance and risk management in REDD in Tanzania' to representatives of several REDD pilots and other interested NGO stakeholders. Findings highlighted the need to engage Boards of NGOs managing REDD pilots to better understand and mitigate risks to project success. Discussion also highlighted the need for REDD+ pilots in Tanzania to better mobilize and communicate successes achieved to date and major issues of concern (e.g. the future of 'nested projects in the national REDD+ framework'). This is part of FGLG's work and an information brief will be produced and posted on the TNRF website.

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

The one specific action under this output was to:

- produce an information brief.

A meeting to exchange experiences on REDD was held in Maputo between TFWG (TFCG and TRAFFIC/WWF CEAI) representatives and Government authorities from Tanzania and Mozambique during April 2012. Thematic areas of interest between Tanzania and Mozambique include timber trade, PFM and forestry technical knowledge in training. A Memorandum of Understanding between Tanzania and Mozambique was signed in April 2012 and implementation of the agreement is in progress (MOU attached). During August 2013, a follow up meeting was held in Dar es Salaam, attended by government representatives from Tanzania and Mozambique, where work plans were developed to operationalize the MOU.

### 3. Development and resourcing of FGLG Tanzania

There were three general actions relating to the development and resourcing of FGLG Tanzania:

#### 3.1 Finalise membership recruitment through the involvement of private sector and government representatives

The one specific action under this output was:

- a meeting held in 2013 to discuss the composition of the team and how to strengthen its forum.

The issue of FGLG membership and the relationship between FGLG, REDD and related initiatives within the TFWG activities was discussed with the TFWG members in a meeting held on 11 May 2012. FGLG was seen as a source of vital support to the TFWG initiatives. The meeting was used as an opportunity to strengthen the various governance initiatives in a more strategic and focused way, with FGLG members using their expertise and experiences in a complementary way. The meeting led to the development of a draft TFWG strategy with some tentative work plans. It was concluded that FGLG members are part of the TFWG, and when it comes to specific topical issues they can meet and carry the activity forward and invite other members from government as and when required.

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

The following developments related to strengthening of national relationships:

##### 1 REDD Task Force technical committee

Training on gender mainstreaming in the National Strategy and action plan for REDD+ was held in Bagamoyo on 28-30 August 2012. 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 21 September 2012. Since the first phase of MMC, and following general concern from members, a permanent agenda item for MMC was proposed and agreed. This has been a great opportunity for the MMC project to make presentations of the progress of the campaign because members of the committee include VPOs Office Environment, PMO–RALG, Ministry of Finance, MNRT and the Development Partners Group. Following presentations of the campaign, many members expressed that they have heard of the campaign while attending other activities in the districts where the campaign is operating and appreciated the general progress.

##### 3 NAFAC meeting

The fourth National Forestry Advisory Committee meeting took place on 19-20 September 2012. Among the agenda items discussed in the meeting was the status of the draft National Forest Policy. The meeting was informed that the draft policy was delayed because a Kiswahili version was also to be developed. It also lacked data, which is now available after the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism finalised the national 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.

#### 3.2 Conduct a quarterly meeting for FGLG country team members and one annual meeting to plan project activities for the following year and agree on other procedures

The one specific action under this output was:

- a forum meeting and discussion of how each member can contribute to the outcomes of the activities and specifically the added value of FGLG in promoting innovative communications.

Meetings were held to develop annual work plans. The work plans were then sent to IIED as a procedure for discussion with other FGLG team countries in the international learning event meetings. In the TFWG meetings held, it was clearly observed that FGLG meetings will now be held within the TFWG meetings since they involve the same members, but if there is a specific issue, the relevant members may need to sit together and address the situation accordingly.

During a TFWG meeting held on 18 September 2012, a detailed analysis was undertaken on the activities and approach of TFWG in relation to FGLG. It was clearly seen that FGLG is an advocacy arm of the TFWG and that REDD issues, for example, are just projects of TFWG. A TFWG strategy was developed to more clearly demonstrate the roles and responsibilities of the group and issues that members can work on jointly.

FGLG support enabled facilitation of the Mama Misitu campaign platform discussion meetings. A number of meetings were held to achieve most of the activities mentioned above through the following:

Hosted meetings of TFWG where discussions were held to link FGLG, REDD+ pilot projects and other forestry related issues as a whole. Among the organization that included MCDI, TRAFFIC, TFCG, LEAT, FEMINA, JET, WCST, JET, TRAFFIC, WWF-TCO, TASONABI, TFCG, WWF-CEAI, IUCN and TNRF. In some instances it was not possible for all institutions to attend although in most cases they sent representatives.

In order to make partners active and attend the platform meetings, there were a lot of personal efforts made to visit MMC project implementing partners in their respective offices and discuss what is expected from them.

There were also several meetings held with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland with regard to progress of MMC activities before the inception phase and during the implementation phase. This also included support to a visit by journalists from Finland who wanted to understand more about the MMC campaign.

### 3.3 Participate in the international learning events

The one specific action under this output was:

- a learning event to be held in Vietnam.

TNRF participated in learning events in Vietnam, Mozambique and China as a country convener. Tanzania was seen to be making very good use of video documentaries to demonstrate problems on the ground and how they affect peoples' livelihoods. FGLG Tanzania will continue to use these to capture case studies/testimonies based on either the Mama Misitu campaign or REDD+ pilot projects and will continue sharing them at the international level.

As a representative of forest governance NGOs in Tanzania, TNRF participated in training on FLEGT in Ghana from 16 to 19 April 2012. The training was for anglophone countries in Africa and demonstrated how different countries are using different systems to track legal/illegal timber trade between Africa, Asia and Europe and how to control it.

## 4. Challenges and lessons learnt

The specific challenges that were observed while implementing the various activities included the following:

- Obtaining actual evidence from the film documentaries has been a considerable challenge as some government staff are very open to realities. Even community members are sometimes scared of the

repercussions if they expose issues that touch the interests of their village government leaders, for example. In these situations, it is necessary to ensure that the documentaries do not result in unintended consequences for our informers and to convince them that the films will not expose anything without their consent. It takes time for such confidence to be built.

- Receiving feedback from TFWG members can sometimes be difficult, as each member has his or her own missions and interests. Obtaining feedback is done through phone calls or calling a meeting to discuss the issues.
- Securing involvement of the government can take a long time due to the usual government bureaucracy, although efforts were taken to make use of other meetings, such as the SWAP meetings, to relay some concerns.

# Annex 1: Forest Governance Learning Group Self Evaluation 2013

**Country: TANZANIA**

**Date of assessment**

## 1 Approach of FGLG initiative (in your own country)

1.1 What were the major forest governance issues and opportunities in your country since 2005? [list them]

1 Holding quarterly TFWG meetings to discuss forest governance issue. The main results from the meetings are:

The platform has strengthened the links between MMC-implementing partners in preparation for key forest governance work such as governance hearing and timber trade compliance checklist

Co-facilitated a study of timber trade between Kenya and Tanzania

Undertook a documentary on timber trade between Tanzania and Mozambique

Facilitated a national forest governance hearing where government reacted to testimonies from community members

The impacts include:

The work of the Mama Mitsu communication campaign is a permanent agenda item for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) meetings when they are held

There is a permanent seat for NGOs (currently the FGLG convener) dealing in forestry-related issues in the SWAp, where development partners are also members

Trust within government has greatly increased as members from the working group have been invited to participate in a number of government-led meetings. It is now easier to access important information such as budgetary documents and other information related to forestry in government offices compared to a few years ago.

2 Facilitating forum meetings for REDD pilot projects

Facilitated meetings of REDD pilots and assisted in developing joint statements from Tanzania in COPs (Denmark, South Africa and Doha)

Facilitated joint meetings between government (REDD Task Force members) and REDD pilot projects for preparatory work on what they were taking to all three COPS.

Facilitated the development of e-news, press releases and information briefs on REDD pilots – lessons from the field

Providing technical support in developing a video documentary on lessons from the implementation of REDD in pilot area districts

Impacts include:

Having joint meetings with government in preparatory COP meetings to build trust from NGOs

Some NGOs being in the Technical working groups such as in developing safeguards for REDD in Tanzania

1.2 What have been the most effective methodologies that FGLG has used since 2005? *[describe as many as you wish. You could refer to the country level methods from page 23 of the project document]*

The work in Tanzania is done by building on evidence gathered as follows:

The TFWG forum meetings have strengthened the timber trade communication campaign based on evidence by a study commissioned by the government. Issues raised in the study were taken as opportunities to work on and inform government on their challenge. This process brought the government on board and has created a lot of trust with the members.

Formal and informal communication between NGOs and government has strengthened the relationship; trust has been built and work implementation is now easier between the two.

Findings on the timber trade between Kenya and Tanzania were presented to government officials from both countries at the border posts where the real situation in regard to the challenges was seen and immediate action from both countries taken. The government of Kenya inspected the wood and most of it was green, thus not allowed to be exported. The government promised to put a stop to it immediately. The government of Tanzania promised to put a timber grader at the border post to verify volumes and species being exported.

Video documentaries have been so effective at the national level, where real grassroots challenges are being encountered and presented by the relevant stakeholders, along with information.

Testimonies from communities on forest governance related issues were made and reactions from development partners and government representatives given.

Impacts

There were a number of promises from the government from both countries to take action along the border posts after the presentation made in Namanga during 9-12 February 2012. The government of Tanzania promised to station staff on the border posts and has already started doing that.

The Kenyan government promised to stop importation of green timber from Tanzania, which has to be monitored.

Involvement of district-level law enforcers in the governance hearing on 26 February 2013 stimulated them to be more proactive, and they have started taking legal action with regard to timber trade compliance.

Communities that have been giving testimonies on 26 February 2013 now have greater capacity to question senior government staff on the legality of timber and benefit sharing issues.

1.3 What changes have there been in approach of FGLG in your country since the start of the initiative? Why have these changes taken place?

There has been no change although after the governance hearing held on the 26 February 2013 there was a clear need identified for more active involvement of private sector in the campaign.

1.4 How effective has the team-based structure and approach of FGLG been? Comment on the strengths and weaknesses of this.

The team is made up of NGOs and individuals who are either forestry or REDD experts. This has created a forum where everyone speaks the same language and discusses common issues in relation to the challenges, lessons and opportunities for forest governance and REDD in the country.

Efforts have been made to pull government staff in but this has not been possible because they do not see the direct benefits (allowances) they can obtain from such forums. At the same time, private sector participation has been weak as they are afraid of talking openly in front of government authorities (e.g. scared of not being given licenses).

## 2 Performance and impact of FGLG (in your own country)

2.1 To what extent has FGLG has contributed to improved forest governance in your country [tick the best box and provide an explanation for your answer]

- No contribution at all
- Minor contribution only
- Significant contribution
- Highly significant contribution

Explanation: Through hearing held in 2012, evidence building by documentaries and presentations in the presence of government authorities.

As explained above (1.1 – 1.4)

2.2 For each of the 4 outputs of FGLG – how do you rate the performance of FGLG [give a score where: (1) = governance impacts have been widely achieved that have had wider impacts on the ground; (2) = governance impacts have been achieved that have had some impacts on the ground; (3) = some governance impacts have been achieved but with little actual impact on the ground; (4) = there have been only limited learning or governance impacts with no signs of tangible impacts on

Output 1: Forest rights and small forest enterprise

Score =  2

Explanation for score given:

Awareness from the community level to the senior government level has increased such that community members know where to send their grievances and are demanding accountability from government. This was demonstrated in the hearing.

Output 2: Legitimate forest products

Score =  2

This will be measured with the MMC as they will look at the legality of timber trade along the chain.

Explanation for score given:

*the ground]. Give an explanation for your assessment score*

Output 3: Pro-poor climate change mitigation and adaptation through forestry

Score = **(2)**

Explanation for score given:

There is increased ownership of REDD processes by communities and partners in the pilot projects. For example, there are a number of innovations that are focused on reducing the rate of deforestation (e.g. climate smart agriculture)

Output 4: Trans-national learning and preparedness

Score = **(3)**

Explanation for score given: A number of meetings were attended in the reporting period. In 2011, an FGLG was held in Indonesia, in 2012 in Mozambique and in 2013 in China.

2.3 What external factors (outside the control of FGLG) have affected the impacts that FGLG has had? *[describe them]*

The transition from the Forestry and Beekeeping Division to Tanzania Forest Service Agency has reduced some bureaucracy in the government structure and has made access to senior staff easier for TFWG members.

2.4 Describe the performance of IIED as overall coordinator of FGLG in terms of (a) its capacity support and (b) overall management support for your in-country team and your team's actions.

Support and advice from IIED has gone well whenever we are in need. They have been visiting us and participated in some of our activities (the governance hearing).

2.5 To what extent will partnerships and working approaches developed under FGLG continue after the end of the current phase? Comment on the sustainability of the FGLG initiative. What needs to happen for the effective approaches to continue?

We have a strategy document for TFWG, which will need some support if it is to continue.

Through the Mama Misitu Campaign partners, we can still distribute our products and continue networking

2.6 Describe any changes in the relationship between government and civil society in your country as a result of FGLG?

Trust and the working relationship improved access to information and participation in meetings for giving feedback.

2.7 Has the FGLG had any unexpected impacts? Describe these.

2.8 What evidence is there to show that the various activities

Testimonies from governance hearing (attached)

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that you have carried out have had impacts on the ground (for target groups)? Describe this evidence – or list any documents/sources of evidence	<p>Report and brief from governance hearing (attached)</p> <p>Documentaries (Shortfalls in forest governance, hearing, REDD film)</p> <p>Annual reports</p> <p>Descriptions have been written in the main report.</p>
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### 3 Lessons learnt from FGLG

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3.1 Describe any innovative approaches that FGLG has followed in your country	<p>Use of documentaries</p> <p>Testimonies</p> <p>Forums (Tanzania Forest Working group meeting and REDD pilot projects meeting)</p>
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3.2 Describe (in bullets) any lessons from FGLG about effective ways of influencing forest policy and enhancing forest governance	<p>Use of testimonies and documentaries based on evidence has a very strong impact on policy change</p> <p>Inclusion of government staff in learning events, such as the one held in China, yielded a lot of positive issues as the staff are very supportive of FGLG activities</p> <p>Working as a forum has enabled stronger reception by the government</p>
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### 4 Other comments about FGLG

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4.1 Do you have any other comments about the performance and lessons from FGLG? Please describe them here.	<p>Bearing in mind that Tanzania has only been participating in the process for almost four years, we feel that we have done some good work. If we are able to continue for two more years we will be able to see the impacts of our products as some of them are just going into the market. This is mainly looking at the impacts at the grassroots level lessons and bringing them to the national level, and vice versa.</p>
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## Annex 2: Products produced by FGLG in Tanzania

TNRF/TFCG (2010) 'Recommendations from Tanzanian Civil Society with regard to Tanzania's Readiness Preparation Proposal to the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility'

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/tanzania\\_r-pp\\_cso\\_recommendations.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/tanzania_r-pp_cso_recommendations.pdf)

TNRF (2010) 'Options for REDD in Tanzania: Key Design Issues for the National REDD Strategy' -

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/REDD\\_in\\_TZ\\_Key\\_Issues\\_July\\_2010.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/REDD_in_TZ_Key_Issues_July_2010.pdf)

TNRF (2011) 'Feedback on National REDD Strategy by TZ REDD Pilot Projects'

<http://www.tnrf.org/files/FEEDBACK%20First%20Draft%20National%20REDD%20Strategy%20from%200REDD%20Pilot%20Projects.pdf>

TNRF (2011) 'Mainstreaming Gender in REDD in Tanzania'

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/gender\\_in\\_redd\\_brief\\_v2.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/gender_in_redd_brief_v2.pdf)

TNRF (2011) 'REDD Realities: Learning from REDD pilot projects to make REDD Work...' -

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/e-redd\\_realities.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/e-redd_realities.pdf)

TNRF (2012) 'Equitable Benefit Sharing: Emerging lessons from REDD+ in Tanzania'

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/erbs\\_brief\\_print.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/erbs_brief_print.pdf)

TNRF (2012) 'Recommendations from Civil Society Organisations for Tanzania's 2nd Draft National REDD+ Strategy and Draft Action Plan'

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/REDD%20Strategy%202%20CSO%20Feedback%20Aug%202012\\_30%20August.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/REDD%20Strategy%202%20CSO%20Feedback%20Aug%202012_30%20August.pdf)

TNRF, FGLG-Tanzania. (2012) Technical Report & Summary Report on equitable benefit sharing, exploring lessons for REDD in Tanzania

TNRF (2013) Forest Governance Hearing, New Africa Hotel, Dar-es-Salaam, 26 February 2013

TNRF (2013) 'Misitu yetu inasimamiwaje? Wananchi wanena kuhusu usimamizi wa misitu Tanzania'

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/forest\\_hearing\\_booklet.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/forest_hearing_booklet.pdf)

TNRF (2013) 'Misitu yetu inasimamiwaje? Kijarida cha Taarifa Novemba 2013 Wananchi wanena kuhusu usimamizi wa misitu Tanzania'

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/hearing\\_brief\\_swahili.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/hearing_brief_swahili.pdf)

TNRF (2013) The Tanzania Forestry Working Group Overview

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/tfwg\\_overview.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/tfwg_overview.pdf)

TNRF (2013) Tanzania Forestry Working Group Strategy 2012- 2016

[http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/tfwg\\_strategy.pdf](http://www.tnrf.org/files/pubs/tfwg_strategy.pdf)



The Forest Governance Learning Group is an informal alliance of in-country groups and international partners currently active in seven African and three Asian countries. We aim to connect those marginalised from forest governance to those controlling it, and to help both do things better.

This report gives an overview of the activities and achievements of the Tanzania FGLG team between 2009 and 2013.



## Project materials

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### Forests

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*Keywords:*

Forestry, Forest Governance Learning Group, Natural resource management



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