

HIMA MAKETE

MAKETE DISTRICT COUNCIL NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION
AND LAND USE MANAGEMENT PROJECT.

Joint Forest Management activities for Numbe Valley Forest Reserve, 1999 - Makete District.

Current status ,relevance, strategies and approach to farmers.

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A discussion paper to the Inter project Forestry Technical Meeting
in Iringa District (Mazombe SC.) on 6-7/5/1999.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Numbe Valley Forest Reserve which falls under the authority of Central Government is among the most important state forest in Makete District as well as National wise. It has been selected by HIMA Makete to be a pilot area for a joint forest management approach (JFM) for Central Government Forest reserves where adjacent communities will be involved in sustainable management of the forest resources.

Several discussions with different levels (villages, district, regional and the Forestry and Beekeeping Division (FBD) were done. At ministerial level, the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping Division made discussions with the former RCFO Iringa, DCFO Makete District, and Manager of HIMA Makete on 22/7/1996. The DCFO Makete District presented a paper concerning initiation of Joint Forest Management for the Numbe Valley Forest Reserve to the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping on 9.2.1999 discussing the possibilities of implementing joint forest management plans for the Numbe Valley Forest Reserve. The discussions were positive and the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping informed that, for Central Government Forest reserves (catchment forests), contracts between the villagers, the District council and the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping on managing the forest reserves through involvement of the communities living adjacent to the Forest reserves should be made so as to be able to monitor management activities during the implementation of JFM plans. He also narrated that, currently the Ministry is preparing the general guardlines for JFM which will be followed by all districts instead of each one making its agreement for each state forest which is within the district. JFM should start in small natural forests as the pilot areas (Liz Willy, 1994). According to HIMA Makete project action plan (1998 - 2002), a joint forest management is one of the activities which will be implemented following the adoption of JFM procedures.

HIMA Iringa has prepared a Forest Management Plan for Kitemele, Kilanzi Kitunguru and Kamwemba Forest Reserves for the purpose of joint forest management and submitted it to the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping who approved it for the implementation.

Since HIMA Iringa and HIMA Makete are sister projects and are in the same region (Iringa region), funded by one donor (DANIDA), RPMU being the coordinator and are trying to implement the same activity, it is proposed to have the same joint forest management plan for Central Government Forest reserves using similar procedures. HIMA Makete will try to use similar procedures of the Udzungwa Forest Management plan from 1999 - 2002), **Mr. Mashurano** from the FBD informed **Mr. Makiya (DCFO)** Makete on 1/2/1999) through a telephone. Various activities and operations concerning Numbe Valley Forest Reserve outside and inside the forest have been done for the period from 1994 to early 1999 through DANIDA funds, and the donor has put efforts to continue supporting the management of natural forests through JFM for the 1999-2002.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF NUMBE VALLEY FOREST RESERVE.

Numbe valley Forest Reserve is a Central Government Forest reserve established and gazetted in 1955, Map JB 234 and a declaration GNT notice No. 18 of 30/3/1956. It is a montane rain forest having a high catchment value and the big river (Ndumbi) which starts from this forest. A re-surveying of the forest to know the exact area of the forest was done in 1994/1995 by the surveyors from the FBD - Survey and Inventory Section. Through the initiatives of the Matamba Subcenter Facilitator, (Mr. Mads Hansen), the **Sustainable Management of Usangu Wetlands and its Catchment (SMUWC) project**, having headquarters in Rujewa - Mbarali will assist Makete District in taking the aerial photographs for the Numbe Valley Forest Reserve and its microcatchment in May/June, 1999. The aim for the aerial photos is to get good quality maps with accurate current informations.

Description of the forest before and after re-surveying is shown on the table below:-

Before re-surveying	After re-surveying
Map JB No. 234	Map JB No. 2279
Ownership - T.T	Ownership - T.T
Area (Protective) - 2738.5 ha	Area protective - 2620 ha.
Declaration Govt. Notice No.18 of 30.3.1996	-
No. of beacons - N/A	No. of Beacons 416
Boundary length - N/A	Boundary length - 29.7 km
Topo sheet: 246/3 - Chimala sheet 260/1 - Ndumbe river sheet	Topo sheet: 246/3 - Chimala sheet 260/1 - Ndumbe river sheet

The altitude of the forest ranges from 220 - 3000 M.A.S.L The UTM co-ordinates on the map ranges from (604000-614000, 9001500-8999000).

Location:

The forest is situated in the central and eastern part of the southern highlands about 300 kms southwest of Iringa Municipality and about 12 kms East of Matamba Division head quarter. The easiest accessibility to the forest reserve is from Chimala→Matamba Division Head Quarter →Lugoda Village to Numbe Valley Forest Reserve. Access is also possible from the villages of Ujuni in Kitulo and Nkondo in Ikuwo Wards.

The forest is situated in the deep Numbe Valley and is encompassed by the Uwanji and Numbe mountains to the North and west respectively, Kitulo plateau to the South and Kipengere Range to the east. The forest is covered by a closed montane rain forest and patches of mountain bamboo to the Numbe Valley and grasslands to the ridges/top of the hills. The big river called Numbe Valley (Ndumbi river) originates from this forest and is feeding water into the Great Ruaha river which goes to Mtera and Kidatu dams for production of electricity.

The river is also supplying water to various National Irrigation Schemes (Kapunga, Usangu and Kimani) in Usangu plains.

Vegetation:

A Botanical Inventory has not been conducted, but according to local informations, the main dominating species are:-

- * *Juniperus procera*
- * *Hagenia abyssinica*
- * *Syzygium cordatum* and *S. quineense*
- * *Padocarpus Usambarensis*
- * *Catha edulis*
- * *Khaya niasca*
- * *Arundinaria alpina.*

According to HIMA Makete action plan 1998 - 2002 a forest inventory and a botanical surveys are expected to be conducted in July/August 1999.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SITUATION.

Four villages are adjacent to the forest reserve and have traditional primary use rights to Numbe Valley Forest Reserve, Mvena and Kajembe, 1997). Their survey showed that, the villages which are adjacent to Numbe Valley forest reserve have the following populations:-

Ujuni	-	2,000
Nkondo	-	1,188
Lugoda	-	576
Igenge	-	850

The local people living in these villages are:

Ujuni	-	Wakinga
Igenge	-	Wawanji
Lugoda	-	Wawanji
Nkondo	-	Wawanji

Activities implemented since 1994 to date (May, 1999).

- Awareness raising to the villagers adjacent to the Numbe Valley Forest Reserve concerning protection, utilization of the natural resources and wildfire campaigns.
- Re-surveying of Numbe Valley Forest Reserve (Assistance from the Forestry and Beekeeping Division - Survey Section).
- Directional trenches digging.
- Map drawing and production (by FBD - mapping section).
- Installation of forest beacons.

- Boundary demarcation:
 - i.. Opening of the forest boundary (6m wide)
 - ii. Planting trees in the forest reserve boundary. The whole boundary planted with trees.
 - iii. Forest boundary clearing/weeding - done once per year and is continuous.
- Impact assessment of the re-surveyed forest reserve (Numbe Valley Forest Reserve).
- Initiation of Joint Forest Management (JFM).
 - a) Selection of priority forest reserve for joint forest management (Numbe forest).
 - b) Discussions with relevant authorities concerning the implementation of Joint Forest Management (District Council, RCFO, DFBD)
 - c) Discussions/dialogues with villagers living adjacent to Numbe Valley Forest Reserve on the ideas of initiating Joint Forest Management.
 - d) Conduct seminars with village and ward leaders on Joint Forest Management.
 - e) Study tour to Singida (Mgori) and Babati (Duru Haitemba) to study CBFM activities. HIMA staff and few village representatives living adjacent to the forest reserve participated in the tour.
 - f) Awareness raising on JFM techniques to the villages adjacent to the Numbe Valley Forest.
 - g) Study on the community based forest management for Makete district (Mvena & Kajembe 1997).

HIMA MAKETE ACTION PLAN FOR 1999.

NO	ACTIVITY	TIME	RESPONSIBLE
1	Assist villagers in the development of the by laws for the selected JFM villages and village leaders.	March	HIMA Makete staff and villagers.
2	Selection of forest committee for the selected Joint Forest Management villages.	May	HIMA Makete staff and villagers
3	Establishment of buffer zones around Numbe Valley Forest Reserve with villagers - starting with 2 villages.	May	HIMA Makete staff and villagers
4	Boundary tree weeding - Numbe Valley Forest Reserve.	May	HIMA Makete staff and villagers
5	Training farmers living adjacent to Numbe Valley Forest Reserve on local seeds collection, tree nursery establishment and management	May/June	Villagers with help of HIMA Makete staff.
6	Training of Forest Committees on management and technical issues concerning JFM.	June	HIMA Makete staff and villagers
7	Forest inventory and botanical surveys for the selected forest reserve.	July	HIMA Makete staff with a help of the Inventory team from FBD D'Salaam.
8	Assist villagers in developing forest management plans.	August	HIMA Makete staff and villagers.
9	Village boundary demarcation - Numbe Valley Forest Reserve.	August	Villagers with help of HIMA Makete staff

Detailed explanation of the activities implemented and/or to be implemented for the year 1999.

1. Assist villagers in the development of the by laws for the selected JFM villages
(Villages surrounding the Numbe Valley Forest Reserve).

The following steps were carried out:

- i) Ammendments of the District Council Environmental by laws.
The bylaws were ammended and we are waiting for approval by the District Council and the Minister of the Local Government and Regional Administration.
- ii) Construction of Village by laws concerning the management of Numbe Valley Forest reserve and its microcatchment.

Revision needed before DC-assembly in May.

The by laws have been constructed focussing on the followings areas:

- a) Name and commencement of the by laws.
 - b) Description of the Numbe valley Forest Reserve where the by laws shall apply in the area of jurisdiction for the 4 villages and the whole forest as such.
- iii) Forest use rules.
- * General use rules.
 - * Banned activities.
 - * Forest use permitted only with a permit from the village Mazingira Committees.
 - * Forest activities which must be registered by the village Mazingira committees etc.
2. **Establishment of community bufferzones.**
- i) 2 villages adjacent to the forest reserve (Nkondo and Ujuni) have been selected as pilot areas for this activity. The other two villages will follow after.
 - ii) Conditions of land allocations for planting trees in the bufferzones will be taken into consideration in each village.
3. **Forest reserve management systems:**
This will involve the followings:
- i) Responsibilities of the formed Village Mazingira Committees from the villages.
 - ii) Responsibilities of the formed Numbe Valley Forest Reserve Joint Committee (The committee will be formed by the village chairpersons and the Village Mazingira Comittes from the 4 villages).
 - iii) Guarding Procedures for the forest reserve.
This will be arranged by the Village Mazingira Committee from each village.
 - iv) Setting offences and fines for the culprits.
The village mazingira committees will be involved in leave fines on offenders.
- The value of fines that will be leavied in accordance with the Makete District Council By laws Act. No. 7 of 1982 and the Forest Ordinance cap. 389.
- v) **Forest boundary tree weeding.**
This is a continuous activity and is done once per year by few village representatives from each village surrounding the forest reserve.

vi) **Zoning of Numbe Valley Forest Reserve/Village boundary demarcations:**

This activity will be done by the villagers assisted by the forest technical staff. The village forest boundaries inside the forest reserve will be demarcated with oil paints based on the natural features in the forest which will be agreed by all village representatives. The boundary demarcations will be mapped using GPS.

vii) **Forest inventory and botanical surveys:**

The inventory is expected to be conducted in July/August, 1999 and will follow the normal forest inventory procedures.

viii) **Training farmers living adjacent to the forest reserve on local seeds collection, tree nursery establishment and management:**

The emphasis here is to support the farmers in establishing their own woodlots so as to reduce the pressure of people encroaching the forest reserve. HIMA will provide limited nursery inputs such as tree seeds and polythene tubes for those who will be allocated the lands for planting trees in the bufferzones.

ix) **Selection and training of the selected Forest Committees on the management and utilization of the forest resources: This will include technical issues concerning the Joint Forest Management procedures.**

MANAGEMENT PLAN BUDGET:

The budget for the period of 1998 - 2002 is stated in the HIMA Makete Action Plan and budget book. This will enable the Forest Unit in Makete District to implement the joint forest management activity accordingly.

CONCLUSIONS:

It has been evidenced from this overview and the different papers cited that, forest reserves management activities which are not based on peoples' participation and which are not in line with their aims and expectations will not succeed. Joint Forest Management will only be sustainable when local people are involved and are motivated to perceive the activities as their own.

However, formulation of the clear forest policy on managing the state forests following the Joint Forest Management is **to avoid the conflicts between the government and the villagers**. Also, a balance between the short and long term management objectives with the peoples' aspiration must be found so as to protect and conserve our State Forests and other values which may be viewed by people as unimportant.

In short, Without make proper Management of our CGFR people will continue taking the laws in their hands and misuse the natural forests as is the case with the Katenga Forest Reserve in Livingstone Mountains and other related forest reserves where agricultural encroachment and illegal timber cutting is still continuing. We need to involve people in management of the natural forests as the Tanzania Government has failed to do so due to financial constraints and retrenchment of government staff who were helping in guarding the forests.

For this short brief, please, lets discuss these prodecures that HIMA Makete has started following and give *comments, suggestions and directives if any so that, we can cooperate them in our ongoing JFM activities.*

===== AHSANTENI SANA =====

Abbreviations and Acronyms.

CBFM	-	Community Based Forest Management
CGFR	-	Central Government Forest Reserve.
DANIDA	-	Danish International Development Agency
DCFO	-	District Catchment Forest Officer
FBD	-	Forest and Beekeeping Division
HIMA	-	Hifadhi ya Mazingira
JFM	-	Joint Forest Management
Numbe	-	Is also called Ndumbi
RCFO	-	Regional Catchment Forest Officer
SUA	-	Sokoine University of Agriculture.
T.T.	-	Tanganyika Territory

References:

1. HIMA Makete Project Action Plan, 1998 - 2002
2. Mveña and Kajembe, SUA, (1997) Study on Community Based Forest Management for Makete.
3. Mr. A. S. Mallango Et el (1997). Udzungwa Forest management plan for Kitemele, Kawemba and Kilanzi Kitungulu forest reserves - HIMA Iringa
4. Liz Willy, (1994): Report on a reconnaissance of forest study needs for the Makete and Njombe Districts.