



# Mid-term Review Report

of Nine NGO REDD+ Pilot Projects in Tanzania

Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) –  
“Making REDD work for Communities and  
Forest Conservation in Tanzania”



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## Acronyms and Abbreviations

AWF	African Wildlife Foundation
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
FBD	Forestry and Beekeeping Division
FPIC	Free, Prior and Informed Consent
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MRV	Monitoring, Reporting and Verification
MJMUMITA	Community Forestry Network of Tanzania
NAFORMA	National Forestry Resources Monitoring and Assessment
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organizations
NOK	Norwegian Krone
PDD	Project Design Document
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
REDD	Reduced Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation
RNE	Royal Norwegian Embassy
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture
TFCG	Tanzania Forest Conservation Group
TNRF	Tanzania Natural Resource Forum
TZS	Tanzanian Shilling
USD	American Dollar
VCS	Verified Carbon Standard
VLUP	Village Land Use Plan
VNCR	Village Natural Resource Committee

## 1. Executive Summary

The REDD pilot project “Making REDD Work for Communities and Forest Conservation in Tanzania” is a five year partnership between the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and MJUMITA. The project is working in two different geographic locations in Tanzania in the districts of Lindi on the southern coast and Kilosa, located in the Eastern Arc Mountains. The project sites follow closely the same project design by protecting a series of non-contiguous forest reserves that are located on village lands with financing from the development of a voluntary market REDD project under the Verified Carbon Standard. The project also has an advocacy component of its work designed to influence policy at the national and international level.

The project has real strength at the field implementation level. Projects team members and the coordinators are highly capable and this is reflected in the relationships with district officials and in the organization of community members at the village level. Extensive community outreach and capacity building has taken place. The development of land use plans and bylaws, processing village land titles, and creating village forest reserves has shown the project’s capacity in coordinating activities across a large landscape that involves project staff, district government officials, and community members. Land use planning and mapping is a strength of the project. Community members have reported that these efforts have prevented farm expansion into forest areas. Community appreciation for support in obtaining official titles of their land is high. However this component of the project has been met with some challenges. Conflicts between villages and individual farmers have arisen. The project has supported mediation of conflicts by engaging district government officials. Also village land certificates have been slow to arrive in villages, due in part to bureaucratic delays in the approval process and also the lack of a suitable village offices and metal file cabinets which is a trend across the two projects areas. Although not entirely within the control of the TFCG and MJUMITA, this delay is most likely to occur in more villages so it is recommended that the project modify its procedure to ensure that this process is streamlined.

Under the project, income generating activities are designed to reduce demand on forest resources. These include improved agricultural practices, beekeeping, and chicken rearing. However this component of the project is an area that needs to become more of a focus as activities did not seem widespread and in some instances did not prove successful. Agricultural extension was delivered through collaboration on special group plots. While this approach helps engage lots of people and create a visible demonstration site, the initiative experienced farmer drop out and farmers did not experience increased incomes as the outputs of the group plots were to be shared. The AWF project’s approach of targeting individual farmers could be explored as a strategy on this project. TFCG conveyed that it was in the process of ramping up agricultural extension services in Kilosa.

The project has also made significant progress in developing the needed materials to access the voluntary markets. TFCG has a staff member in Dar es Salaam that is highly knowledgeable of the methodologies under the VCS and has the capacity to analyze carbon data and conduct remote sensing analysis. The project is scheduled to complete the Lindi project design document by September but the Kilosa project was stalled due to a lack of suitable satellite imagery but is scheduled to be completed shortly after in October. The project is also engaging other projects on technical MRV issues but it still isn’t leveraging the experience of other portfolio projects with significant expertise in methodology selection and development. Also knowledge of the technical issues of developing a REDD project for the voluntary markets has not trickled down to field staff and like other projects in the portfolio this is a missed opportunity.

The project is also unique among the portfolio in that it has already participated in distributing REDD payments to villages. Wisely, the project determined payment amount through estimates on actual REDD

project revenue. The project has also allowed villages to have significant control over how payments will be distributed and formalized in village bylaws. The payment per person, including children, was relatively low (10-15 USD) and some in Tanzania have criticized that the money doesn't create the intended development benefits. However the payment distribution plan varies in each village, with different income generation levels depending on the level of deforestation and community engagement, and this will provide the portfolio with significant data points to help create an optimal benefit sharing plan. In many cases within the project area, villages have opted for a hybrid system that includes direct payments and community development projects. In some cases, community bylaws have required that all community members have improved stoves in order to receive payment. A payment structure that links performance like this should be researched and explored. Also the payments have given the communities a strong sense of project ownership and trust in project partners.

At the policy level, the project has spent considerable resources on outreach campaigns at the district and national level. It has also participated in international climate conferences. The project has also successfully lobbied that the draft national REDD strategy recognize community ownership of forest resources as it is stipulated in National Forest Act and Policy. TFCG's Director was elected to represent CSOs at the National REDD Taskforce which will enhance the organization's position to influence policy at the national level.

## 2. Introduction

Climate change is one of the biggest global challenges to sustainable livelihoods and economic development. Deforestation and forest degradation is the cause of around 15% of greenhouse gas emissions responsible for global warming.

In response to this challenge, Norway launched an International Climate and Forest Initiative in 2008, with a global commitment of up to NOK three billion annually towards REDD efforts at international and national levels. In April 2008, Norway and Tanzania signed a Letter of Intent on a Climate Change Partnership; with a focus on supporting REDD pilot activities in the field, capacity building, national strategy development and implementation.

The Norwegian Embassy in Dar es Salaam (the Embassy) and National REDD Task Force have jointly agreed to support a number of initiatives under the Partnership. These include nine NGO REDD+ pilot projects amounting to around NOK 190 million. All Contracts require a mid-term review with a focus on progress, effectiveness and, optionally, impact.

The nine NGOs engaged in piloting REDD+ projects include: African Wildlife Foundation (AWF), CARE in Tanzania, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI), Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI), Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO), Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania (WCST) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Deloitte AS was contracted to conduct a mid-term evaluation of the projects and determine if the projects are meeting their targets. It is also expected that the review will identify areas for improvement in order to help all the participating projects complete the expected deliverables under the contract.

### 3. Specific Project Background

The Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) in partnership with MJUMITA is one of the nine NGOs engaged in piloting REDD+ projects in Tanzania. The contract between the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and TFCG, dated August 20 2009, assigns financial assistance not exceeding NOK 41.4 million to implement a five year REDD pilot project through September 2009 – August 2014. The project is named “Making Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) Work for Communities and Forest Conservation in Tanzania”. The project is working in two different geographic areas in Tanzania located in the districts of Lindi on the southern coast and Kilosa, in the Eastern Arc Mountains. The project aims to protect 53,200 ha of forest by engaging 17 communities in Lindi and protecting 27,389 ha of forest by engaging 16 villages in Kilosa.

#### **Goal**

The goal of the project is “to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation in Tanzania in ways that provide direct and equitable incentives to rural communities to conserve and manage forests sustainably”.

#### **Purpose**

The project purpose is “to demonstrate, at local, national, and international levels a pro-poor approach to reducing deforestation and forest degradation by generating equitable financial incentives from the global carbon market for communities that are sustainably managing or conserving Tanzanian forests at a sub-national level”.

#### **Outputs**

- Output 1:** Replicable, equitable and cost-effective models developed and tested at the group or community level for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) on village and government forest land in ways that maximize benefits to communities, forests and the nation.
- Output 2:** Replicable, equitable and cost-effective models developed that are designed to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and to reduce leakage across project sites in ways that build capacity of communities and other stakeholders and provide additional climate change.
- Output 3:** Monitoring, evaluation and documentation processes supported that assess the overall impact of the project at local and national levels and communication of the findings undertaken.
- Output 4:** Advocacy process supported at the national and international levels that promote equitable and effective REDD benefit sharing mechanisms and in particular with regard to forest managers at the community level.

## 4. Scope of Work and Limitations

This mid-term review is part of a collective mid-term review covering all nine NGO REDD+ pilot projects referred to in section 2 above. The results from these nine mid-term reviews feed into a higher-level overview/assessment of the NGO REDD+ pilot projects portfolio. Parallel to these NGO REDD+ pilot projects mid-term review Deloitte is also carrying out a mid-term review of the Climate Change Research Programme in Tanzania (CCIAM) which also is related to the nine NGO REDD+ pilots. Outcome of the CCIAM mid-term review is also feeding into each of the NGO REDD+ pilot projects mid-term reviews and vice versa.

We emphasize that the results from the mid-term reviews are based on the scope of work described in this report, which again is based on the Terms of Reference for the agreed mid-term reviews and also taking into account the limitations regarding time and resources available for our work. The observations and conclusions presented in this report are based on the information and documentation received as part of our review work and it cannot be ruled out that other observations and conclusions could be identified if we had done a more in-depth review than what has been possible within the time and resources available.

### 4.1 Work done related to the TFCG Mid-Term Review

Our review work included document reviews, meetings/interviews and field visits.

Document reviews included both documents related to REDD+ in general, REDD+ in Tanzania, the NGO REDD+ pilot projects programme as well as documents specifically related to the TFCG pilot project. See the appendix for a list of documents reviewed.

Meetings/interviews included both interviews/meetings with relevant institutions/persons related to the NGO REDD+ pilot projects programme/portfolio, e.g. the Embassy, Programme Management, relevant Local Government Authorities' staff in which the project is operating, Village communities directly affected by the REDD project.

Field visits included visits to beneficiaries and stakeholders, including beneficiary villages, other individual beneficiaries and partner NGOs.

## 5. Key Project Activities and Results

**Output 1: Replicable, equitable and cost-effective models developed and tested at the group or community level for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) on village and government forest land in ways that maximize benefits to communities, forests and the nation.**

**Indicator 1:** A self-financing carbon co-operative based on sound 'state of the art' business principles established and functioning within MJUMITA by end of project.

The project has made substantial progress in this aspect of the project. In Lindi, the project is working with 17 villages and has established 10 village forest reserves covering 53,200. It has also already established 15 village natural resource committees. In Kilosa the project has established six village forest reserve areas totaling 27,389 ha. In all of the participating villages, bylaws governing the distribution of

benefits have been created. Land use plans have also been developed to govern future village development and prevent deforestation. The project is also piloting payments. However the project does need to continue to develop an integrated system to manage benefit distribution on a yearly basis to all of the participating communities. MRV activities at the community level have taken place in both project sites. In Kilosa, Participatory forest resource assessments have been completed in all six village forest reserves with forest resource management plans completed and in four reserve areas and a total of 32 carbon stock plots were measured. In Lindi, the project is scheduled to collect carbon stock data from 50 plots in each of the 6 village forest reserves. The project has also made significant progress in developing the needed documents and data analysis for accessing the voluntary carbon markets. The project is set to complete its PDD for Lindi by the end of August and one for Kilosa by the end of September.

**Indicator 2:** REDD/ A/R revenues being channelled to at least 20 communities and covering at least 50,000 hectares of forest by end of project.

REDD trial payments have started in both project sites based on established community bylaws. In Kilosa consultative meetings with 215 MJUMITA members on benefit-sharing mechanism have been completed and attendance during workshops and meetings was high. REDD trial payments totaling TZS 36,508,700 have been distributed in two villages to over 2500 people. In Lindi, REDD trial payments totaling TZS 36,725,567 were made in three villages (Mkanga, Likwaya, Ruhoma). Second phase trial payments are planned for Kinyope (TZS 12,648,900), Mkombamosi (TZS 32,268,000) and Muungano (TZS 51,511,200). The project is on track to channel REDD payments to 20 communities. The project is also greatly exceeding its goal of protecting 50,000 ha of forest as it is currently working to protect 53,200 ha of forest in Lindi by engaging 17 communities and protecting 27,389 ha of forest in Kilosa by engaging 16 communities.

**Indicator 3:** At least 25,000 poor men, women and children report financial benefits from REDD.

The project is on track to meet this goal as TFCG is working with over 40,000 villagers in 33 villages. In both project sites, TFCG is delivering direct payments to communities and providing agricultural extension services and trainings, disseminating improved cook stoves, and assisting families obtain land official land titles.

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**Output 2: Replicable, equitable and cost-effective models developed that are designed to address the drivers of deforestation and forest degradation and to reduce leakage across project sites in ways that build capacity of communities and other stakeholders and provide additional climate change.**

**Indicator 1:** Strategies to reduce leakage and address drivers of deforestation and forest degradation are developed and implemented in and around all communities within the project area.

In Kilosa, 13 villages have developed plans to manage the drivers of deforestation and degradation. These activities are intertwined with efforts to curb unsustainable agricultural practices as the Ilonga Agricultural Research Institute, supported by Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), has been working to increase the productivity of lands; introduce good agricultural practices; and improve soil fertility. To date over 120 farmers have been surveyed to devise an intervention strategy. Beyond the introduction of energy efficient stoves, alternatives to charcoal are being examined as income generating activities. In Kilosa, 12 villages have been trained on improved stoves which have been adopted by 534 households. In Lindi, 15 villages have developed plans to manage the drivers of deforestation and degradation. Fire awareness training was conducted in 15 villages and 176 households have adopted the use of improved stoves.



**Indicator 2:** Additional benefits achieved at the household, community and project level as a result of project activities by the end of the project as well as activities that will help communities to adapt to the probable impacts of climate change.

In both project sites, agricultural expansion is considered the greatest driver of deforestation. Land Use Planning is one measure designed to reduce deforestation agricultural expansion. The project has successfully developed Village Land Use Plans (VLUPs) in 12 villages in Lindi and six VLUPs in Kilosa. The project has also established an agricultural extension program to assist farmers achieve higher yields. Both projects are also promoting the dissemination of improved stoves to reduce demand for charcoal and woody biomass. Wild animal deterrence is also another leakage strategy to prevent the need for shifting agriculture.

**Indicator 3:** 150 government, project and partner staff and 200 community leaders trained in REDD / A/R, leakage strategies and climate change.

In Kilosa training on governance, awareness-raising on networking, and the development of constitutions and the registration of networks took place with the involvement of 446 women and 803 men. On the leakage strategies the project has create farmers training groups each with 30 members in 6 villages. Also 30 farmers from all project villages went to the national agricultural exhibition and 20 farmers went on study tours to Mgeta to learn various agricultural and livestock keeping techniques. Also a total of 176 villagers were trained on wild animal deterrence. In Lindi a total of 150 farmers received training on wild animal deterrence. Both projects have also provided a series of trainings for district government officials ranging from carbon stock assessments to agricultural best practices.

**Indicator 4:** Increased technical backstopping and training opportunities on REDD and participatory forest management are provided over the long term to Tanzania.

The project has created numerous training opportunities on REDD and participatory forest management. Specifically, the project has designed two training programmes for REDD and participatory forest management. One programme is targeted at communities and one is targeted at District staff. The manuals are available from the project website and have been implemented in both project sites. In addition, the project developed a feasibility study for the development of a REDD and PFM training facility based at the Forestry Training Institute. The training programme is now being established. This will provide a forum for training local government staff and other practitioners on facilitating REDD and PFM well beyond the project lifespan.

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### **Output 3: Project Monitoring, Evaluation and Communication**

**Indicator 1:** Poverty and forest management impacts of carbon financing across 20 communities are documented by end of project

Overall, both the logical frame and monitoring and evaluation plan have been well developed. The project has taken on a wide array of activities so ensuring that activities contribute directly to the stated project purpose is important, and the TFCG has been proactive in its approach to adaptive management. In general, achievements under Output 3 include conducting baseline surveys, knowledge attitudes and practices surveys, and botanical and bird surveys.

**Indicator 2:** Lessons learnt from the project in relation to broader issues around REDD have been documented and communicated with national and international audiences including at least two publications and summaries available on the internet.

The project has clearly made significant progress in meeting this indicator and has communicated widely related to the broader issues of REDD. Overall the project has disseminated 2000 copies of project

leaflets (English and Swahili), 300 T-shirts showcased, 500 project summaries distributed, an active project website has been developed, 11 newspaper articles, 23 radio programs, and nine television shows and two documentary films about REDD in Tanzania produced. Furthermore, a REDD e-newsletter provides updates to REDD stakeholders in Tanzania, and to build linkages among other REDD pilot projects.

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#### **Output 4: Advocacy at National and International Level**

**Indicator 1:** Carbon benefit sharing agreements reached with FBD, Ministry of Finance and local governments in jointly managed forests.

At this moment the project has not achieved this indicator but TFCG's Executive Director was nominated to be part of the group developing the national financial mechanism on REDD Funds which may allow the project to greater influence policy related to benefit sharing.

**Indicator 2:** The findings of the project are directly contributing to international policy dialogue in at least three international climate change meetings relating to REDD.

Project staff members from TFCG and MJUMITA have participated at the UNFCCC COP 15, 16 & 17 in Copenhagen, Cancun & Durban. Most recently, key lessons were presented in Durban during side events organized by CIFOR, TNRF, and Forest Trends. There are plans to participate in future meetings.

**Indicator 3:** The findings of the project have directly influenced Tanzanian policy in relation to REDD.

TFCG has worked to ensure that The draft national REDD strategy recognizes community ownership of forest resources as it is stipulated in the National Forest Act and Policy, but the mechanism is still in the process of development. A barrier is that although the national REDD strategy recognizes community ownership for forest resources, carbon is not mentioned as a forest product; furthermore, there are questions as to whether a nested approach is the best model for Tanzania.

## **6. Project Assessments**

This section of the report will follow the structure outlined in the terms of reference for this evaluation and will address the specific questions by category. The responses are based on a combination of contract and project document reviews and qualitative assessments from field visits, interviews with project staff, community members, NGO's, and local and national government officials.

### **6.1. Impact**

To assess positive and negative effects produced by the projects (directly or indirectly, intended or unintended).

- *To what extent are the projects' Goals being achieved?*

The project is moving forward in realizing its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation in Tanzania in ways that provides direct and equitable incentives to rural communities to conserve and manage forests sustainably. A review of section 5 in this report shows that the project has met most if its indicators and is on track to achieving its overall goal.

- *How have the projects affected the well-being of different groups of stakeholders, and what do beneficiaries/stakeholders perceive to be the effects of the projects on themselves?*

Project participants have expressed happiness with the project in assisting them obtain land titles for their farms via the acquisition of Village Land Certificates. These sentiments were captured from multiple village meetings and conversations with individuals. However a number of boundary disputes have been noted in Lindi and the villages are requesting for the District Council's help in resolving this and finalizing the by-laws. Women have reported significant benefits from improved stoves through the reduction of time spent collecting firewood. The direct payments to communities have also created significant development benefits through projects like the construction of medical facilities and school latrines.

- *How do the projects contribute to capacity development and strengthening of institutions?*

The project has worked closely with local government institutions at the district and village level and this is evident from the high level of knowledge of project activities among these groups. Village Natural Resource Committees have been established in the project communities and have supported the development and implementation of VLUPs and bylaws that govern REDD payment distribution. Overall, training has been provided to 556 (454 Women, 102 Men) community members on REDD, PFM and related issues, 354 community members trained in monitoring forest disturbance and 382 community members trained on carbon measurements.

- *Has the implementation of the projects had any impact in relation to land use (including local agricultural practices)?*

The project has worked with communities to zone the community land for specific purposes and has placed signs demarcating these zones. The project has successfully developed Village Land Use Plans (VLUPs) in 9 villages in Lindi and 7 VLUPs in Kilosa. New agricultural practices have also been introduced and adopted in the project zone. However this component of the project needs to be bolstered in the second phase of the project. Ilonga is working to establish best practices and curb the impacts of migrant pastoralists on swidden farmers.

- *Has deforestation rate decreased?*

The communities in Lindi have indicated that there is significant change since the introduction of the REDD project. A reduction in clearing of new farms in the forest and incidences of fire were reported. The project in Kilosa has also helped communities demarcate forest reserves and community members have enforced a no settlement policy in these areas which has prevented deforestation. Future remote sensing analysis is needed to quantify reductions in the deforestation rates.

- *Has the implementation of the programmes had any impact on the income of local communities?*

The projects are working with communities on agriculture extension services, dissemination of improved cooked stoves, beekeeping, and chicken rearing. The project's approach to creating group farm plots, while effective in involving many people, does not create the direct income benefits as seen in other agricultural extension activities by other portfolio projects that have focused on individual farmers. The projects have disseminated significant numbers of improved cook stoves which greatly reduce the time women spend collecting firewood. Beekeeping seems to be an early activity but has real potential to increase incomes. Community members are very keen to leverage farm titles for access to microcredit but this has not happened yet. In Lindi, chicken rearing activities have not yet yielded significant revenues as all the chicken died and plans for alternative IGAs are being still being discussed. The project has created income for communities through direct payments and funding of village development projects.

- *Would the identified changes have taken place without the projects?*

Most of the identified changes would probably not have taken place in the absence of the project as the activities were not in practice prior to the project.

- *What is the general attitude of local people towards the projects?*

The attitude of local people is one of involvement and appreciation towards the projects. Community meetings were well attended and a sound understanding of project activities was clear. Early skepticism on the motivations of the project has been overcome through an extensive FPIC process and the success of payments for ecosystem services. In both project sites, community leaders asked that the project be extended.

## 6.2. Effectiveness

To assess the extent to which the projects' purpose and outputs have been achieved, or are expected to be achieved.

- To what extent do achievements accord with the planned results of the projects? In this regard, emphasis will be placed on assessing achievement of the project Outputs and overall Purpose, using the indicators and means of verification included within the projects' logical frameworks as a starting point.

The project is highly effective in achieving its goals as according to their plan. The logical framework was well designed with concrete indicators to measure progress. A review of section 5 of this report will highlight that the project is on schedule and meeting its planned activities in accordance with its logical framework.

- To what extent are the achievements the result of the project rather than external factors?

It is not evident that external factors played a role in the project's achievements.

- What are the reasons for the achievement or non-achievement of results?

Project achievement can be attributed to an effective community engagement process that met with community members at the sub-village level. Organizational capacity is another major factor in project achievement. Highly skilled field teams have organized communities to create land use plans and create necessary bureaucratic institutions capable of implementing project activities. From the field visits, it is clear the project staff members work well as a group and have created strong relationships with district government officials. The project's agricultural extension program needs to be improved and expanded if the project is to achieve significant results in reducing deforestation from agricultural expansion and shifting agriculture. Limited achievement in this regard can be attributed to the geographic spread of the villages and the seasonal aspect of farming which limits when these activities can be conducted.

- How effective are the monitoring systems used for the projects?

The reporting and monitoring of the project is strong and this is clear from the records kept by all participating communities and also project staff.

- Is there any change in the role local communities play in the monitoring and control of forest resources?

There has been a significant change in the role of local communities in managing forest resources and land use planning. There are now forest management plans in place for the village forest reserves that are being implemented at the village government level by newly established Village Natural Resource Committees. Village land use plans also govern agricultural expansion and settlement construction.

- If there are projects that have started with payments to communities, what has been the basis for these payments and what are the experiences so far?

In Kilosa REDD trial payments totaling TZS 36,508,700 have been distributed in two villages to over 2500 people. In Lindi payments totaling TZS 36,725,567 have been distributed to three villages. The project will be distributing funds to a series of new villages over the coming months. The amount of money paid differs from one village and are based on the conditions of their village forest reserve which takes the following criteria into account:

- Local average deforestation rate per year in the village
- Average carbon stocks (tonne/ha) in village forest
- Total area of village forest with age above 10 years
- Area of forest with age above 10 years put into Village forest reserve

The distribution plans are based on the bylaws of each participating community and some consist of direct payments to individual members, with mothers taking payment for children, or a hybrid approach that allocates a portion of the individual funds for village wide projects. Some villages also require community members to adopt improved stove technology in order to obtain payments leading to high levels of adoption.

The experiences so far have generally been good and communities have used part of the payments for Community Development activities. However, in one village, the Village Chairperson absconded with some TZS 504,000 set aside for the procurement of a power tiller. This has been reported to the police and a warrant of arrest has been issued.

- Have there been any unexpected results as a result of the projects?

There have been none documented.

### 6.3. Efficiency

To assess how economically resources and inputs in terms of funds, expertise and time are being converted to outputs/results.

- What measures have been taken during planning and intervention to ensure that resources are efficiently used? (e.g. efficiency in organisational structure and implementation approach, staffing expertise, financial policies/procedures and their implementation).

The project has successfully assembled a team that is capable of implementing the projects. The project office is located near the villages and project staff members conduct regular meetings with the communities to ensure project activities are implemented as designed.

- Is the expenditure justifiable when compared to the plans, progress and output of the projects, or could the projects have been implemented with fewer resources without reducing the quality or quantity of the results? (e.g. areas of non-priority, wasteful or unnecessary expenditure, or alternative ways to achieve same results).

The project is effectively using its funds to achieve the project results. There were no signs of wasteful or unnecessary expenditures.

## 6.4. Relevance

To assess the extent to which the objectives of the projects are consistent with beneficiaries' requirements, Tanzania's needs and global priorities.

- Are the projects consistent with the livelihood strategies/living conditions of target groups, other benefits derived from forests, and are requirements of local ownership satisfied?

The project activities are consistent with the livelihoods strategies of the target groups in the project area and in line with district government development priorities. Developing strategies for alternative livelihoods will be a key component for phase 2 and devising solutions to secure access to sustainable energy sources. There is strong buy in from the communities and district government in the project.

- Are the projects consistent with Government of Tanzania priorities and strategies regarding climate change mitigation and forest management?

The project is consistent with Tanzania's priorities and strategies regarding climate change mitigation and forest management. The project's goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and degradation in Tanzania in ways that provide direct and equitable incentives to rural communities to conserve and manage forests sustainably.

- How are the projects linking with other research, policy and pilot projects funded (as appropriate) under the partnership?

The project is participating in meetings organized by the Norwegian embassy and the REDD task force invited TFCG to nominate a person to be a representative on the Technical Working Group committee that will develop the financial mechanism on REDD Funds. The director of TFCG has also joined the REDD national task force. The project has also successfully collaborated with the CARE Tanzania project working with their staff in relation to social impact assessments and to a limited degree, best practices for MRV. The project was also influenced by the MCDI project and has created a component in the Lindi project that allows for sustainable timber harvesting. These exchanges should be continued as the project works towards finalizing its VCS project design documents. The project is also supporting a national MRV system by collecting data using NAFORMA plot design. However collaboration with NAFORMA has been limited as NAFORMA internal policy prohibits the sharing of spatially explicit carbon stock plot data. This policy is problematic as carbon stock summary data without specific plot locations cannot be used for the carbon calculations for the project's PDD. While there is a need to keep plot locations secret for future monitoring, one solution would have been for TFCG and NAFORMA to sign confidential non-disclosure agreements on data analysis. Confidentiality would have also been extended to third party auditors allowing the project to save significant costs and keep plot locations secret.

- Are the projects consistent with Norwegian policies and priorities, as well as the global discourse on REDD+?

This project has significant development benefits and significant potential to reduce GHG emissions through the protection of large forest areas. The projects are being implemented under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) which will allow Norway to assess the project on a performance level. The VCS is also a leading certification standard for REDD projects worldwide.

- Are the projects consistent with Tanzania and Norway's objectives regarding gender and good governance?

The project has very good reporting and administration procedure and it is clear that women are very active in the project from implementation and on management perspective taking part in project committees.

- Are the projects consistent and complimentary with other development partner interventions in the areas of natural resources management and climate change?

The project is consistent with the global discourse of engaging communities to take greater ownership and management responsibility of local forest resources. For example, in Kilosa, the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency has started the funding of participatory forest management which is consistent with the projects aims.

## 6.5. Sustainability

To assess the probability of continued (long-term) benefits following project completion, and the potential for replication of projects. Do the projects have an exit strategy?

The project's exit strategy is to develop a voluntary market REDD project to generate revenue streams to finance future conservation activities. The project also plans to work with the District Council to set aside a budget allocation for the REDD activities to ensure long term sustainability. The project has also worked to ensure that farmers obtain individual land titles (Village Land Certificates) which many community members hope will allow them to obtain micro-finance. However a plan to link the project with microfinance institutions has not been fully developed but could be one component of an effective exit strategy.

### 6.5.1. Institutional capacity

- Have any of the projects' deliverables been hampered by capacity constraints, or is there a foreseeable risk that they will be? (e.g. organizational structures, multi-partner coordination, management, division of roles, policy/regulatory arrangements, administrative capacities, human resources, technical support, donor harmonisation, etc.).

The project staff members in both Lindi and Kilosa are well organized and highly knowledgeable of the project activities for which they are responsible. The project coordinators can effectively explain the project design to government officials and community members and the staff seem to work well as a team. TFCG and MJUMITA also has in house staff capable of conducting high level remote sensing and carbon stock analysis and is highly familiar with the procedure of developing a project under the VCS. However, as seen in other projects within the portfolio, the field team is effective in implementing conservation and development activities but are lacking in knowledge related to MRV and leveraging voluntary markets. This is a lost opportunity for more environmental professionals in Tanzania to become highly knowledgeable of the entire REDD process and limits the potential for these projects to influence national level policies.

- Have new or unforeseen constraints arisen and what realistic measures are needed?

Village land disputes have arisen from the land mapping and titling activities. The project is working with district government officials to resolve this dispute. Also there has been an incident where a community leader absconded with a significant amount of money earmarked for benefit distribution. The project is developing financial controls to ensure that this doesn't happen again and that the person responsible will

be accountable. Along with the slow processing at the District government level, village office construction and the purchase of metal file cabinets have been delayed, which has prevented communities from receiving their land titles. The project needs to develop an effective system for completing this project activity as it will most likely continue to occur in more communities.

- Are there any changes in stakeholder structures, political will or motivation that are likely to influence institutional capacity of the project?

Not that we are aware of at this time.

- How effective are knowledge management, learning and feedback mechanisms between relevant partners and actors especially primary beneficiaries?

Expectations of villages on receiving REDD revenue needs to be managed delicately and presented in a clear manner on potential amounts and timing of payments. In addition sensitization and training to adjacent villages needs to be intensified to ensure that they also do not engage in activities which contribute to continued degradation of forests.

### 6.5.2. Financial management and corruption

The Baker Tilly review of financial management systems and reporting structure for TFCG (January 2010) identified a few areas related to financial management that needed to be rectified. These include development of an accounting manual for guidance and consistency in accounting, updating of the financial regulations and establishment of an internal audit system to enhance its internal control system. TFCG has responded to the Baker Tilly report and has hired a consultant to update the financial systems and improve internal reviews. This consultancy is expected to be completed by the end of August 2012.

### 6.5.3. Stakeholder participation and issues related to rights and access to information

- How have gender issues been addressed, including for example an assessment of disaggregated data for the distribution of means and resources between women and men, and the capturing of women's perspectives?

Women were clearly involved in the project ranging from pilot farmer to project management at the village government level. Women actively participated in project meetings and conservation activities.

- Have any different impacts on men/women arisen during implementation of the projects?

Overall, TFCG and MJUMITA have been effectively targeting women, and have been tracking impact on women throughout the project. The revenue distribution mechanism is designed so that women receive the majority of community payments as mothers collect payments on the behalf of their children. Furthermore, regarding knowledge sharing, 454 women (and 102 men) have been trained on PFM, REDD, good governance, networking and advocacy. Furthermore, 7 project staff attended a training event on how to mainstream gender into REDD in Zanzibar that was organised by CARE.

- How have HIV/AIDS risks and vulnerability been addressed, including involvement, policies and strategies?

The project has an HIV / AIDS strategy which has been finalised and circulated to all members of the project team. The focus of the strategy is to integrate messages on HIV / AIDS into awareness raising events and linking communities with other initiatives working on HIV / AIDS. Overall about 400 copies of



HIV/AIDS publications have been provided to the project and have been distributed to villages during meetings and awareness raising events. In Lindi, the Community Development Officer has been particularly active in raising awareness during meetings.

- Have any of the projects' deliverables been prevented or affected because of conflicts of any nature, or have the projects had unforeseen negative impacts on conflict dynamics?

Land disputes have slowed progress of the projects in some instances but the project has taken effective steps in resolving these disputes.

- How have the participation of rights holders been followed up and secured, including adherence to principles of equality and non-discrimination?

The project conducted an extensive FPIC process that engaged communities all the way the to the sub-village level. In some circumstances, communities opted not to participate in the project.

- Have the projects undermined or strengthened the rights of local people?

The project has strengthened the rights of local people by assisting them with the management plans of nearby forests by assisting communities to obtain village land certificates and access and management rights of forest area located on village land. The project has also taken steps to empower community based organizations to advocate for improved natural resources and land governance through local MJUMITA networks.

- Have the projects produced conflicts or contributed to solving issues related to land and natural resources?

The project has contributed to solving issues related to natural resource management by making the development of land management practices and rules transparent through the development of village land use plans and forest management plans. However, as mentioned previously, village land disputes have arisen from the land mapping and titling activities. The project is working with district government officials to resolve this dispute.

- How have local residents been involved during the establishment and implementation of the programmes?

There has been extensive participation of local residents in the implementation of the project through the design of forest management plans, land use plans, and agricultural training. Communities are also key participants in the enforcement of land management plans and, through the vision-based planning conducted during the social impact assessment; communities identified priority activities to achieve the goals of improving livelihoods and reducing deforestation.

- Did local people receive information (on time and in the correct language) about the programmes before the implementation of them?

The project conducted an extensive outreach program prior to project activities to gain community participation. However, there was a request by the communities for follow up trainings to build on the foundation already established.

#### 6.5.4. Environmental and technical sustainability

- Have any new positive or negative environmental issues associated with the projects arisen?

The communities have reported that farm expansion into the village forest reserves has been reduced. However this is anecdotal evidence and should be determined by future remote sensing analysis.

- Has biodiversity been addressed properly?

With a view to documenting the high conservation values within the two project areas: populations of 9 Eastern Arc endemic reptile and amphibian species were recorded on village land in the Kilosa landscape. One new species has been identified. In Lindi, a botanical and bird survey was conducted in which a critically endangered Rondo galago was found in Noto plateau. Posters with information in Swahili depicting some of the rare and endemic species from the two sites have been developed in order to raise awareness locally on the areas' biodiversity values.

- Have any occupational health and safety risks emerged?

The emergence of beekeeping has created a potential safety risk but the project has dealt with this by providing training and proper equipment.

- Is the technology used appropriate to the economic, educational and cultural condition?

Technology related to improved stoves, beekeeping, and agriculture is used appropriately in the project.

#### 6.6 Risk management

To assess how the projects have been addressing the risks as outlined in the project documents. The review should further examine if there have been other risks outside those mentioned in the document and measures used to address them along with possibility of particular concerns which need specific investigation.

The project has identified a series of risks that threaten successful project implementation. One major risk is that carbon markets will not be able to cover the management costs of forests. The project should work quickly to finalize its VCS project design documents in the near future in order to secure credit sales and develop a financial plan based on expected revenue.

Another major risk is that there is lack of adequate follow up and supportive supervision visits. The communities indicated that the support provided by the local government authorities is not adequate and they need supportive supervision visits to ensure that with the phase out of the project, activities can continue both at the local government authority level and at the communities.

At the village level, the project has also met some challenges with regard to boundary conflicts whereby some villagers from one village have resisted attempts to be relocated from lands near a community water source in the project area. While it is against Tanzanian law to have farms near water sources, relocation of people is a major concern of REDD watchdog organizations. The project and other relevant parties should ensure that this conflict is resolved in an appropriate manner. The project has taken measures with district government officials to ensure that these conflicts are resolved amicably.

## 7. Findings and Recommendations

The project is well designed and has effectively engaged local communities and district governments on implementing conservation activities that have the potential to lead to significant emission reductions and development benefits. The project has made considerable progress in achieving the planned project outputs and this can be attributed to strong organizational capacity and sound project design.

In terms of addressing drivers of deforestation, the project has excelled in developing village natural resource councils that have been instrumental in implementing village land use plans and forest management plans for village forest reserves. The project has also achieved high levels of success in assisting community members in obtaining Village Land Certificates. However this process has been slowed by bureaucratic processing at the district government level and also requirements for proper storage facilities for land titles which villages have been slow to procure. The project should analyze the true costs for these storage facilities and time needed for approval of land certificates from district officials and build it into their budgets and work plans. Failure to do so may result in many villages losing interest leaving half constructed buildings within the project area.

Agricultural extension services need to be bolstered and revamped to show individual farmers the benefit of improved farming techniques. Also a strategy to provide access to fertilizer and other farm inputs has not been completely developed leaving the project few remaining planting cycles to make an impact.

The diversity of benefit sharing plans has the benefit of providing the REDD portfolio with a range of options to study in order to assess the impact of ecosystem service payments. The project should create a report that describes the various distribution plans and conduct an impact assessment to judge the pros and cons of each method.

The project has made considerable progress in completing its project design documents in order to validate the project under the VCS. The project should seek the assistance of other projects on the review of these documents to ensure that they will meet the strict VCS requirements. The embassy should follow up with the project in September 2012 on this activity as it is an important part of the project's exit strategy.

The project also has a clear objective to impact policy at the national level and it is actively working to ensure that its approach will be included in Tanzania's REDD strategy. TFCG's Director has also joined the REDD task force which would allow the project to take a greater lobbying role. It should create a clear policy agenda it seeks to promote over the next year.

## Appendix

### A1. Interviews and field visits

#### ➤ Kilosa (4-5 May 2012)

##### *TFCG/MJUMITA REDD Project Kilosa*

- Hassan Chakira           Participatory Forestry Management Coordinator & Team Leader
- Emmanuel Lyimo       Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator
- Eliakim Enos Kitumbika Field Coordinator, TFCG
- Wilfred Pima           Field Coordinator, MJUMITA
- Shadrack Yoash        Agricultural Officer

##### *District Council Officials*

- Ibrahimu Ndembo       Acting District Natural Resources Officer,
- Orthmar Haule         District Forest Officer
- Edward Mkumbo        Forest officer

##### *Visits to the Chabima and the Dodoma Isanga villages*

- Meeting with village representative, in total about 25 and 35 villagers respectively, including representatives from:
  - Village Council (VC)
  - Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC)
  - Village Land-Use Management Committee (VLUMC)
  - Agricultural Committee
  - Bee keeping Committee
  - REDD Payment Committee
- Physical inspection covering REDD project related activities/beneficiaries like:
  - Agricultural demo cornfields
  - Village office buildings
  - Upgraded school toilets
  - Upgraded cock stoves
  - Bee keeping installations
  - Forest area for REDD+

#### ➤ Lindi (5-6 June 2012)

##### *TFCG/MJUMITA REDD Project, Lindi*

- Mr Hijob Shenkalwa – DED
- Mr Mahimbo Stanford – DFO
- Charles Mwaipopo – REDD focal person
- Mohammed Nyamongo – TFCG Agric Officer
- Raymond – TFCG Field Coordinator
- Kayaka Samwuel – Carbon Monitoring Officer MJUMITA

- Nuru Ngoya – Team Leader TFCG Lindi

*District Council Officials*

- Manasseh Nkuli – District Agricultural Officer
- District Natural Resources Officer

*Visits to the Ruhuma, Likwaya and Mkanga1 villages*

- Meetings with Village Natural Resources Committee members

**A2. Illustrative list of documents reviewed for the mid-term evaluation:**

- TFCG, REDD Proposal, 180809
- RNE - TFCG Appropriation document, final
- TFCG REDD Project Contract
- RNE and TFCG - Annual Meeting Minutes, 111011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Budget and work plan, September 2011 – February 2012
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Budget and work plan, March 2011 - August 2011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Budget and work plan, September 2010 – February 2011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Financial report, March 2011 - August 2011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Financial report, September 2010 – February 2011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Financial report, March 2010 – August 2010
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Financial report, September 2009 – February 2010
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Technical report, March 2011 - August 2011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Technical report, September 2010 – February 2011
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Technical report, March 2010 - August 2010
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Technical report, September 2009 – February 2010
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Biannual Progress Summary, Year 3
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Lindi Project Mid Term Review Presentation
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Kilosa Project Mid Term Review Presentation
- TFCG and MJUMITA, Village Level Training Manual on PFM and REDD, 2011
- TFCG REDD Newsletter, March 2012
- Baker Tilly, TFCG Report - Review of financial management system, January 2010

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