

CBFM EXPERIENCE IN TANZANIA AND LESSON LEARNED – ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION RELATED TO LAND USE

Tanzania has a total of 33 million hectares of forests in various forms. Forests are the resource base for provision of livelihood to many people.

About 92% of the total energy is derived from biomass.

About 80% of Tanzanians depend on agriculture.

Historically, forests in Tanzania have been managed through the central government in which the state has extensive control and power over the resource, but with less involvement of local community.

However, the forest cover continues to decrease to less than 36% in the recent years. For example before independence, the forest cover was more than 50%, which gradually decreased to 45% in late 1970s, to about 41% in mid 1990s.

The direct causes of deforestation are: biomass energy needs and commercial wood fuel production, settlement and agricultural expansion, overgrazing, wildfires, shifting cultivation, inadequate inadequate capacity to address illegal logging (fuelled by both local and multinational companies).

Faced with alarming deforestation rate, the government of Tanzania realised the need to involve local communities in forest management through: Participatory Forest Management (PFM). PFM includes Joint Forest Management (JFM) and Community Based Forest Management (CBFM). Under the CBFM approach, local communities are owners and duty bearers.

The initial PFM initiatives were supported by DANIDA, FINNIDA and NORAD and they led to the significant improvement of forest cover within less than five years. Success stories from the two pilots CBFM led to the scaling up of CBFM initiatives into other areas of the country. To date approximately 10% a total number of villages engaged in CBFM. Success stories from PFM initiatives informed the formulation of the National Forest Policy of 1998, the Forest Act 2002.

Challenges in the PFM approach:-

- Revenues from JFM particularly in catchment areas remain relatively very low – local people do not have much interest in the approach
- A large population of local people still depend on subsistence farming

- About 90% of the energy still come from biomass
- Emerging economic activities such as mineral and oil exploration.

CBFM experience in Tanzania provides us the following lesson learned:-

1. It is possible to incentivise people and parties to take actions that can stimulate positive policies at various levels to facilitate adaptation and mitigation actions.
2. International finance is of paramount importance in strengthening national actions.
3. Increased adaptation and mitigation ambition should be linked to sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction of the local people who depend on natural resources for their survival.
4. Financial resources should be provided to the developing countries in order to reduce energy dependency on biomass.
5. Provision of low cost energy sources is key for enhancing the contribution of the forest sector on mitigation.
6. ADP should take on board all issues related improving food and energy security, and ensuring equitable economic growth for the poor countries and communities in both rural and urban areas.

PROVISIONAL ANSWERS TO THE PROBE QUESTIONS BY THE FACILITATOR

A: What are the top 2 opportunities in your country to further accelerate mitigation from the land?

- *Provision of low cost energy alternatives to the local communities so as help reduction of energy dependency on biomass, and*
- *Improve agriculture production systems and value addition for agricultural products to ensure food security*

B: what are the top 2 barriers?

- *Inadequate financial resources; and*
- *Illegal logging (fuelled by both local and multinational companies)*

C: How big a problem is lack of data?

- *Lack of data is one of the biggest problem facing forest sectors in Tanzania (eg rate of deforestation, plant species disappearance*

D: What advancements have you seen in your country in technology, monitoring to make the role of land in mitigation and adaptation more feasible.

- *There is ongoing national forest measuring and assessment which is due to be finalised soon. This national inventory is comprehensive forest assessment in all forest types across the entire country (mapping up carbon pools – both below and above ground). The exercise is being supported by FAO and FINNIDA and NORAD.*
- *We have also established and launched a National Carbon Monitoring, Center through the Tanzania- Norway REDDS Partnership. This will help redress the issue of lack of data.*
- *There are also ongoing researches on REDD+ by various MSC and PhD students and other researchers -Universities in Tanzania and Norway (supported by Norway- Tanzania REDD partnership).*

E: How significant an opportunity is REDD and why?

- *Given the alarming rate of deforestation there is huge potential for REDD+ in Tanzania if REDD+ will be able to address all the causes of deforestation in a comprehensive manner.*
- *Deforestation and degradation comprise of complicated chains of causes, REDD+ credits cannot be expected to solve all the driving factors of deforestation and degradation across the entire chain, but deliberate actions and financial resources should be provided to make REDD+ implementation a success in developing countries.*

F: what is the role the ADP might play in getting the most out of land?

- *ADP should make should produce an outcome or agreement which takes on board all the legitimate development and social needs of developing countries, particularly as those relate to their dependency on land based natural resources. Developing countries have legitimate right to use their land based natural resources to bring development to their people, therefore ADP should make sure that financial and technological support will flow to developing countries to enable them use and conserve their forests so that they continue to provide the global mitigation services in a sustainable manner.*