



Implementation of Article 6 of the UNFCCC in Tanzania



***D.M. Sagata
Environmental Education Officer,
Vice President's Office,
Tanzania.***

***Presented at The Regional Workshop on the
Implementation of Article 6 of the Convention
in Africa 13-16 September 2010, Banjul,
The Gambia***

Outline of the Presentation

- **Introduction**
 - Tanzania climate change status
 - Main Actors on article 6 of UNFCCC
- **Implementation of Article 6 of UNFCCC (Good Practices)**
 - Public participation
 - Communication
 - Public access to information
- **Achievements**
 - Public Understanding
 - Public participation
 - Preparedness
- **Challenges**

Introduction

Tanzania climate change status

- Tanzania signed the UNFCCC on 12 June, 1992 and ratified the convention on and 17 April, 1996.
- Since then Climate Change has been on top of the agenda in most national fora in Tanzania because it has adversely impacted various sectors such as health, water, agriculture, forestry, energy and wildlife.
 1. Human Health
 - Prevalence of malaria in colder highlands of Tanzania formerly free from malaria
 2. Change on Coastal environment
 - Submerged coastline antiquities and increased coastal erosion due to sea level rise
 3. Water Resources
 - Shrinking water levels and flow in rivers and lakes some of which have turned to be seasonal.
 4. Crop and livestock production
 - Declining trend of both crop and livestock production due to frequent droughts affecting farmlands and pastures
 5. Tropical Glaciers and Coral Reefs
 - Retreating glaciers on the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro and Degradation of Coral reefs due to increased temperatures

Main Actors on article 6 of UNFCCC

- 1. Vice President's Office – Division of Environment**
- 2. National Climate Change Committee.**
- 3. Tanzania Meteorological Agency**
- 4. Research and Academic institutions conducting environmental/Climate change related training and research.**
- 5. Agencies working on alternative technology.**
- 6. Government ministries, divisions and agencies (MDA's).**
- 7. International and Bilateral organizations.**
- 8. National organizations providing funds/grants**
- 9. International non governmental organizations on the ground.**
- 10. Association of civil societies, networks and coalitions.**
- 11. Local government authorities (LGA's) at council level and projects on Climate change.**
- 12. Civil Society Organizations working on awareness raising and advocacy.**
- 13. Local Government authorities (LGA's) at ward and village level.**
- 14. Grassroots level Civil societies working on adaptation and mitigation.**
- 15. Organized marginalized vulnerable groups.**
- 16. The Media**

Implementation of Article 6

A number of commitments are underway in Tanzania to ensure climate change is well addressed to all stakeholders and all actors are engaged as per article 6 elements and the New Delhi Work Programme.

- Education
- Training
- Public awareness
- Public participation
- Public access to information
- International cooperation

1. Education on Climate Change

- Efforts to formalize and incorporate Climate change in the national curricula activities for;
 - Primary and secondary schools
 - Teacher training colleges
 - Climate change courses are offered at local universities
- Implementing Agencies
 - Ministry of Education, Tanzania Institute of Education and Universities,

2. Training on Climate Change

- Education and training workshops and programmes on climate change for scientific, educational, technical and managerial personnel, politicians and LGAs
- Zonal Climate change Training Workshops and Seminars for stakeholders facilitated by VPO
 - REDD and its opportunities and challenges (7 regions)
 - Climate Change Adaptation (3 regions)
- Workshops and seminars for the News Editors and reporters prepared quarterly by VPO-DOE
- Universities and colleges are also providing training on climate change to various stakeholders
- Other training programmes are organized by international and local NGOs

3. Public awareness

- a) Publications on climate change by VPO for stakeholders
- Assessment of locally based climate change impacts
 - Policy Briefs on;
 - Climate change and Agriculture
 - Climate Change and Energy
 - Climate Change and Tourism
 - Climate Change and Fisheries
 - Climate Change and Livestock
 - Climate Change and Health
 - Climate Change and Forestry
 - Articles in the newspapers prepared regularly by experts from the VPO-Division of Environment
 - Articles in the Poverty and Environment Newsletter published by VPO- division of Environment published biannually

3.Public awareness. contd

b) TV and Radio programmes on climate change produced by the VPO in collaboration with other climate change stakeholders aired regularly on local stations

- Addressing the science of climate change
- Causes of climate change
- Effects of climate change
- Mitigation measures
- Adaptation
- Climate change witness from local people

The media companies and environment journalists are also encouraged to produce and broadcast information on climate change. The response is very positive and it contributes to increasing public awareness to the people.

4. Public participation, Communication and public access to climate change information

- **Policy and Legal Framework**

- **Environment management Act 2004**
- **Recognizes the constitutional right of all citizens to live in a clean and safe environment**
- **Establishes the obligation and responsibilities of citizens and the government in conserving the environment**
- **It institutes the institutional framework in managing the environment at national and local level**
- **It gives the mandate and authority to environment managers to take action against environmental destruction**
- **It therefore establishes the framework through which all stakeholders have to be engaged in environmental management practices**

Public participation, Communication and public access to information

a) Public Participation on climate change issues

- **At higher level (Policy makers (MDAs), parliamentarians and politicians)**
 - Discussions during parliamentary sessions and presentations during budget sessions by the Minister of Environment
 - Permanent parliamentary committee for Natural resources and environment
 - Regular workshops on climate change issues for parliamentarians and politicians organized by VPO-DOE
 - Workshops for policy makers in the ministries and government agencies

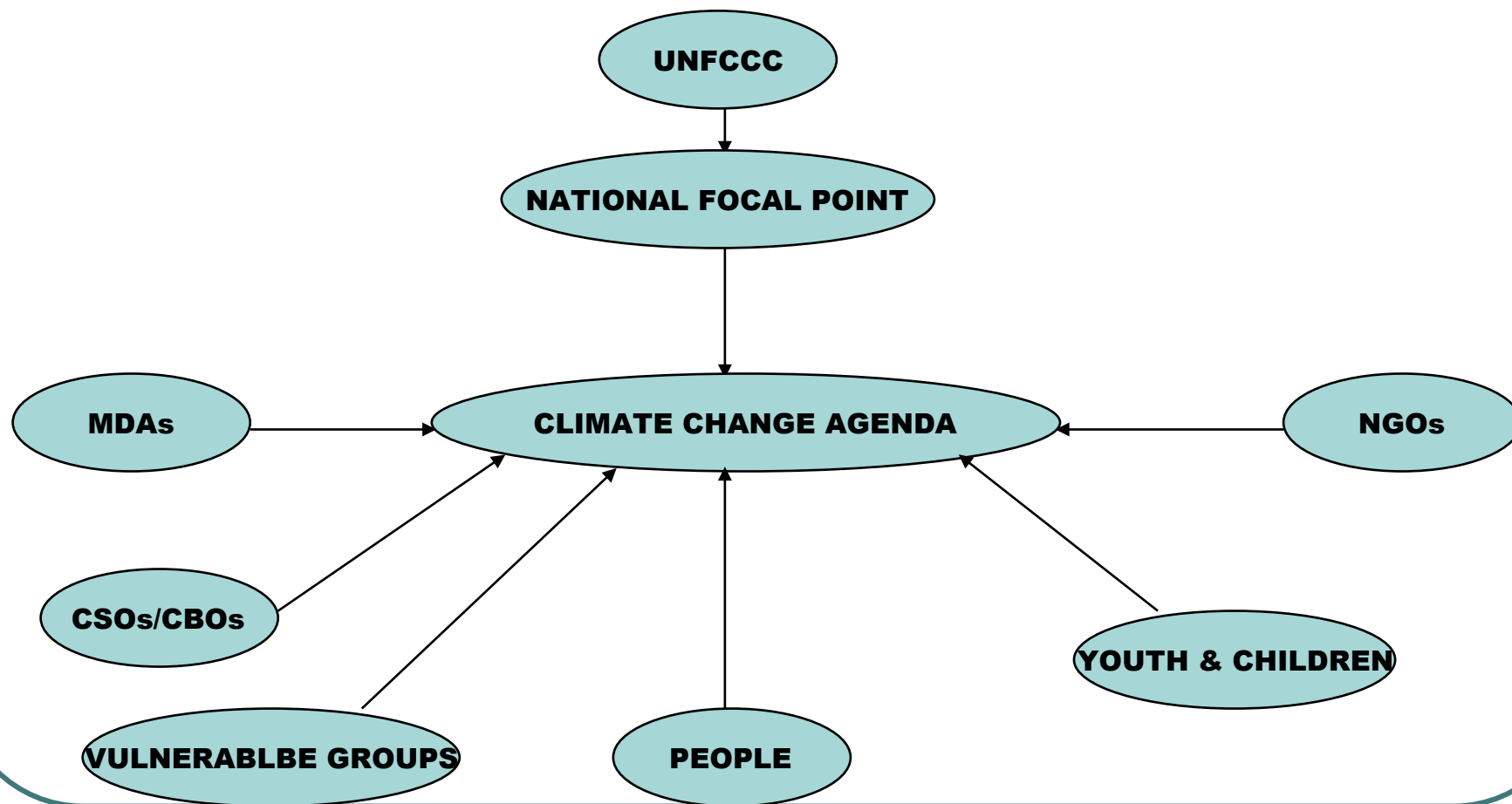
At local level

- **Involvement of people in implementing climate change mitigation programs (tree planting campaigns and forests conservation campaigns national wide)**
 - **National Tree Planting Day 1st April**
 - **Presidential Award for planting trees and conserving forests and catchment areas(Family level, district level, regional level, National level. Schools, Universities, NGOs and CBOs are also involved)**
- **Involvement of people in assessing climate change impacts in local areas through research and information gathering (Studies conducted in areas highly affected by climate change)**
 - **Local people provide vital information on their experience in changing weather and climate patterns**
 - **Local people provide information on the impacts of climate change on various sectors among local communities**
 - **Local people provide the means to cope with the changing climate**

Public Participation contd.

- Involvement of people as source of information in developing TV and Radio programs and documentaries on climate change
 - Information on climate change obtained from local people in developing these programs is more powerful in the media and tends to attract attention to the general public
- Stakeholders involvement in various seminars and workshops on climate change conducted regularly.
 - Involvement of all stakeholders including local people in these workshops draws near the public interest in climate change issues, facilitates public understanding and promotes public opinion in climate change issues
- Local peoples' involvement in developing films/documentaries on climate change witness
 - Films and documentaries on climate change issues developed from local peoples' experiences present a live picture on the whole issue of climate change
- Young children and Youth are involved in learning and participating in climate change issues through Environmental Clubs established in colleges and schools

Public participation chart



b) Public Communication on climate change

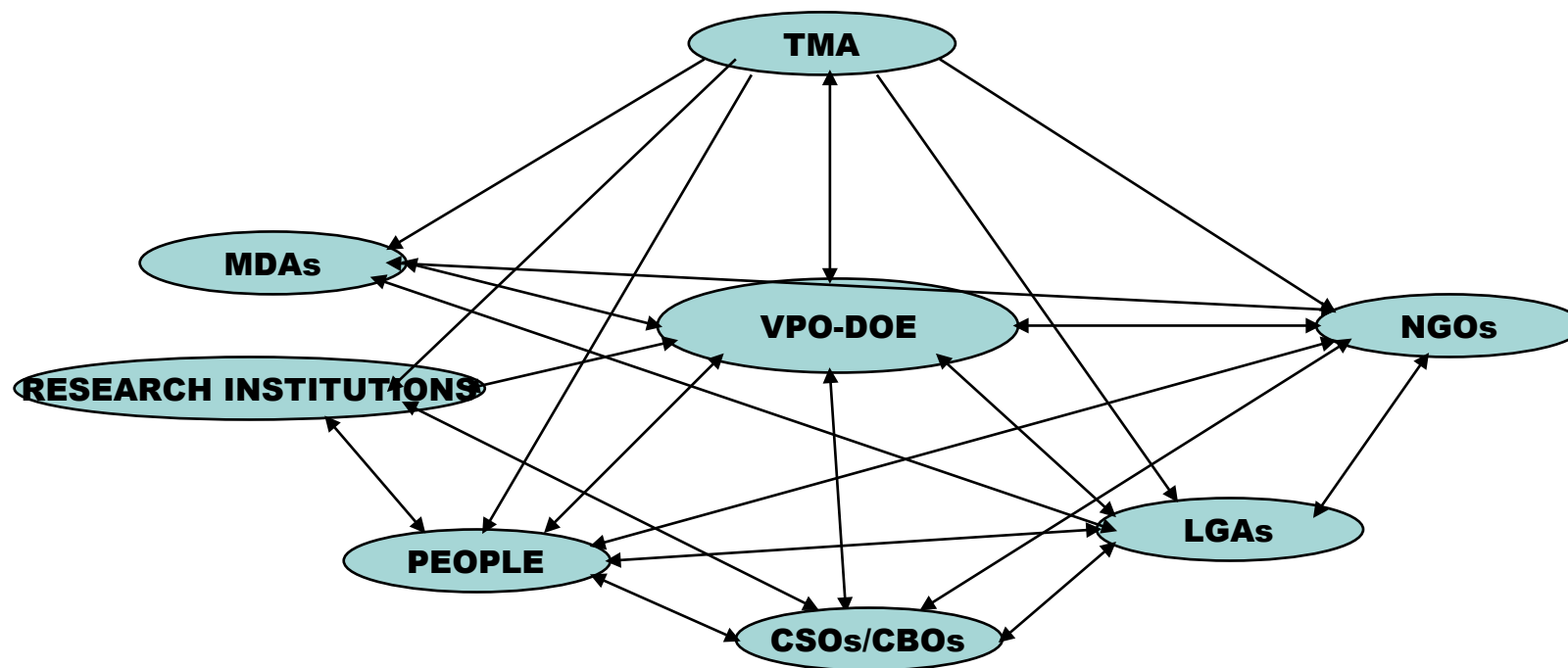
Climate change communication networks in Tanzania

- The Vice President's Office - DOE manages and circulates all the information regarding implementation of UNFCCC including legal and policy frameworks on climate change issues and article 6 in particular.
 - **Communicates climate change information to sector ministries, LGAs and local NGOs**
 - **Communicates information to International NGOs, Research and Learning Institutions, CSOs and CBOs**
- The Vice President's Office has established a Public Relations and Information Unit which functions to disseminate environmental information to the public in collaboration with the public and private media houses.
- Establishment of Environment Unit in every Sector ministries to coordinate environmental issues including climate change and share information with VPO
- Research and learning institutions also disseminate information on climate change to the MDAs, LGAs, NGOs and the public
- International organizations working with the local communities also share information with MDAs, LGAs and locally based CSOs on climate change
- Media houses(Radio, TV and newspapers) are encouraged to prepare environmental programs and columns and allocate time for the programs. Most media houses are cooperating

Communication on climate change contd.

- **The Tanzania Meteorological Agency (TMA)** is a government agency which deals with weather forecast and recording of daily weather information which is useful for monitoring climate change in Tanzania
 - It has established an early warning system which keeps stakeholders alert on the adverse effects of weather and climate change
 - It provides daily information to the public on weather conditions in the country through radio and television and on its website.
 - It generates weather and climate data crucial for research and economic activities.
 - It has established centres in every region for data collection and dissemination throughout the country
- **TMA** also provides mitigation options to stakeholders on adverse effects of weather and climate on their economic sectors such as agriculture and fisheries

Climate Change Communication Network in Tanzania



c) Public access to climate change information in Tanzania

Vice President's Office Division of Environment and other stakeholders perform outreach activities in order to promote Public access to climate change information

- **Environmental Units at ministerial, regional, district and village levels as access points for the public to environmental information**
- **VPO delivers information to environment officers at all levels for stakeholders to the grassroots**
- **Preparation and distribution of publications, brochures and newsletters on climate change to the public and private offices (Quarterly) using VPO budget**
 - **These materials are made available to the entire public, MDAs, LGAs, NGOs, children and Youth in schools and colleges**
 - **Materials are also supplied to public libraries to be reached by youth , children and other stakeholders**

Public access to information contd.

- **Annual National Farmers Exhibition Week**
- VPO-DOE participates in Annual National Farmers Exhibition Week (1-8th August) and climate change information is disseminated to the public through brochures and publications
 - Currently the country is implementing 'Agriculture First' policy which aims at Green Revolution and Food Security (Tsh. 500 Mill budget has been set for integrating the project with environmental concerns including climate change issues in implementation)
 - Various groups of people are provided with climate change publications and brochures in the event
 - NGOS and CBOs are invited to share information on climate change issues with VPO-DOE
 - Youth and children visit the VPO-DOE exhibition pavilion and obtain information about climate change
 - Climate change experts provide climate change knowledge to farmers and other stakeholders in form of Q &A and publications in the event
 - Various media houses (Radio, Television and Newspapers) are involved in to air the event and deliver the message on climate change from experts

Public access to information contd.

- **VPO-DOE Prepare the Commemoration of World Environmental Day and Addressing climate change issues to the public (1-5th June)**
 - **Various publications and brochures on climate change are prepared and distributed to the public and other stakeholders**
 - **The media channels are involved in sending message to the public**
- **VPO – DOE prepares a biannual newsletter in which climate change issues has a section**
- **VPO website (www.vpo.go.tz) contains information on climate change for the public**
- **Climate change Information published by International NGOs operating in Tanzania on websites and other publications made available for the stakeholders**
- **Climate change information available for the public on local NGOs websites**

Achievements

- Increased Public understanding of the existence of climate change and its impacts
- Increased Public involvement in the mitigation measures through local initiatives
 - Village forest conservation and afforestation initiatives
 - Increased use of energy saving charcoal cookers
- Reduced deforestation activities
- Public opinion on climate change issues promoted
- Increased public adaptation and preparedness on climate change impacts e.g during floods and droughts

Challenges

- Weak institutional coordination to allow full public participation and access to information
- Inadequate funding resources to enhance public participation
- Lack of climate change experts at grass root level
- Many regulations are yet to be completed to allow full operation of the Environment Management Act





Thank You