



Task C: Land Tenure

Annual technical report

March 2015

1.0 Introduction

ABCG provided funds to TNC in FY14 in order to achieve the several objectives in the Greater Mahale Ecosystem (GME), which is a home to approximately 93% of the Tanzania's 2800 endangered Chimpanzees as well as other threatened mammals such as elephants, eland and buffaloes. Although the original geographic focus of the work by The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) was in the GME, it was considered important to work with Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) and other key stakeholders, such as regional government in Kigoma and Katavi regions, at a larger scale. This involved including several critical ecosystems, such as Katavi national park and its surrounding areas, Greater Gombe Ecosystem and Greater Masito Ugalla where JGI has been working for years. It was thus considered important to collaborate with all stakeholders involved in the conservation of these critical ecosystems and to do this, it was decided to form inter-districts and regions a Steering Committee called the Greater Gombe, Mahale and Katavi Ecosystems (GGMKEs) conservation technical team ("**The Steering Committee**") to coordinate and advance conservation of these critical ecosystems.

1.1 Objectives for the TNC Project

The objectives for the TNC project for FY14 were as shown below:

- Support recruitment and orientation of additional GGMKEs Steering Committee members
- Build the capacity of GGMKEs Steering Committee so that it understands its roles and responsibilities
- Train GGMKEs Steering Committee in the process of development of an integrated Management Plan for the GGMKEs
- Support the GGMKEs Steering Committee to develop a fundable long term strategic plan for the GGMKEs

2.0 Key Activities accomplished during the project implementation periods

In order to achieve the aforesaid objectives, TNC in collaboration with its partners (i.e. FZS and JGI), implemented the following key activities during the FY14 period as well as during the no cost extension period from October 2014 to March 30th, 2015 as shown as follows:



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2.1. Accomplishments during FY14

- **GGMKEs Steering Committee meeting:** TNC collaborated with JGI and FZS to organize and support GGMKEs Steering Committee members to conduct a two day meeting in Kigoma town from 17-18 July 2014. The meeting also included overflying (using FZS small plane) the GGMKEs for District Commissioners and District Executive Directors from Kigoma and Katavi regions. The purpose of overflying was to give them an opportunity to see the condition of the GGMKEs and the threats currently facing these ecosystems - i.e. influx of pastoralists from neighboring regions and emergence of illegal settlements. The meeting realized a number of outputs which included election of the new Chairperson for the GGMKEs Steering Committee, formation of a Secretariat for the committee that is now responsible for day to day functions of the committee including organizing meetings and follow-ups on implementation of agreed action points by the Steering Committee in each district and region. The meeting also reviewed and updated its terms of reference and agreed to include District Medical Officers (DMOs) from all four participating districts of Kigoma Rural, Uvinza, Mpanda and Nsimbo as additional members of the committee so as to advance integration of health issues such as reproductive and primary health in conservation of natural resources and environment - i.e. integration of Population Health and Environment (PHE).
- **Development of a Strategic Plan for the GGMKEs:** Dr Alex Kisingo from the College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka was commissioned by TNC to support the Steering Committee members to develop a fundable long term strategic plan for the GGMKEs. The draft strategic plan was discussed at the training workshop held in Kasulu district in Kigoma region on 13th and 14th October 2014. A total of 31 participants participated in the workshop. Participants were given the opportunity to discuss and comment on the initial content of the plan. The plan was finalized by the consultant in November 2014 and was shared with all committee members. The fundraising event that was planned to involve the Tanzanian Prime Minister (PM) as a guest of honor at the fundraising dinner for donors was not organized because of a political situation in the country. An escrow scandal compelled development partners in Tanzania to suspend their support to the Government until it takes appropriate actions to the Government officials who were involved in the scandal. There were significant numbers of Parliamentarians who were calling for the resignation of the PM for not taking appropriate actions for all those who were involved in the scandal. All of these developments made it inappropriate to organize the fundraising dinner with the PM as a guest of honor.



Figure 1. Members of the GKMGE Steering Committee in a training workshop in Kasulu District in Kigoma.



Figure 2. Committee members in discussion of the strategic plan –under the leadership of Mary Mavanza—JGI Deputy Director of Program in Kigoma region.

2.1 Key deliverables for FY14

Outlined below are key deliverables achieved by the project during the period under review:

- A functional GGMKEs Steering Committee is in place with agreed (by all members) Terms of Reference and members that know their roles and responsibilities.
- A GGMKEs Steering Committee is now inclusive of all key stakeholders from all 4 participating districts from Kigoma and Katavi regions.
- The committee includes DMOs as members of the committee in order advance integration of Population, Health and Environment (PHE) issues.

3.0 Key Activities accomplished during October 2014 – March 2015

During the no cost extension period mentioned above, TNC and its partners accomplished the following activities and outcomes:

3.1 Accomplishments during no cost extension period (October 2014 – March 2015)

- **A strategic plan for the GGMKEs:** The strategic plan was finalized by the consultant after the Steering Committee meeting in Kasulu on 13th -14th October 2014 where members had an opportunity to discuss and provide comments/input to the consultant's draft document of the Strategic Plan. The fundraising event that was planned for November 2014, involving the Tanzanian Prime Minister (PM) as a guest of honor at the fundraising dinner for donors was not organized because of the political situation in the country as explained in section 2 above.
- **GGMKEs fact sheet:** In order to create awareness of the importance of the GGMKEs and of the roles and responsibilities of the Steering Committee, a fact sheet (see annex 1.) was prepared in consultation with the Steering Committee members. A total of 3000 copies of the fact sheet were printed and distributed to committee members from all four participating districts for sharing with various stakeholders including key decisions makers such as Regional and District Commissioners in both Kigoma and Katavi regions and beyond.
- **Resource mobilization training:** From 16th – 17th March 2015, a total of 23 (19 men & 4 women) members of the Steering Committee participated in a Resource Mobilization training course at JGI in Kigoma town. The training was facilitated by the Director of the Center for Climate Change Studies of the University of Dar es Salaam (Prof Pius Yanda) and was attended by representatives from FZS, Tongwe Trust, TNC and JGI. The training aimed at building the capacity of the committee members in resources mobilization through development of fundable proposals targeting Local and National Governments. The training includes sessions on how to develop concepts and proposals for funding

natural resource or environmental conservation projects and how stakeholders can influence the allocation of resources/funds in their respective district council annual budgets for natural resources conservation. Improved capacity of the Steering Committee in resource mobilization will help to ensure sustainability of its mission to conservation of the GGMKEs for the benefits of present and future generations.



Figure 3. Some of the Steering Committee members in a group work at the Training in Resource Mobilization at the JGI office in Kigoma.



Figure 4. Steering Committee members after Resource Mobilization training. The facilitator was Prof Yanda from the University of Dar (standing Left second row in bluish shirt).

3.2 Training outcomes

At the end of the training, the Steering Committee members were so excited with their new knowledge and skills gained that they constituted a small team consisting of two representatives from each of the four participating districts - i.e. Nsimbo, Mpanda, Kigoma Rural and Uvinza - to continue working on an actual fundraising proposal document with the goal to complete it the week following the training. Upon completion, their plan is to share it with Prof Yanda for comments, finalize it and keep it ready for submission to any potential donor for funding. The proposal document that was prepared by the representatives of the Steering Committee is shown in annex 2.

*****End*****

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