

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



**THE SECOND NATIONAL REPORT
ON**

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN CONVENTION
TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION (UNCCD)**

**VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE
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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ACP-EU	-	Africa- Caribbean-Pacific –European Union And Land Management Sector
CBD	-	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBOs	-	Community Based Organizations .
CDI	-	Capacity Development Initiative
CDW	-	Country Dialogue Workshop
COP	-	Conference of the Parties
CSD	-	Commission on Sustainable Development
DANIDA	-	Danish International Development Agency
EDF	-	European Development Fund
EIA	-	Environmental Impact assessment
GEF	-	Global Environmental Facility
IFAD	-	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IRA	-	Institute of Resource Assessment
JET	-	Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania
LDC	-	Least Developed Countries
NAP	-	National Action Programme.
NAPA	-	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NBSAP	-	National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCB	-	National Coordinating Body.
NEMC	-	National Environment Management Council
NFP	-	National Focal Point.
NGOs	-	Non-Governmental Organizations.
NORAD	-	Norwegian International Development Agency
PRSP	-	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SADC-ELMS	-	Southern African Development Community – Environment Special Office to Combat Desertification.
UCLAS	-	University College of Lands and Architectural Studies
UNCCD	-	United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification.
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme

UNDP/UNSO-		United Nations Development Programme/United Nations
UNFCCC	-	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNITAR	-	United Nations Institute of Training and Research
USAID	-	United States Agency for International Development
VPO	-	Vice President's Office
WSSD	-	World Summit on Sustainable Development

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.

Several initiatives were deployed soon after the signing and ratification of the convention. These initiatives were elaborated in the First National Report on the Implementation of the UNCCD in Tanzania in 1999. Since the first reporting, Tanzania has continued its effort towards combating desertification. During this second reporting, a number of initiatives have been made:-

- Political will has grown – In recognition of the importance of environment issues; the parliament established a Parliamentary Committee on Environmental in 2001. Its establishment is a clear testimony of the government's commitment on issues related to environment particularly land degradation.
- Formulation and completion of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) in 2000. This strategy and action plan addresses issues on the following thematic areas: Strategies and action plans for the management of aquatic biodiversity; Strategies and action plans for the management of agro-biodiversity and Strategies and action plans for the management of terrestrial biodiversity.

- More participation of stakeholders in the implementation of the action programme – Several NGOs/CBOs were assisted in order to take part in the implementation of priority programmes of the NAP
- Mainstreaming of environmental issues into the Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper 2001 – Environmental issues were integrated and mainstreamed into the PRSP due to its intersectoral nature. Further more issues of the NAP were also integrated in the Rural Development Strategy 2001 and the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy 2001.
- Resource mobilization for the implementation of the NAP – Cognizant of the scarcity of financial resources for the implementation of the convention, measures were taken to integrate the priority activities of the NAP into the ACP – EU Partnership Agreement as a resource mobilization strategy. As a result of this development, NAP implementation will be considered for support through the Ninth European Development Fund (EDF 9) from 2002. Furthermore efforts have been made to continue approaching donors and other developing partners to solicit financial and technical support in the implementation of the convention. To this effect, IFAD was approached and provided financial support in 2002 to the tune of US\$ 126,000 to support some of the activities of the NAP. The UNCCD Secretariat in 2001 provided a total of US\$ 23,000 as financial support to hold a National Synergy Workshop which had the main objective of exploring the opportunities of implementing the four conventions (UNCCD, UNFCCC, CBD and Ramsar) in a concerted and coordinated manner so as to avoid duplication of efforts, build on synergy and efficient utilization of scarce financial resources.
- Policies - Efforts are continuing to streamline existing policies with a view to enhancing synergy and complementarity. This will reduce duplication of efforts and better allocate the meager resources. Furthermore, various

policies are being updated so that they take on board socio economic changes that have occurred (refer to First Report section 2.4). One of the main outcomes of this exercise is the formulation of the National Policy on Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), which was adopted in 2001. The overall objective of this policy is to create an enabling environment for the NGOs to operate effectively and efficiently in the social and economic transformation of the country. The government recognizes the significant role and contributions of NGOs in the society and considers them as important partners in the development process.

1. INTRODUCTION

This document is the Second 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 sq. km. An assessment of the desertification situation has revealed three categories. The first category includes areas that are slightly or not degraded. The second category comprises of areas, which are moderately degraded. The third include areas, which are severely degraded. The dry land area 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 had significantly reduced the economic productivity of the 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 continued to escalate. Cognizant of the dangers which this condition posed, Tanzania resolved to join hands with the international community in its endeavor to obtain over lasting solutions to this problem.

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 and long term integrated strategies which if properly implemented will have a dual focus which are: improving the productivity of land through rehabilitation and conservation-cum-sustainable management of land and water sources; improved living conditions of the people more specifically at the grass root level.

Tanzania signed and ratified the UNCCD in 1994 and 1997 respectively. Since then, several measures have been undertaken as steps towards its implementation. These measures are articulated in different sections of this Second National Report on the implementation of UNCCD and were complimenting measures taken in the first national report.

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

2.1. Current Programmes.

i) National Biological Diversity Strategy and Action Plan.

The National Biological Diversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) was completed in 2001 and addresses the following thematic areas:

- Strategies and action plans for the management of aquatic biodiversity;
- Strategies and action plans for the management of agro-biodiversity; and
- Strategies and action plans for the management of terrestrial biodiversity.

Many of the programmes on the management of terrestrial and agro-biodiversity are complimentary to those identified in the NAP. The second national report on the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity is under preparation and will be concluded by the end of this year.

(ii). National Action Plan on Climate Change.

Currently the Vice President's Office is finalizing the process for putting in place a National Action Plan on Climate Change. Since Tanzania is an LDC, it has also started preparing a National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in order to identify vulnerable sectors and put in place measures and

programmes to adapt to the changing climate. The preparation of NAPA builds on the consultative process that was undertaken to prepare NAP. Many of the areas for adapting to climate change will be a reflection of how to deal with extreme weather events including excessive drought. This report will identify the implications, mitigation and adaptation measures to the formidable global warming.

(III) Capacity Development Initiative (CDI)

The Global Environmental Facility (GEF) is undertaking a Capacity Development Initiative to ensure that capacity needs are assessed and capacity built in the areas of climate change, Biodiversity and land degradation. Since 2000, Tanzania has participated in this initiative and is currently working on the assessment of capacity needs in the various sectors and institutions in the context of these three areas of focus of GEF. This is built on the other initiatives that GEF has undertaken in Tanzania to ensure that funds can be accessed and utilized efficiently to undertake programmes and projects in the priority areas of climate change, biodiversity and land degradation.

As part of a comprehensive approach to addressing the implementation of the three sister conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD), GEF in November 2000, sponsored a Country Dialogue Workshop (CDW) with a view to raising awareness on the possible areas for funding within the context of those three conventions. This three-day workshop brought together over 150 participants including members of parliament, the media, academia, NGOs and Government ministries and institutions.

(IV) Implementation of Agenda 21 and preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

A national report for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) has been prepared through a consultative process. This national report is to be presented at the WSSD in Johannesburg August/Sept 2002. The National Report, which has identified failure, gaps and success in the implementation of Agenda 21 for the past 10 years, has contributed significantly to the sub regional and regional processes and Tanzania has made significant inputs in the current negotiations under the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In the current negotiations, the following are the main concerns of Tanzania which need to remain high on the agenda for the WSSD:-

- Issues related to combating desertification
- Support to adopt to and deal with climate change
- Promotion of community based initiatives in rural resources management
- Development and sustainable use of wetlands and mountain ecosystem
- Development of tourism including eco tourism
- Sustainable human settlement
- Support to refugee hosting countries
- Development of the livestock sector
- Access to affordable and diversified energy sources in rural areas including development of natural gas and other sources of energy (both renewable and non renewable)

(v) National Rural Development Strategy 2001

This Strategy has been prepared by the President's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government and is geared towards establishing a

sustainable development strategy for rural areas towards eradicating poverty at the same time conserving the environment. The report was concluded in 2001. The main focus is rural infrastructure development, agriculture, agro-industries and other sectors of production that will ensure both social and economic development through a decentralized set up.

(vi) Agriculture Sector Development Strategy 2001

The strategy aims at revamping the sector so as to bring about poverty eradication and self-sufficiency in food. Issues related to land degradation have been integrated in this strategy and also into the Agricultural Sector Development Programme in order to effectively address them. This strategy was concluded in 2001. Subsequent to this development, the Agriculture Sector Development Programme will soon be launched.

(vii) Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) 2000

The paper encompasses environment as a key cross cutting issue towards poverty eradication. The PRSP is an integral part of the HIPIC process, focusing mainly on poverty alleviation, subject to a relatively hard (central Government) budget constraint. HIPIC completion point was reached in 2001.

(viii) National Irrigation Master Plan

This is a countrywide plan, which is under preparation and attempts to revamp agriculture through irrigation technology in order to boost food production.

(ix) Small Grant Programme

The GEF Small Grant Programme was officially launched in 1994 and actual funding of the programmes and projects started towards the end of 1999. An

average of 20 small projects in areas of land degradation, biodiversity, climate change and crosscutting issues are being funded every year. Most of the projects funded were involved in activities related to promotion of use of biogas technology, promotion of use of solar energy in rural areas, tree planting in degraded areas, promotion of wind powered irrigation technique etc. The programme is implemented by UNDP and executed by the Vice President's Office. The National UNCCD coordinator is the VPO representative to the Small Grant Programme Selection Committee.

Many of the above programmes /initiatives are funded by the government supplemented by donor contributions.

2.2 Policies

Efforts are continuing to streamline existing policies with a view to enhancing synergy and complementarity. This will reduce duplication of efforts and better allocate the meager resources. Further, various policies are being updated so that they take on board socio economic changes that have occurred (refer to First Report section 2.4).

2.2.1. The National Policy on NGOs

This policy was adopted in November 2001. The overall objective of this policy is to create an enabling environment for the NGOs to operate effectively and efficiently in the social and economic transformation of the country. Since NGOs have a role to play in the provision of social and economic services, the government encourages partnership with NGOs and the private sector to complement on government efforts. The government recognizes the significant role and contributions of NGOs in the society and considers them as important partners in the development process. It has been therefore the interest of the

government to create a conducive and enabling environment to ensure that NGOs potentials are fully utilized.

The implementation of this policy will require the participation of all actors at different levels. These will include all local and international NGOs, Ministry responsible for NGOs coordination which is the Vice President's Office, umbrella NGOs and networks, Government ministries, Local government Authorities and National NGOs Body. All these key players for implementation will work together to ensure the effective implementation of this Policy and related strategies and programmes.

3. INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE CONVENTION.

- At the end of 2001 a Synergy Workshop among the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UNFCCC, UNCCD and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was organized to see how the four conventions could be implemented in a concerted and coordinated manner in order to avoid duplication of efforts and lead to efficient utilization of resources. One of the key output from this workshop was the establishment of a Multi-Sectoral Technical Committee including private sector, NGOs and CBOs for these conventions to address issues of synergies amongst them.
- The NCB for the UNCCD has initiated a procedure of regularly meeting with NCBs of other Conventions
- National Parliamentary Committee on Environment was formed in 2000 in order to enhance awareness of policy makers on the importance of environmental issues and hence be able to give the environment its accorded importance.

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

4.1 *Participation of stakeholders.*

- 15 NGOs from the affected areas in the country were facilitated through catalytic support to undertake activities related to combating desertification.
- JET, which is the National NGO Focal Point, was supported by the NAP Focal Point to produce the Newsletter with the information on land degradation/desertification, which is circulated to all zones in the country as a measure to enhance awareness on issues related to desertification.
- Two women CBOs Iyumbu and Mazimbu women groups were given catalytic support for activities related to combating desertification

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

- Integration of NAP activities into the ACP-EU Partnership. Through this partnership, priority activities under the NAP will be supported through the Ninth European Development Fund (EDF 9).
- UNDP Dryland Development Centre (UNDDC) for Dryland Management. A dryland development programme has been initiated involving 16 African countries including Tanzania. The programme covers the areas of:
 - Mainstreaming land degradation and desertification issues in the planning and financing.
 - Managing droughts and desertification at local level.
 - Poverty eradication related activities.

- IFAD provided financial support to the tune of US\$ 126,000 to assist in the implementation of some of the NAP priority activities.
- Cross border project proposals were jointly prepared and submitted to donors including GEF for funding. These include:
 - Conservation of Dryland Biodiversity in the Monduli – Amboseli : A project to be funded by GEF and it will be implemented by Tanzania and Kenya. It has been endorsed by GEF for funding.
 - Combating land degradation through conservation of biodiversity in the Upper Catchments of Kagera River Basin: A GEF project proposal to be implemented by Tanzania, Uganda and Rwanda. It has not yet been endorsed for funding although PDF A was released and consultations with countries made.
 - An inventory is being compiled on transboundary natural resources management and land management projects in the country with the support from SADC-ELMS.

6.0 MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMME

6.1. *Measures taken*

- Synergy Workshop December 2001: – At the end of 2001 a Synergy Workshop among the CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD and the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands was organized to see how the four conventions could be implemented in a concerted and coordinated manner in order to avoid duplication of efforts and efficient utilization of resources.

6.2 Measures planned

- Inventory of Transboundary natural resources management Projects by SADC- ELMS.
- Proposed various Programmes/projects to donors: EU, SADC-hub

7. FINANCIAL ALLOCATIONS FROM NATIONAL BUDGETS AS WELL AS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION RECEIVED AND NEEDED, IDENTIFYING AND PRIORITIZING REQUIREMENTS

7.1 National budget.

- The process to register the National Desertification Fund is underway.
- ACP – EU Partnership funding will be through national budget.

7.2 Financial assistance received and needed

- IFAD provided a financial support to the UNCCD Focal Point in the tune of US \$ 126,000 to assist in the implementation of the activities of NAP. The support was for a period of eight months starting from January 2002.
- A project proposal on Information Sharing on the Internet as part of UNCCD implementation – SISEI has been prepared and submitted to UNITAR for financial support for the year 2002.
- A proposal to be supported by the SADC-Hub on the implementation of the NAP has been prepared and submitted to SADC-ELMS for funding.

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

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.	Indicators	Evaluation parameters	Remarks
1	Effective participation of actors in defining national priorities	<p>Methods of participation of various actors</p> <p>Representativeness of various actors in the national priorities identification process.</p> <p>Involving stakeholders in the implementation of the NAP activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through representation in the NCB • Attendance in meetings and workshops/seminars • Broader representations during the consultative process • Catalytic support has been extended to NGOs/CBOs in various parts of the country.
2	Effective Support from international partners for cooperation	Degree of participation from international partners	Degree of participation has been positive. ACP-EU Partnership through Cotonou Agreement has been effected
3	Institutional framework for coherent and functional desertification control	Measures identified or adopted to adjust or strengthen the institutional framework	Institutional framework already proposed and it is waiting Government approval.
4	NAP as part of national economic and social development and environment protection plans	Making the NAP coherent with other environmental strategic frameworks and vice-versa	Integration of NAP into the national economic and social development planning is regularly being

No.	Indicators	Evaluation parameters	Remarks
5	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	undertaken. This involves integration in the PRSP, ADS and ASDS. Analysis done but adaptation of laws and their enforcement skill underway. Under review Review of policies
6	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	Assisting local level actors with the preparation of project proposals Making financial requests for the implementation of projects at local level is being prepared
7	Established technical programmes and functional integrated projects 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	Continuing Done Identified and proposed on NAP
8	Operational mechanisms 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 fully established Not yet fully established

No.	Indicators	Evaluation parameters	Remarks
		Established unit to undertake the monitoring and evaluation Established norms and standards	Not yet fully established
9	Review of NAP and commitment by partners	Approval and acceptance of the NAP by actors involved Adequate resources committed Partnership agreement adopted	NAP accepted by actors Resources still inadequate Agreement still underway

9. CONCLUSIONS

Tanzania has implemented a number of activities related to UNCCD during the reporting period. In the process, remarkable achievements have been those related to sensitization, awareness creation and implementation of the some of the NAP activities.

Most stakeholders showed a considerable level of awareness on the causes of land degradation/desertification. During the reporting period, 15 NGOs/CBOs were supported through Catalytic support under the NAP Focal Point in the implementation of some of the NAP activities in their areas. These NGOs/CBOs were from the affected dryland areas. Different programmes and campaigns are being implemented to compliment the UNCCD/NAP.

Another major milestone during the period was the Integration of NAP priority activities into the national development planning process. The NAP has been integrated into the Rural Development Strategy, the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy/Programme and also in the PRSP.

Furthermore, political will on environmental issues has been high. The establishment of the National Parliamentary Committee on Environment is a clear testimony of this trend.

As a resource mobilization strategy, NAP priority activities were integrated into the ACP-EU Partnership Arrangement under the Cotonou Agreement, whereby its activities will be supported through the Ninth European Development Fund (EDF9). However more effort is being made to mobilize more resources from other donors/development partners in order to meet the expectations of NAP.