

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA.



**FIRST NATIONAL REPORT
ON
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD).**

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
DAR ES SALAAM.
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

NAP	-	National Action Programme.
UNCCD	-	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.
NCB	-	National Coordinating Body.
NFP	-	National Focal Point.
NSC	-	National Steering Committee.
TF	-	Task Force.
NEF-D	-	National Environment Fund - Desertification.
HADO	-	“Hifadhi Ardhi Dodoma” (Soil Conservation Programme in Dodoma)
HASHI	-	“Hifadhi Ardhi Shinyanga” (Soil Conservation Programme in Shinyanga)
HIMA	-	“Hifadhi Mazingira” (Soil and Water Conservation Programme in Iringa)
LAMP	-	Land Management Programme in Arusha.
DANIDA	-	Danish International Development Agency
SIDA	-	Swedish International Development Agency
NORAD	-	Norwegian International Development Agency
IFAD	-	International Fund for Agricultural Development
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
IRA	-	Institute of Resource Assessment
NEMC	-	National Environment Management Council
NLUPC	-	National Land Use Planning Commission
TANRIC	-	Tanzania Natural Resources Information Center
SUA	-	Sokoine University of Agriculture
EIA	-	Environmental Impact assessment
COP	-	Conference of Parties
INCD	-	Intergovernmental Negotiation Committee on Desertification

VPO	-	Vice President's Office
TANGO	-	Tanzania Association of Non- Governmental Organizations
TFAP	-	Tanzania Forestry Action Programme.
NGOs	-	Non-Governmental Organizations.
CBOs	-	Community Based Organisations .
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
UNDP/UNSO-		United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Special Office to Combat Desertification.
JET	-	Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania
SADC-ELMS-		Southern African Development Community – Environment and Land Management Sector
UNFCCC-		United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNV	-	United Nations Volunteer
SRAP	-	Sub-Regional Action Programme
UCLAS	-	University College of Lands and Architectural Studies
UNCED	-	United Nations Conference on Economic Development
NIC	-	National Information Center

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Land degradation in Tanzania began to be noticed from the late 1920s. In certain parts of the country land degradation has significantly reduced the economic productivity of land to the extent of producing desert-like conditions. This alarming situation called for the launching of various initiatives in an attempt to combat the situation. Ironically, despite such initiatives land degradation has perpetually continued to escalate. Cognizant of the dangers which these conditions pose, Tanzania resolved to join hands with the international community by signing and ratifying the UNCCD in 1994 and 1997 respectively.

Previous initiatives.

Programmes and strategies for combating the effects of land degradation date back to those which were implemented before independence. Initiatives continued even after independence.

Pre-independence initiatives included:

- a) The establishment of a Soil Erosion Committee in 1929 to undertake a soil erosion control programme.
- b) The Sukumaland resettlement Scheme (1944 – 1958).
- c) The destocking and resettlement schemes in Mbulu and Masailand (1945 – 1960).

Post independence strategies have included:

- a) Soil Conservation programmes implemented in Dodoma and Singida regions.
- b) The afforestation campaigns and village afforestation programmes;
- c) The arid zone afforestation project;
- d) The establishment of the soil service unit in the ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
- e) Crop monitoring and early warning systems;
- f) Rural electrification programme; and
- g) The Ujamaa Village programme

Most of these programmes have collapsed because of a number of reasons including lack of funds, lack of involvement of local communities in their planning and implementation, lack of the use and appreciation of indigenous techniques and knowledge. The programmes were also implemented on sectoral basis with very little coordination and they lacked a comprehensive approach to the problem.

Currently there are a number of planned and ongoing national programmes and sectoral initiatives which will contribute to combating land degradation and drought mitigation. Most of these strategies and programmes have come about after Tanzania decided to participate in global efforts to combat land degradation. These include; the National Environment Action Plan, National Action Programme on Climate Change (under formulation) and the Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (under formulation). In addition to these programmes, a number of policies have been put in place or are being formulated to support the implementation of environmental rehabilitation programmes. These include policies on; environment, water, energy, mining, land, forestry, industry, transport, wildlife, tourism and agriculture.

INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION.

A National Coordinating Body (NCB) has been set up in the Vice President's Office. The Office of the Vice President is the authoritative institution on policies and activities on the environment on behalf of the entire government. This office established a number of organs in May 1997 to facilitate the implementation of the Convention. These are:

1. The National Steering Committee which is comprised of Directors and Commissioners of relevant government departments. UNDP and Tango (an umbrella NGO for environmental NGOs) are also represented in this committee. The Committee provides policy guidance on the implementation of the UNCCD.
2. The National Technical Committee. This is a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary committee drawing members from different government departments, public institutions, NGOs and the Private Sector. It provides technical guidance on the NAP process.
3. The National Secretariat on NAP. This is made up of a team of six members. It is responsible for offering technical inputs and closely facilitates the NAP process.
4. The National Focal Point. It is housed by the Vice President's Office in the Division of Environment. A National Coordinator was designated and assigned the responsibilities of coordinating and leading the NAP Secretariat and the Technical Committee.

Efforts by the NGO community within the NAP process are coordinated by an NGO Focal Point which was chosen in their meeting on the UNCCD. An NGO Coordinating Committee to combat desertification has been established to facilitate the implementation of the Convention and network with sub-regional, regional and international NGOs active in the context of the convention.

Members of the National Coordinating Bodies are nominated by their respective institutions based on their education level, expertise and experience in the fields of socio-economic and natural resource management. These institutions are those identified by the Department of Environment as being important partners in combating land degradation. Twenty-three of the thirty-four members (68%) of the coordinating body are government officials and 11 (32%) are from NGOs, the Private Sector and Public Institutions. The composition of women is 10%.

The Technical Committee and the National Secretariat provide the driving forces in the implementation of the Convention. The Technical Committee meets once every 2-3 months to set direction on what is to be done. The National Secretariat meets more regularly to support the National Focal Point in implementing the decisions taken by the Technical Committee. The National Focal Point is responsible for the day to day supervision of implementing agencies. Each of these committees has its own Terms of References which are the basis for preparing annual plans and timetable for the committee's operations. The NCB does not have a budget of its own but has access to funds allocated to the division of Environment. The implementation of activities is through funds made available by UNDP/UNSO for the implementation of the NAP process. The work and activities of the committees are supervised and directed by the National Steering Committee, which is basically a policy guiding body.

Activities undertaken by the National Coordinating Body.

From the time the National Technical Committee and the National Secretariat on the NAP were established, a number of activities have taken place in the NAP process under their guidance and leadership. These activities have included:

- a) Awareness campaigns and consultations with NGOs and communities at local level.
- b) The review of past experiences and on going projects and programmes.
- c) Review of existing legislation and policies.
- d) A review of mechanisms available for coordination and harmonization of actions to combat desertification at national and local level.
- e) Implementation of catalytic support programme at community level.
- f) Interpretation of UNCCD documents into the national language.
- g) The establishment of a National Environment Fund – Desertification(NEF-D).

The National Action Programme process

To initiate the implementation of the NAP process, two workshops were organized. One workshop involved members of the Technical Committee and the second workshop was held for members of the Technical Committee and the Task Force on the establishment of the NEF-D. During these workshops, four teams of local experts were formed from the participants. The main task of these teams was to make field visits to those areas which are prone to desertification

with the objective of sensitizing communities and stakeholders providing them with information on their opportunities and their roles in the implementation of the UNCCD, and finally discuss and gather relevant data to facilitate the NAP process.

In total 13 out of 20 regions of mainland Tanzania were visited ;these are Mwanza, Shinyanga, Mara, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Mbeya, Iringa, Morogoro, Mtwara and Lindi. In these regions 18 out of 69 districts were visited.

Zonal consultative workshops in respect of the development of a National Action Programme to Combat Desertification in Tanzania were also organized. The workshops were held in Mwanza for the lake zone, Dodoma for the central zone and Iringa for the southern zone. Participants who attended these workshops included representatives of Local Governments, Functional Managers responsible for sectors related to land use at district and regional levels. NGOs and CBOs participated in their own National forum, from which an NGO UNCCD Coordinating Committee was established.

The mechanism used for communicating information to stakeholders include:

- a) Meetings, seminars and workshops.
- b) Distribution of reports and minutes of meetings to relevant target groups;
- c) Use of telephone, fax and e-mail.
- d) Making use of available information centers at collaborating institutions and organizations.
- e) Distribution of UNCCD materials translated into the local (national) language.

The National Coordinating Body is currently working on the possibilities of establishing its own information center which will network with existing centers.

The participation of international partners in the NAP process has also been encouraged. All international partners represented in the country have been invited to national fora organized under the UNCCD. These included the forum on the establishment of the National Environment Fund, the First National Forum on NAP and the NGO and CBO forum.

Most of the partners who were invited were able to attend the fora and were represented by their technical officers. Some Ambassadors and Heads of Missions participated in the opening and/or closing sessions.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a member of the National Steering Committee and the National Secretariat.

The presence of UNDP in these committees has provided a link between the national committees and the donor community and international partners. UNDP has been requested to continuously brief the donor community on progress of the NAP process during the donor monthly meetings. The Government has taken

advantage of these meetings and has used them to brief donors on progress achieved and report on the financial requirements of the process.

Several partners have also been approached on bilateral basis to solicit their involvement in the NAP process especially in preparation for the post forum activities. Some of the partners approached have expressed interest in supporting the implementation of the National Action Programme, but their commitment is yet to be seen. Partners approached include; IFAD, DANIDA, SIDA, UNDP, USAID, NORAD, etc.

In preparation for the elaboration of the NAP document, National and International consultants were engaged to review experiences from past and ongoing programmes. Their reports and recommendations together with reports from the consultation process have been used in the preparation of the NAP document. A number of on going projects have been included in the NAP as they were found to be effective and are within the spirit of the Convention.

The NAP process has come up with new programmes for combating desertification and drought mitigation. These new programmes are:

1. The streamlining of cross sectoral policies for the empowerment of local communities to conserve and manage their own resources.
2. Education, Awareness raising and Capacity Building programme for all stakeholders.
3. Acquisition and dissemination of technology including indigenous knowledge.
4. Programme for curbing population growth.
5. Gender mainstreaming for the implementation of CCD programmes.
6. Environmental information system.

It must be noted that the NAP is at the preparatory stage and has not yet been officially adopted by the government. The first National Forum on the NAP will be held in July 1999.

Financial and Technical support to the NAP Process

The government of Tanzania has contributed to the NAP process as well as other UNCCD related activities through the provision of manpower for the process, provision of office space, facilities and utilities, transport and the exemptions from tax to all material and equipment from abroad for the UNCCD activities.

The Tanzanian government has received financial support through UNDP/UNSO from the Danish government of US \$ 350 000 in 1997 for initiating the NAP process. An additional amount of US \$ 30,000 was also provided by Denmark to the government of Tanzania to catalyze the establishment of a National Environment Fund – Desertification. A forum on the fund took place in May 1998.

A sum of US\$ 200,000 was provided by UNDP/UNSO to implement a pilot project on “Farmer innovations on soil and water conservation” in the drylands of Tanzania. The Australian government through UNDP/UNSO has provided US\$10,000 for catalytic support of local level initiatives. Other support has come from the UNCCD Secretariat and SADC-ELMS by funding participants to international conferences and workshops.

On technical cooperation Tanzania has benefited from experts and inputs from UNDP/UNSO, SADC-ELMS, UNCCD Secretariat and the Australian government.

A special support programme has been the availability of a National UNV to support the efforts and initiatives of the National Focal Point and Coordinating Body.

Financial and Technical cooperation requirements.

A project proposal has been prepared and forwarded to some donors for supporting the implementation of NAP activities. A sum of US\$ 230,000 is urgently required to sustain the process.

A sum of US\$ 30 million has been identified as the basic requirement to operationalise the National Environment Fund- Desertification.

For technical cooperation, support would shortly be required in the form of international consultants to initiate the implementation of some of the priority NAP programmes.

In addition the UNV programme has been very helpful and would be highly appreciated if it could continue and where possible provide more than one expert to enhance manpower support to the part time focal point.

1. INTRODUCTION

This document is the First National Report on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in Tanzania.

The total land area of mainland Tanzania is 945,000 square kilometres. An assessment of the desertification situation has revealed three categories. The first category include areas that are that are slightly or not degraded. The second category comprises of areas, which are moderately degraded. The third includes areas, which are severely degraded. In total the dry land areas in Tanzania form 61% of the total land area.

Land degradation in Tanzania began to be noticed from the late 1920s. In certain parts of the country land degradation has significantly reduced the economic productivity of land to the extent of producing desert like conditions. This

alarming situation called for the launching of various initiatives in an attempt to combat the situation. Ironically despite such initiatives land degradation has perpetually continued to escalate. Cognizant of the dangers which this condition pose, Tanzania resolved to join hands with the international community in its endeavours to obtain everlasting solutions to this problematic condition.

The Convention to Combat Desertification, which was adopted in 1994, had one major objective, which is combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought particularly in African countries where drought and/or desertification are more pronounced. To achieve this objective countries were required to indulge in short term and long-term integrated strategies which if properly implemented will have a dual focus which are: 1. Improving the productivity of land through rehabilitation and conservation-cum-sustainable management of land and water sources. 2. Improved living conditions of the people more especially at the grass roots level.

Tanzania signed and ratified the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) in 1994 and 1997 respectively. Since then several measures have been undertaken as steps towards its implementation. These measures are articulated in the different sections of this report.

2. STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND/OR POLICIES.

2.1 Pre-Independence Programmes.

Programmes/innitiatives which had inclinations to combating land degradation during colonial era include:

i). **Soil Erosion Committee.**

In 1929 a Soil Erosion Committee was established. The functions of this committee were to look at the main causes and recommend solutions to the problem of soil erosion. Other functions included the setting of demonstration plots for tie ridging, manuring and the establishment of good ground cover.

ii). **Sukamaland Resettlement Scheme (1944 – 1958).**

This programme was being operated in Mwanza and Shinyanga regions. Primarily it was responsible for educating people on proper methods of land use. Secondly it embarked on resettling populations (people and livestock) on prepared expansion areas. This scheme affected 1 million people, 2 million cattle, 2 million sheep and goats in an area of approximately 23 000 square kilometres. Thirdly a large programme of water development was undertaken in these settled areas.

Problems which this programme faced mainly included a strong political antipathy. As a result, the programme was completely abandoned in 1958.

iii). Destocking and Resettlement Schemes in Mbulu and Masailand (1945-1960).

The schemes were trying to address the problems of overgrazing and overstocking through planned clearing of tsetse infested areas coupled with compulsory destocking. The main activity was to resettle the people from high to low densely populated areas. Measures were taken to enforce soil conservation practices in cultivated areas. More and better water supply points were introduced for use by both people and livestock. The success of this programme was undermined by lack of control of excessive livestock numbers. This led to problems of site overgrazing, consequently the scheme was abandoned in 1960 resulting into chronic overstocking and land degradation in these areas.

2.2 Post Independence Programmes to Combat Land Degradation:

After the collapse of colonial approaches the Independent Government introduced initiatives to redress problems of land degradation. These are:

i). Soil Conservation Programmes:

- HADO (Soil conservation programme in Dodoma region) was geared to reclaim and rehabilitate degraded land particularly in Kondoa district. Prohibition of grazing in degraded areas was enforced after forced removal of livestock from such areas. Conservation measures were implemented with the support of donor funding. This programme registered some positive results. However with the termination of the donor fund; execution has stopped in some project areas hence triggering massive return of livestock herds eventually reverting the situation.
- HASHI (Soil conservation programme for Shinyanga region) was geared for environmental conservation through tree planting. The programme is capitalizing on education, awareness and use of indigenous knowledge to achieve implementation of land reclamation and conservation practices. This programme has recorded some success and is an on going one.
- HIMA (Soil conservation programme in Iringa region) aims at achieving sustainable land use and resource conservation, improving productivity and reducing erosion, improving moisture retention in priority catchment areas and strengthening local institutions. This is an on going programme and has rendered a reasonable degree of success.

- LAMP (land management programme in Arusha region) is being implemented in Babati district. Its main activities involve land management for environmental conservation. This programme is multi-sectoral and involves communities' initiatives. The programme is on-going.
- National Soil Service Project aimed at undertaking Soil Surveys and Analysis. A semi-detailed soil survey and related land use suitability study of some parts of Tanzania has been completed. Soil moisture studies were also carried out to determine water requirements and drought susceptibility of basic crops and to formulate basic methods of soil and water conservation. This project phased out due to lack of funds.
- Land Use Planning. This programme is being executed by the National Land Use Planning Commission. The Commission has been able to establish land use plans for the districts of Kiteto, Tabora, Nzega, Urambo, and Loliondo to solve the problem of conflicts on land resource use among several land users. The Commission has also prepared participatory land use management projects in Dodoma, Kondoa, Mwanza and Iringa districts whereby the local communities were involved in multisectoral determination of land use. In addition, physical plans for the Uhuru Corridor (Dar es Salaam, Coast, Morogoro, Iringa and Mbeya Regions), Lake Zone (Kagera, Mwanza, Mara and Shinyanga regions), Northern zone (Arusha, Tanga and Kilimanjaro regions) and Southern Zone (Lindi, Mtwara and Ruvuma) were prepared.
- The Agricultural Extension Programme.

The programme was launched in 1989 by the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. Its objective is to build the capacity of peasant farmers and pastoralists in the management of their natural resources through soil conservation and water management. This is an on-going programme being financed by the World Bank in about sixteen regions of Tanzania mainland.

(ii). Afforestation Programme.

The Tanzania Forestry Action Programme (TFAP) was launched in 1989 and revised in 1994 to address sustainable development through appropriate use and conservation of natural resources. This incorporates programmes in land husbandry, community and farm forestry, forest management, bioenergy, forestry industries, bee-keeping, wild life management, ecosystem conservation, peoples participation, planning, research and training.

With the adoption of the New Forestry Policy, an action plan has been prepared to implement the policy within the context of this existing action programme.

2.3 Current Programmes.

i) National Biological Diversity Strategy and Action Plan.

This is currently under preparation. Consultations with stakeholders, institutions and relevant sectors has been undertaken through zonal workshops. A draft document has been produced and the thematic areas addressed are:

- Strategies for the management of wetlands biodiversity.
- Strategies for the management of dryland biodiversity.
- Strategies for the management of agro-biodiversity.
- Strategies for the management of mountain bio-diversity.

ii). National Action Plan on Climate Change.

Due to Global warming, the United Nations framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was adopted. Tanzania is a Party to this Convention. The convention requires Parties to launch programmes for limiting emissions and promoting adaptation. The Vice President's Office has appointed a National Coordinator to lead the implementation of the Convention. The Vice President's Office is currently preparing a National Action Plan on Climate Change which will identify the implications, mitigation and adaptation measures to the formidable global warming.

iii) National Environment Action Plan.

The National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) is Tanzania's first step towards a comprehensive incorporation of environmental concerns into the fabric of natural resource planning and development.

The national analysis in this plan identifies six major problems for urgent national attention. These are; land degradation, good quality water for both urban and rural inhabitants, pollution, loss of wildlife habitats, deterioration of marine and fresh water systems and deforestation. The strategy document was adopted by the government in 1994.

vi) National Action Programme on Agenda 21

Tanzania is aware of the inseparable relationship between economic development and the exploitation of natural resources. It has been well elaborated in Agenda 21. Hence, it is acknowledged that the survival of the present and that of future generations depend on the ability to manage the environment. Sustainable development has therefore become a centre of focus as Tanzania endeavours to rid itself of poverty, ignorance, diseases and other problems of underdevelopment.

The number of programmes/initiatives that are inclined to address the above named problems are as follows;

- Environmental consideration in economic planning.
- Poverty alleviation.
- Protection and promoting human health and integration of environment development in decision making
- Macro economic policies' review
- A study on population dynamics and sustainability
- Capacity building and training in various sectors
- Conservation and management of natural resources (water, land, forestry etc).

All these programmes/initiatives were funded and some continue to be funded by various donors supplemented by government contributions. The government has also partially contributed in funding these programmes.

2.4 Policies

Environmental impacts of actions in one sector are often felt in other sectors. This is why environmental goals, objectives and actions cannot be framed and executed in isolation from other development and policy sectors. Internalization of environmental considerations in sectoral policies and programmes, and their coordination is essential to achieve sustainable development. Efforts are being made to streamline existing policies with a view to enhancing synergy and complementarity. This will reduce duplication of efforts and better allocate the meager resources.

Some of the cross-sectoral and sectoral policies related to UNCCD include the following:

- National Environment Policy-(1997).

The overall objectives of the National Environmental Policy are:-

- to ensure sustainability, security and equitable use of resources for meeting the basic needs of the present and future generations without degrading the environment or risking health or safety;
- to prevent and control degradation of land, water, vegetation, and air which constitute our life support systems;
- to conserve and enhance our natural and manmade heritage including the biodiversity of the unique ecosystems of Tanzania;
- to improve the condition and productivity of the degraded areas including rural and urban settlements in order that all Tanzanians may live in safe, healthful, productive and aesthetically pleasing surroundings;
- to raise public awareness and understanding of the essential linkages between environment and development and to promote individual and community participation in environmental action;

- to promote international cooperation on the environment agenda, and expand our participation and contribution to relevant bilateral, sub-regional, regional and global organizations and programmes, including implementation of Treaties.

➤ Water Policy- (1991)

This policy has the overall objective of ensuring the supply of clean and safe water in sufficient quantities for domestic, livestock, irrigation, industrial and other uses and to protect water sources and prevent environmental pollution. Specifically on the environment, the policy pursues to:

- plan and implement water resource schemes and other development programmes in an integrated manner and in ways that protect water catchment areas and their vegetation cover;
- improve management and conservation of wetlands. Shortage or lack of water is the number one problem in dryland areas and as such implementation of this policy will go a long way to reduce the problem.

➤ Energy Policy-(1992)

The main objective of the energy policy is sound management of energy development and supply in order to minimize the impacts of energy shortages and environment degradation. The policy, specifically, pursues the following:

- minimization of woodfuel consumption through the development of alternative energy sources and woodfuel energy efficiency;
- promotion of sustainable renewable energy sources;
- assessment and control of development and use of energy; and
- energy efficiency and conservation.

Implementation of these tenets of the policy will go a long way in alleviating deforestation and associated problems.

➤ Mineral Policy – (1995)

The main policy objective from an environmental perspective is the prevention, reduction, control and elimination of damage and minimization of the risk thereof from the generation, management, transportation, handling and disposal of hazardous wastes, other wastes and emissions. The strategies to be used include:

- adequate management of overall project cycle (including reclamation and restoration of land after use) shall be undertaken to minimize adverse environmental impacts;

- regular and periodic environmental audits shall be maintained to ensure adoption of environmentally sound practices in mining operations.

Implementation of these tenets of the policy will minimize land degradation caused by mining.

➤ Industrial Policy –(1996)

The objective of the policy with respect to environmental protection is the prevention, reduction, control and limitation of damage and minimization of the risk from the generation, management, transportation, handling and disposal of hazardous wastes, other wastes and emissions. Specifically on combating desertification the policy pursues the following;

- industries shall be planned in a manner that minimizes adverse effects on the environment at all stages (i.e. location, effluent discharge, waste disposal, use and disposal of products)
- application of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) as an essential element in industrial planning and development for taking account of potentially harmful activities on the environment.
- environmental audits/inventory shall be carried out for both new and existing industries for pollution control and waste minimization;

➤ Forest Policy (1998)

The overall goal of the forest policy is to enhance the contribution of the forest sector to the sustainable development of Tanzania and the conservation and management of her natural resources for the benefit of the present and future generations. The main objectives are to:

- ensure sustainable supply of forest products and services by maintaining sufficient forest area under effective management;
- ensure ecosystem stability through conservation of forest biodiversity, water catchments and soil fertility; and
- enhance national capacity to manage and develop the forest sector in collaboration with other stakeholders.

Implementation of this policy has included reservation of forest areas, soil conservation programmes, afforestation and reforestation programmes as well as awareness and education programmes.

➤ Land Policy (1995)

The land policy states that villages shall receive certificates of village lands and village assemblies will be able to allocate individual plots. Communal areas will be set aside and titled for village use and no plots will be allocated in these

areas. Customary rights are to be recorded, land use planning will be required by the district in cooperation with villages and mechanisms will be established for protection of sensitive areas. The policy pursues the following:

- village land use plans will be used as a tool for implementing policies for better land use and management
- community involvement in resource management, land use planning and conflict resolving will be necessary
- agricultural land will be identified and protected against encroachment by pastoralists
- security of land tenure for pastoralists in pastoral land will be guaranteed by appropriate measures including gazetting to protect grazing land from encroachment
- incentives to proper pastoral land stewardship including the provision of infrastructure like water supply and cattle dips should be provided and modern transhumant pastoralism will be encouraged
- pastoralists and agriculturists/peasants will be educated on good land management and utilization.

➤ Transport Policy (1987)

The Transport Policy of 1987 which is under review aims at developing a multimodal transport system as a means of:

- promoting agricultural and industrial growth throughout the country
- facilitating efficient distribution of goods and services to producers as well as to consumers in the country and in the export markets
- opening up new socio-economic opportunities through enabling the maximum utilization of agricultural and mineral resources in hitherto inaccessible areas
- improving transport infrastructure for the promotion of tourism and as a means of enhancing international trade to maximize foreign exchange earnings
- developing the cheapest and most efficient means of transport

Understanding the transport policy is paramount to the National Action Programme process because new roads into hitherto inaccessible areas may cause land degradation. There is therefore a strong need to harmonise the activities of the transport industry with the principles of the NAP.

➤ Wildlife Policy (1998)

The major areas of the wildlife policy are:-

- Improvement of conservation, protection and management of wildlife;
- strengthening and improving the integration of wildlife conservation and utilization with rural development

- encouraging private sector and NGOs participation in wildlife protection;
- conservation and management for sustainable utilization; and
- increase financial earnings and contributions to the national development.

➤ Tourism Policy (1997).

The Tourism Policy which is under review undertakes:

- to develop and promote tourism on the basis of assessed carrying capacity and Environmental Impact Assessment
- to promote environmentally friendly tourism (e.g. ecotourism and orienteering)
- to diversify tourism activities
- to plough back financial benefits from tourism activities to the local communities to motivate them in the conservation of tourism resources.

➤ Agricultural Policy (1997).

The major objective of the agricultural policy is to ensure food security and eradication of rural poverty through promotion of production systems, technologies and practices that are environmentally friendly. Specifically the policy is directed at:

- Improving land husbandry through soil erosion control and soil fertility improvement;
- Minimizing encroachment of public lands including forests, woodlands, wetlands and pastures;
- Strengthening environmentally sound use, monitoring registration and management of agrochemical;
- Promoting mixed farming to intensify biological processes on farmlands through multi cropping, inter-cropping, crop rotation and agroforestry.
- Improving water use efficiency in irrigation, including control of water logging and salination; and
- Promotion of integrated and holistic approaches through land use planning and management

3. MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION.

Tanzania signed the UNCCD in October 1994 but because of lack of funds could not initiate any programme. The NAP process could only be initiated in 1997 after funds were available from the Danish government through UNDP/UNSO.

The institutional measures taken to implement the UNCCD are:

3.1 Establishment of a National Coordinating Body (NCB).

A National Coordinating Body was set up in 1997 in the Vice President's Office. The Office is the authoritative institution for actions on environment on behalf of the entire government. Hence it exercises overall policy formulation, planning, implementation and oversight mandate on environmental matters. It is also involved in coordinating research, monitoring and the implementation of both national and international environmental programmes. These strategic functions of the Vice President's Office form the basis for the effective inter-ministerial cooperation and coordination on environment issues.

The NBC is composed of four organs, which facilitate the implementation of the convention. These are:

(i). The National Steering Committee.

This comprises of the Directors of: Environment in the VPO (Chairperson), Growth Strategies Division in the Planning Commission, Forest and Bee-keeping; and Wildlife; Director General from National Environment Management Council (NEMC); National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) and Meteorology; Commissioners of Agriculture and Livestock, Water, Energy and Minerals, Education, Local Government and Foreign Affairs; Executive Secretary of TANGO and representative from UNDP. This Committee is charged with providing Policy guidance to the other committees and advising the government on the implementation of the NAP process. It is also responsible for supervising, controlling and evaluating the work of its subordinate committees.

(ii). The National Technical Committee.

This Committee is a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary one. It draws its members from different government ministries, institutions, NGOs and the Private Sector. Participating institutions range from the VPOs, Agriculture and Cooperatives, Natural Resources and Tourism, Lands and Human Settlements, Community Development Women Affairs and Children, Finance, Justice and Constitutional Affairs, Water, Energy and Minerals, National Environment Management Council, Planning Commission, Meteorology, UNDP, AGENDA, Tanzania Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture and Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET). The responsibility of this committee is based on its Terms of References, which are:

- Bringing together key stakeholders and fostering partnership.
- Support actions related to awareness creation and proper management of the natural resources.
- Collecting information and data on local organizations.
- Supporting NGOs training efforts for community level capacity building.
- Consolidate operationalise and manage the NAP process.
- Involving all stakeholders in establishing and operationalising a National Desertification Fund.

This committee meets more often as it provides the driving force in the implementation of NAP activities. It works closely with the National Focal Point and the Secretariat.

(iii) The National Secretariat to the NAP.

This is made up of a team of six members; the National Coordinator – Vice President's Office, Ministry of Agriculture and Co-operatives, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, National Environment Management Council, UNDP and UN Volunteer. The Secretariat is responsible for offering technical inputs and facilitation of the NAP process. It is answerable to the National Steering Committee. The Terms of References of this committee are:

- Promoting activities for combating desertification, building on current and previous initiatives.
- Strengthening participatory approaches involving all stakeholders.
- Monitoring the progress of the NAP process and related activities.
- Strengthening sectoral linkages to promote and enhance the process for combating desertification.

(iv). *The National Focal Point.*

The Division of Environment in the Vice President's Office is the Focal point for the NAP. To this effect, a part time National Coordinator whose responsibilities are to lead the NAP Secretariat and the National Technical Committee was appointed. The Focal Point consists of the Coordinator, a Senior Environmentalist (MSc), a project accountant (NAD) and a Participatory Development Specialist UN Volunteer (MA). For programme operations, the Focal Point has access to the following government facilities: office space, office equipment and utilities, stationery, transport etc.

Members of these coordinating organs were nominated by their respective institutions based on education, experience and expertise in fields related to socio-economic and natural resource management. Twenty-three (68%) out of thirty four of these professionals are government officials and 11 (32%) members are from NGOs, the Private Sector and Advisory bodies. The composition of women in this body is about 10%.

The NGOs/CBOs elected the Journalist Environment Association of Tanzania (JET) as the NGO Focal Point on the UNCCD. With this election JET became an automatic member of the National Technical Committee. An NGO Coordinating Committee with ten members has also been established.

3.2 Communication and coordination amongst members of the NCB.

The Technical Committee meets every 2-3 months depending on activities taking place. The activities executed are based on a plan of action prepared by the committee on annual basis, which are normally regulated by the budget. The

NCB does not have a budget of its own but has access to funds allocated to the Division of Environment. Activities implemented are financed through funds, which were made available by the government of Denmark through UNDP/UNSO for the NAP process.

For communicating information amongst members of the NCB and with the stakeholders they represent, the following approaches have been engaged. Members of the NCB have been requested to prepare progress reports for their superiors and colleagues so as to keep them constantly informed on what is the progress. In some instances, minutes of meetings and documents are distributed to the different institutions. Briefings during staff meetings have also been encouraged; for communication amongst members of the committee is mainly through the use of telephone, fax, e-mail, meetings etc. Use has also been made of information centers available in collaborating institutions. The National focal Point does not have a well defined information system apart from some books, pamphlets, fact sheets on the UNCCD in the Coordinators office. A proposal has been put forward to establish a National Information Center (NIC) which will be a source of information to all actors and users of environmental/desertification information. In addition the center will coordinate and set standards on data and information collection, processing, storage, distribution and data exchange.

Other mechanisms for the exchange of information both nationally and internationally has been the preparation and distribution of an environment kit, presentation of progress reports during national and international workshops and meetings. JET has included articles on the NAP in its monthly newsletter that is for free distribution on certain occasions. Article are constantly being prepared for the local newspapers to keep the general public aware of the UNCCD and NAP implementation in the country..

A number of databases relevant to desertification do exist in the country, which can be accessed by the National Focal Point. Existing data bases are on climate, vegetation, soils and drainage, agriculture, population, livestock, forest, geology and wildlife just to mention a few.

The available mechanism for coordination and harmonisation of actions to combat land degradation at National to Local levels has been reviewed. The review has come up with a proposal of establishing a Commission to Combat Desertification. The Commission will be responsible for putting in place a mechanism for the coordination and harmonization of actions, for mobilizing consultations, cooperation and dialogue among the key stakeholders (government, private sector, farmers, local communities, etc.)

3.3 *Activities undertaken by the NCB.*

i). Institutional and capacity building.

This has been reviewed and recommendations have been formulated. A detectable bottleneck here is the inadequate coordination mechanism from national to grass roots level. This is a result of lack of expertise in the environment sector. Training programmes will soon be launched to strengthen and build stakeholders capacities so as to adequately implement the NAP.

ii) NAP as part of the National Economic and Social Development Plan.

A concerted analysis has been made of the existing plans and strategies that are relevant to combating land degradation with a purpose of ensuring complementarity and avoiding duplication. NAP is fully considered as a strategic framework for action in the larger development plan, banking on its bottom-up concept. The principles of the UNCCD on popular participation are acknowledged and adopted in other environmental and development plans. Projects/programmes like Participatory Land Use Management (NLUPC), Agricultural Extension Programme, Tanzania Forestry Action Programme, etc, all these test the myth of participation, partnership and programme approach.

iii) Coherent and functional legal and regulatory framework.

Analysis of the existing legislation has been made. The analysis has revealed that the laws are mostly sector specific though they cover a wide range of environmental issues. The absence of a comprehensive and coordinated environmental law is largely felt which in essence could be an essential component of effective environmental management and improvement of the quality of life. It could be in a position to set demands, impose duties and limits and create obligations and more importantly harmonize other sectoral legislation dealing with natural resources.

The legislative measures aiming at developing and ensuring a greater involvement and responsibility of local population is the registration of NGOs. Tanzania embraces a wide spectrum of NGOs ranging from Social Welfare, developmental, educational, women, youth and research. The regulation framework for these NGOs is based on the Societies Ordinance Cap. 337.

vi) Awareness raising and capacity building.

Measures have also been taken to raise awareness, inform and educate local populations to enhance their participation. The NAP approach on combating land degradation was well presented during the consultative process. Participants included grass roots communities, district functionaries, NGOs and CBOs.

In ensuring real capacity building for and empowerment of local population and authorities to participate in decision making relevant to combating land degradation, a number of measures have been taken. Sectoral and cross-sectoral policies have been harmonized to take account of the local population and authorities' aspirations. The new approach seeks to promote decentralization and empowerment of local governments and communities and facilitate mobilization of necessary resources; human, financial and material, in order to

effectively carry out local and community based programmes. Given accurate information, participants manage to make plans and programmes for their development endeavors. Through NGOs and CBOs such measures could be identified and implemented.

3.4 NGO Forum.

The implementation of UNCCD requires also the involvement of NGOs and CBOs. A UNCCD NGO Coordinating Committee was formed by electing representative organizations from all zones of Tanzania to undertake networking and establishing linkages with other National, Regional and International NGOs in the implementation of UNCCD. Tanzania has been divided into five zones in terms of NGOs/CBOs representation. Each of the zones is represented by at least one NGO/CBO that was selected by consensus at an NGO/CBO Forum held in 1998.

4. THE PARTICIPATORY PROCESS IN SUPPORT OF THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME.

A mechanism for communication to reach local level communities does exist in Tanzania and has been used during the consultation process. The communication is through the Regional and District authorities. Though this national mechanism exists, the National Coordinating body of the UNCCD is mobilising for the establishment of a more effective mechanism. Focal Points at regional and district level need to be appointed and trained so as to appreciate and practise the initiative approach of the UNCCD.

During the awareness raising campaigns the messages delivered were chosen basing on the following; level of understanding of the audience on environmental issues, their expected reaction, time and resources availability. The media used was chosen on the basis of; the geographical location of the targeted audience, coverage and accessibility and the cost involved. Because of the size of the country (945,000)sq. km. and infrastructure problems, it has not been possible to reach all the relevant social and institutional categories in the target areas.

In attaining the objectives of the awareness raising initiatives, six documents on UNCCD were translated into Kiswahili (national language) and are being distributed to local stakeholders and institutions. The translated documents include: the UNCCD facts sheets, Down to Earth, Comic Cartoons to Combat Desertification, Strengthening the Role of Women in the Implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification, JALDA's Study to Prevent Desertification: A NAP Approach, as well as Alternatives and Sustainable Systems of Production and Livelihood in Marginal lands. The number of copies made (1000 copies of each document) seem not to be enough to cover the targeted stakeholders and

institutions. A request shall be made to various donors to facilitate for a further duplication and distribution of these important documents.

Generally the involvement of women in natural resource management at managerial/policy making level is low. In most awareness raising meetings and campaigns on the NAP, participants were dominantly male while female constituted about 10% to 15%. In order to address the empowerment of women in economic development, the government established a fully-fledged Ministry of Community Development, Women Affairs and Children. It is through this ministry that gender issues are dealt with. The Government is in the process of formulating a gender policy.

4.1 The Awareness Raising process

To initiate the implementation of the NAP process, two workshops were organized. One workshop involved members of the technical committee and the second workshop was held for the Task Force on the establishment of an Environment Fund (Desertification) as well as the technical committee. As a follow-up to these workshops, four teams of local experts were formed. The main task of these teams was to make field visits to those areas which are prone to desertification with the objective of sensitizing stakeholders, creating awareness amongst them on the extent of desertification and finally gather relevant data to facilitate implementation of the NAP process.

Terms of Reference were developed to guide the teams in the consultative process. The consultation visits were on zonal basis. One team conducted consultations in the Lake zone (Mwanza, Shinyanga and Mara regions). Another team made consultations in the northern/central zone (Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tabora and Singida regions). A third team visited the souther/central zone (Dodoma, Mbeya, Iringa and Morogoro regions). The last team made consultations in the southern/coastal zone (Mtwara and Lindi regions). In total 13 out of 20 regions of Tanzania mainland was visited. The 13 regions have a total number of 69 districts of which 18 were visited.

The fundamental objectives of the consultative process were:

- To develop an inventory of stakeholders and the extent of drought and desertification in these areas.
- To assess the level of people's awareness in respect of the drought and desertification.
- To identify on going efforts being undertaken by village communities to reverse the desertification trend and the conditions inhibiting reversal of this trend.

- To identify existing community based organizations that will facilitate in setting-up the National Environment Fund - Desertification (NEF-D) and its management.
- To identify NGOs and other institutions which have potential for the successful implementation of the NAP process and the NEF-D.
- To articulate appropriate strategies which will contribute to mitigating the effects of drought as well as combating desertification.

Zonal consultative workshops in respect of the development of a National Action Programme to combat desertification in Tanzania were also organized. These workshops were held in Mwanza for the Lake Zone, Dodoma for the Central Zone and Iringa for the Southern zone. Participants who attended these workshops included representatives of Local Governments, Functional Official responsible for sectors related to land use at district and regional levels, representatives of NGOs and CBOs held their national consultative forum on the participation in the formulation and implementation of the NAP in Dodoma.

The objectives of the consultations were to:

- Identify stakeholders.
- Identify the level of awareness and commitment to address the desertification situation.
- Gather information/data on past experiences and the current challenges related to desertification.
- Agree on CBO/NGO networking arrangements of the formulation and implementation of the NAP

Findings from these consultations revealed that:

- Most stakeholders from national to village levels are quite aware of the causes of land degradation in their localities.
- Some local communities have shown willingness and serious commitment in combating desertification. For example, initiating special programmes like creating reserve areas where people and/or their livestock are not allowed to trespass; enacting bylaws related to safeguarding the environment and enforcing them; forming community based groups which are responsible for working on environmental issues and by forming local environment committees.

Consultations were made with specific groups of stakeholders like women and youth groups in the villages as they were not adequately involved and participating in the general meetings. Another target group of stakeholders was the business community which was reached through the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture which is a member of the National Technical Committee on the implementation of the Convention. Scientific and Academic institutions were reached through the National Environment

Management Council which is also a member of the NAP National Secretariat as well as the Technical Committee.

JET (the NGO focal point on the UNCCD) organized a workshop with NGOs for environmental related activities in the country to create awareness on the UNCCD. An NGO Coordinating Committee was formed to undertake networking and establishing linkages with other National, Regional and International NGOs in the implementation of the UNCCD.

The media is very important for the success of awareness raising campaigns, education and information dissemination to stakeholders. The media has all along participated in almost all of the awareness raising workshops/meeting consultations. At least ten media institutions have participated in such initiatives.

The awareness raising initiatives were organized and implemented by members of the technical committee which includes; government officials, NGOs and public/private institutions. A planning workshop was organized to provide the basic tenets of communication skills to the officials who were involved in the awareness raising initiatives.

Although there is no formal mechanism in place for the continuation of the awareness raising programme, this is a high morale particularly at policy level to make sure there is a constant review of the scourge of desertification and the need to have concerted efforts to address it. Also NGOs and the media are continuously advocating the need to take every effort to combat desertification. The Technical Committee will also continue with its awareness raising initiatives as not all regions/districts were covered during the initial elaboration process. A mechanism is being worked out by the Division of Environment (Vice President's Office) to make sure there is continuous contact with the communities especially during the implementation phase of the NAP.

4.2 *Catalytic support programme.*

The government of Tanzania has implemented a special programme to facilitate popular participation in the NAP process. A sum of US\$ 10,000 was made available by the Australian government to support this programme. The funds were given to Lyumbu women cooperative group in the Dodoma region, which was identified in consultation with the regional authorities and UNCCD NGO focal point.

Upon consultation, the group decided to use the money to foster already started initiatives on the following activities, which are geared at mitigating the effects of drought and poverty alleviation.

- a) construction of a water well
- b) establishment of a tree nursery

- c) establishment of community gardens
- d) establishment of a small scale handcrafts center
- e) building of ox-carts and purchase of ox-ploughs
- f) establishment of biogas plant
- g) Most of the proposed activities have been implemented. However the programme has not yet been very successful due to severe water shortage problems as the construction of the water well is not yet completed.

4.3 Information centers and network .

A mechanism for communicating with stakeholders has been established through the following; distribution of reports and minutes of meetings to relevant target groups; use of telephone, media; use of institutional/organizational information centers and networks. These include the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), Tanzania Natural Resources Information Center (TANRIC), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), University College of Lands and Architectural Studies (UCLAS). The National Coordinating Body is proposing to have its own information center. This will facilitate a two-way flow of information where stakeholders will be able to make their contributions towards the NAP process. The opportunity for the exchange of information with local communities was during the consultations and the various measures on the NAP as elaborated in the foregoing chapters. Their contributions have been the basis for the formulation of the action programme.

The relationship between national level actors and local level implementers is that the latter undertake activities which are within the national strategies. The national strategies are decided at the national level with input from the local level. The local level implementers develop their own plans and modalities for implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The local levels submit progress reports to the national level.

5. THE CONSULTATIVE PROCESS WITH DEVELOPED COUNTRY PARTIES AND OTHER INTERESTED ENTITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME.

One of the principles of the Convention to Combat Desertification is the involvement of all stakeholders at all the stages of the NAP process. Some of the key stakeholders in the implementation of this Convention are the international partners and other potential foreign actors. The government of Tanzania is committed to doing all what is possible to ensure there is continuous participation of the international community.

International partners who are represented in the country including others who are not represented were invited and they participated in the national forum on

the National Environment Fund (Desertification), as well as the First National forum on NAP.

The partners who were invited attended the fora and were represented by their technical officers. Some Ambassadors and Heads of Missions participated during the official opening and/or closing sessions.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was invited to be a member of the National Steering Committee and the National Secretariat on the implementation of the convention. The presence of UNDP in these committees has provided a link between the National Coordinating Body and the international partners. UNDP has been requested to continuously brief the donor community on the progress of the NAP process during the monthly donor meetings.

Several partners have also been approached on bilateral bases to solicit their involvement in the NAP process especially in preparation for the post forum activities. Some of the partners approached have expressed interest in supporting the implementation of the National Action Programme. Partners approached include; IFAD, DANIDA, SIDA, UNDP, USAID, NORAD, etc.

The gravity and consequences of the problem of land degradation are also being addressed squarely by policy makers and have taken top priority on the political agenda. Political statements are made at both national and international conferences, alerting, and particularly the international community of the importance attached by government to the problem of land degradation and the need for support where necessary.

6. THE MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME

According to article 10 of the UNCCD, the fundamental purpose of the NAP has been met through considering the previous experiences on the strategies for combating desertification whereby several initiatives and programmes tried before the Convention were considered in the NAP formulation process.

Some of these initiatives are currently ongoing and some have been adopted wholly as they were felt by stakeholders to be effective.

It was in this spirit that a diagnosis had to be made of past experiences so that the same experiences could be used in the formulation of the NAP. This exercise was delegated to National and International consultants. Consultations were undertaken and efforts were made to ensure that stakeholders were consulted including local level actors and community based organizations. In addition, the consultants went through a review of literature including relevant policy frameworks on natural resource management for combating desertification and drought mitigation. The consultants also reviewed all on going projects and programmes relevant to the new approach, plans and policies.

The reports and recommendations of the consultants were used during the preparation of the NAP draft document. The analysis of on-going projects has made it possible to identify all those projects that are to be incorporated into the NAP and how they should be adapted for the NAP process. Recommendations have been made on how on going projects should be coordinated and implemented during the NAP implementation phase.

The NAP process has come up with six new programmes for combating desertification and drought mitigation. These are:

- a) Programmes for empowerment of local communities to conserve and manage their own resources.
- b) Education, Awareness and Capacity building programmes for all stakeholders particularly NGOs/CBOs.
- c) Technology acquisition and dissemination (including indigenous knowledge)
- d) Population growth control Programmes
- f) Gender mainstreaming for the implementation of UNCCD programmes.
- g) Environmental Information Systems Development and management programmes.

Considerations have been made on the priority programmes falling under the Sub Regional Action Programmes that are as well being implemented at national level. This was done to make sure there are no conflicts between the National and Sub-regional programmes. The programmes being implemented that have sub-regional or regional dimensions include the National Plan of Action on Agenda 21, Tropical Forestry Action Plan and the National Soil and Water Conservation Programme.

Measures have been identified and recommendations made in the draft NAP document to improve the economic environment of the local population. Peoples participation has been recognized as an essential component and should be part and parcel of the NAP process. Poverty alleviation strategies have been identified and more will be formulated and put in place to reduce the rate of dependency on the exploitation of natural resources, which leads to its depletion.

The National Scientific and Technical Institutions are actively and effectively participating in the Sub-regional, Regional and International networks. Institutions such as the Institute of Resources Assessment (IRA), University College of Lands and Architectural Studies (UCLAS), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) are typical examples of such institutions.

Tanzania has also submitted to the CCD secretariat a list of experts to be included in the roster of independent experts. Initially a list of 19 experts has been submitted and will be updated from time to time.

Measures in local capacity building.

The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Administration has the technical capacity of undertaking this component of local capacity building. It has a reputable training institute specifically for Local Government Administrators. The local authorities are mandated to create the area specific needs assessment and deal with related issues on local terms with a view to enhancing local initiative and self-reliance.

7. FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FROM NATIONAL BUDGETS AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

7.1 The National Environment Fund-Desertification.

The government of Tanzania through the NCB has decided to establish a NEF-D as a permanent mechanism to finance as much as possible the implementation of the NAP. This mechanism favours the accessibility of funds to local level actors.

The NCB appointed a task force to work on the establishment of the fund. The task force consisted of members from government departments, the private sector and the NGO community. The task force in collaboration with the Technical Committee carried out consultations on the establishment of the fund. These consultations aimed at reaching all stakeholders including; the donor community, government departments, NGOs and CBOs, the Private Sector and local communities.

UNSO supported the process by making available the services of an International consultant to advise on the process. National consultants were commissioned to prepare background documents on the establishment of the fund. A National Forum was held in May 1998 and it endorsed the establishment of a Trust Fund by Deed that will later be replaced by a Fund by legislation. A Memorandum of Association that will enable registration and subsequent establishment of the fund has been prepared. It is anticipated that the fund will offer grants for social projects and soft loans for income generating activities in the dryland areas.

7.2 Support from National Budget.

The government of Tanzania has contributed towards the development and implementation of the NAP process in the country. The contributions to the NAP process as well as to other UNCCD activities have been in terms of:

- a) provision of man power.

The facilitation and implementation of the UNCCD in Tanzania is totally being done by Tanzanians themselves who are employees of the government drawn from various departments.

b) provision of office space and other services

The government is providing office space and secretarial services, transport, sundries and exemptions from tax for all material and equipment imported from abroad for the UNCCD activities.

7.3 Financial Assistance.

Following the adoption of the UNCCD, the government of Tanzania approached UNDP to facilitate the initial implementation of the NAP process. UNDP responded through UNSO by providing a sum of US \$ 350 000 which was made available by the government of Denmark. The sum enabled the participation of the NCB in the consultative process and subsequent formulation of the action programme. A further US \$ 30,000 was offered by the Danish government for facilitating the establishment of a National Environment Fund-Desertification.

Also a sum of US\$ 200,000 was provided by UNDP/UNSO to implement a pilot project on "Farmer innovations on soil and water conservation" in the dry lands of Tanzania.

The UNCCD Secretariat has supported the participation of two delegates to INCD meetings and to the Conference of the Parties. In addition, local participants have been funded to participate in regional consultative meetings and workshops.

SADC-ELMS has also supported the attendance of national participants to Sub-regional workshops and consultative meetings.

The Australian government through UNSO provided a sum of US\$ 10,000 for catalytic support for stimulating popular participation in decision making through financing of local level projects.

7.4 Technical cooperation received

Tanzania has been receiving technical support in the form of experts and consultative advice on the NAP process from a number of collaborating partners including; UNDP/UNSO, SADC-ELMS, CCD Secretariat, Australian government etc. UNDP/UNSO and SADC-ELMS have constantly been providing technical backstopping.

Through UNSO, the UNV programme in Bonn has made it possible to engage a National UNV to support the Focal Point and Coordinating Body in the implementation of the NAP process.

7.5 Financial and Technical Cooperation needed and Prioritization of requirements.

A project proposal has been prepared and will be forwarded to donors for supporting the implementation of NAP activities. A sum of US\$ 230,000 is urgently required partly, to sustain the NAP initiate the implementation phase

The proposal pursues to undertake the following;

- To improve institutional arrangements at district level i.e. training programmes for the districts focal points.
- Continuous Training for NGOs and CBOs to facilitate them to become more efficient in carrying out UNCCD activities on the ground.
- Facilitating and improving traditional skills on soil conservation, management of catchment areas, conservation of natural forests and habitats.
- Involvement of the stakeholders on executing on-farm research activities which focus on the management of natural resources and poverty alleviation in the rural areas.
- To carry out sensitization, consultations and awareness raising activities in areas that were not covered in the initial support.
- Promote involvement of the media in the implementation of the UNCCD activities in Tanzania.
- To continue participating in various international initiatives on the implementation of the UNCCD activities.

A sum of US\$ 30 million has been identified as the basic requirement to operationalise the National Environment Fund - Desertification.

On the technical side the UNV support is highly appreciated and should be extended if possible. In addition experts in the form of consultants will be required to initiate the implementation of programmes identified in the NAP as we enter the implementation phase.

8. A REVIEW OF THE BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS UTILIZED TO MEASURE PROGRESS AND AN ASSESSMENT THEREOF.

An institution responsible for the observation and monitoring of the environment at technical level exists. However this institution, the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has not been able to put in place a monitoring mechanism due to a number of reasons including financial inadequacy.

For the purpose of assessing progress on the NAP process benchmarks and indicators adopted by SADC member states were used.

The table below shows the state of affairs in the implementation of the NAP process in Tanzania.

A REVIEW OF BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS TO MEASURE PROGRESS

No.	Benchmarks	Indicators	Remarks
1	Institutions in place National Coordinating Unit Focal Point Implementing institution	Legal status Resources Intersectoral and multidisciplinary character Composition and mode of operation Terms of References Senior experts representing various institutions Continuity Established time frame	Established by the Vice President's Office Not enough resources available Committees are intersectoral and multidisciplinary - Focal point responsible for the day to day operations with support of the National Secretariat Has TORs Yes is composed of senior experts No changes to date Plan of action with time frame
2	Effective participation of actors involved in identifying national priorities	Methods of participation of various actors Representativeness of various actors in the national priorities identification process Nature and scope of information, education and communications action Extent of uptake of: -local concerns at the national level -results of national consultations at the local level	Through representation in the NCB Attendance in meetings and workshops Broader representations during the consultative process Through workshops, meetings, distribution of translated and other documents Through the consultation process at the grassroot level -Not yet implemented

		Inventory of key stakeholders	There is an inventory of stakeholders
3	Support from international partners	Degree of participation of international partners Establishment of an informal consultation and humanization process for actions between partner countries	Degree of participation has been positive Donor monthly meetings
4	Institutional framework for coherent and functional desertification control	Measure identified or adopted to adjust or strengthen the institutional framework Measure adopted to strengthen existing institutions at the local levels	Still being worked out Yes measures have been identified and at the planning phase
5	NAPs as part of national economic and social development planning	Making the NAP coherent with other environmental strategic frameworks and vice-versa Inter-linking of nap with national, regional and local approaches Inter-linkages of NAP with sub-regional action programme Agreement by the government Integration of NAP into national development plans and taking account of existing programmes Specific programmes emerging from policy statements	Review of ongoing programmes Done Done NAP not yet adopted by government Not yet undertaken Yes a number of programmes are in place, tree planting, etc

6	Harmonized legal and regulatory framework impacting on the environment	Analysis of the legislation and enforcement of laws on the environment Measures to adapt current legislation or introduce new ones Policies piloted for the implementation of the NAP	Analysis done but adaptation of laws and their enforcement still to be done Under review Review of policies
7	Adopted financial mechanisms	Measures to facilitate the access of local actors to existing sources of funds Working out new, adapted methods to mobilize internal and external resources Facilitation funds established	Assisting local level actors with the preparation of project proposals Making requests for the implementation of projects at local level Still to be put in place National Environment Fund-Desertification to be established
8	Established (technical) programmes to combat desertification	Inventory, adaptation and integration of projects underway within the NAP process Identification of new actions Actions to strengthen national and local capacity to combat desertification	Done Done Identified and proposed on NAP
9	Established mechanisms and norms and standards for monitoring and evaluation	Establishment and/or strengthening of environmental monitoring and observation capacities Established mechanism and criteria for monitoring the impacts of NAP formulation	Not yet done Not yet fully established

		Established unit to undertake the monitoring and evaluation Established norms and standards	not yet in place Not yet in place
10	Review of NAPs and commitment by partners	Approval and acceptance of the NAP actors involved Adequate resources committed Partnership agreement adopted	

9. CONCLUSIONS

Tanzania has implemented a number of activities related to UNCCD. In the process, remarkable achievements have been those related to sensitization and awareness creation. Most stakeholders involved in the consultations showed a considerable level of awareness on the causes of desertification.

However, there were many problems encountered which affected the efficiency at which implementation of the convention could be carried out. These are related to the diversity of the country, funding and inadequate communication between the focal point and the grass roots.

Implementation of the NAP requires active involvement and participation of all the stake holders. Different programmes and campaigns are being implemented to compliment the UNCCD/NAP. The recent 100 million tree planting campaign by the government throughout the country by year 2000 is one of the vivid examples. Likewise donors continue funding various activities related to the UNCCD/NAP.

The experience from the catalytic support has shown that communities are able to undertake activities on combating land degradation. Given opportunity they are able to initiate their own programmes and apply their traditional knowledge.

The anticipation of smooth implementation of the NAP will depend on several factors including financial availability and technical support. Political will seem to be high.