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Sida Review

Charles Lwenya Amuyunzu

Sida Support to the Environmental Advocacy NGOs in Kenya

Final Report

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The views and interpretations expressed in this report are the author's and do not necessarily reflect those of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, Sida.

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List of Acronyms

ALEEF	Agriculture Livestock Enterprise Enhancement Fund
ASEEF	Agriculture Sector Enterprise Enhancement Fund
CBO	Community based organization
CDF	Constituency Development Fund
CDTF	Community Development Trust Fund
CFA	Community Forest Association
CIG	Common Interest Groups,
DEC	District Environment Committee
EAWLS	East Africa Wildlife Society
EMCA	Environmental Management and Coordination Act
EIA	Environment Impact Assessment
FAN	Forest Action Network
FADC	Focal Area Development Committees
GoK	Government of Kenya
ICRAF	International Centre for research in Agro Forestry
ITK	Indigenous Technical Knowledge
KARI-Embu	Kenya Agricultural Research Institute, Embu
KBC	Kenya Broadcasting Cooperation
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
NALEP	National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Programme
NEC	National Environment Council
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority
NEAPC	National Environment Action Plan Committee
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NSWCP	National soil and Water Conservation Programme
PEC	Provincial Environment Committee
PCC	Public Complaints Committee
RPK	Resource Projects, Kenya
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
WRMA	Water Resources Management Authorities.

Executive Summary

This review was commissioned by the Swedish International Development Agency. The review is an end of project evaluation of Sida support to the environmental advocacy programme that was executed by three NGOs, namely: Resource Project Kenya, Forest Action Network, and East African Wildlife Society. The review is based on desk studies, field visits, and interviews with key stakeholders.

Since independence, the Government of Kenya (GoK) and many other development organizations have strongly supported agricultural extension services to the poor rural communities. The objective of the extension services has been to assist these communities attain household food security and alleviate poverty. From 1974, Sida had extended support to GoK efforts through the National Soil and Water Conservation Programme (NSWCP) and from July 2000 through the National Agriculture and Live-stock Extension Service (NALEP). Sida's main goal was to contribute towards poverty reduction. Sida focused more on supporting interventions that directly empower the poor communities in rural areas, socially and economically, and consequently improve their living conditions. Most of these interventions had been of a technical nature. The main focus of Sida support expanded to include; human rights and democracy, gender equality, rights of women and children, participatory and sustainable management of natural resources.

The issues under the support were seen to contribute to empowerment of rural communities to fully participate in sustainable management of their natural resources, and to internalize gender and other issues related to democracy and good governance in development matters. These governance issues would in turn enable rural communities to maximize their benefits from the poverty reduction initiatives being supported by Sida. Consequently, it became imperative to set up an advocacy project to compliment NALEP activities. The main goal of the advocacy project was to educate rural communities about their rights and obligations in sustainable management of natural resources. The project was also expected to identify gaps in current legislation and policy that are constraining rural communities from exploiting and maximizing benefits from natural resources on a sustainable basis.

The main objective of the advocacy programmes were:

1. To identify legal and sustainable opportunities for commercial exploitation of natural resources
2. To create awareness on policies and legal issues governing the management of natural resources
3. To facilitate participatory management of natural resources by local communities

The programme was implemented in three phases starting in 1997. The review established that of the planned activities, about 90% were fully implemented. The other 10% of the planned activities were not implemented due to either technical and logistic reasons or other reasons beyond the control of the concerned institutions. The programme created awareness among local communities on policies and legislation governing the management of natural resources with special emphasis on forest and water resources. This empowered them to participate in lobbying for changes in existing policies and legislation to allow them participate in the management and utilization of natural resources on a sustainable basis.

This review has documented how the empowered communities were able to successfully lobby the Government against excision of forest land in Oloolua, Gatamayu, Karura, Mau and Mt. Elgon. The communities lobbied the government to address the land issue in Maragoli forest. The programme facilitated communities to form water and forest user association as a vehicle to participate in the utilization and conservation of these natural resources within their localities. The programme also facilitated the most vulnerable members of the community to have access to credit through the formation of credit

facilities (ALEEF and ASEEF in Kakamega and Vihiga districts) managed by the members themselves. This has enabled these members to engage in income generating activities that ensure their livelihoods.

The review has documented the various strength, weaknesses, and challenges to the programme. A key strength of the programme was its creation of awareness among the local communities that enabled them to successfully lobby the Government to stop land grabbing in Oloolua, Karura and Mau forests. A key challenge is how to sustain this programme. To address this challenge, three recommendations are given:

1. Support through the Environmental Programme Support (ESP) facility
2. Direct support through a special facility
3. Collaboration with other Sida funded programmes like the water sector or the Lake Victoria Initiative.

In conclusion, this review has noted that this programme has had tremendous impact on the conservation and management of natural resources within the areas where it was being implemented. Several case studies to support this conclusion are included in the report. It is recommended the programme should not only be supported to continue its work but also be expanded to cover more areas.

1. Introduction

Since independence, the Government of Kenya (GoK) and many other development organizations have strongly supported agricultural extension services to the poor rural communities. The objective of the extension services has been to assist these communities attain household food security and alleviate poverty. From 1974, Sida had extended support to GoK efforts through the National Soil and Water Conservation Programme (NSWCP) and from July 2000 through the National Agriculture and Live-stock Extension Service (NALEP). Sida's main goal was to contribute towards poverty reduction. Sida focused more on supporting interventions that directly empower the poor communities in rural areas, socially and economically, and consequently improve their living conditions. Most of these interventions had been of a technical nature. The main focus of Sida support expanded to include; human rights and democracy, gender equality, rights of women and children, participatory and sustainable management of natural resources.

The issues under the support were seen to contribute to empowerment of rural communities to fully participate in sustainable management of their natural resources, and to internalize gender and other issues related to democracy and good governance in development matters. These governance issues would in turn enable rural communities to maximize their benefits from the poverty reduction initiatives being supported by Sida. Consequently, it became imperative to set up an advocacy project to compliment NALEP activities. The main goal of the advocacy project was to educate rural communities about their rights and obligations in sustainable management of natural resources. The project was also expected to identify gaps in current legislation and policy that are constraining rural communities from exploiting and maximizing benefits from natural resources on a sustainable basis.

Since 1997, Sida has supported three NGOs implement Environmental advocacy programmes. The three are: East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS), Forest Action Network (FAN), and Resources Projects Kenya (RPK). The NGOs were initially supported through NSWCP and NALEP, and later through direct funding. The first Phase of the partnership aimed at assessing and determining if there was any linkage between awareness on policy and legal issues on one hand and sustainable natural resource management at the community level on the other hand. This phase lasted six months. It was implemented in three forest areas; in Ololua by East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS), in East Mau by Forest Action Network (FAN), and in Lokori in Samburu district by Resource Projects Kenya (RPK). The results indicated a lack of information to support decisions consistent with the rights and obligation provided for by existing policies and legislation. This information is critical for the long-term sustainable management and utilization of forest resources. Local communities also lacked information on policies legislation and regulations governing exploitation of natural resources, especially forests. They were therefore unable to fully participate in their resource management. These results formed a basis for the next phase of the project.

The second phase, which was implemented over a period of 18 months, started in November 1998. The area of coverage was expanded to include Karura and Gatamayu forests (EAWLS), South Mau forest (FAN), and Kakamega and Maragoli forests (RPK). This phase focused on the efforts to advocate for poverty eradication through sustainable management of the natural resources. This phase looked at the legal opportunities available for commercial exploitation of their natural resources in a sustainable manner. Further, the project continued creating awareness on legislature governing their natural resources and advocate for participatory management processes for them by relevant stakeholders including communities. The developmental objective of the project was to contribute towards poverty eradication through participatory sustainable management of natural resources by local communities. This was to be achieved through improving natural resources management through increased participation of the local communities. Specifically, the project was guided by the following immediate objectives:

1. To identify legal and sustainable opportunities for commercial exploitation of natural resources
2. To create awareness on policies and legal issues governing the management of natural resources
3. To facilitate participatory management of natural resources by local communities

The third phase of the advocacy project has continued to build on the lessons learnt and strengths developed in the first and second phases while addressing the weaknesses encountered. The program continues to explore practical mechanisms of empowering the most vulnerable members of the community through building their confidence to demand for services from both private and public institutions.

Since January 2001 to date the advocacy group (FAN, EAWLS & RPK) has participated in the sustainable management of natural resources through advocacy engagement at various levels – all geared to enhancing the stakeholders' change of attitudes and perceptions. It has also influenced formulation and adoption of several new policies and legislation related to the management of natural resources (EMCA (1999), Forestry Act (2004) and Water Act (2002) Agriculture, and land use policy).

1.1 Institutional Arrangement

Since 2001, Sida has been supporting the Ministry of Agriculture's programme on extension called National Agricultural and Livestock Extension Programme (NALEP). NALEP comprised of three components of which the extension component was carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) extension department, the research component was carried out by ICRAF and KARI-Embu and the advocacy component was carried out by EAWLS, FAN, and RPK. The three components were designed to complement each other's efforts towards empowering farmers/ communities towards poverty eradication. The graphic representation below illustrates how this collaboration worked.

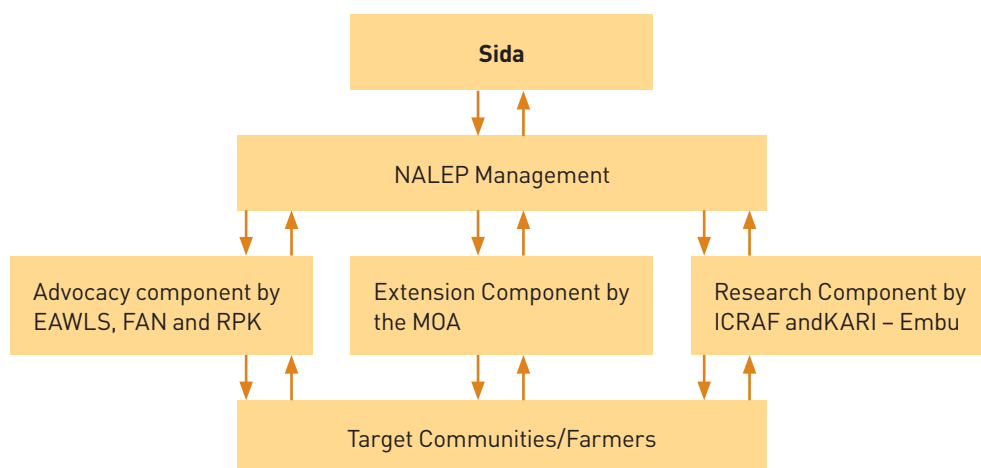


Fig. 1 Interaction between the Extension, Research, and Advocacy components of NALEP

Following the shift to direct agreements between the NGOs and the Embassy, formal reporting through NALEP was reduced at headquarter levels though the linkages in the field were maintained

Funding for the advocacy programme which was scheduled to expire in June 2008 has been extended to September 2008. This report is a result of an end of project evaluation. The main objective of this study was to document the outputs and achievements of programme, identify lessons learnt, and make recommendations on sustainability for the NGOs and beneficiaries. Specific objectives of each evaluation included:

1. Assessing the scope and extent of project implementation against the expected outputs;
2. Assessing the impact of the programme in the project in terms of their objectives and achievements (outputs and outcomes);
3. Identifying strengths and weaknesses and challenges of the programme;
4. Making recommendations on the advocacy programme in the context of project implementation and document best practices and lessons learnt;
5. Recommending how the advocacy programme can be sustained in the future through any other initiatives;
6. Undertaking an assessment of existing and possible inter-linkages within and without the three organizations.

1.2 Method

This evaluation was carried out through review of literature, interviews with key personnel in the three NGOs who have been involved in the projects, interviews with key personnel among stakeholders in the projects, discussions with participating local communities in the projects and field visits. A workshop was organized on 25th July in which stakeholders involved with the preliminary findings of the evaluation were presented and discussed.

1.3 Reporting

In this report, the objectives, expected output, activities, and actual outputs of each implementing organization are documented. For each organization, the background to its involvement in the programme is given. This is followed by an assessment of the outputs of the project against its objectives and its impact on the environment and local communities. The report identifies the strength and weakness of the intervention and finally recommendations on how the programme could be sustained and an assessment of the linkages between the three organizations.

2. Outputs and Achievement of Programme

2.1 Resource Projects Kenya (RPK)

2.1.1 Background

Resource Projects Kenya (RPK) has since 1997 received funding from Sida to implement an *Advocacy Project for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Natural Resources Management*. The first phase of the project (1997–2002) focused on four forest ecosystems:

- Lorroki and Nyiro catchments in Samburu district
- Kakamega forest in Kakamega district and
- Maragoli hills in Vihiga district

The main objective of this phase was to empower communities living adjacent to these forests be able to manage them better by understanding of policies and legislation governing management of natural resources in Kenya.

Sida funding for this phase was budgeted for as part of support to NALEP however disbursement was direct to RPK. Project activities were implemented in partnership with the Forest Department. During the review of this phase, it was established that there was little interaction and synergy between its activities and those of NALEP and other Sida funded Programmes. Whereas NALEP expected RPK to work closely with the farming communities, mostly in the focal areas, RPK was concentrating on those communities living around the targeted forest ecosystems many of whom were outside the NALEP focal areas. Additionally RPK was working in two forest ecosystems in Samburu district where NALEP was not operating at the time.

During the second phase of the advocacy programme some operation changes were implemented. NALEP and RPK decided to adopt the district as the spatial area of operation from which focal points were then chosen. RPK also started receiving funds directly from Sida in order to give adequate flexibility to the project implementation process. The project implementation shifted from specific forest ecosystems to district wide natural resources management. Most significantly, the project was designed in consultation with NALEP and other stakeholders. Its objectives were to provide synergy to NALEP and other related programs in the two target districts (Kakamega and Vihiga). Samburu district was dropped from the project since NALEP was not operating in the district at that time. This phase achieved tremendous impacts both in supporting the farming communities and enhancing natural resources management in the target district. Key impacts included the setting up of a fund to support vulnerable and marginalized individuals who had no access to any other source of financial support. These funds were used to support agricultural activities that included crop production, fish farming, and poultry farming. These individuals were assisted to setup Common Interest Groups (CIGs) to enable them have access to resources. Also set up were stakeholder forums made up of representatives from CIGs, Ministries of Agriculture, Natural resources, Planning, Social services, Livestock, and Special programmes, NEMA, Water Resources Management Authorities (WRMA). These forums enabled local farmers to have access to technical support in the management of their natural resources and the environment. During this phase, a harmonious and synergistic working relation between NALEP, RPK, and other line departs including NEMA, WRMA and Forest Department was established.

2.1.2 Current Phase

The third phase of the advocacy project has continued to build on the lessons and strengths developed in the first and second phases while addressing the weaknesses encountered. The program continues to explore practical mechanisms of empowering the most vulnerable members of the community through building their confidence to demand for services from both private and public institutions. A pilot focal area at Lunyerere village in Vihiga district was established and still stands out as vital learning point for other focal areas within the country and the region. Common interest groups have been strengthened and two district stakeholder forums were formed, registered, and assisted to establish credit fund to support the poor and most vulnerable members of the community to access credit. Cross cutting issues of gender, HIV/AIDs and drug and substance abuse are also being addressed in this phase. This is being done through developing of case studies and training implementation teams on how best to integrate these issues in development programmes. Affirmative action in the funds ensures that a specific proportion went to people affected by HIV and that this was accompanied with technical support. An example of this affirmative action is found within the Lunyerere focal area where HIV positive widows have formed a group that is being funded to carry out fish farming, Grandmothers looking after HIV orphaned children have also been assisted to form a group that is receiving funding for daily farming and horticulture.

Child labor in the agriculture sector is a major concern and the advocacy project has conducted a study to determine the extent of this vice in Kakamega and Vihiga districts. The study report has been distributed to all key partners and now forms a useful reference for detecting and addressing child labor issues. A handbook for campaigning against child abuse has also been published and distributed freely

to relevant partners. Communities have been sensitized, course of action developed, the next step is to implement the recommended actions

Another significant inclusion in this project phase has been the mainstreaming of environmental conservation and natural resources management issues into the agricultural production systems. Under this approach forest, water, and agricultural land resources are looked at holistically and resource users have been assisted to develop resource use plans by multi-disciplinary teams of experts. These plans emphasize fair and equitable access to resources by all including the most vulnerable members of the community.

2.1.3 Scope and Extent of project implementation by RPK

Below is a summary of the scope and extent of the project implementation by RPK. The summary contains the objectives of the project, activities designed to achieve these objectives, results from implementation of these activities, an assessment of the relevance of each activity to the stated objective, and an assessment of the level of implementation of the planned activities.

Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Conservation Kakamega District, July 2005–June 2007			
Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance/Level of implementation
Outcome 1: Vulnerability and poverty levels reduced among target communities through enhanced food security and increased participation of women and men in production and marketing of farm produce	Conduct open policy dialogue forums to strengthen ways in which policies, institutions and processes contribute to the sustainable livelihood options and strategies of the poor and vulnerable	4 (four) policy dialogue forums conducted	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set. ¹
	Conduct studies and sensitization forums for women economic empowerment	3 (three) studies and five (5) sensitization forums held for women economic empowerment	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Lobby for women to have improved access to, control over and right to own, buy and inherit land, property and other productive resources	4 (four) lobbying meetings with women groups conducted for improved access to productive resources by women	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Develop compassionate mechanisms and support the marginalized and vulnerable farm families through increased access to ASEEF	Agriculture Sector Enterprise Enhancement Fund (ASEEF) established to a tune of Ksh 150,000.	Yes/100%
	Mainstream gender concerns into agricultural development through fostering the understanding of how individuals and households support themselves and secure their well being in the face of the complexity of social dynamics.	2 (two) gender sensitization meetings conducted & 2 (Two) gender Mainstreaming Learning Platforms held	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
Outcome 2: Enhanced democratic governance and safeguard farmers interest in accessing goods and services	Conduct a series of open policy dialogue forums between farmer representatives, Ministry of Agriculture personnel and other stakeholders in order to enhance farmers' influence over the management of Constituency Development Fund, the Local Authority Transfer Fund, the District Roads Board Fund to ensure transparent, equitable and fair allocation of these public resources	5 (five) policy dialogue forums conducted between farmers and service providers	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.

¹ The indeterminate project activities were due to lack of benchmarks that would have formed a basis for assessing the scope and extent of project implementation against the expected outputs.

**Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Conservation
Kakamega District, July 2005–June 2007**

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance/Level of implementation
	Develop a framework for Common Interest Groups (CIGs), Focal Area Development Committees (FADCs) and farmer associations to secure a bigger role in influencing national policy formulation processes	3 (three) resource user associations, 7 (seven) CIGs and 3 (three) FADC were formed, registered and currently engaged in implementation of policies related to NRM	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Develop advocacy skills at the local level to challenge local, national and international policies and processes for increased responsiveness; including strengthened local structures through which poor people can participate in the formulation of the policies that control their lives,	2 (two) policy guidelines that require formation of water and forest user associations even when the water and forest resources are joint and utilized by same association have been challenged by three resource user associations	Yes/100%
	Develop strong local networks and representation on local and national civic institutions	2 (two) local farmer networks formed and operational	Yes/50% – representation on local and national civic institutions have not been achieved.
	Develop a functional policy and advocacy programme within RPK with systematic linkages with other national and international policy lobbying and advocacy processes and institutions	developed a strategic plan for RPK	Yes/100%
Outcome 3: Improved environmental quality through mainstreaming sustainable natural resources management into agricultural production systems	Document the long-term damage to the environment, human health and its cost that has resulted from the past short term agricultural development	2 (two) studies conducted to assess environmental damage and 4 (four) sensitization workshops on environmental damage held	Yes/100%
	Support the District Environment Committees and Stakeholders Forums in Nandi North district to conduct community awareness sessions on policies and legislations governing water catchment areas and legal penalties applicable to offenders	4 (four) community awareness sessions on policies and legislations conducted	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Conduct field educational tours to promote ecologically sound farming practices on the Nandi Escarpments	2 (two) field educational tours conducted	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Support the Kakamega District Environment Committee and the Stakeholder Forum to educate downstream communities on policies and legislations governing access to, utilization and conservation of water resources	3 (three) training sessions on water resources management conducted	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Support District Environmental Committees to assess the levels of biodiversity loss and execute biodiversity conservation awareness through discussion and demonstrations	1 (one) biodiversity loss study conducted and two awareness seminars on biodiversity loss conducted to discuss the findings	Yes/100% (Biodiversity study) Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set. (Awareness)

**Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Conservation
Kakamega District, July 2005–June 2007**

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance/Level of implementation
Outcome 4: Environmental legislation applied leading to sustainable management, protection and utilization of natural resources	3.6 Develop a biodiversity monitoring kit to enable implementers of agricultural programmes monitor the extent to which interventions enrich or deplete biodiversity		0% – Expense of implementing this activity was way beyond what had been budgeted for.
	3.7 Strengthen indigenous technical knowledge to manage landscapes as integrated farming systems	4 (four) workshops conducted on use of ITK for sustainable NRM	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Support the District Environment Committee and District Water Office to regularly check water quality in rivers and streams	4 (four) awareness sessions conducted to address issues related to water pollution	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Determine water pollution levels and their sources and use this information to promote environmental awareness	Pollution levels in rivers Lubao and Mwera and Nabongo Sewage ponds were determined.	Yes/100%
	Support the District environmental Committee (DEC) to enforce environmental laws to control pollution of rivers and streams	Information on pollution in River Lubao was passed to the DEC who used it to force the polluter (Lubao jaggery) to treat its waste before discharging into the river	0%
	Develop a cadre of community-based spokespersons who can effectively advocate for application of the rule of law to safeguard environmental quality	14 (fourteen) community based spokesperson trained	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.

**Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Conservation
Vihiga District, July 2005–June 2007**

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance /Level of implementation
1: Vulnerability and poverty levels reduced among target communities through enhanced food security and increased participation of women and men in production and marketing of farm produce	Conduct open policy dialogue forums to strengthen ways in which policies, institutions and processes contribute to the sustainable livelihood options and strategies of the poor and vulnerable	6 (six) policy dialogue forums conducted	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Conduct studies and sensitization forums for women economic empowerment	3 (three) studies and five (5) sensitization forums held for women economic empowerment	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Lobby for women to have improved access to, control over and right to own, buy and inherit land, property and other productive resources	4 (four) lobbying meetings conducted for improved women access to productive resources	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Develop compassionate mechanisms and support the marginalized and vulnerable farm families through increased access to ALEEF	620 (339 women and 281 men) received revolving credit funds totaling Ksh. 654,000	100%

**Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Conservation
Vihiga District, July 2005–June 2007**

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance /Level of implementation
	Mainstream gender concerns into agricultural development through fostering the understanding of how individuals and households support themselves and secure their well being in the face of the complexity of social dynamics	2 (two) gender sensitization meetings conducted & 2 (Two) gender Mainstreaming Learning Platforms held.	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
Outcome 2: Enhanced democratic governance and safeguard farmers interest in accessing goods and services	Conduct a series of open policy dialogue forums between farmer representatives, Ministry of Agriculture personnel and other stakeholders in order to enhance farmers' influence over the management of Constituency Development Fund, the Local Authority Transfer Fund, the District Roads Board Fund to ensure transparent, equitable and fair allocation of these public resources	5 (five) policy dialogue forums conducted between farmers and service providers	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Develop a framework for Common Interest Groups (CIGs), Focal Area Development Committees (FADCs) and farmer associations to secure a bigger role in influencing national policy formulation processes	5 (five) resource user associations, 12 (twelve) CIGs and 6 (six) FADC were formed, registered and currently engaged in implementation of policies related to NRM	Yes/100%
	Develop advocacy skills at the local level to challenge local, national and international policies and processes for increased responsiveness; including strengthened local structures through which poor people can participate in the formulation of the policies that control their lives,	2 (two) policy guidelines that require formation of water and forest user associations even when the water and forest resources are jointly utilized by same community has been successfully challenged by five resource user associations. They were allowed to form a single association	Yes/100%
	2.4 Develop strong local networks and representation on local and national civic institutions.	2 (two) local farmer networks formed and operational	Yes/100%
	2.5 Develop a functional policy and advocacy programme within RPK with systematic linkages with other national and international policy lobbying and advocacy processes and institutions	developed a strategic plan for RPK	Yes/100%
Outcome 3: Improved environmental quality through mainstreaming sustainable natural resources management into agricultural production systems	Document the long-term damage to the environment, human health and its cost that has resulted from the past short term agricultural development	3 (three) studies conducted on environmental damage	Yes/100%
	Support the District Environment Committee to create community awareness on policies and legislations governing the management of wetlands	4 (four) environmental awareness creation sessions held	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Conduct educational exchange visits to enhance communities knowledge on sustainable management of wetlands	2 (two) educational exchange visits conducted	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.

**Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Agricultural Productivity and Environmental Conservation
Vihiga District, July 2005–June 2007**

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance /Level of implementation
	Support District Environmental Committees to assess the levels of biodiversity loss and execute biodiversity conservation awareness through discussion and demonstrations	2 (two) biodiversity loss studies conducted and 4 (four) conservation awareness discussions held	Yes/100% (Biodiversity studies) Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set (awareness creation)
	Develop a biodiversity monitoring kit to enable implementers of agricultural programmes monitor the extent to which interventions enrich or deplete biodiversity	1 (one) biodiversity monitoring tool developed for rivers and streams	Yes/100%
	Strengthen indigenous technical knowledge to manage landscapes as integrated farming systems	4 (four) community level trainings held on application of ITK for landscape management	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Support DEC's and stakeholders forums to implement environmental conservation activities within the river Yala wetland	2 (two) tree planting exercises held Yala river bank to replace annual food crops with indigenous medicinal plants	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Support market development for conservation products within the river Yala basin	Supported marketing of two conservation products with an annual turnover of Ksh 180,000	Yes/100%
Outcome 4: Environmental legislation applied leading to sustainable management, protection and utilization of natural resources	Facilitate adversely affected communities on Maragoli hills to lodge a complaint with the Public Complaints Committee in accordance with the Environmental Management and Coordination Act	2 (two) complaints related to NRM and livelihoods on Maragoli hills lodged with NEMA	Yes /100%
	Support the Public Complaints Committee to investigate the allegations made by the adversely affected communities.		0% – Problem was more to do with land ownership and compensation from the Government. This fell outside the mandate of the Public Complaints Committee.
	Develop a cadre of community-based spokespersons who can effectively advocate for application of the rule of law to safeguard environmental quality	48 (23 women and 25 men) community based spokespersons trained and advocating for application of environmental law in relation to Maragoli hills	Yes/100%
	Prepare case studies on the application of environmental laws for sustainable management, protection and utilization of the natural resources	3 (three) case studies developed	Yes/ 100%
	Conduct discussion forums to sensitize community members and other stakeholders on the application of environmental laws for sustainable management of natural resources	4 (four) discussion forums held	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.

Advocacy activity and achievements for Kakamega and Vihiga districts 2007–2008

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual Output	Relevance /Level of implementation
Outcome 1: Vulnerability and poverty levels reduced among target communities through enhanced food security and increased participation of women and men in production and marketing of farm produce	Finalize the ALEEF management guidelines and the establishment of the ALEEF fund for the target members of the community and monitor its impact on the targeted members of the community.	An ASEEF fund established with a total of Ksh 850,000	Yes/100%
	Assess the impact of ALEEF on economic empowerment of the vulnerable and marginalized communities and document lessons for future policy influencing.	Over 712 vulnerable farm families have accessed credit for improving agricultural and livestock production	Yes/100%
	Explore mechanisms for transforming ALEEF into a community endowment fund for enhanced sustainability through formalized linkages of the current beneficiaries to market outlets.	Conducted 4 workshop to facilitate the transformation of ASEEF into a totally farmer managed financial outfit	Yes/100%
	Document lessons on gender mainstreaming and share these with stakeholders for effective mainstreaming of gender concerns in all development projects in the district	4 (four) gender mainstreaming workshops conducted	Yes/100%
Outcome 2: Improved environmental quality through mainstreaming sustainable natural resources management into agricultural production systems	Finalize and facilitate the adoption of sustainable land use plans for the upstream and downstream communities in the Nandi North gravity water supply systems	5 (five) community awareness sessions conducted leading to establishment of 6 (six) tree nurseries and reforestation of 78 ha of degraded land	Yes/100%
	Finalize and facilitate the adoption of sustainable land use management plans for the communities living along the Yala River	Management plan for Yala river developed and 3.5 Km of river bank protected	Yes/100%
	Finalize and facilitate adoption of the Maragoli hills land use management plan and mainstream the market development for conservation products within other stakeholders work plans	Development of Maragoli hills management plan on-going and 65 acres of degraded area afforested	Yes/40%
	Finalize market development for conservation derived products through branding and formalized distribution chains	6 (six) conservation products developed and two (propolis&dried fruits and vegetables) being marketed with an annual turnover of Ksh 210,000	Yes/100%
Outcome 4: Environmental legislation applied leading to sustainable management, protection and utilization of natural resources	Support the forest and water resource users associations to improve their management capacities for effective implementation of natural resources management policies	5 (five) NRM user associations trained in management skills, operational planning and proposal development	Yes/100%
	Facilitation of the forest and water resources user associations to formalize and operationalize their management plans in accordance with the existing water and forest resources use guidelines	Implementation of NR management plans still on-going	Yes/40%
	Finalize the natural resources-based conflict management and resolution guidelines and facilitate the adoption of these by key stakeholders	NRM conflicts guidelines developed and 250 copies distributed to stakeholders	Yes/100%

2.1.4 Summary of Project implementation by RPK

- All activities undertaken in both Kakamega and Vihiga districts were found to be relevant to fulfilling the set objectives of the programme.
- In Kakamega district, 18% of the project's planned activities were fully implemented, 68% were indeterminate while 14% were not implemented.
- In Vihiga district, 52% of the project's planned activities were fully implemented, 44% were indeterminate, and 4% were not implemented.
- During the exit phase (2007–2008) 100% of the project's planned activities have been implemented.

Recommendation:

Feature project activities should have clearly defined benchmarks to serve as a basis for assessing the scope and extent of project implementation against expected outputs.

2.1.5 Impacts of the Advocacy Project

2.1.5.1 Case Study One

Objective: To create awareness on policies and legal issues governing the management of natural resources Maragoli Hills

The Problem

Maragoli hills measuring 1,160.2 acres were gazetted in 1957 as a central government forest. Fourteen portions on the hill amounting to 158.6 acres were set aside for settlement of the local communities. The local community disputed the marked forest boundaries. They felt that their land had been taken away during the demarcation process. In some cases community members destroyed the beacons marking the disputed forest boundaries. Relationship between local community and Forest Department were so strained that the forester's house was burnt down.

In 1964, the entire 1319 acres of Maragoli Hills were gazetted as Central Government Forest therefore rendering communities occupying the 158.6 acres 'squatters'. This decision and its implications were not effectively communicated to the local community and conflicts between the government and local communities on the ownership and utilization of Maragoli Hills continued to smolder. In 1965, 'squatters' on the Maragoli hills rejected a proposal that they move away from the forest land, and continued to exploit the fragile Maragoli Hills forestland contrary to the forest policy.

Between 1970 and 1990, vegetation cover on the Maragoli Hills increased leading to enhanced biodiversity and a near stable ecosystem but disputes between forest guards and community members over collection of fuel wood and other forest products intensified and wild animals often destroyed crops of forest adjacent communities. Due to fear of wild animals, children of families living within the forest did not attend school. This is one of the main reasons for high level of illiteracy and poverty among the communities living within the forest.

Between 1994 and 1996, the provincial administration and forest department cleared the entire forest. This exposed the fragile hills to massive erosion leading to severe environmental degradation. Community members continue to cultivate these hills leading to further degradation



A section of severely degraded Maragoli hills



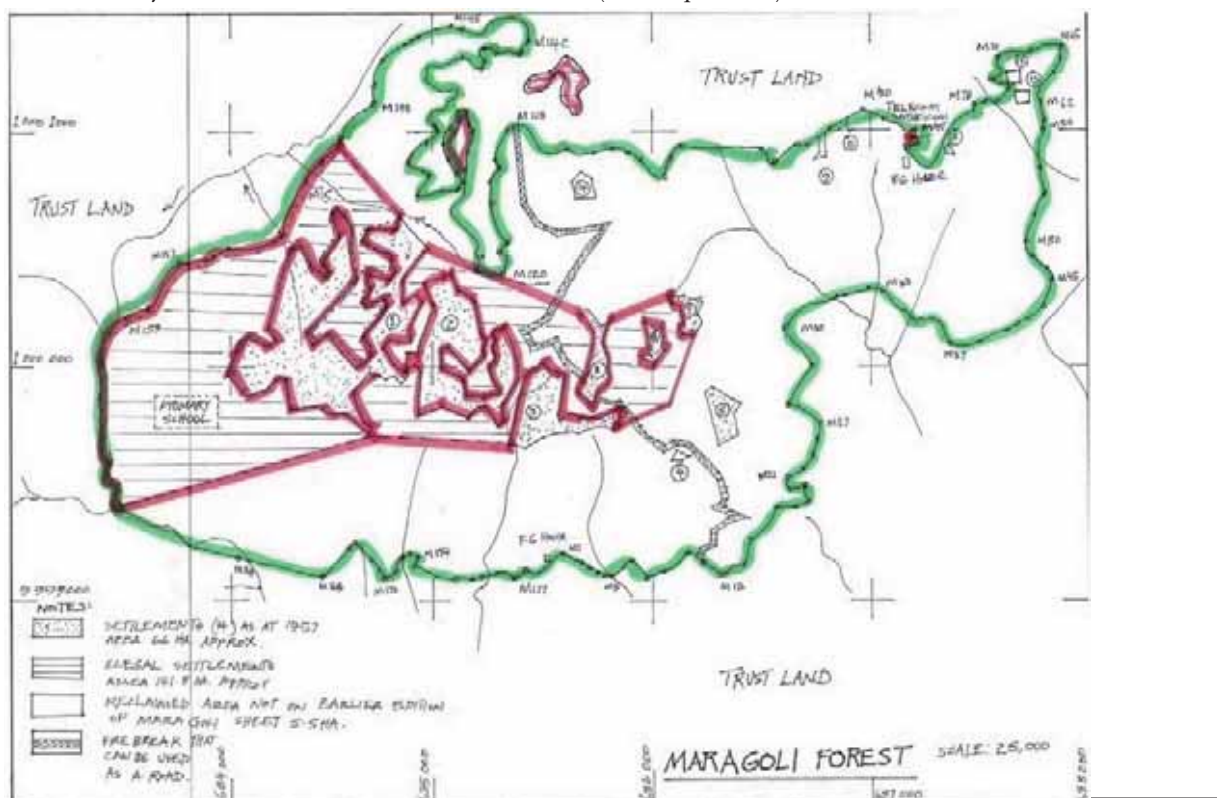
Some of the cultivated areas on the hills

Intervention

Through the environmental advocacy programme, RPK has supported communities enclosed within the Maragoli hills to form and register a Maragoli Hills Residents Association. Through advocacy work, the association got armed with relevant historical information on how the hill was acquired by the government without compensation and relocation of the affected families as per the Kenyan constitution. The local community has constructively engaged policy makers in a dialogue aimed at resolving their land ownership problem. The government responded to issues raised by 'squatters' and made a commitment through the provincial administration and Forest Department to allocate land to those affected families. In 2002 the Chairman of Maragoli Hills Resident Association was gazetted as a member of the District Environment Committee. This appointment enhanced the community's voice in decision making forums at the district and provincial level. Consequently the plight of communities living within the hills and related environmental degradation issues became a top priority of the district and provincial environment committees.

The Impact

The Kenya Forest Services has recently resurveyed and demarcated forest boundaries in order to end the boundary conflicts with the local communities (see map below).



PK has secured a funding from CDTF to facilitate the development of Management plan for the hills and establishment of a resource centre to further enhance capacity of the local people to rehabilitate and sustainably utilize and manage the Maragoli hills resources.

2.1.5.2. Case Study two

The Yala River Basin Case

Objective: Improved environmental quality through mainstreaming sustainable natural resources management into agricultural production systems

The Problem

Conversion of woodlands, steep slopes, forests, and wetlands into agricultural production has accelerated in recent years with significant negative impact on the natural resource base in the Yala River basin. Erosion loss has created large gullies and large quantities of soil sediment are being deposited in river Yala and eventually into Lake Victoria leading to proliferation of water hyacinth and loss of livelihood for communities dependent on fishing industry.



Cultivation along Yala river



Community members on a river bank protection tour

Intervention

The advocacy programme has created awareness among local community members on legislation and policies governing the management of wetlands. Field educational tours were conducted to enable community members acquire more skills and knowledge on sustainable management and utilization of wetlands. The advocacy programme in collaboration with NALEP, WRMA, NEMA and Kenya Forest Services has encouraged farmers to protect the Yala river bank through replacement of annual crops with indigenous trees along the river bank.

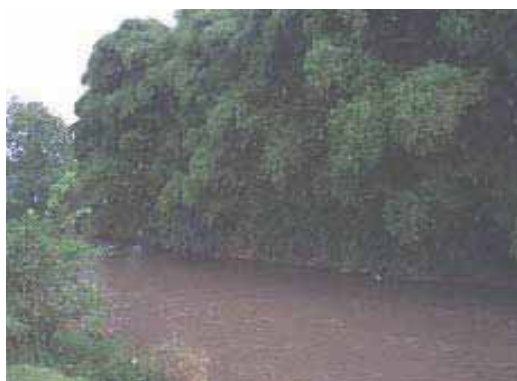
Protection of the Yala river bank is only sustainable when community members derive economic gains from their conservation efforts. The advocacy programme has supported community groups to process, package, and market forest derived products. These include honey, propolis, dried vegetables, and medicinal wines. All these products are derived on a sustainable basis from forests along the Yala River

Impacts

More than 3 Km of the Yala river bank have been protect through replacement of annual crops with indigenous trees produced by members of the local community. Significant increase in household incomes is being realized through marketing of the Kakamega Forest Propolis. The propolis is processed by Mr. Julius Luvayo, a member of Kibiri forest users association. He purchases the raw propolis from other farmers at a price of Ksh 100 per kg. The raw propolis is extracted and packaged in 30 ml bottles each retailing at Ksh 150. It is estimated that 1 kg of raw propolis could yield up to 600 mls worth Ksh 3,000. The processed propolis has antifungal, antibacterial, and anti-viral properties. It is locally used to treat wounds, ulcers, and sore throats.



Kibiri forest users tree nursery



A section of protected Yala river bank

The average monthly sales for this product is over 180 bottles and demand is on the increase as more potential users become aware of this product. Beekeepers have realised that traditional log-hives produce up to five times more propolis than modern hives. Increase in propolis demand can only trigger placement of more traditional log-hives within the Kakamega forest and along the indigenous trees established along the Yala river bank.



A traditional log hive within Kakamega forest



Kakamega Forest Propolis: each retails at Ksh 150

Through the advocacy programme, RPK has demonstrated that integration of conservation, processing and marketing gives farmers the incentives to protect and conserve natural resources. Sustainability of this type of integration is hinged on the ability to research and develop new products with readily available local demand. The potential impact of this project on the health of those using propolis could be positive and huge. However this has not been quantified yet. Economic impact of integrated conservation with processing and marketing of propolis is significant and positive. This is specially so among the low income groups who cannot afford modern beehives. Propolis is a largely unexploited product and it's processing and marketing provides new and environmentally friendly avenues of increasing rural incomes. Consequently, rural livelihoods will improve and be secured

Institutional Impacts

Improved Financial Management System

Resource Projects Kenya has immensely improved the organizational financial systems. This has been largely due to implementation of financial management and accountability systems recommended by Price Waterhouse Company, the audit firm contracted by Sida to audit RPK accounts.

Human Capacity Development

Through the programme, RPK has human resources capacity through various trainings. The project manager, Patrick Nekesa attended a one month training course in Advocacy and Networking at the Coady International Development Institute in Canada. Anne Obae attended a three week training course Gender and Human Rights in Nairobi. The improved capacity has enabled RPK to conduct in

house trainings on gender, human rights, drug and substance abuse among key collaborating partners especially NALEP

Effective Communication

The advocacy project funded the purchase of an LCD projector which has improved the efficiency and quality of information presentation being made by RPK during trainings, workshops, and seminars. This being the only LCD Projector in the district, it is being used by other Sida funded projects such as NALEP and WRMA during trainings and workshops. The projector has improved the quality and effectiveness of trainings carried out by these institutions as well.

2.2 Forest Action Network (FAN)

2.2.1 Background

In the recent past, Kenyan laws and policies guiding the management of natural resources have been revised to enhance the participation of all stakeholders in the management of natural resources. There are two main reasons for this: the demand by stakeholders to participate and the pressure to be in line with new international agreements pertaining to the management of natural resources which advocate for stakeholder participation. The result of these demands is that the government enacted the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) 1999, a framework environmental law guiding other sectoral laws on the environment. In 2002, the Water Act was placed on the statute books and currently; there are efforts to pass new forests and wildlife laws. However, the impact of these new environment and natural resource management laws is yet to be realized. The two main reasons for this state of affairs are as follows: the stakeholders who are expected to participate in the implementation of these laws are not aware that the laws exist; and these same stakeholders do not have the capacity to participate meaningfully.

With support from Sida, the Forest Action Network (FAN) has been carrying out advocating and lobbying for the participation of stakeholders, especially local communities in the management of natural resources. In particular, FAN has sensitized communities and other stakeholders on their respective rights, roles and responsibilities as stipulated in the new environment and natural resources management laws. From 2003 FAN has been carrying out a project known as a “Rights Approach to Sustainable Management of Natural Resources”. This project aims at sensitizing communities and stakeholders on their rights and obligations to a clean and healthy environment as contained in the new environment and natural resources laws. The project’s specific objective is to enhance awareness on the provisions and roles of various structures as established by EMCA and any other relevant legislation and the role of the public/communities’ in these structures.

2.2.2 Scope and Extent of project implementation by FAN

Below is a summary of the scope and extent of the project implementation by FAN. The summary contains the objectives of the project, activities designed to achieve these objectives, results from implementation of these activities, an assessment of the relevance of each activity to the stated objective, and an assessment of the level of implementation of the planned activities.

FAN Project for 2005–June 07 ²

Strategy 1: Create awareness among the public and educate them on the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders and procedures of participation in sustainable natural resources management as contained in recently enacted or revised natural resources and environmental laws (proposed Forests Bill, Water Act 2002, EMCA)

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To publicize the provisions that enable stakeholders' participation in the EMCA, water Act and the Forests Bill.	Develop 4 pages thematic briefs informing of stakeholders participation.	Thematic briefs on stakeholders participation as per the EMCA 1999, Water Act 2002 and the Forests Bill	0% – (Funds used to produce 4500 Calendars with Sida's permission)
	Record and air Radio programmes on the incentives provided by various natural resources laws for their exploitation.	12 Radio programmes recorded and aired	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set. ²
	Support resource centers collaborating with FAN to be able to provide better services of creating awareness for communities on recent issues on natural resources policies and laws through hosting public forums for discussions.	16 Public forums organized at different resource centers in the country to discuss NRM issues.	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
To facilitate and support stakeholders' discussion forums on policy gaps and lack of harmony in the water legislation, the Forests Bill 2005 and the EMCA.	Facilitate 2 discussion forums among relevant stakeholders authorities to develop strategies for addressing the policy gaps.	One discussion forum was facilitated for 33 officers from the relevant Government Departments and a report on Strategies for addressing the policy gaps produced and distributed	Yes/50% for forums, indeterminate for the number of participants as there was no benchmark.
	Support the establishment and capacity building of a policy analysis team at NEMA to advice on upcoming policies and laws to be in harmony with the EMCA.		0% Team not established. There was therefore no capacity building. With permission from Sida, the allocation for this activity was used to reprint and distribute 7500 copies of a book on advocacy.
To document how forest adjacent communities are using the forest resources to deal with the HIV/AIDS scourge.	To carry out a study and document on how forest adjacent communities are using forest resources to cope with the HIV/AIDS and the implications of this exploitation.	Study carried out within communities living adjacent to 6 forests and a report was produced documenting how these communities utilized forest resources to cope with HIV/AIDS	Yes/100%
	To publicize on the study findings through a newspaper article.	A newspaper article was written and printed in a national daily newspaper	Yes/100%

² The indeterminate project activities were due to lack of benchmarks that would have formed a basis for assessing the scope and extent of project implementation against the expected outputs.

Strategy 2: Support various structures and institutions recently established by natural resources policies and legislation to understand their respective roles and effectively respond to public needs.

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To facilitate training exercises for members of the various structures including Forest Conservation Committees (Forests Bill 2005) and the National Environment Council (EMCA) to understand their functions and roles as charged by the respective legislations	One day training for members of the National Environment Council.	Activity report	0% – Activity could not be carried out as members of the NEC had not been appointed. Sida gave the go ahead for FAN to hold two stakeholder discussion forums instead.
	Training for two of the Forest Conservation Committees to be established by the Forests Act once enacted.	Activity report.	0% – Activity could not be carried out since Forest Conservation committees had not been established. Funds allocated were used to train 115 Forest guards on their role in the Forest Act (2005).
To publicize the roles and responsibilities of various structures and institutions established by NRM legislations and how the public can access them when necessary.	Develop Posters/Stickers on the District Environment Committees and on the Public Complaints Committee.	1000 car stickers printed and distributed. 3500 Posters depicting the role of the District Environment Committees and Public Complaints Committees printed and distributed.	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.

Strategy 3: Support communities to undertake available partnerships with the private sector on management and exploitation of natural resources for economic development

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To support communities associations and the private sector to understand partnership processes in natural resources management and to learn from other similar initiatives for economic benefits of both parties	Facilitate consultation forums for communities associations' and the private sector to discuss partnerships opportunities	Six regional consultation forums attended by 934 were facilitated; Regional consultation forums reports	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set.
	Facilitate training for communities associations to enable them to negotiate with the private sector on partnership ventures, drafting contracts and upholding them.	279 community members trained Training reports	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
	Support community associations to meet and discuss on partnership opportunities and train their local members	4 community associations formed in Mt Kenya East with a total of 138 members; Activity reports	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
	Compile and publish a document publicizing the concept of forest certification for sustainable management of forests and the related social justice and economic benefits of communities	1,000 copies of a brief on the concept of certification published and disseminated	Yes/100%

Strategy 4: Facilitate the youth to engage in environmental management and to lobby for better environmental and natural resources management.

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To support discussion forums among the youth to understand environmental governance and effectively engage and demand relevant authorities to undertake sustainable management of natural resources	Support training forums for environmental youth groups on advocacy to enable them to demand for better management of the environment	Training report 3 regional discussion forums attended by 303 community members were facilitated.	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
To support discussion forums among the youth to understand environmental governance and effectively engage and demand relevant authorities to undertake sustainable management of natural resources	Support discussion forums among the youth on issues on the environmental management and the role they can play. To support interns with relevant environmental background (undertaking studies on natural resources or environmental studies) to work with the advocacy project at FAN to understand and actively participate in natural resources and environmental management related advocacy.	24 internship programmes supported Internship reports	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set

Strategy 5: Support capacity building of FAN to evaluate its mandate, develop a strategic focus document and address technical capacity gaps to carry out its mission effectively

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To support FAN to undertake an organizational retreat to evaluate its mandate and develop a strategic focus and plan for the organization and to build its technical capacity to keep abreast and address emerging environment issues.	Facilitate a Strategic Planning and organizational retreat for FAN board, staff, and collaborators to develop a 5-year strategic plan document for FAN. To support technical project staff to attend and participate in national, regional and international forums and training programs to fill technical gaps at FAN and to keep abreast with global environmental issues and trends.	FAN 5 year strategic plan developed Trainings/forum participation reports 6 staff members supported to attend various courses in their area of specialization.	Yes/100% Yes/100%

FAN Project for July 07–June 08

Strategy 1: Create awareness among the public and educate them on the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders and procedures of participation in sustainable natural resources management as contained by recently enacted or revised natural resources and environmental laws (Forests Act 2005, EMCA, 1999 and the Draft Wildlife Bill and Draft Wildlife Policy)

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To publicize the provisions that enable stakeholders' participation in the EMCA 1999, Draft Wildlife Bill/ draft policy and the Forests Act 2005.	Produce and distribute calendars featuring stakeholders participation in the Forest Act (2005), the Water Act (2002), EMCA (1999) and the draft Wildlife Bill	2000 calendars for 2008 produced and distributed	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
	Produce newspaper features focusing on stakeholders' participation in the Forest Act (2005), the Water Act (2002), EMCA (1999) and the draft Wildlife Bill	5 newspaper articles published in local national dailies	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
	Purchase of the Forest Act 2005, Wildlife Bill/ policy, EMCA 1999 and subscribe to land and environment law reports	684 policy documents bought from government printers and distributed to stakeholders	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set

Strategy 2: Support various structures and institutions recently established by natural resources policies and legislations to understand their respective roles and effectively respond to public needs.

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To publicize the roles and responsibilities of various natural resources structures and institutions established by natural resources management (NRM) legislations and how the public can access them when necessary.	Produce and distribute brochures and flyers with detail of institutions created by the Forests Act (2005), EMCA (1999), and the draft Wildlife Bill featuring their roles and responsibilities and how they can be contacted	8000 flyers and 3000 brochures produced and distributed.	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set
	Produce and publish the FANews on issues related to the Forests Act 2005, EMCA 1999 and the Wildlife Bill and draft policy	2000 copies of FANews published and distributed	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set

Strategy 3: Support communities to undertake available partnerships with the private sector on management and exploitation of natural resources for economic development

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
Pilot testing of forest based enterprises in relation to the new forests Act 2005	Supported Iveti Community Forest Association (CFA) to set up a forest based industry and train them in efficient wood utilization	One. CFA supported to acquire a bench and band saw	Indeterminate (No bench marks set
	Support Western Tree Planters' Association (WETPA) with a simple pole treatment plant and introduce efficient wood conversion machinery to promote forest based enterprises	Trained 60 WETPA members in simple pole treatment and wood processing	Indeterminate (No bench marks set
	Facilitate consultation meetings for the Mt. Kenya East community associations to meet the private sector and agree on wood fuel supply contracts	2 consultative meetings organized where 51 community members participated plus Mastermind Tobacco Company representatives. Participants signed wood fuel supply agreements with Mastermind Tobacco Company	Yes/100%
	Support resource centres collaborating with FAN to acquire audio visual equipments (Television sets, DVD/VHS/Tapes) and awareness creation materials so as to make them relevant to the local communities they serve	5 resource centers supported with equipment	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set

Strategy 4: Facilitate the youth to engage and lobby for better environmental and natural resources management.

Objective	Activities (Expected output)	Actual output	Level Implementation
To support discussion forums among the youth to understand environmental governance and effectively engage and lobby relevant authorities to undertake sustainable management of natural resources	Facilitate regional forums for youth groups and other stakeholders in environmental management	5 youth forums attended by 364 youth were organized. Forum reports	Yes/indeterminate as no benchmark was set

2.2.3 Summary of Project implementation by FAN

- All activities undertaken during this phase were found to be relevant to fulfilling the set objectives of the programme.
- Twenty one percent (21%) of the project's planned activities were fully implemented, 3% were implemented halfway (50%), and 62% were indeterminate while 14% were not implemented.
- Activities not implemented were due to circumstances beyond the institutions control. FAN did seek permission from Sida to substitute them with other activities

Recommendation:

Feature project activities should have clearly defined benchmarks to serve as a basis for assessing the scope and extent of project implementation against expected outputs

2.2.4 Impacts of the Advocacy Programme – FAN

Objective 1: To identify legal and sustainable opportunities for commercial exploitation of natural resources.

Activities**a. Stakeholders Analysis in Mt. Elgon**

In phase two of the programme, FAN expanded its activities into the slopes of Mt Elgon and covered an area of approximately 200–300 Km². FAN started its activities by carrying out an analysis to identify who were the main stakeholders in the management of natural resources in the Mt Elgon area and to explicitly identify the beneficiaries of commercial exploitation of the natural resources in this area. The analysis also informed on the legal aspects of the respective stakeholders activities.

Output

Information and data on stakeholders in natural resource management, beneficiaries of commercial exploitation of natural resources and the legal rights and obligations of respective stakeholders in the Mt Elgon area.

Impacts

Sustainable utilization of natural resources is depends on the management making informed decisions. The new forest Act, which led to the formation of the Kenya Forest service, requires communities to develop management plans before they are allowed to participate in the management of forest resources in their localities. In meeting this objective, FAN has produced the necessary information and data for developing these management plans and on which to base management decisions regarding the natural resources in the Mt Elgon area. This has resulted in the development of mechanisms for participatory NRM in the Mt. Elgon area.

b. Surveys on natural resources and their commercial opportunities in Mt. Elgon and in Central Meru

FAN in collaboration with ICRAF (central Meru) carried out surveys to establish an inventory of natural resources in Mt Elgon area and the then Central Meru district. These surveys also identified opportunities for commercial utilization of these resources on a sustainable basis.

Output

- 1 An inventory of natural resources (forests) in Mt Elgon and Central Meru district.
- 2 Existing opportunities for the sustainable commercial exploitation of these forest resources.
The commercial opportunities assessed were based on resource availability, market demands, resource sustainability, production, and processing methods.
- 3 Information on valuation of on-farm tree products

Impacts

Most forest related products came from natural and plantation forests until a ban was imposed on their extraction in 1986. Following the ban, the government together with various NGOs encouraged farmers to plant trees on their farms. The survey revealed that farmers in Central Meru had on their farms a substantial number of mature trees that could be exploited on a commercial basis and that these farmers were being targeted by mobile saw millers. However, due to lack of knowledge and awareness on tree inventory methodology and valuation, and inefficient harvesting techniques of saw millers, the tree merchants (who included saw millers, tea industries, for firing broilers and companies using telegraphic and transmission poles), exploited the farmers by offering them low prices for their products.

To address this problem FAN organized a training workshop where 21 mobile millers were educated on more efficient methods of saw milling. The millers were able to recover more timber products from the trees. They were therefore able to offer higher prices to the farmers for their trees and hence contribute towards improving the quality of their lives. FAN also organized training workshop, exchange visits and produced posters in the local language (Meru) to create awareness among farmers on their participation in on-farm timber production (planting, care and harvesting), valuation, and marketing. With this knowledge farmers were able to improve on their tree farming techniques and bargain for fair prices for their products.

Objective 2: To create awareness on policies and legal issues governing the management of natural resources
Activities

- Conducted 4 thematic community forums in Njoro
- Produced publications to guide communities on community led advocacy and lobbying.
- Facilitated the management of the Njoro Resource Centre and furnish it with relevant policy documents and materials
- Recorded and aired radio programmes on legal and policy issues governing natural resources management and sustainable opportunities for commercial exploitation.

Output

Well informed communities on policy and legal regimes on natural resource management.

Impact

For a long time, many communities believed that they had a right to natural resources in their locality and that Government was denying them this right. This was especially so with forest resources. The policy then was to exclude the communities from the management of these resources. However, from the mid 1980s, it became apparent that these policies were untenable and that the forests were being destroyed at an alarming rate. There was need for the Government to change this position. To do this, the Government introduced new policies and legislation to be applied in NRM. The new policies embraced the idea of participatory management of natural resources where communities were given role to play but they also had obligations. The new policies and legislation specified these roles and obligations.

Through the advocacy programme, the communities have been made aware of these roles and obligations and have been empowered to actively participate in the management of their natural resources through formation of resource user associations.

Objective 3: To educate and create awareness to communities and other stakeholders on their rights, roles and responsibilities in environmental and natural resources management through the provisions of the environmental law and other relevant policies and statutes guiding natural resource management in Kenya.

Activities

- Recorded and Aired 11 half hour programmes and 3 one hour live Interactive programmes programs on KBC and Kass FM respectively (*Theme: Issues related to forest governance, legislative reforms, Environmental awareness – National programmes*)
- Produce and distributed 4500 year 2006 calendars with thematic briefs (*Themes: Environmental issues, environment laws, and forest laws. Distributed to: Local communities, Longer exposure to particular messages, Distributed to communities, institutions, and general public*)
- Supported training in 16 community resource centers (Webuye, Kisumu, Narok, Turkana, Kapanguria, Kericho, Malindi, Kwale, Koibatek, Mwingi, Kisii; Marigat, Isiolo, Njoro; Karatina, Marsabit)

- Reprinted and distributed 2000 copies of the book: *Understanding the Forests Act and Forest Policy* and 7,000 copies of the book: *Community led Advocacy and Lobbying (Used by local communities for advocacy at the local level)*
- Prepared, published and distributed 7,500 copies of a booklet on *Public participation in policy making and Simplified version of the forest Act and draft forest policy (Recipients Community forest associations)*
- Developed and distributed 500 car stickers (Distributed by NEMA to regional offices)
- Developed and distributed 500 car bumper stickers
- Developed and distributed 3500 posters on the PEC and DEC (Study to establish effectiveness of the approach – not done) Posters targeted communities and were distributed there)
- Produced and distributed 4000 copies of 2008 calendars containing various topical themes on NRM legislations
- Facilitated 4 local authority forums in Eldoret, Wote Makueni; and Kericho
- Recorded 3 radio programmes and funded 4 live discussion programmes on Mulembe FM and KASS FM on post election violence and its impact on natural resources
- Published 3 newspaper articles on *Making our environment dangerous; Do we care about our environment* targeting the World Environment Day on two dailies (Standard and the Nairobi Star 5th and 11th June 08
- Produced and distributed 3000 brochures on the institutions created by various NRM legislations
- Distributed copies of water Act to local communities
- Distributed copies of the EMCA to local communities
- Facilitated youth meetings in Migori; Nandi North and South; Nairobi and Kakamega
- Carried out training among the youth on advocacy and environmental management in Kisumu; Narok; Njoro; Isiolo; Karatina; Kwale; Keiyo; Kisii and Mwingi. (Mainly CBOs manned by youth and membership is of the youth. Create awareness on their roles and responsibilities))
- Supported 25 interns to undertake internship at FAN (Mostly from Universities and intermediate colleges. Kenyatta University, Egerton, University of Nairobi., Moi University Maseno University, Kampala University – Uganda, KWS training institute).
- Supported WETPA (Western Kenya Tree Planters Association – FAN active in its formation as part of farmer/private sector participation in tree farming) to prepare 5 simple pole treatment plants.
- Supported 5 resource centers to acquire Audio Visual equipments in Malindi, Bungoma, Njoro Kisumu and Kwale (TV, VDC recorders – Showing environmental tapes and videos for training purposes

Output

1. Communities have been made conversant with their right to clean and healthy environment and the related roles and responsibilities to enhance the same.
2. Apart from the communities involved in the project implementation, a wider audience of the stakeholders was informed on the legislation through radio, posters, newspaper articles, calendars, and publications.

Impacts

1. There is increased interest and participation by the communities and other stakeholders in environmental issues. Many communities and institutions organize and actively take part in environment days where volunteers clean the environment. Many communities and citizens are now able to identify emerging issues on environment and lobby the authority for necessary corrective actions. This exemplified by incidences where citizens have raised the alarm on plastic waste, hazardous chemical spills in Kibera and Mombasa and pollution of the Nairobi River.
2. There is also greater engagement and communication to the various institutions set up by EMCA such as the Public Complaints Committee and National Environment Tribunal. Over the last two years, cases reported to the Public complaints Committee have increased fourfold while those brought to the national Environment Tribunal have tripled. This indicates an increased awareness by the citizens about issues that are affecting their environment.

Objective 4: To build the capacity of the members of DECAs established by the EMCA to understand their roles and responsibilities as members of the DECAs and to deal with environmental issues as per the guiding legislations

Activities

- A forum to discuss gaps in EMCA was held attended by NEMA Board, staff and civil society organizations (Supported stakeholders to identify gaps in the environmental legislation and recommend revisions Report was made and presented to NEMA and this report is now being used to make the necessary changes to the EMCA);
- Trained Foresters in Western, Nyanza and Rift Valley provinces on the forest reforms instead of training of FCCs which were yet to be formed)
- Trained Foresters on how to implement the new forest act which stipulates that they work with local communities in looking after forest.

Output

1. Participants of the district forums are more conversant with the responsibilities charged to them as members of the DEC and are more effective in dealing with environmental issues presented to them.
2. The networking and experience sharing has strengthened the linkage and procedures of working between the various DECAs and NEMA.

Objective 5: Strengthen the FAN Network's capacity to keep abreast with current global trends on environmental governance

Activities

- Facilitated staff to participate in various training forums: Elca Wabusya MS –TCDC; Jackson Kiplagat Kenya Cleaner Production EIA/EA course and Dr. Dominic Walubengo Kenya Cleaner Production – EIA/EA course
- The programme has also facilitated staff to attend meetings organized by government or CSOs on matters touching on Natural resource management.

Output

FAN staff is now able to understand national/global trends on environmental governance and the related issues and advocate for those positive practices to be mainstreamed into the country's development agenda. They are also able to share environmental information with other stakeholders.

2.2.5 Case Study

From 1997, FAN has been working with communities in the Mau on the advocacy programme. The Mau forest complex is the main source of water for rivers flowing into Lake Nakuru, Lake Baringo, and Lake Victoria. If this source is severely disrupted, it will result in a dire situation that threatens Lake Nakuru with drying up completely, it threatens the newly constructed Sondu-Miriu hydroelectric plant, it jeopardizes the feature of Lake Baringo, the Mara River – the only permanent source of water for the Mara Game reserve and Serengeti National Park.

On the 16th February 2001, the then Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, the Hon. Francis Nyenze, published in the Kenya Gazette his intention to excise 170,000 acres of gazette forest-land in the Mau. The advocacy programme immediately mobilized local communities (mainly Ogiek who are forest dwellers in the area) to hold a protest march to State House in Nakuru. This was to plead with the President to use his powers to revoke the intended excision of Mau forest. Protest letters were also sent to the minister concerned.

When no response was forthcoming, FAN together with Prof Wangari Mathai and her Green Belt Movement, the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), and Mazingara Institute on behalf of their members filed a case against the Minister. This case is still pending in court but there is an injunction against the intended excision.

2.3 East African Wildlife Society

2.3.1 Background

The period from 1985 witnessed massive excision of forest land resulting in a big reduction in the area under forest cover in the country. This raised a lot of concern among various stakeholders leading to the formation of the Kenya Forest Working Group with a view to lobby against further excision of forest areas. To enable Kenya Forest Working Group effectively lobby the Government for action to save the forests, three NGOs with financial support from Swedish International Development Authority were given the mandate to undertake a six month pilot project on policy and legislative issue affecting the forest sector at three selected forest sites. These pilot projects started in March 1997 and concentrated in Ololua, Lorroki and East Mau and were implemented by EAWLS, RPK and FAN respectively.

These pilot projects generated useful information that was used to prepare a second phase of the project, which lasted eighteen months. In this phase, the scope of operation was expanded by working in additional areas. EAWLS continued to work in Ololua and Gatamaiyu watersheds areas; FAN in Mau watersheds (EAST and South west forests); and RPK in Lorroki, Maragoli and Kakamega watersheds. During this phase, operational gaps that were hindering sustainable management of natural resources in watersheds were identified. This led to the formulation of the third phase of the project with the overall goal of identifying opportunities and information on policy and legislation that could be used to enhance sustainable management of natural resources within watersheds in selected areas.

2.3.2 Scope and Extent of project implementation by EAWLS

Below is a summary of the scope and extent of the project implementation by EAWLS. The summary contains only the objectives of the project and a documentation of results from implementation of activities by the project. Although the activities implemented were relevant to the overall project goals, it was not possible to assess the scope and extent of project implementation against the expected outputs because the available log frame was weak in design. The log frame is not clear on what the expected outputs are and what activities needed to be implemented to achieve these outputs. It also did not contain benchmarks that would provide a basis for assessing the scope and extent of project implementation.

Advocacy for sustainable natural resource management Ooloolua Karura, Gatamaiyu and Arboretum (July 1998–30th June 2000)

Objective 1: Create awareness among local communities on legal and policy issues that will promote sustainable management of natural resources

Activities

- 3 awareness creation workshops on legal and policy issues were facilitated;
- 3 public awareness creation on environmental conservation and continuous surveillance on illegal activities taking place in the forest were facilitated;
- Facilitated one farmers exchange visits to Taita Hills where EAWLS had undertaken a similar intervention;
- Facilitated three (3) stakeholders awareness workshops on constitutional and statutory provisions and their impacts on natural resource ownerships
- Facilitated the formation of six (6) natural resources users groups in all the project sites (2 in Ooloolua, 4 in Gatamaiyu)

Objective 2: Document the major policy and legal issues affecting the forest and other natural resources around it

Activities

- Facilitated three (3) consultative community workshops to raise awareness on policies and legal issues regarding resources utilization
- Published two (2) copies of awareness newsletters
- Documented policy and legal issues affecting natural resources
- Undertook a review on policy and legislation on the management of natural resources and disseminate the same to stake holders in all the project sites
- Developed a fund raising documentation for the Friends of Arboretum
- Developed a security plan for the Nairobi Arboretum

Advocacy for poverty eradication through sustainable natural resource management – Ooloolua and Gatamaiyu (July 2000–Dec 2003)

Objective 1: To identify legal and sustainable opportunities for commercial exploitation of natural resources

Activities

- Conducted two (2) surveys of natural resources and documented potential commercial opportunities;
- Conducted two (2) reviews of policy and legislation and identified constraints inhibiting commercial exploitation of natural resources;
- Facilitated forty (40) local stakeholders meetings;
- Facilitated two (2) surveys on various decision making structures on policies on natural resources.

Objective 2: To create awareness on policies and laws governing the management of natural resources

Activities

- Facilitated the establishment of Project Resource Centre in Gatamaiyu for information exchange;
- Facilitated two (2) farmers exchange visits;
- Facilitated two (2) awareness workshops for stakeholders to enhance their participation on natural resources;
- Created awareness on NRM through information dissemination

Objective 3: To facilitate the participatory management of natural resources by local communities

Activities

- Facilitated the establishment of 8 natural resource users groups on forest, water and honey processing in the project area;
- Trained 8 users groups on matters related to organization and leadership so as to strengthen their viability;
- Trained 8 local NRM users groups on advocacy skills;
- Established a collaborative working relationship among stakeholders, e.g. Forest Department, NALEP and NGOs;
- Undertook institutional strengthening and training of staff;
- Training workshops conducted on bee farming;
- Conducted public barazas for local community members;
- Conducted training workshops on organization, constitution development, leadership and governance for resource user associations in the project area;
- Collaborated with other stakeholders to organize field days on alternative means of livelihood for local communities.

Objective 4: Advocacy for Poverty Eradication through Sustainable Natural Management

Activities

- Field visits and courtesy calls were facilitated to identify advocacy issues requiring urgent attention;
- Two bi-monthly environmental conservation meetings with local key stakeholders were held;
- A comprehensive sustainable conservation and development plan of natural resources and agriculture in the area was developed;
- 64 community organizations were trained on NRM;

Advocacy for Good Governance & Sustainable Management of Natural Resources within Nyando Watershed – Tinderet Forest Ecosystem (2005–2008)

Objective 1: To increase knowledge /capacity among local stakeholders on legal and legislations, to reduce degradation of natural resources

Activities

- 34 workshops held to enlighten communities on Policy and legislation governing natural resources a total of 1120 participants attended the workshops;
- Facilitated the formation of natural resources users associations;
- Facilitated the formation of 9–13 member village environmental committees in all project sites;
- Facilitated the formation of 8 resource users association with a total membership of 3543;
- Surveyed and published a resource inventory for the study area;
- Documented of community participation in NRM within the project area.

Objective 2: To enhance the capacity of local stakeholders to effectively utilize resources

Activities

- Facilitated the establishment of 220 tree nurseries which produced over 1.5 million tree seedlings for transplanting by the local communities;
- Facilitated 27 workshops where over 1000 farmers discussed ways of establishing commercial tree farms;
- Facilitated the establishment of over 200 commercial tree farms;
- Facilitated farmers to acquire 150 hives for bee keeping;
- Facilitated the installation of 103 improved jikos (stoves) as an energy conservation measure;
- Empowered 35 farmers adopt dairy farming and 70 farmers to adopt organic farming techniques;
- Trained 640 participants Soil conservation techniques
- Facilitated the establishment of 562 terraces by local farmers;
- Facilitated 24 natural resources management workshops attended by 900 participants.

Objective 3: To increase conservation knowledge on natural resources in the area

Environmental awareness creation

Activities

- Community training needs surveyed and documented
- Held 10 workshops where 455 participants trained on strategies for advocacy;
- Held 11 workshops where 354 participants trained in information gathering and dissemination;
- Trained community members on how to develop business plans;
- Held 4 agricultural field days to demonstrate organic farming, soil conservation, and dairy farming;
- Produced and distributed 2000 News letter/brochures to over 120891 community members.

Recommendations

In future, the programme should design a well structure log-frame to guide the implementation of its projects. Output and benchmarks and targets should be clearly defined as they provide a basis for the evaluation of project implementation.

2.3.3 Impacts of the Advocacy Programme – EAWLS

2.3.3.1 Case Study One – Ooloolua Forest

Ooloolua Forest

Objective

To assess and determine if there was any linkage between awareness on policy and legal issues on one hand and sustainable natural resource management at the community level on the other hand.

Activities

- EAWLS carried out a baseline study of the main human activities that were being undertaken in the Ooloolua forest and their impact on the environment.

Findings

- There was massive illegal allocation of land within a gazetted forest;

- Although Oloolua was a gazetted forest, the government had excised part of it and allocated to private developers without following the laid down legal procedures. The allotments were for quarrying purposes at a fee of Ksh. 10,000 per annum. This was equivalent to 50% of the plot recipients' earnings per day from selling stones;
- The recipients were not from the communities surrounding the forest;
- In principal, the recipients were supposed to replant trees after the removal of stones. However, the study revealed that before removing the stones, the recipients were selling the top soil to builders in the city. Consequently, after removal of the stones, there was no soil left to support tree planting;
- There was massive logging within the forest on the pretext that these trees were being removed to clear the ground for quarrying;
- People from communities around the forest and other areas took advantage of the above activities to cut trees from the forest for building material and debark other trees for medicinal purposes;
- About 20,000 people depended on Oloolua forest for their water and other associated environmental services;
- The Ngong is the main river which flows through Nairobi city before joining the Athi River. Over 100,000 depend on it for their drinking and irrigation water. A tributary of this river originates from the Oloolua forest.

Intervention

- The advocacy programme enlightened local communities about threats to the forest on which they depended for their water supply;
- The programme also enlightened the communities on their rights and obligations in relation to their natural resources and how to lobby the Government to protect the resources from the current threats. This was through a workshop attended by 40 people chosen from the forest adjacent communities;
- The advocacy programme assisted the forest adjacent communities to form and register Oloolua Environmental Conservation (OEC) group for the purpose of seeking legal redress against the threats to the forest by outsiders. The 40 participants who attended the EAWLS workshop became the founder members of OEC. The KARENGATA association which existed as a residence association in Karen and Langata areas of Nairobi joined the OEC as a cooperative member;
- As a legal entity the OEC group in collaboration with KARENGATA association and the Kenya Forest Working group were able to file a case in court to stop quarrying activities in the forest, and cancel all illegal allocations of forest land;
- The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report facilitated by the advocacy programme formed the basis for the court case;
- The case prompted the government to commission experts to carry out their own EIA;
- The findings were similar to those of the EIA by the advocacy programme. Consequently, the Government revoked the land allocations in the forest and banned quarrying. To date, this ban is still in force. As a result, the case in court became redundant.

Impact

Through activities of the advocacy programme, forest adjacent communities were able to successfully lobby the government to revoke allocation of forest land in Oloolua forest and ban quarrying and cutting of trees in the forest. This not only secured their only source of water but also helped conserve the forest.

2.3.3.2 Case Study Two

Karura Forest

The advocacy Programme carried a survey in Karura forest similar to the one carried out in Oloolua forest. This followed the excision of part of the forest for housing development.

Findings

- The forest provided many environmental services to the local communities;
- Karura is largest gazetted forest within the city of Nairobi;
- There was massive illegal allocation of forest land to private developers;
- There was massive Illegal logging of targeted tree species for wood carving (*Olea hullensis* spp) and wood fuel. This illegal logging was found to be unsustainable.
- The private developers had already started to clear the forest for house construction purposes

Interventions

- EAWLS lobbied the Government to stop the illegal allocation of forest land and cancel already allocated land titles;
- EAWLS shared information with other organizations with similar objects to have a bigger voice;
- When there was no response from the Government the advocacy programme highlighted the issue through mass media;
- With other organizations like Greenbelt movement and local communities, the advocacy programme helped organize mass demonstrations against the allocations and construction.

Impact

This concerted effort by the advocacy programme in collaboration with other likeminded institutions, local communities and the mass media brought the matter to the attention of both the national and international community which resulted in the suspension of the illegal land allocation and development. This suspension is still in place and has helped protect and conserve the forest.

2.3.3.3 Case Study Three

Gatamayu Forest

The advocacy programme carried out an environmental survey in Gatamayu forest similar to the one carried out in Oloolua forest:

Findings

- There was wide spread Illegal logging and charcoal burning within the forest. This was to supplement income by community members;
- There was a general lack of alternative means of survival for the local communities.

Interventions

- The programme created awareness on alternative ways of utilizing forests and their products on a suitable basis.
- EAWLS facilitated the formation of community forest user groups to enable them utilize forest resources sustainably;
- The forest user groups were encouraged to police the forests for their own benefit.

Impact

Four user groups were established. Each group was provided with ten bee hives that were placed in the forest. The Advocacy programme linked the groups to large scale buyers of honey in Nairobi. While looking after their bee hives, community members were able to protect the forest by deterring potential loggers from carrying out their activities. From their income, the groups were able to acquire more hives and increase their income. To date these groups have become larger and are still active to date.

2.3.3.4 Case study four

Tinderet and South Nandi

Impacts:

- Communities are more informed about policies and legislation related to NRM. The farmers have been able to form resource user groups to be able to take advantage of opportunities presented under the different legislations. Through these associations, they have been able to engage the key stakeholders in the management of these resources and develop resource utilization plans. This gives them a say in how the resources are managed and are no longer just on lookers.
- Increased awareness has led communities to change their attitude and perception towards resources in their areas such that they are now able to resist those degrading the environment.
- Communities have been introduced and encouraged to engage in commercial tree farming. The programme has identified and linked those farmers to markets for their produce (Homa lime, George Williamson tea farmers). The farmers have formed associations through which they have a better bargaining power for marketing purposes. Commercial tree farming should become a self sustaining enterprise as farmers have realized the potential benefits. When the trees mature in 6–7 years farmers will be able to earn Ksh.4000–6000 per tree. With an average of 100 trees per farmer, there is a potential of earning Ksh. 400,000 to 600,000 which should drastically change their quality of life and secure their livelihoods. Other than providing cooking fuel and building material, the trees also stabilize the soil thus reducing erosion. To meet demand for tree seedlings, some community members have been encouraged to develop tree nurseries. This is now providing employment and a source of livelihood. Nursery owners are earning on average Ksh. 1200 per day.
- Through training on livelihood options and introduction of viable technologies, farmers have increased their production and are able to sell their product in the area, the cities, and towns and for export. For examples farmers who attended some of the EAWLS workshops and field days formed themselves into an association and were linked to an investor. The association now produces passion fruits for export. Similar arrangements have also been implemented for horticultural crops.
- Advocacy farmers are able to demand for their rights and even lobby the GoK especially for road networks, water, among others.
- Users associations registered and run by the group members themselves and have started developing proposals for funding to enable them engage in commercial production of crops and dairy produce.
- As a result of awareness workshops, field days and seminars by EAWLS, there is Increased terracing of farms hence reduced soil erosion leading to improvements in water quality.
- EAWLS facilitated farmers to lobby the KWS translocation of wild animals that were destroying their crops and a threat to humans.

Sustainability

Many of the projects are for earning income and have developed into strong marketing groups so as to eliminate middlemen. These groups are able to lobby GoK to stabilize markets so that price fluctuation does not affect farmers.

3. General Impact of the Advocacy Programme

During the pilot phase of the advocacy programme (1997) it became apparent that the general public and other stakeholders lack information and awareness on policies and legislation governing the management and utilization of natural resources within their locality. Although this information was available, there was no effective mechanism in place for making local communities aware of their rights and obligation in the management of natural resources. It was also confirmed that many of the existing policies and legislation were outdated and had no provision for the participation of local communities in the management of their natural resources. The advocacy programme set out to fill this gap in selected areas. *The main objective of the advocacy programme was to create awareness on policies and legal issues governing the management of natural resources:* Over three phases, the advocacy programme has managed achieve this objective.

Representatives of local communities interviewed in the field were confirmed that they were now aware of their roles in the management of natural resources. In Tinderet and South Nandi, local farmers in the project area were now familiar with the impact of river bank erosion. Through the programme, they have been made aware of legislation which prohibits agricultural activity within thirty meters of a stream or river bank. Through the programme, the farmers were encouraged to plant trees along streams and river Yala to protect its banks. There is now widespread acceptance of the thirty meter buffer zone rule along river banks. Many farmers have planted trees in this zone. The programme has also assisted in the setting up of tree nurseries to supply seedlings to these farmers and the selection of suitable tree species for these zones.

At the start of the programme, many policies and legislation relating to the management of natural resources were inadequate and outdated. Most had no provision for public participation in the management of natural resources. As a result of the awareness created by the advocacy programme, many local communities were made aware of these shortcomings and empowered to effectively participate in lobbying for changes in these policies and legislation. Facilitation by the advocacy programme enabled local communities to meet and discuss issues on natural resource management. They were able to identify emerging issues and come up with position papers which they presented to the relevant teams who were preparing the Environmental Management and Conservation Act (EMCA), the environmental policy, the Water Act, the Forest Act, the Ndungu Commission on Land, and the Constitutional Review.

Another objective of the advocacy programme was *to identify legal and sustainable opportunities for commercial exploitation of natural resources*. A key objective of Sida support to the Kenya Government is to alleviate poverty. The advocacy programme has been able to contribute towards achieving this objective by:

- Facilitating communities to form natural resources user groups
- Identifying constraints that inhibited commercial exploitation of natural resources and advocating for their elimination through the necessary policy changes and legislation;
- Promoting the establishment of on farm woodlots;
- Identifying and linking local communities to markets where they could sell their products;
- Identifying natural resource products that could be exploited on a sustainable basis

The third main objective was: *To facilitate participatory management of natural resources by local communities*. Communities have been facilitated to participate in the management of their natural resources through changes in policies and legislation governing the management of natural resources. These changes have enabled communities to form common user groups, stakeholder forums, and natural resource user

groups. Through these groups communities are able to meet and discuss issues relating to their natural resources and come up with solutions and determine courses of action. The advocacy programme has been instrumental in the formation, registration, and operationalization of these groups.

4. Strength, Weaknesses and Challenges of the Advocacy Programme

Analysis of results from implementation of the advocacy programme has identified a number of strength, weaknesses and challenges as detailed below.

4.1 Strength

1. A significant strength of this programme has been the mainstreaming of environmental conservation and natural resources management issues into the agricultural production systems. Under this approach forest, water, and agricultural land resources are looked at holistically and resource users have been assisted to develop resource use plans by multi-disciplinary teams of experts. These plans emphasize fair and equitable access to resources by all including the most vulnerable members of the community.
2. A second strength of the programme was its success in developing practical mechanisms of empowering the most vulnerable members of the community, through building their confidence, to demand for services from both private and public institutions. This is exemplified in Oloolua forest, Mau forest, and Maragoli hills, Karura forest where the local communities were able to lobby and where necessary challenge the Government on environmental issues and win.
3. A third strength of the programme was its success in being able to collaborate with other institutions to establishing holistic pilot focal areas, that incorporated all stakeholders, to serve as vital learning point for other focal areas within the country and the region. The focal area established in Lunyerere, Vihiga district and the forest associations formed in Bungoma district are examples of such focal areas that are serving as learning centers for the rest of the region and country.
4. A fourth strength of the programme was its success in developing strategies for training personnel in different institutions to effectively perform their roles in the new environmental policies and legislation. By training members of the District Environmental Committees (DECs) and forest officers FAN was able to pass on its experience in dealing with local communities in the management of their natural resources. Personnel from these institutions were equipped with the knowledge and skills required to deal with local communities as they address challenges posed by the new environmental policies and legislation which encourage participatory management of natural resources.
5. The fifth strength of the programme was its empowerment of farmers to talk and take charge of activities in their environment. Through awareness creation, the advocacy programme has made communities aware of alternative means of earning a livelihood. Communities have been able to start wood lots, dairy farming, horticulture, bee keeping as a means of improving their livelihood.
6. A sixth strength is raising of awareness on grabbing of forest land and deforestation as exemplified in Karura and Mau Forests.
7. A seventh strength of the programme is its contribution to the conservation of Oloolua, Karura, Mau, Kakamega, and Mt. Elgon forests.

4.2 Weaknesses of the Programme

Initially the focus of the programme was on addressing environmental issues using the ecosystem as the spatial unit. During the second phase, the spatial unit was changed to the focal area. The focal areas were chosen on the basis of administrative boundaries which rarely coincide with ecosystem boundaries. This meant that the advocacy programme was addressing issues in only part of the ecosystem which is not conducive to its overall health of the environment.

4.3 Challenges of the Programme

1. Advocacy work is intended to empower citizens either as individuals or communities have a say in the way the Government conducts its affairs. The citizens are supposed to ensure that the government conducts its affairs within the confines of the different policies and legislation. If this policies and legislation do not adequately represent or serve their needs or interests, the citizens are supposed to lobby for them to be modified or changed. Given nature of Government structure and operation, it is not possible for it to carry out advocacy work. This can only be objectively carried out by institutions that are outside the Government control. Non Government Organizations are best suited to play this role. This advocacy programme is well equipped, with the necessary experience and tools, to positively contribute in the field of environmental conservation and protection and livelihoods for the disadvantaged farmers in society.
2. The programme has developed resource use management plans for different focal areas. These need to be tested to evaluate their applicability and potential of being replicated in a wider area.
3. Addressing the concerns of child labor in the agriculture sector in view of the post election violence and prevailing high cost of living requires urgent attention. The available time frame was not adequate to significantly address this problem. There is need to identify mechanisms through which the study recommendation can be implemented beyond this project phase.
4. The new NRM policies and legislation have provisions for the establishment of various categories of local structures such as resource user Associations. These associations have been created to mobilize local communities participate in the management of local resources and the environment. Therefore there is still a need for capacity building and training of community members so that they can effectively participate and lobby for their rights in NRM
5. The Nyando project has so far covered two thirds of the watershed. The remaining third is yet to be covered due to difficult terrain and lack of infrastructure to ease accessibility. Even the covered areas are yet to fully change and adopt progressive attitudes and sound environmental perception due to rampant poverty that can easily negate the gains already achieved if a vacuum is created.
6. Sharing of natural resources and their accessibility is yet to be achieved due to ignorance by the local communities of policies and legislation that provides for participatory natural resource management..
7. Local infrastructure is still underdeveloped and if not addressed will continue impacting negatively to social development which is counter-productive to sound environmental achievements.
8. As a result of the project support to some members of Western Tree Planters Association (WEPTA) to plant trees on their farms, there was a high demand from other farmers for similar support. However this was not possible due to the limited resources available.
9. After lobbying for specific policy and legislation on environment to be enacted, The Government takes a fairly long time before the new policies or legislation are operationalised. A good example is the new forest Act 2005. The programme facilitated a series of forums to create awareness on the

new Act; this was based on the understanding the Act would be operationalised by 2006. However it took longer than expected to operationalize thus making some of the community members lose interest.

10. The new forests Act proposes among other issues that community members who live around a particular forest will be given rights to manage those forests accordance with provisions of the Act. The community members are required to form and register community forest associations for the same. However in most cases many associations targeting the same forest resource have been formed resulting in constant conflicts among them. The challenge is how to diversify the use of forest resources so that community participation in their management does not become counterproductive.
11. One of the activities of the programme has been to support the training of government officers on the new forest act since it was realized that they too did not know how it would affect them once enacted. However this was not an easy task since most of the foresters and district forest officers found it hard to participate in an NGO meeting 'as they viewed NGOs as people who put them on the spot. The challenge is for NGOs and Government to work together in a complementary manner at all levels.
12. One of the principles of sustainable development is that of inter and intra generational equity. This advocates for the safe use of the environment and natural resources for the benefit of the current and future generations on equitable terms. There is need to have clear mechanisms targeting the youth to understand the concept and principles of sustainable management of natural resources. The youth also need to be engaged to take up serious activism roles such as demanding for sound management of natural resources and the environment.

5. Lessons Learnt and Best Practices from the Programme

Lessons and best practices identified as a result of implementing the advocacy programmes are described below.

1. A key strength of the advocacy programme is its demonstration that land use planning can be realized at the sub-location and location levels. Land use planning in Kenya is normally done at the regional level. This ends up generalizing many of the issues. In principal, each village, sub-location, or location has got unique environmental issues and concerns. By using the location or sub-location as the spatial unit for land use planning, these issues and concerns can be incorporated into the plans and mainstreamed into development activities.
2. There is need to sensitize the public on their rights and obligations to the environment. This will make them realize that it is the role of every person in Kenya and not just the authorities to provide clean and healthy environment.
3. The Water Act 2002 and the EMCA 1999 have established many bodies for the implementation of these laws. However, the roles and responsibilities of these new bodies are not clear, even to those selected to sit on the boards of these bodies;
4. Many communities living near forests and other natural resources depend on these resources for their income. Therefore communities will listen more favorably to messages about natural resource policies and laws if these are perceived to be aimed at alleviating poverty or if the messages are tailored at wealth creation/income generation.

5. In addition to the above lessons, the HIV/AIDs endemic has had a great toll on the communities' economic status. Communities are using up all available resources including natural resources to deal with the scourge. There is need to document how forestry dependent communities are using forestry resources to deal with the endemic. The documentation may inform the development of a systematic and sustainable use of resources.
6. Child labor in the agriculture sector is a major concern and the advocacy project has conducted a study to determine the extent of this vice in Kakamega and Vihiga districts. The study report has been distributed to all key partners and now forms a useful reference for detecting and addressing child labor issues. A handbook for campaigning against child abuse has also been published and distributed freely to relevant partners. Communities have been sensitized, course of action developed, the next step is to implement the recommended actions.
7. A key goal of Sida's support to the agricultural sector has been to alleviate poverty and enable local communities achieve self sufficiency in food production. Their support has continued to be biased towards the poor and vulnerable members of the community. This support was conditional on good environmental governance. However earlier on in Sida's support to the agricultural sector, it become evident that it was not possible to incorporate environmental concerns due to the ignorance of local communities about their role and obligations in the management of their natural resources. This led to the creation of the current advocacy programme to complement Sida's support to the agricultural sector. Over time, a synergy has developed between various stakeholders in the agricultural sector and implementers (EAWLS, RPK & FAN) of the advocacy programme. This has been achieved through NALEP and has had tremendous positive impact on the environment besides alleviating poverty.

Recommendations

In the context of lessons learnt and the identification of best practices, it is recommended that implementation the advocacy programme be continued. The programme needs to expand its spatial unit of operation from focal areas to either ecosystems or districts whichever is appropriate. The programme should concentrate on themes where the NGOs have developed unique expertise. These include

- Awareness creation among communities on their role and obligation in the management of natural resources
- Empowering of communities to demand for changes in policies and legislation that impede sustainable utilization of their natural resources;
- Sustainable commercial utilization of their natural resources to alleviate poverty;
- Creation of partnerships with other stakeholders in the sustainable utilization of their natural resources;
- Elimination of child labour in agriculture
- Mainstreaming of environmental issues and HIV/AIDS in land use planning and agricultural development;

6. Sustainability of the Advocacy Programme

- Advocacy by nature is not a product or a service that generates revenue to sustain itself. The programme normally targets the most disadvantaged members of society who cannot be expected to pay for the service.
- The advocacy programme has been working on ways and means of improving the livelihoods of disadvantaged members of society and thus contributes towards poverty reduction.
- Given the above scenario, it is clear that the three institutions have to rely on external resources to implement the advocacy programme.
- At the institutional level, the three organizations will continue to function with support from the other programmes they are implementing. However since these other programmes are mainly donor driven, they will not be in a position to spare enough resources to support the advocacy programme at sustainable level.
- FAN is trying to diversify its resource base to reduce reliance on donor funding. Through internal savings, they have purchased a plot where they are putting up an office block. When complete, the institution will save on rent. They will also rent out extra space to generate resources for some of their activities. However, this project is nowhere near completion. FAN has also leased land where they are trees that will ready for harvesting in 5–6 years time.
- RPK and EAWLS do not have such income generating activities.
- At the implementation level, the advocacy programme has been working closely with the relevant government institutions (Ministry of Agriculture, Forest Department now Forest Service, and Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock development). Many of the activities were geared towards improving the livelihood of local communities (horticulture, bee keeping, dairy cattle, tree nurseries, tree farming among others) while conserving the environment. These activities are income generating and with technical support from the relevant Government staff, they should be self sustaining. This will take place in the areas where the programme is currently being implemented.
- During the last two phases of the programme, FAN has recorded and broadcast regular programmes on the national radio station KBC. With the end of FAN's facilitation, KBC has taken up the task and continues to record and broadcast programmes on environmental issues on a weekly basis. This has assured the sustainability of the awareness creation activities of the advocacy programme.
- The advocacy programme has been instrumental in propagating the link between a healthy environment and improved livelihoods. Without the advocacy programme, environment might be the casualty in the quest for improved livelihoods. This is because funding for environment usually gets low priority in allocation of resources. This exemplified by the budget allocation for the Ministry of Environment which is less than 5% of the total budget.
- The advocacy programme has made a positive contribution to environmental conservation in the areas where it was being implemented. The programme has also enriched Sida supported projects (NALEP) in the agricultural sector. It is therefore crucial that support for its activities be continued.
- This support could be through: (1) support through the Environmental Programme Support (ESP) Facility (2) Direct support through a secretariat (3) Collaboration with other Sida supported programme (the water sector or Lake Victoria initiative).

6.1 Support through the Environmental Programme Support (ESP) Facility

- Sida is a key partner in the ESP
- Support from the ESP facility to civil society is being channeled through CDTF where the funds are made available through a competitive bidding process.
- In the last call for proposals for the advocacy programme in December 2007, two hundred and eleven (211) requests were received. After the appraisal process, ten (10) requests were approved for funding in July 2008 and the financial agreement is going to be signed in the next two weeks. Among the 10, only the proposal from RPK was approved although all the three NGOs put in requests.
- There is a need for special consideration of projects that are of strategic importance to Sida support to other sectors in the country. This is especially so if the programmes add value to the Sida supported project like NALEP.
- When there is a general call for papers on advocacy, the field is wide open, some of the proposals although excellent in their own way will not add value to Sida supported projects. It is recommended that this special consideration take the form of either offering support in proposal preparation to the three organizations or earmarking specific funds for NGOs whose work complements Sida's work in poverty alleviation.
- In support for proposal preparation, it is recommended that Sida sets some funds aside for use in procuring expertise to guide the three NGOs through proposal preparation until they are acceptable to CDTF.
- On their part, CDTF needs to speed up the proposal review process. A seven months approval period for 10 projects is not conducive to proper planning and project implementation by the concerned NGOs.
- It is recommended that a tripartite meeting be held between Danida, Sida, and CDTF to identify the root causes of this problem and come up with a solution.

6.2 Direct Support through a Special Facility

- The other alternative is for a facility be organized to support advocacy in environmental issues on similar lines as those facilities that are supporting democratic governance and land issues.
- This facility would support core activities in forest conservation, protection of water catchments, securing of livelihoods through NRM and participatory NRM.
- This facility would open to completion from other NGOs
- This facility would be open to supporting wider environmental interests and emerging environmental issues like climate change.
- The programme should then be expanded to cover more districts. However in the expansion, the programme should not deviate from its original focus of dealing with poor and marginalized members of the community.

6.3 Collaboration with other Sida Funded Programmes

- Sida is providing support to both the water sector in Kenya and the Lake Victoria initiative.
- A key objective of the water programme in Kenya is to secure water sources through protection and conservation.
- The three institutions are working on issues related to the protection of water sources in two of Kenya's water towers; Mau hills, Mt Elgon and Nandi hills.
- Given that the three institutions are addressing some of the issues in the water programme, there exists opportunities for collaboration between the two programmes. The advocacy programme could be contracted to implement some activities on behalf of the water programme in specific areas.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that talks be held between the water programme and the advocacy programme to explore further these opportunities for collaboration.

- The Lake Victoria initiative addressing siltation and pollution in the lake as one of its key objectives.
- Part of this siltation is as a result of soil erosion in the Mau hills, Nandi hills, and Mt. Elgon areas. The soil is then carried into the lake via rivers Mara, Nyando, Yala, and Nzoia.
- The advocacy programme is working on soil conservation with communities in these areas where the soil erosion is occurring. Therefore, there exists an opportunity for collaboration between the lake initiative and the advocacy programme.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that talks be held between the advocacy programme and the Lake Victoria Initiative to explore opportunities for collaboration.

7. Linkages

- The three organizations have been working with each other on this programme since its inception and have developed a close relationship. They operate in different areas and have used each other's area operation as sites for exchange visits by the communities they work with. This has given the community members an insight into the different types of environmental issues that are being addressed by the programme. This has broadened the community members' outlook towards environmental issues. The three organizations are also able to share their experiences and lessons learnt.
- Since inception, the advocacy programme has worked under the umbrella of NALEP. The other key players in NALEP are the Ministry of Agriculture who dealt with extension and ICRAF/KARI who handled the research component. These three components complement each other and maximize benefits to the farmer from the Sida support.
- Besides the Ministry of Agriculture, the three institutions have worked closely with the Forest Department now the Forest Service, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Ministry of Gender and Social Services, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Ministry of Education and the

District Administration, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), District Environmental Committees, Lake Victoria Development Authority, Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme (LVEMP). They have also collaborated with several private companies and other Non Governmental Organizations working in the field of Environment. This collaboration enabled the advocacy programme to optimize the use of the limited available resources by avoiding duplication of efforts and sharing of expertise.

- Within the organizations, there is also diversity in the activities. This is exemplified in the Lunyerere focal area where RPK is operating. Common interest groups have been formed where some members are involved in fish farming while others keep poultry, dairy cattle, or are engaged in horticulture and cereal farming. The group is therefore self sufficient in food required for a balanced diet. This reliance of members on each other promotes a sense of togetherness and helps in confidence building. By coming together, the members have been able to register with the Ministry of Social Services thus giving them access to credit for their activities. These inter – linkages within and without the organizations are beneficial and add value to the programme.
- The advocacy programme has a possibility of forming linkages with the Water Programme in Kenya and the Lake Victoria Initiative. These are Sida supported programmes with some objectives that are similar to those of the advocacy programme. These programmes could benefit from the experience gained by the three institutions while implementing the advocacy programme.

8. Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference for an end-of project Evaluation of the Sida Support to the Environmental Advocacy NGOs

8.1 Background

This task is for an end of project evaluation of three NGOs supported under Sida's Environmental Advocacy contribution. The NGOs are East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS), Forest Action Network (FAN) and Resource Projects Kenya (RPK).

The NGOs were supported initially through the National Agriculture and Livestock Extension Programme (July 2000 to June 2003) implemented through the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, and later under a direct funding arrangement with the Embassy. Financing will expire in June 2008. Specific areas supported by Sida are as follows:-

East African Wildlife Society (EAWLS)

The EAWLS is implementing activities based on the project entitled 'Advocacy for Good Governance & Sustainable Management of Natural Resources within the Nyando Watershed-Tinderet Forest Ecosystem', Rift Valley Province. The project addresses environmental issues impacting on the forest ecosystem and the Nyando watershed at large by working closely with stakeholders active within the project areas.

The project aims to enhance wide stakeholder participation in management, improve and sustain ecological and socio-economic and benefits from natural resources (forest water and river systems) in the Nyando Watershed. The main objectives are:

1. To increase capacity among local stakeholders on policy and legislation in order to reduce degradation of natural resources,

2. To enhance local stakeholders capacity to effectively utilise natural resources, and
3. To increase environmental conservation knowledge on natural resources in the area

Forest Action Network (FAN)

Sida is assisting FAN to support specific legislative structures and community groupings to effectively engage in sustainable natural resources management for social justice and economic well-being, with the following objectives:

1. To publicize the provisions that enable stakeholders participate in newly enacted and revised resources laws,
2. To facilitate and support stakeholders' discussions on policy gaps and lack of harmony in the new water legislation, the new Forest Act 2005 and the National Environment Council (EMCA),
3. To document how forest adjacent communities are using the forest resources to deal with the HIV/AIDS scourge,
4. To facilitate training exercises for members of Forest Conservation Committees (Forests Act 2005) and the EMCA to understand their functions and roles as charged by the respective legislations,
5. To publicize the roles and responsibilities of the various structures and institutions established by NRM legislations and how the public can access them when necessary,
6. To support community associations and the private sector to understand the partnership processes in natural resources management and to learn from other similar initiatives for economic benefits of both parties,
7. To support discussion forums among the youth to understand environmental governance and effectively engage and demand relevant authorities to undertake sustainable management of natural resources.

Resource Projects Kenya (RPK)

Sida is supporting advocacy for poverty eradication through sustainable agricultural production and environmental conservation in Kakamega and Vihiga Districts. Specific intervention promoted include enhanced food security, increased participation of men and women in production and marketing of farm produce, enhanced democratic governance and safeguarding of farmers interests in accessing goods and services, improved environmental quality through mainstreaming sustainable natural resources management into agricultural production systems, and environmental legislation applications leading to sustainable management, protection, and utilization of natural resources.

8.2 Objective of the Evaluation

The main objective of this study is to document the outputs and achievements of the programme, identify lessons learnt, and make recommendations on sustainability for the NGOs and beneficiaries.

Each evaluation is expected to fulfill the following:

1. Assess the scope and extent of project implementation against the expected outputs
2. Assess the impact of the programme in the three projects in terms of objectives and their achievements (Outputs and Outcomes)
3. Identify strengths weaknesses and challenges of the programme
4. Make recommendations on the advocacy programme in the context of project implementations and document best practices and lessons learnt

5. Recommend how the advocacy programme can be sustained in the future through any other initiatives
6. Undertake an assessment of existing and possible inter-linkages within and without the three organizations

8.3 Method and Scope of Work

The Consultant is expected to carry out a desk study to understand the programmes/projects and go through the progress reports from the three organizations submitted to Sida. The Consultant will visit the offices of the NGOs, hold discussions with programme staff, and clarify issues identified in the reports, and also to collect additional information which will be useful in the evaluation. The Consultant is expected to identify areas he/she may want to visit from the desk study and discussions with the programme staff. The visits will also be useful in collecting information from the target groups and recipients of the advocacy programme that will enrich the evaluation.

8.4 Contract Duration & Reporting

The evaluation shall start latest 1st May 2008 and be completed within 6 weeks. The draft report will be submitted latest 30th May 2008. Comments on the draft will be forwarded to the Consultant who will update the draft. A one-day seminar will be organised to discuss the updated draft with representatives from the three NGOs and Sida.

The Final Report will then be prepared and forwarded in 10 copies (two each to the NGOs and four to Sida). Electronic versions will also be submitted.

9. List of Workshop Participants

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Sida Support to the Environmental Advocacy NGOs in Kenya

Final Report

Three NGOs were supported by Sida over the period 1997–2008 to provide advocacy in natural resources, educate rural communities on their rights and obligations in sustainable management of natural resources, and to contribute to general public awareness and participation in environmental governance. The support was initially through a bilateral support to the Agriculture sector, and later through direct funding. The NGOs are Resource Projects Kenya, Forest Action Network, and East African Wildlife Services. This evaluation covers Swedish support to the organisations over the period January 2006 to September 2008, which was the final phase.

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