

CEPF SMALL GRANT FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	Conservation Lake Tanganyika
Project Title:	Ensuring the long term sustainability of Nsumbu NP and Tondwa GMA through strengthening the role of village action groups (VAGs) in the Lake Tanganyika Sustainable Development Project.
Date of Report:	20 th July 2018
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CEPF Region: EAM

Strategic Direction: 1 and 2

Grant Amount: USD20,000

Project Dates: July 1st 2016 to June 30th 2018

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the type and level of involvement for each partner):

Nsama Community Resource Board (CRB) The Nsama CRB was the primary partner in this project as they are the CSO legally mandated to co-manage GMAs, in this case Tondwa GMA. The majority of project activities were conducted in cooperation with the CRB and with the purpose of strengthening their capacity.

Government, through the Department of National Parks and Wildlife (DNPW) DNPW is the 2nd major partner for this project. All activities were conducted with their knowledge and where needed a representative of the DNPW was present in all meetings and activities. Their involvement in financial trainings and reviews was especially pertinent as most CRB finances flow through DNPW.

The Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) FZS began implementing the Nsumbu Tanganyika Conservation Project (NTCP) in 2017 with some overlap on this project in timelines. FZS' CBNRM technical advisor took a leading role in the CRB constitution process and acted as an experienced partner with DNPW. Towards the end of the project the NTCP employed a dedicated Community Coordinator who was actively involved in the final processes of this project in conjunction with the project leader.

Government, through the Lake Tanganyika Development Project (DNPW) Whilst this project aimed to promote a high level of cooperation and coordination with the LTDP this proved difficult and was not achieved.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile (refer to Strategic Direction and Investment Priority).

This project contributed towards strategic direction 1 through investment priorities 1.1,1.2 and 1.3

Priorities 1.1 and 1.2 were successfully contributed towards throughout the project period by encouraging and facilitating a high level of community involvement in various activities, raising the profile of the Nsama CRB in local government offices and ensuring a transparent process towards improved governance of natural resources. By facilitating a well informed and managed CRB generally, it allowed the Nsama CRB to participate in the National CRB forum as the northern region representative; thus giving CRBs generally but the Nsama CRB specifically a direct line of communication to national CRB policy developments, the appropriate ministry and the director of DNPW.

Whilst investment priority 1.3 was not met by this project it has laid a foundation for a transparent CSO with legitimate claims over important conservation lands to engage with the private sector going forward. The project emphasizes the importance and independence of the CRB in entering any negotiations with potential investors and / or operators as well as NGOs. This is expected to contribute to the investment priority post project period.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: 100,000
Species Conserved: African Elephant
Corridors Created:0

List all short-term and long-term impacts (from your logical framework) and provide a narrative that describes your achievements (quantitative and qualitative) under each of the expected impacts.

Long term Impacts

- Long term sustainable use of Natural resources within Tondwa GMA

A well-informed community that has been given the opportunity to publicly debate issues surrounding natural resource management and see their inputs enshrined in a constitution committed to good governance and public oversight is the major achievement in this regard. The new Nsama CRB constitution outlines the roles and responsibilities of office holders, defines how revenue should be used and shared and provides guidance on many aspects of management.

The large number of public meetings and stakeholder involvement during the various activities raised the profile of the Nsama CRB substantially. Prior to this project most government departments such as fisheries and forestry may have been aware of the existence of the CRB but have never made an effort at inclusion for management. All government departments are now fully aware that there is a CRB in place that is democratically elected, governed and led by the community of Nsama.

- Increased numbers of wildlife in Tondwa GMA, with emphasis on re-establishing a resident elephant population in Tondwa

This project indirectly contributed towards the first sightings of elephants in Nsumbu by virtue of activities that would not have been possible without a well-functioning CRB in place.

CLT and subsequently the NTCP has employed 10 well trained community scouts and provides financial support to another 20 through salary supplements. These wildlife rangers are employed by the CRB and supervised jointly between DNPW and the Resource Management Committee (RMC) under the CRB. The RMC has been strengthened considerably during the project activities including establishing a working relationship between DNPW field managers and rangers and the RMC. This has resulted in Nsumbu National Park and Tondwa GMA effectively being managed as one habitat with no differentiation in allocation of resources (especially human) for law

enforcement activities. These improved activities (patrols) are directly responsible for the increasing range of the Nsumbu elephant population.

- Active participation of resident communities in all aspects of planning and implementation of development projects with regards to natural resources

This impact was not fully realized. A reluctance by government departments and ministries to relinquish decision making controls; or to include community representation in granting of profit making ventures continues. Timber extraction licenses as one example were awarded to well connected individuals with no input at all from the CRB or VAGs. Suspected abnormalities in awards of such tenders and licenses seems to have influenced the reluctance to involve communities which would rightly claim revenue sharing benefits.

Short Term Impact

- Improved planning for Tondwa GMA

Whilst no official land use plan was produced, the long sensitization process around land use planning and natural resource management, with high numbers of participation from communities has provided an improved understanding of the need for planning. Communities in close proximity to the protected area with encroachment tendencies have been the target of a larger number of consultative meetings and a higher level of engagement.

- Improved investment climate for sustainable activities

This project had minimal impact. There was a distinct unwillingness at a national level to create a transparent route to investment in Tondwa GMA or Nsumbu National Park, for either consumptive or non-consumptive activities.

- Increased participation of village level communities in development plans.

This project focused on inclusive planning procedures and activities. By visiting villages multiple times over the project period and giving community members the opportunity to participate in a planning process that resulted in a guiding document (CRB Constitution) it allowed communities to understand the participatory method. This is exemplified in the production of a constitution that is widely accepted due to the high consultative level; despite limiting certain aspects of community use of the resource (limiting the fishing period in Tondwa swamp to 3 months per year).

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

No.

List all expected results/outputs (from your logical framework) and provide a narrative that describes your achievements (quantitative and qualitative) against each of them. Use the indicators that you defined in your logical framework.

Land Use Plan for Tondwa GMA

This result was not achieved. The process was started with consultations with communities living in close proximity to Tondwa GMA, including site visits with stakeholders, mapping of “encroachment hotspots” and village level participatory meetings to agree on the need and broad

delineations for a land use plan. However, the process faced challenges that could not be surmounted in the project timeframe.

The IUCN undertook a project focused on climate change preparedness in Nsama district (along with Mpulungu district in Zambia and 2 districts in Tanzania). The Integrated planning for biodiversity and climate change resilience project brought stakeholders from a district, national, and international level together to map out the processes to address and mitigate against climate change. One component of this is land use plans and there has been specific mention of Tondwa GMA. Whilst this development was welcome, the large scale of the IUCN project, its willingness to pay large sums of upkeep allowances to government employees and hold multiple workshops at remote locations from Tondwa meant there was an immediate propensity for relevant government departments to prioritise the IUCN process over the local level CLT LUP process. This led to a stalled process under this project. As of the date of this report there has been no further progress under the IUCN on a land use plan.

CRB constitution renewal

This result was successfully achieved in all regards. The Nsama CRB had low capacity since its inception in 2000 and had never reviewed the simple constitution that was provided in the early days of ZAWA. The constitution was created through a full participatory process, widely reviewed and endorsed by all stakeholders including district council, provincial DNPW and NGOs.

The resulting constitution provides oversight to VAG and CRB office bearers, enshrines governance standards, and provides a framework for all CRB and VAG. It also provided empowerment to VAG members on how potentially controversial clauses can be supported in the write situation. All community members and VAG members were adamant that the DNPW park ranger be removed as a signatory of the CRB bank account. This was not welcomed by DNPW but there is no legal basis for a government officer to have final say on community funds; as long as there is oversight and due process within the CRB itself. The final constitution does not designate the necessity of a DNPW person as a signatory on bank accounts.

Draft Lease agreement

This result was unattainable. During the project period there was a transformation from the Zambia Wildlife Authority to the Department of National Parks and Wildlife under the ministry of Tourism. The transformation itself coincided with the expiration of the lease agreement with a hunting outfitter and there was a subsequent lack of direction on GMA concession award processes. There are purportedly over 10 GMAs in Zambia in a similar situation with no clear direction being given on the future mode of CRBs entering agreements with 3rd parties. It has been hoped that this situation would be rectified within the project period but as of June 2018 there remains an impasse country wide on the roadmap for GMAs and the role of CRBs and VAGs in entering investment partnerships.

Nsama CRB financial Audit

This activity was agreed to near the end of the project period. The audit was conducted in April 2018 by the office of the Area Management Unit Accountant in Kaputa and facilitated by CLT. An audit report was published and shared with stakeholders and a summary document was also prepared for public validation. The audit report highlighted the weaknesses in financial controls under the CRB, it also highlighted the opaque nature of financial reconciliation between the DNPW and CRBs. Whilst the actual audit report was short and not fully clarified, it served a useful purpose in highlighting the need of much improved training, understanding and oversight of the CRB accounts.

Outside of this project period the NTCP conducted an extensive financial management workshop for the incoming elected CRB, this involved the national DNPW CBNRM accountant, the NTCP Finance Accountant and 18 VAG members along with the CRB bookkeeper.

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community. Please organize your lessons as follows:

1. Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings).

Despite the perception that this project is small it should be considered that government departments are crucial in project implementation in Zambia and need to be engaged early on in project design stages to ensure buy in. This is especially true in rural councils where there is little activity meaning district level officials view any activity as significant. This needs to include departments that would not normally be considered project partners such as the office of the Council Secretary and District Commissioner. Project design should also take into account fluid situations that may negatively affect implementation, such as a changing government system (e.g ZAWA to DNPW).

2. Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

Similarly, it should be realized that there is a level of government participation and endorsement that is required at every stage of a project and without which successful implementation or conclusion is unlikely. Where appropriate advance notice needs to be provided and a clear agreement on cost carrying made prior to implementation. In Zambia specifically, there is a high and growing demand on NGOs to provide government rate daily subsistence allowances, without which many government employees will refuse to participate, citing conditions of service.

3. Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Be aware of donor conditions that may make project implementation extremely difficult, this is especially relevant to personnel payments which are a contentious issue in certain countries. It would be an advantage to have pre agreed terms and conditions for government workers to participate in project activities at a rate agreed to by both parties to avoid situations of “negotiation”.

Be aware of “competing” projects that may have similar activities and proposed outcomes but very different implementation activities and processes.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Provide details of any additional donors who supported this project and any funding secured for the project as a result of the CEPF grant or success of the project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
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Wyss Foundation	B	\$3,000	Salary support in later stages of project for a dedicated community coordinator.
Elephant Charge	B	\$3,000	Salary support in later stages of project for a dedicated community coordinator.
Wyss Foundation	B	\$15,000	Tondwa fishery socio-economic survey.

***Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:**

- A** *Project co-financing (Other donors contribute to the direct costs of this CEPF project)*
- B** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF project.)*
- C** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

The high level of community sensitization and participation was a success that can and will be replicated in future projects. The issues debated and brought before authorities and community members are only addressable once known. At very least this process should be undertaken prior to all CRB elections, currently legislated at once in 3 years.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

The biggest ongoing challenge in this regard is gender balance on community representations at both village level and at CRB board level. It is suggested that a quota system be initiated of a minimum number of VAG/CRB members should be female.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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*****please complete the tables on the following pages*****

Performance Tracking Report Addendum

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved for project from inception of CEPF support to date	Describe the principal results achieved during project period (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	Yes	50,000H of Tondwa Game Management Area 50,000H of Kaputa Game Management Area	Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	Na		Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	yes	10,000H of the Lake Tanganyika KBA.	
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Na		
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1 below.	na		

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table.

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Increased Income due to:				Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
									Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services									
Total																					

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

