

TFCG News



A tributary of the Pangani River in the Sagara Forest

TFCG extend support to the Sagara Forest in the West Usambara Mountains

The Sagara Forest is a 100 ha area of submontane, Eastern Arc forest in the West Usambara Mountains, Lushoto District. The forest adjoins the Mazumbai forest currently owned and managed by the Sokoine University of Agriculture and the Baga Catchment Forest Reserve. The Sagara Forest belongs to the Sagara group, 103 former employees of the Mazumbai Estate. The Sagara group are now the custodians of the forest. The forest is part of the catchment area for the Pangani River. In terms of biodiversity values the forest is likely to share some of the Eastern Arc endemic species found in the adjoining Mazumbai Forest including the endemic frog *Arthroleptis tanneri*. In early 2002 TFCG received reports that the Sagara forest was coming under increasing pressure from encroachment and logging.

In August 2002 TFCG initiated discussions with the Sagara Group in order to open a dialogue as to what could be done to conserve the forest. The Group expressed interest in working with TFCG to develop a conservation strategy for the area and on 21st September 2002 a meeting was held with the 11 directors and Chairman of the Sagara Group. A field visit was also made to assess the status of the forests. Through the discussions and field visit it was observed that a large portion of the forest remains undisturbed however the rate of encroachment is increasing every year. There are no clear boundaries between the forest and agricultural land and it is unclear who is responsible for managing the forest. The group agreed that the forest should be mapped and gazetted. They also requested assistance with environmental education and tree planting in order to ensure an alternative supply of fuel wood, building materials etc for themselves and surrounding villages. Between 17th - 22nd November TFCG organised a study tour to Ufiome Forest Reserve for representatives from the Sagara Group to enable them to learn more about participatory forest management. During the study tour, participants also visited the SCAPA

project in Arusha Region and the HEM Trust Fund to learn about sustainable agricultural techniques, agroforestry and alternative income generating activities. During 2003 the project has established tree nurseries in the adjacent villages and primary schools of Sagara and Mgwashi as well as with members of the Sagara Group. Discussions regarding the management of the reserve are ongoing.

TFCG extend support to Kizerui Forest in the East Usambara Mountains

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group has been requested by Kizerui Village in the East Usambara Mountains to assist in establishing a village forest reserve. The village has a small area of forest on village land. The forest is



The proposed Kizerui Village Forest is in the foreground with Kwamgumi Catchment Forest Reserve in the background

immediately adjacent to Semdoe Forest Reserve to the east and is close to Nilo Forest Reserve in the West. The forest therefore has an important role to play as a 'stepping stone' between the forest reserves as well as protecting the Semdoe River. During 2003 TFCG will work with Kizerui Village to develop a plan for the Kizerui Forest.

Lulanda stakeholder workshop

On 2nd August 2002 the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group organised a one day workshop to bring together key stakeholders involved in promoting the conservation of the forests in Mufindi District. The workshop was held at Lugoda-Lutali and Lulanda in Mufindi District. The aim of the workshop was to look at how community based forest management can achieve sustainable management for the forests of Mufindi. The workshop was attended by the District Commissioner, the District Executive Director, the Vice Chairman of the Mufindi District Council, the District Forest

Officer, District Natural Resources Officers, the Chairman of the Mufindi Environmental Trust, Mr G. Fox and representatives of Luhunga, Igoda, Mkonge, Ikaning'ombe and Lulanda Villages.



The Mufindi District Executive Director addresses stakeholders at the TFCG stakeholder workshop in Lulanda

During the meeting the District Commissioner emphasised the importance of environmental education in ensuring that natural resources are wisely used. The District Executive Director emphasised the importance of addressing fuel needs particularly in the light of rising fuel prices. He commended TFCG's efforts in tree planting and thereby reducing pressure on natural forests to meet demands for fuel. The District Natural Resources Office described the cooperation between his office and TFCG which has resulted in the planting of the Mufindi millennium forest, an area of land that has been planted with indigenous species.

The workshop finished with a visit to the millennium forest, the Igoda and Ipafu Village Forest Reserves, the Lulanda Nature Trail (see below) and to a farm where beekeeping is being promoted.

TFCG open a new nature trail in Lulanda

TFCG have prepared a short nature trail through the Lulanda Forest in the Southern Udzungwas. The trail was officially opened by the Mufindi District Commissioner, Mr Pascal Muhongole on 2nd August 2001. Visitors to Lulanda can now pass easily through the forest. Along the trail visitors can see many species of plant and animal. These include over forty species of tree including the Udzungwa endemic *Canthium lulandensis* first recorded from Lulanda. The animals can be secretive but you are likely to see black and white colobus monkeys and many species of bird including green turacos, white starred robin, African tailorbird and bar-tailed trogons. The trail also passes beside the tree used as a meeting point by the famous Hehe leader, Chief Mkwawa during his struggle against the German colonial power. The nature trail is open to all visitors. There is a small charge payable to the Lulanda Village Environmental Committee who are responsible for the management of the reserve.



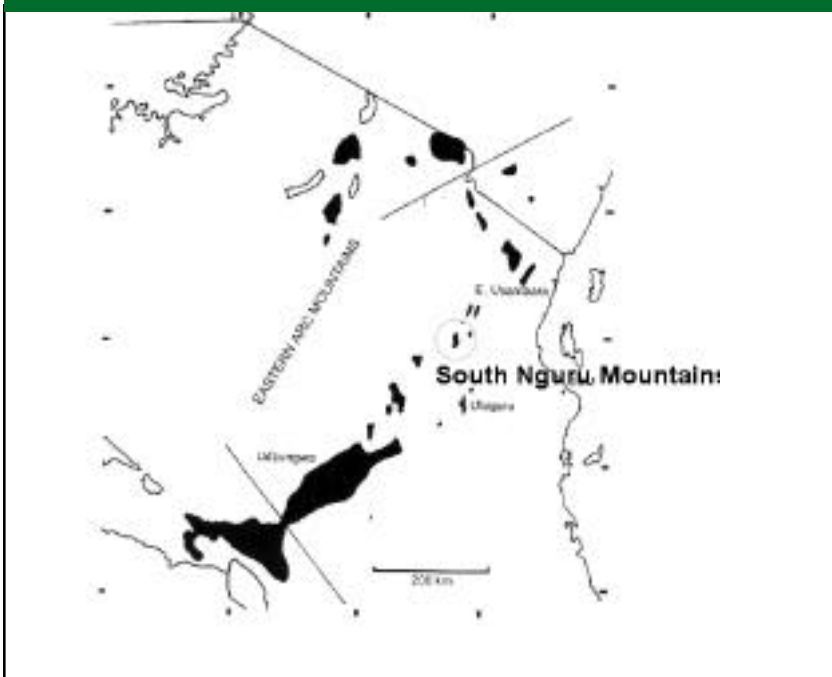
OPENING NATURE TRAIL IN LULANDA

New project planned for the South Nguru Mountains

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group is planning to initiate a project that will address some of the issues that are resulting in the loss of the forest in the South Nguru Mountains.

The South Nguru Mountains are part of the Eastern Arc. There are at least 15 Eastern Arc endemic vertebrates species found in the Ngurus and more than 40 endemic woody species of plant in Nguru South Forest Reserve alone. They are located in the recently formed Mvomero District in Morogoro Region. They extend from 400 m asl to 2400 m asl to the West of the Mtibwa sugar plantation. The Nguru Mountains are the main catchment area for the Wami river supplying water to the new Chalinze water pumping project and to Pangani town. The forests of the South Ngurus are under pressure from farmers extending agricultural land to grow bananas and cardamom. Already there has been considerable

Map showing the location of the South Nguru Mountains



A BANANA FIELD WITHIN THE NGURU SOUTH FOREST RESERVE

Workshop announcement

The Third Community Forest Conservation Network Workshop

to be held on 8-9/10/2003 VETA Iringa

The Community Forest Conservation Network (CFCN) is organising the Third National Community Forest Conservation Network Workshop that will take place at VETA Iringa on 8-9/10/2003. The workshop theme will be "Changing Roles in Forest Management in Tanzania".

This broad theme will be accompanied with sub themes which are:

- Coordination and Communication between stakeholders in Participatory Forest Management. Who does what?
- The participatory evaluation for sustainable utilization of forest resources in participatory forest management.

The CFCN cordially invites practitioners in Participatory Forest Management in the country to attend the Workshop including representatives of forest adjacent communities, NGO's, Government departments and Districts involved in Participatory Forest Management in Tanzania.

Swahili will be the principle language used during the workshop

Accommodation and workshop costs

The CFCN unit, due to financial constrains request that workshop participants be funded by projects, NGO's or government departments involved in participatory forest management. The workshop cost to be covered includes travelling costs and accommodation costs. Lunch and refreshment during the workshop will be provided by the workshop organizers.

For More information and registration please contact

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encroachment into Nguru South Catchment Forest Reserve. The project will have a strong emphasis on involving the forest local communities in the management of the reserves.

Obituary

Nibblett Kyando

On 1st August 2002, Nibblett Kyando passed away. Mr Kyando had worked with the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group in Lulanda since 1993. He played a key role in the creation of the Lulanda corridor and fought hard to protect the natural forest from fire sometimes staying out overnight to prevent bush fires from crossing the fireline into the natural forest. Nibblett will be greatly missed by his friends and family.

