



Livestock herder the most resource destructive group. Their daily activity clock is tight and therefore can not attend mandatory village meetings. Can only be informed by their masters (WAKONDO)

## Active participation of herder leader (WAKONDO) in management of grassland and riverine ecosystems (Tanzania, United Republic of)

Matumizi ya wamiliki wa mifugo (WAKONDO) katika hifadhi na matumizi bora ya nyanda za malisho na bionwai za mto.

### DESCRIPTION

**Prevention and mitigation of the grazing land and riverine ecosystems through mandatory grassroots meetings, law enforcement and active participation and empowerment of herder leaders' (masters of the most resource destructive group)**

**Aims / objectives:** Aim/objectives: Empowering the village community, to take charge prevention and rehabilitation of the degraded and endangered grazing land and riverine ecosystem. Enhance SLM sustainability through agenda mainstreaming operationalization and formalization into existing information sharing and decision making forums. SLM be implemented through complementary and concerted efforts of the central government, local governments, grass roots institutions and the community at large. Community exposure to legal and policy framework guiding SLM and actively engaged in making informed decision.

**Methods:** Methods: The most resource destructive group is actively engaged and empowered to take the leading role in prevention and mitigation of the endangered and degrading riverine and grazing land ecosystems. SLM matters are formalized /operationalized and becomes permanent agenda in mandatory grassroots information sharing and decision making forums (sub village meetings, village assembly, ward development committee). The use of multi-sectorial concerted efforts that involves direct support by the central government in matters relating to SLM peace and tranquility (e.g. communities provided with mobile phone numbers for timely reporting of any destructive fire incidence and other environmental and peace threatening malpractices). Knowledge management and training (farmer capacity building) scaled up through adult learning methods (e.g. SLM demos). Active involvement of the most resource destructive group (herdsmen and their masters) in planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, decision making and bylaw formation and reinforcement. Herders who usually suffer rights to information (due to their tight daily activity clock) are informed, lead and guided by their masters.

**Stages of implementation:** Implementation starts with land degradation analysis and identification of the red spots (land degradation problems) to be addressed. Development of community SLM site specific action plan indicating the degradation type, proposed prevention and mitigation intervention methods, conservation methodology/approach to use, inputs needed, people /stakeholder involvement and time frame, stakeholder awareness raising plan, training, education and capacity building. Roles distribution, joint implementation, monitoring and evaluation of community action plan.

**Role of stakeholders:** Community: take charge of SLM activities (e.g. land demarcation, planting of tree, reseeding of pasture, e.t.c.), potential informer of malpractices and play a role of grass roots community guard, detectors of SLM crimes are also responsible for up keeping of public order.

### LOCATION

**Location:** Missenyi/Kitobo/Kyazi, Tanzania/Kagera, Tanzania, United Republic of

#### Geo-reference of selected sites

- n.a.

**Initiation date:** 2012

**Year of termination:** 2014

#### Type of Approach

- ☐ traditional/ indigenous
- ☐ recent local initiative/ innovative
- ☐ project/ programme based
- ☒ Local initiatives mixed in a complementary manner with project initiatives.

Sub and village governments: formation of village environmental committees, taking leading role in inclusion of SLM agendas in mandatory sub village and village meetings, community mobilization and law enforcement.

WAKONDO: forms the core stakeholders in this approach (as experience shows that herders are the major source of uncontrolled fire burning and intruders of riverine ecosystems), participate in decision making and bylaw formation, guide and frequently remind and lead herders how and where to graze, interpreted bylaws to herders so that they make wise and informed decision and liaise herders with sub village and village government.

Environmental committee: law enforcers, environmental patrollers, direct involvement in SLM activities, awareness creation through various means e.g. use of posters.

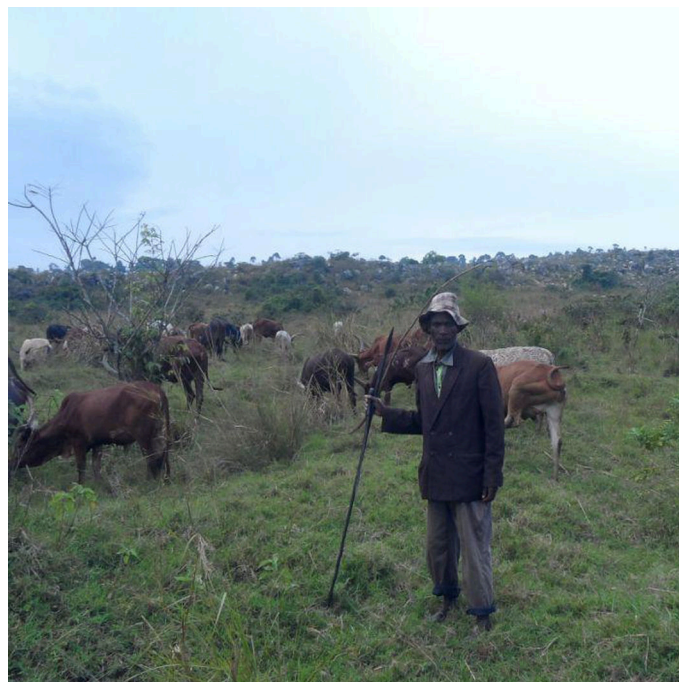
District council: Awareness creation, training, education and capacity building and interpreting to the community laws and policy guiding SLM.

Central government: SLM peace and tranquility and law enforcement.

Other important information: The basic principle underlying this approach is facing SLM through multi-sectorial collaboration and active participation of the most resource destructive group of the community. The average annual costs needed in running the approach is > 2000 USD.



A member of the village environmental committee interacting with the herdsman during his routine field monitoring/patrol visit. (Egidius Pancras (Box 38 Kyaka Missenyi Kagera Tanzania))



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## APPROACH AIMS AND ENABLING ENVIRONMENT

### Main aims / objectives of the approach

The Approach focused mainly on SLM with other activities

Empowering and involvement of the community by building confidence, ownership and capacity to take charge prevention and mitigation of the degraded and endangered grazing land and riverine ecosystem. Establishment of active and reliable environmental committee. Make SLM to be permanent agenda and formalized into existing information sharing and decision making forums.

SLM be implemented through complementary and concerted efforts of the central government, local governments, grass roots institutions and the community at large.

The SLM Approach addressed the following problems: Overgrazing and uncontrolled fire burning by herders, who undertake animal caring for WAKONDO (livestock owners), their activity clock is usually occupied and is under the control of their masters, they are voice less, no access to information about SLM, weak and have no power in decision making.

WAKONDO not adequately and effectively engaged in planning and implementing SLM activities.

Dormant and inactive environmental committee coupled with lack of SLM technical knowledge.

No clearly defined grassroots forums for developing and dealing permanently with SLM agendas.

Weak, conflicting and disjointed efforts invested to environmental conservation.

### Conditions enabling the implementation of the Technology/ies applied under the Approach

- **Legal framework (land tenure, land and water use rights):** The existing land ownership, land use rights / water rights moderately helped the approach implementation: The current bylaws contribute significantly in adherence to environmental conservation and approach objectives.

### Conditions hindering the implementation of the Technology/ies applied under the Approach

- **Social/ cultural/ religious norms and values:** Poor grazing techniques characterized by overgrazing and uncontrolled fire burning. Treatment through the SLM Approach: Active training and engagement of WAKONDO (cattle owners) in planning, implementation,



monitoring, evaluation and SLM decision making.

- **Availability/ access to financial resources and services:** Low quick financial realization by members of the village community who invest their valuable time in SLM (e.g. members of environmental committee) Treatment through the SLM Approach: Introduce environmental based quick win project (QWP) and income generating activities (IGA).
- **Institutional setting:** Weak and ineffective commitment of the local governments at the grassroots level (sub village, village and ward). Treatment through the SLM Approach: SLM be formalized as one of the permanent agenda in grassroots planning and decision making forums (mandatory village and sub village meetings).
- **Legal framework (land tenure, land and water use rights):** Unlimited and uncoordinated use of grazing and riverine resources. Inadequate law enforcement. Low engagement of the central government (law enforcers and observers of peace and tranquility). Treatment through the SLM Approach: Demarcation and encroachment of engendered grazing land and riverine ecosystems coupled with use of sign/warning posters. Active engagement of the central government (law enforcers and observers of peace and tranquility) e.g. community awareness and access to DCs phone for reporting crimes and any environmental threatening malpractices.
- **Knowledge about SLM, access to technical support:** Unintended results in management of the grazing land ecosystem (e.g. emergency of invasive species) Treatment through the SLM Approach: Research and find alternative use of the invasive species and mobilize for controlled and organized consumption.
- **Workload, availability of manpower:** High work load to members of village environmental committee. Treatment through the SLM Approach: Development of regular time table and are the priority and potential beneficiaries of IGA.

## PARTICIPATION AND ROLES OF STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED

Stakeholders involved in the Approach and their roles

What stakeholders / implementing bodies were involved in the Approach?	Specify stakeholders	Describe roles of stakeholders
local land users/ local communities	Community at large, Environmental groups/committees, WAKONDO and herders. Individual local communities (youth, elders, male and females)	Farmer groups, environmental committees (males and females). Almost gender balanced environmental committee, active participation of the youth and indiscriminate participation of disabled (as a matter of fact the chairperson of environmental committee is an handicapped)
SLM specialists/ agricultural advisers	Site facilitators (all males), District SLM multidicipline team (femals and males) . District Planning Team	
local government	District, Village and Sub village governmen, village leaders and ward community representatives (Councilors).	
national government (planners, decision-makers)	Central Government	
international organization	Transboundary Agroecosystem Project (TAMP)	

Involvement of local land users/ local communities in the different phases of the Approach

	none	passive	external support	interactive	self-mobilization	
initiation/ motivation				✓		Village council members and field experts - sensitization and awareness creation meetings.
planning				✓		Village government, community and site facilitators - SLM planning meetings.
implementation				✓		Village government, community, groups and committees and site facilitators - Actual implementation of community site specific action plan.
monitoring/ evaluation				✓		Village government, community, groups and committees and site facilitators - Actual monitoring and evaluation of community site specific action plan.
Research				✓		Village government, community, groups and committees and site facilitators - client focused research to deal with undesirable and unintended results (e.g. on how to handle invasive species).

Flow chart

### Decision-making on the selection of SLM Technology

Decisions were taken by

- ☐ land users alone (self-initiative)
- ☒ mainly land users, supported by SLM specialists
- ☐ all relevant actors, as part of a participatory approach
- ☐ mainly SLM specialists, following consultation with land users
- ☐ SLM specialists alone
- ☐ politicians/ leaders

Decisions were made based on

- ☐ evaluation of well-documented SLM knowledge (evidence-based decision-making)
- ☐ research findings
- ☐ personal experience and opinions (undocumented)

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT, CAPACITY BUILDING, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

## The following activities or services have been part of the approach

- ☒ Capacity building/ training
- ☒ Advisory service
- ☒ Institution strengthening (organizational development)
- ☒ Monitoring and evaluation
- ☐ Research

### Capacity building/ training

#### Training was provided to the following stakeholders

- ☒ land users
- ☒ field staff/ advisers
- ☒ leaders and politicians

#### Form of training

- ☒ on-the-job
- ☐ farmer-to-farmer
- ☒ demonstration areas
- ☒ public meetings
- ☐ courses
- ☒ special and adhoc seminars

#### Subjects covered

Fire control, grazing management, forest management, pasture establishment and use of bylaws.

### Advisory service

#### Advisory service was provided

- ☒ on land users' fields
- ☐ at permanent centres

Name of method used for advisory service: Group method ; Key elements: Site visit and stakeholders visit, Group discussion, interaction and consensus building, local knowledge and technical knowledge balanced in a complementary manner; Land users were visited by the experts and discussions held either on the site or elsewhere.

Advisory service is inadequate to ensure the continuation of land conservation activities; There is shortage of staff and the few staff have high workload/are given multiple tasks.

### Institution strengthening

#### Institutions have been strengthened / established

- ☐ no
- ☒ yes, a little
- ☐ yes, moderately
- ☐ yes, greatly

#### at the following level

- ☒ local
- ☐ regional
- ☐ national

#### Describe institution, roles and responsibilities, members, etc.

#### Type of support

- ☐ financial
- ☒ capacity building/ training
- ☐ equipment

#### Further details

Members of environmental committee were provided with various SLM trainings.

### Monitoring and evaluation

bio-physical aspects were regular monitored by land users through observations; indicators: number of pasture growing species technical aspects were regular monitored by project staff, land users through measurements; indicators: percentage increase in vegetation cover socio-cultural aspects were ad hoc monitored by land users through observations; indicators: incidences of fire burning economic / production aspects were regular monitored by land users through measurements; indicators: number of grass bundles harvested area treated aspects were regular monitored by land users through measurements; indicators: % hacterage protected and harvested no. of land users involved aspects were regular monitored by land users through measurements; indicators: number of adopters/participants management of Approach aspects were regular monitored by land users through observations; indicators: Number of FFS, Demos and IGA, patrols meetings There were several changes in the Approach as a result of monitoring and evaluation: arrangement for the community to find alternative uses of unintended products in pasture establishment (alternative use of invasive species) . There were several changes in the Technology as a result of monitoring and evaluation: Monitoring and evaluation revealed the need to integrate SLM quick win project/IGA as stimulus factor to members of environmental committee who spend their valuable time in performing SLM activities.

## FINANCING AND EXTERNAL MATERIAL SUPPORT

### Annual budget in USD for the SLM component

- ☒ < 2,000
  - ☐ 2,000-10,000
  - ☐ 10,000-100,000
  - ☐ 100,000-1,000,000
  - ☐ > 1,000,000
- Precise annual budget: n.a.

Approach costs were met by the following donors: international (Transboundary Agroecosystem project): 25.0%; government (Central Government ): 5.0%; local government (district, county, municipality, village etc) (Village government and District council ): 18.0%; local community / land user(s) (Community, groups, village invironmental commitees ): 52.0%

### The following services or incentives have been provided to land users

- ☒ Financial/ material support provided to land users
- ☒ Subsidies for specific inputs
- ☐ Credit
- ☐ Other incentives or instruments

### Financial/ material support provided to land users

agricultural: seeds

partly financed  
fully financed

Pasture seed

agricultural: seeds: fertilizers  
DAP



Labour by land users was

- ☐ voluntary  
☐ food-for-work  
☐ paid in cash  
☒ rewarded with other material support

## IMPACT ANALYSIS AND CONCLUDING STATEMENTS

### Impacts of the Approach

No  
Yes, little  
Yes, moderately  
Yes, greatly

Did the Approach help land users to implement and maintain SLM Technologies?



Improvement of vegetation cover through controlled fire burning, livelihood diversification through sell of mulching and pasture materials, protection of the grazing land and riverine ecosystem ensured through area enclosure, demarcation and controlled harvesting of mulching and pasture materials.

Did the Approach empower socially and economically disadvantaged groups?



Youth, women and the disabled interms of livelihood and income

Did other land users / projects adopt the Approach?



#### Main motivation of land users to implement SLM

- ☒ increased production  
☒ increased profit(ability), improved cost-benefit-ratio  
☐ reduced land degradation  
☐ reduced risk of disasters  
☐ reduced workload  
☐ payments/ subsidies  
☒ rules and regulations (fines)/ enforcement  
☐ prestige, social pressure/ social cohesion  
☒ affiliation to movement/ project/ group/ networks  
☒ environmental consciousness  
☐ customs and beliefs, morals  
☐ enhanced SLM knowledge and skills  
☐ aesthetic improvement  
☐ conflict mitigation  
☒ well-being and livelihoods improvement

#### Sustainability of Approach activities

Can the land users sustain what has been implemented through the Approach (without external support)?

- ☐ no  
☒ yes  
☐ uncertain

Because the approach is internationalized and formalized into the existing systems (e.g. SLM becomes permanent agenda in mandatory sub village and village meetings). The use of goat loan IGA project where farmers are given goats on loan bases and pay goats which are then passed and spread to more of their fellow farmer can continue without support. Involvement of central government e.g. access of district commissioners and divisional officers phone is a reliable SLM crime control mechanisms which does not require any of external support (a mere text message can save and protect abundant hectare of land).

## CONCLUSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT

#### Strengths: land user's view

- Improvement of the natural vegetation (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: To continue community education )
- Availability of mulching materials (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Controlled harvesting and fire prevention )
- Availability of fuel wood (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Permanent and routine guard )

#### Strengths: compiler's or other key resource person's view

- Incorporation internalization of SLM as permanent agenda in reliable mandatory grassroots forums (sub village and village meetings) (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Continue internalization and SLM promotion through use of existing forums.)
- Involvement of the central government (a mere text message can save and rescue abundance of hectare). (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Continue use of the central government.)
- Empowerment and active participation of the the most resource destructive and environmental threatening group (livestock keepers). (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Continue use of WAKONDO (livestock owners) in planning, implementation and deciding SLM activities. )
- Use of self spreading IGA to motivate environmental committee members who spend their valuable time in SLM activities (e.g. goat loan projects). (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Continue promotion, expansion and sustaining of self spreading IGAs.)
- Dialogue and communication takes into consideration the daily activity clock of the stakeholder (through this principle WAKONDO can deliver SLM messages to herdsman rather than SLM specialist) (How to sustain/ enhance this strength: Daily activity clock

#### Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: land user's view how to overcome

- shortage of working gears (umbrella, gumboots, raincoats and stationary) Ensure availability of working gears (e.g. SLM penalties be used to cover the costs of working gears).
- Inadequate fund to support IGA Commit adequate fund to support and expand IGA.
- Violation of rules and procedures by some untrustworthy individuals Strengthen law enforcement (use of penalties, court and ward tribunals)
- No reliable transport for village environmental committees. Ensure reliable transport for the village environmental committee.

#### Weaknesses/ disadvantages/ risks: compiler's or other key resource person's view how to overcome

- Existence of untrained-able and lazy herdsman and less committed WAKONDO. Strengthen law enforcement (e.g. use of penalties)
- No reliable forum to collaborate with supplier of inputs and research as a results failure to figure out the reasons for unintended results (for this case unpalatable alien/native species overshadowed the palatable pasture and the reasons were not known) Strengthen collaborations with Research and supplier of inputs (pasture seeds e.t.c.).

continue to be a criteria for planning SLM dialogue and communication.)

## REFERENCES

### Compiler

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### Editors

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**Date of documentation:** June 3, 2014

**Last update:** July 6, 2017

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### Full description in the WOCAT database

[https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/approaches/view/approaches\\_2488/](https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/approaches/view/approaches_2488/)

### Linked SLM data

Technologies: Area enclosures for protection of riverine ecosystem and regeneration of cut and carry materials.

[https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/technologies/view/technologies\\_1607/](https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/technologies/view/technologies_1607/)

Technologies: Area enclosures for protection of riverine ecosystem and regeneration of cut and carry materials.

[https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/technologies/view/technologies\\_1607/](https://qcat.wocat.net/en/wocat/technologies/view/technologies_1607/)

### Documentation was facilitated by

Institution

- Bukoba district council (Bukoba district council) - Tanzania, United Republic of
- Missenyi District Council (Missenyi District Council) - Tanzania, United Republic of

Project

- n.a.

### Key references

- A report on Kyazi Microcatchment Characterization :

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