



**Conservation as Core Assets for Livelihoods in
Eastern Africa**

**Community Workshop on Establishing Linkages
between HIV/AIDS and
Natural Environment in Tanzania**

2nd – 4th September, 2008

VETA College

Ikwiriri, Rufiji District

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 6.1 Action Plan on Environment and HIV/AIDS ----

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Acknowledgements

This workshop was part of a larger project, *Making the Linkages – Conservation as a Core Asset for Livelihood Security in Eastern Africa*, funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The project aims to improve the understanding of the importance of sustainable natural resource management for livelihood security and economic growth in Eastern Africa. The project focuses on the following poverty-environment linkages: HIV/AIDS and the environment, drylands and marine natural resources and livelihoods.

The major activities of the project are: 1) conducting community workshops and producing community lessons learned brochures to improve the understanding and awareness of the linkages at the community level; 2) carrying out more in-depth studies on the linkages; 3) initiating community-policy dialogues and interactions to improve understanding at the policy level and 4) influencing policy at the IGAD level through studies and conferences of directors of conservation and health and economic planners to facilitate the dialogue between the different sectoral senior decision-makers.

1. Introduction

The community workshop for reviewing study findings on linkages between HIV/AIDS issues and environmental management projects and activities in Rufiji and Kibaha Districts took place from 2nd to 4th September at VETA College in Ikwiriri, Rufiji. The workshop brought together 42 community representatives from the two districts of

“...the pastoralist habit of burning bushes for better pasture when the rainy season approaches has affected the environment in our village. Another challenge is that the community is not involved in the ongoing oil exploration; we think we should be involved at least to know what environmental impact this exercise has.” Umwe

“...youth friendly services include provision of reproductive health services and education and treatment of STIs. Parents do not want to understand this so they are a

5. Community Presentations

Participants were told to break into groups and try to discuss issues pertaining to environmental management and HIV/AIDS. To facilitate this process, groups were given some leading questions which were derived from the previous presentations and from experiences of participants.

5.1 Group One

QUESTION: - IN WHAT WAY IS ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION DEALT WITH?

- Village environmental council established by the village laws.
- Village auxiliary police.
- Respective villagers.

QUESTION:-WHAT HAVE WE LEARNT ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ENVIRONMENT AND HIV/AIDS?

A relationship is observed as follows:

- I. In the areas where fishing activities take place, gatherings of people from different places leads to new infections of HIV/AIDS.
- II. The above also applies in mining areas such as Mererani, forestation and road construction.
- III. In urban areas like Dar Es Salaam, the following places facilitate the spread of infection:
 - Night clubs and bars
 - Weighing areas and
 - Traditional ngomas i.e. *unyago*

QUESTION: - WHAT ARE

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IV. Nation

- The economy deteriorates due to loss of income.

QUESTION: - HOW IS OUR ENVIRONMENT (NATURAL RESOURCES) USED IN THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV/AIDS?

- Different herbal medicines are used to treat diseases like HIV/AIDS.
- Income from natural resources is used for treatment, food and clothes.
- Firewood and charcoal are obtained for cooking purposes.
- Fruits, vegetables and honey help improve health of HIV/AIDS patients.
- Water, fish and meat are obtained for food.

QUESTION: - WHAT STEPS OR ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THE ENVIRONMENT?

- a) An individual is responsible for cleaning and keeping the environment in good order in accordance with the law.
- b)

- These changes have been caused by people not having plans of continuous usage of the available resources.

QUESTION: WHAT HEALTH PROBLEMS ARE CAUSED BY HIV/AIDS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT?

ANSWER: The health problem is kwashiorkor.

- HIV/AIDS reduces the work force, an important factor in food production. This leads to lack of nutritional food which consequently causes kwashiorkor which is a health problem.
- In order to deal with this problem, the community has instead engaged in unsafe sexual practices which cause transmission of HIV/AIDS.

5.4 Group Four

QUESTION: HOW AND IN WHAT WAYS ARE WE USING THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

- Sustainability.
- Business.
- Health and to tackle HIV/AIDS.
- Community development.
- Capital.

SUSTAINABILITY:

- Small scale fishing for food consumption.
- Water for domestic use.
- Firewood and charcoal for cooking purposes.
- Sand for building purposes.
- Trees for building purposes.

BUSINESS:

- Honey/wax for selling purposes.
- Timber/wood for furniture purposes.
- Animals and hunting for tourism.
- Large scale fishing for business purposes.

HEALTH AND HOW TO TACKLE HIV/AIDS:

- Natural herbal medicines.
- Honey as a medicine and to improve health.
- Wild fruits to improve vision.
- Paw paws to treat diarrhoea.
- Mikirika for the treatment of stomach disorders.
- Wild pineapples for increasing CD4 count.
- Mlonge for increasing CD4 count and for malaria treatment.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Fish - increasing community's income.
- Timber/wood - increasing community's income.

ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

QUESTION: WHO IS AFFECTED BY THE HEALTH PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE ENVIRONMENT?

ANSWER: The ones affected are the people in that particular community living in that kind of environment.

QUESTIONS:

- (i) WHAT PROBLEMS IN THE COMMUNITY/FAMILY/ NATION INVOLVE ENVIRONMENTAL DESTRUCTION?
 - Random fire outbreaks.
 - Lack of good agricultural tools.
 - Illegal fishing.

- (ii) HOW CAN THIS BE DELT WITH?
 - Environment committee should be empowered.
 - By-laws should be formulated and used.
 - Education should be provided about better fishing and agricultural methods together with loans to the community members to enable them to purchase farming tools and equipment.

- (iii) WHAT RELATION DOES IT HAVE WITH HIV/AIDS AND HEALTH?
 - Random fires and cutting trees without a proper plan reduces natural medicines which increases the CD4s of HIV/AIDS patients.
 - Bomb fishing causes fish to disappear and patients to lack a nutritive diet.

5.5 Group Five

QUESTION: WHO IS CONCERNED WITH THE CHANGES OF THE ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE FAMILY/COMMUNITY/NATION?

ANSWER: In the family: family leaders and the members themselves,
In the community: all community members,
At national level: community and all leaders and NGOs.

QUESTION: WHAT STEPS ARE TAKEN TO DEAL WITH HEALTH PROBLEMS IN THE FAMILY/COMMUNITY AND NATION?

In the family surroundings:

- Improving the environment: e.g. eradicating stagnant water, clearing bushes, digging toilets etc.
- Joining in the plan of contributing for treatment.
- Volunteering in the construction of dispensaries (financially or working).

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PROBLEMS IN THE AREA OF HEALTH

QUESTION: WHAT HEALTH (HIV/AIDS) PROBLEMS ARE RELATED TO ENVIRONMENT? WHAT ACTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO DEAL WITH THEM?

Individual

- Deficiency of clean and safe water.
- Lack of toilets.

Family

- Poor income and poverty.
- Absence of natural resources.

Community

- Isolation.
- Uprooting or cutting down of local medicinal plants and trees.
- Losing persons with competence in natural remedies.

Nation

- Improper utilization of natural resources of the nation without considering the HIV/AIDS infected people.
- Not allocating a separate portion of the national budget to HIV/AIDS.
- The nation being dependent (sponsored) in this crisis.
- Not having effective policies/plans of developing different environmental and HIV/AIDS projects.
- Investment and privatization policies not considering HIV/AIDS infected people.

STEPS TAKEN:

Individual

- Constructing wells.
- Constructing toilets (Plan International) Kibaha, Mlandizi.
- Having long term projects.

Family

- Improving means of production, for example, effective agriculture.
- Providing education on caring for HIV/AIDS patients.
- Having a habit of planting trees before cutting them.
- Preserving the environment so that it can provide a nutritive diet to those with HIV/AIDS.

HIV related issues



6. Community Action Plans

MAIN PURPOSE	CHANCE	LIMITATIONS	SOLUTIONS	STEPWISE ACTIONS	COSTS		PARTIES TARGETED
					Abroad	Within	
2011.		Many bushes near residential premises.					
3. To add more fruit trees from 14 to 28 by 2011.	Land Groups Trees Specialists	Poor knowledge on establishment of agenda in groups Insufficient capital.			11,032,000	30,000	Forest experts Ward environment committee Villages Streets Agriculture experts Community
4. Classifying and providing reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and environmental education from 20 schools currently to 68 in the year 2011.	Parents School Experts School committee	Lack of reproductive health education, HIV/AIDS and environmental education materials. Lack of funds	Acquiring funds Providing education.	Exploring the needs of parents and the community Gatherings for mobilization Provision of training periodically. Those that will benefit are 4800	22,000,000	50,000	Administrative districts Villages Streets Community

MAIN PURPOSE					COSTS	
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6.2 Action Plans for HIV/AIDS and Environment - Muyuyu.

MAIN PURPOSE: TO ACHIEVE DEVELOPMENT.

ADDITIONAL PURPOSES: TO IMPROVE SUPERVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT TOGETHER WITH COMBATING THE HIV/AIDS INFECTION RATE

MAIN ACTIVITY	MIN OR ACTIVITY	WHO TO SUPERVISE	RESOURCE/COST	SOURCE OF FUNDS	WHERE	START TIME	DURATION
1. Tackling the HIV/AIDS new infections	Conducting HIV/AIDS education and recognizing the infected.	HIV/AIDS committee and environment committee.	I. HIV/AIDS committee and environment committee. II. Staff of HIV/AIDS organizations III. HIV/AIDS infected people. IV. Tutors. V. Religious and village leaders. VI. Society – elders, widows - youth, pastoralists - fishermen - married people		Muyuyu	October 2008	7 days
2. Improvement in maintenance of the environment.	Conducting training about profitable environment maintenance.	HIV/AIDS committee and environment committee.	HIV/AIDS committee and environment committee, 10 people. Different stakeholders dealing with or utilizing village resources e.g. - fishermen - pastoralists - farmers		Muyuyu	Nov. 2008	8 days
3. Empowering villagers on how to use	Reduction of taxes for Muyuyu villagers and	HIV/AIDS committee and environment	- HIV/AIDS committee and environment committee.		Muyuyu	Dec 2008	1 day

<p>or earn with the resources available in the village. 4. Improving the projects or other activities present in the village.</p>	<p>increasing them for people from outside Muyuyu village. Providing capital to groups and individuals</p>	<p>committee. HIV/AIDS committee and environment committee</p>	<p>-Muyuyu villagers. - Village council. - The villagers - Entrepreneurs - Village council</p>				
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6.3 Action Plan on HIV/AIDS and Environment - North Umwe

FROM SEPTEMBER 2008 TO SEPTEMBER 2011

MAIN PURPOSE	ACTIVITIES	NEEDS	COSTS	RESPONSIBLE PART	DURATION
Increasing the health services to HIV/AIDS patients.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provision of training to HIV/AIDS infected people and workers. - Services to be available within the village area. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village government - HIV/AIDS committee - Environment committee - District council. 	January 2009– March 2009
Raising income and nutritive diet of infected people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establishing groups for local poultry. - Establishing groups of bee-keeping. - Providing training. - Establishing vegetable and fruit farming. - Establishing groups of small scale businesses. - Establishing of milk cow keeping. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village government - HIV/AIDS committee - Environment committee - District council. 	October 2008 – October 2011
Increasing income acquired from natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discovering new resources , e.g. planting telecommunication posts. - Finding new sources of tax. - Exploring new sources of income. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village government - HIV/AIDS committee - Environment committee - District council. 	January 2009 – March 2009
Doing a follow up.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing training for village leaders - Providing training for the HIV/AIDS and environment committees. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village government - HIV/AIDS committee - Environment committee - District council. 	January 2009 – December 2009
Establishing groups of tutors for youth and forming a network.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Choosing youth to be trained - Training the tutors. - Providing health services . 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Village government - HIV/AIDS committee - Environment com mittee - District council. 	January 2009 – January 2011

7.2 Appendix 2: Workshop Programme

<i>DAY ONE: 2nd September 2008</i>		
Time	Activity	Actor
10:00 –10:20 hrs	Registration	All
10:20 – 10:25 hrs	Welcoming remarks	IUCN/UMATI
10:25 – 10:40 hrs	Introduction and expectations	All
10:40 - 11:00 hrs	Opening Remarks	IUCN
11:00 - 11:15 hrs	Set up rules and important announcements	All
11:15 – 11:30 hrs	Objectives of the workshop, process and expected outcome	IUCN
11:30 – 11:50 hrs	(Part I) Presentation of the findings from the desk research on linkage between HIV/AIDS and Environment management	
11:50 -12:00 hrs	Discussions	
12:00 – 12:20 hrs	(Part II) Presentation of the findings from the desk research on linkage between HIV/AIDS and Environment management	Rosemary
12:20- 12:30 hrs	Discussions	All
12:30-14:00 hrs	Lunch	All
14:00 -15:00 hrs	Groups discussion of the findings	Group work
15:00 – 16:00 hrs	Group works presentations	Plenary
16:00 – 17:00 hrs	Logistics	IUCN
<i>DAY TWO: September 3rd 2008</i>		
8:30 – 9:30 hrs	Recap of the previous day	Rosemary
09:30 – 10:00 hrs	Why are we emphasizing on integrated action plans on HIV/AIDS and environment?	IUCN
10:00 – 10:30 hrs	Presentations of the community action plans	Participants
10:30 – 11:00 hrs	Tea break	
11:00- 12:00 hrs	Presentations of the community action plans	Participants
12:00- 12:30 hrs	Discussions	All
12:30 – 14:00 hrs	Lunch break	All
14:00 –16:00 hrs	Improvement of the action plans and closure	All
<i>DAY THREE: September 4th 2008</i>		
08:30 – 09:00 hrs	Recap of the previous day	Rosemary
09:00 – 10:30 hrs	Presentation of improved community action plans	Representatives
10:30 – 11:00 hrs	Tea break	All
11:00 – 11:30 hrs	Discussions	All
11:30 – 12:00 hrs	Workshop evaluation	All

**STUDY FINDINGS ON LINKAGES BETWEEN HIV/AIDS ISSUES AND
PROJECTS ACTIVITIES IN RUFJI AND KIBAHA DISTRICTS
SEPTEMBER 2008 – IKWIRIRI, RUFJI**

LOCATION	INSTITUTION	CONTACTS
	Community Development	Mobile: 0784 518243 E-mail: camrosso@yahoo.com
	Community Development	Mobile: 0712 571554
	Utete	Mobile: 0784 303363
	Utete Hospital	Tel: 0787 999384

S/No.	FULL NAME	POSITION	INSTITUTION	CONTACTS
35.	Rashid Nokolage	HIV Committee Member	Muyuyu	Mobile: 0784 648343
36.	Muhsin Kilonzo	Laboratory TecM866.75 0.75 34.5 re f 548.25 486.75 7an HBC n BT 104.25 465 D7an HBC n 48.25 486.hsin Kilonzo		