Spatial planning frameworks have traditionally focused on developing settlements and related infrastructure. Biodiversity conservation and climate change considerations are generally not reflected as an integral component. With regard to mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and climate change into these planning frameworks, national agencies in both countries face gaps in experience, knowledge and tools to make decisions ensuring win-win situations for society and the environment. As a result, the potential of planning to address biodiversity conservation and help prepare for the impacts of climate change in these countries has not yet been realized.

The Integrated Planning Project aims to support the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by a) providing information on impacts of climate change on biodiversity and ecosystems services, and b) building capacity of policy makers, planners, conservation practitioners and protected area managers to effectively mainstream biodiversity and climate change into planning and policy processes. The project is implemented in four participating countries: Colombia, Viet Nam as well as Tanzania and Zambia.

Main areas of activity

Knowledge Generation
- Legal and policy assessments
- Land use and climate change vulnerability assessments
- Demonstration activities (e.g. participatory land use planning approaches)

Mainstreaming
- Building consensus to streamline biodiversity and climate change aspects into landuse and development plans.
- Promoting legal/policy reform

Dissemination
- Sharing project findings.
- Promoting innovative legal/policy tools on land use planning.
- Developing capacity building modules on integrated planning.
- Developing guidance documents

Project Outcome

Decision makers contribute to the implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by applying participatory land use exercises and by integrating biodiversity and climate aspects into legal and institutional land-use frameworks at different levels.
Where We Work

The project works in four districts around Lake Tanganyika ecosystem. Lake Tanganyika is Africa’s deepest and largest rift lake; and the world’s longest freshwater lake (660 km) and second deepest (1,436m) hosting exceptional natural wealth along its shorelines and in the lake. It is surrounded by four countries: Tanzania, Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Burundi and Zambia. The Lake Tanganyika ecosystem supports a population of approximately 300,000 people on the Zambian side of the Lake basin and more than 1.7 million people in the Katavi and Rukwa Regions of Tanzania. The Mpanda and Nkasi Districts in Tanzania are situated in the Greater Mahale Landscape and encompass a number of Key Biodiversity Areas and Protected Areas such as the Katavi National Park and several forest reserves. Nsama and Mpalungu Districts in Zambia host Nsumbu National Park and adjacent Tondwa Game Management Area characterized by the presence of patches of rare and endangered Itigi-Sumbu thicket.

Why Do We Work There

The areas where the project is intervening are facing challenges related to ever expanding human activities and unsustainable use of natural resources, limited capacity amongst planners to integrate climate change and biodiversity aspects and outdated plans or presence of plans which do not effectively integrate climate change and biodiversity conservation in district and protected planning processes.

Examples of activities being carried out by the Integrated Planning Project in Tanzania and Zambia:

- Undertaking assessments of the policy, legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks
- Building the technical capacity of district and park planners to integrate climate change and biodiversity aspects through a series of capacity building workshops
- Supporting the integration of climate change issues in protected areas (Katavi in Tanzania and Nsumbu in Zambia) management plans.
- Supporting the integration of climate change and biodiversity issues in land use and development planning regulatory framework by informing legal reviews and by developing guidance documents.
- Generating information on climate change impacts and land use planning
- Documenting lessons and best practices on land use and development planning including mapping out key opportunities, challenges and recommendations for integrating climate change and biodiversity aspects
- Supporting dialogues for disseminating lessons and best practices on integrated planning
- Raising public awareness on climate change, biodiversity conservation and land use planning

Project lead in Africa: IUCN Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office, Nairobi – Kenya
Project duration: Four years (December 2014 – April 2018)

Project partners:
Tanzania: Vice President’s Office – Division of Environment, Katavi National Park, National Land Use Planning Commission
Zambia: Ministry of Lands and Natural Resources, Ministry of Water Development Sanitation and Environmental Protection, Department of National Parks and Wildlife, Department of Physical Planning and Housing.

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