



NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON LESSONS LEARNED FOR INTEGRATED PLANNING CONDUCTED IN DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

A one day National Workshop on Lessons Learned for Integrated Planning was held on 4th July, 2018, at Giraffe Oceanic View Hotel in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. The workshop was officially opened by Dr. Joseph Paul, Acting Director General of the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC). It was attended by over 25 representatives from the Government and NGOs working on Land Use Planning at the policy-practice interface across Tanzania.

The workshop was also attended by Leo Niskanen, Technical Coordinator of the Conservation Areas and Species Diversity Programme at IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, Ning Li, Manager of the global project based at IUCN Environmental Law and Jennifer Kelleher, Programme Officer from the IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme as well as Arturo Mora and Andrew Wyatt from IUCN South America Regional Office and IUCN Viet Nam country office respectively.

The main objectives of the workshop, amongst others, were a) to share lessons and experiences on Integrated Land Use Planning and b) to generate concrete policy-practice recommendations for improving the land use planning process in Tanzania.

The workshop was organized by the “Integrated Planning to Implement the CBD Strategic Plan and Increase Ecosystem Resilience to Climate Change”, a global project being implemented by the Environmental Law Center of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), IUCN’s Global Protected Area Programme and three IUCN Regional Offices. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

The overall objective of the project is to increase capacity to optimize planning to support biodiversity and climate change adaptation objectives, including through the effective engagement of protected area systems. The project focuses on integrating climate change and biodiversity concerns into spatial planning frameworks. It works in four districts of Lake Tanganyika ecosystem: Mpanda (subsequently renamed Tanganyika) and Nkasi Districts in Tanzania; and Nsama and Mpulungu Districts in Zambia.

Lessons learned were shared through presentations by representatives from organizations working on land use planning across Tanzania. These included Masegeri Rurai (Serengeti Ecosystem, FZS - Frankfurt Zoological Society), Fred Loure (Simanjiro District, URCT – Ujamaa Community Resource Centre), Kasukura Nyamaka (Sumbawanga Cluster Project, SNV), Boniphace Shija (Kiteto, Sustainable Rangeland Management Project – ILRI/Ministry of Livestock) and Dr. Shadrack Kamenya (Kigoma, JGI – Jane Goodall Institute). Also, Lessons learned were shared by participating countries - Andrew Wyatt (Viet Nam) and Arturo Mora (Colombia).

Key lessons learned shared, amongst others, include:

- The role of Land Use Planning (LUP) in enhancing biodiversity conservation and climate change resilience as well as strengthening tenure security and addressing land use related conflicts is widely acknowledged. For example, land use planning has demonstrated its potential in securing areas for conservation by identifying conservation as a land use and allocating and demarcating land for conservation purposes like village forest reserves, wildlife (WMAs) and water catchments.
- LUP has proved to be both costly and time consuming. Developing a plan in just one village cost about USD 7,000 spending up to three weeks in the field. The gazettement of approved LUPs can even take up to or more than 2 years. However, planners can optimise time (and funds) by undertaking land use planning in two or more villages at the same time where facilitators split across the villages. In some places, communities have shown willingness to cover some of the costs for LUP, for example, in Mpanda, by contributing some cash so each household has Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO). This depends more on the recognition of the potential of VLUP in improving tenure security and local livelihoods.

- While some LUPs, especially those focusing on conservation, have been implemented to stage six, a significant number of village land use plans are not implemented due to limited awareness by communities on land use planning, weak institutional (district council) capacity, inadequate funds, low political will, poor sectoral coordination and collaboration as well as vested interests and sub-division of villages.
- Village land use planning (VLUP) is a participatory process designed to ensure that local communities own both the process and outcome. However, community ownership for some VLUP is lacking due to poor community participation in the planning process, ineffective facilitation and misinformation about the planning goal which is often associated to land grabbing, privatization of communal land and expansion of reserved areas.
- The integration of biodiversity in land use planning, albeit more at local scale, is far more advanced than of climate change aspects as the latter is a new knowledge area with a limited number of planners trained in this field. The key entry point has been resource mapping whereby natural resources and climate hazard prone areas in the village are mapped. The NLUPC has recognized the need for integrated land use planning and has, in the ongoing review of the VLUP guidelines, incorporated biodiversity and climate change issues.

Key recommendations for improving the planning process including the integration of biodiversity and climate resilience aspects include:

- The capacity of the District Participatory Land Use Management (PLUM) Team should be strengthened, by way of training and, if possible, by making it a permanent and legally recognized structure. A training strategy and manual for both the PLUM Team and communities is needed to ensure the right and quality content on LUP is delivered. In addition, the NLUPC should improve the coordination of LUP process in the country.
- Landscape level land use planning should be promoted as Village land use planning is not able to address key issues that transcend village boundaries. Although joint village land use planning allows for the joint planning for up to 5 villages, there is always a danger of participating villages not complying with land use agreements and the inadequacy of JVLUP to accommodate a landscape larger in size than the geographical area of jointly planned villages. To achieve landscape level planning, Zonal Land Use Planning Framework is the right tool to use, and relevant stakeholders from sectors with a stake in LUP should come together.
- Existing and potential opportunities to finance LUPs should be explored / pursued including advocating for better budgetary allocation and disbursement, creation of a legal LUP basket fund as well as tapping the potentials of Public-Private-Partnerships (PPPs) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSRs). Government MDAs should link LUPs to their sectoral development plans, in this way LUPs can become an integral part of the development planning process as opposed to the current programmatic approach driven by the need to acquire land for the sake of conservation, infrastructure development, mining or other forms of investment
- Improving the development and implementation of land use plans requires improved sectoral coordination and collaboration. To achieve this, there is a need to establish and capacitate the Land Use Planning Technical Committee, to ensure each ministry is aware of its responsibilities, including financing responsibilities. Also, NLUPC is needed to review and operationalize its coordination strategy.

- Due to lack of on the ground cases of integrated land use planning, there is a need to pilot landscape level and climate smart land use planning as a way of demonstrating the process and benefits thereof. This should go hand by hand with capacity building on integrated planning targeting practitioners and also policy makers, using IUCN modules and guidance documents on Integrated Planning.
- The development, financing and implementation of LUPs require political will and support, as such, it's critical to secure political of policy / decision makers at the local and national level. An advocacy strategy is therefore highly needed and stakeholders may, as a starting point and amongst other measures, join hands in organizing parliamentary sessions to advocate prioritization and financing of LUPs.
- To achieve the intended objective of land use planning, approved plans should be secured by preventing sub-division of villages with plans, restricting changes in land uses under JVLUP whenever a participating village opts out and by enforcing approved by-laws. This will require liaising with the Ministry responsible for Local Government Authorities to address sub-division of planned administrative areas and to build the capacity of Village Land Use Management (VLUM) Committee to enforce by laws and monitor the implementation of LUPs.

A key next step agreed, amongst others, is to organize the first ever meeting of the inter-sectoral National Land Use Planning Technical Committee – a body composed of representatives from Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies and responsible for advising the NLUPC on a number of inter-sectoral issues related to land use planning. It is hoped that this will take Integrated Land Use Planning to the policy level and help address key limitations/ barriers facing land use planning process in Tanzania including financing of LUPs.

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Figure 1: A group photo of workshop participants



Figure 2: Selected workshop sessions

