POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANS IN FORESTRY TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE CHARCOAL PRODUCTION IN TANZANIA

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1. Legal framework in forestry

- Forest Policy - 1998 (Under review)
- National Forest Programme - 2001 (Under review)
- Forest act (2002)
- Regulations and Guidelines
- Development programmes
- Goals, objectives and directives

Policy implementing strategy
2. National Forest Policy

- Forest policy formulated in 1998 based on macroeconomic, environmental and social frameworks
- Reviewed 2010
- Draft National Forest policy has the Vision: Sustainable forest sector for the benefit of Tanzanians and global community.
- Draft National Forest policy mission: To ensure supply of forest products and ecosystem services through environmental conservation and responsible management
- The overall goal of the draft national forest policy is to enhance the contribution of the forest sector to the sustainable development of Tanzania and the conservation and management of her natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations.
Draft Forest Policy

The objectives:

► (i) To ensure sustainable supply of forest products and services by maintaining sufficient forest area under effective management;

► (ii) To increase employment and foreign exchange earnings through sustainable forest-based industrial development and trade;

► (iii) To ensure ecosystem stability through conservation of forest biodiversity, water catchments and soil fertility;

► (iv) To enhance national capacity to manage and develop the forest sector in collaboration with other stakeholders.
Focus area: Wood fuel

Statement (14): Establishment of private woodlots and plantations, planting of trees on farm for woodfuel production, efficient wood energy conversion and use technologies and alternative sources of energy will be promoted.

Direction: Provision of alternative livelihood to charcoal production and sale in the rural areas will be promoted so as to minimise forest degradation and damage to the environment.
Draft forest policy: stakeholders

Focus area: Non-Governmental Organizations and Community Based Organisations

Statement (31): Coordination and cooperation between the forest sector and NGOs and CBOs will be improved.
Direction: Establishment of NGOs and CBOs operating in the field of forestry will be encouraged in collaboration with relevant authorities.

Focus area: Local Communities

Statement (33): Local communities will continue to be encouraged to participate in forestry activities.
Direction: Local communities will be involved in forestry-related planning and decision making through participatory extension methods and technical assistance.
Consideration of Stakeholders in the promotion of sustainable charcoal

In the draft Policy,

Proposal: “Forests on general lands” to be changed into “Forests on village lands”

Considered in sections 3.1.2

Proposal: To recognize efforts towards production of sustainable charcoal in the management plans

Considered under sections 1.2.3. and 3.3.2
Objectives:

Open an avenue for the communities to, the lowest possible level of local management (Section 3d)

Encourage and facilitate the active participation of the citizen in sustainable planning, management, use and conservation of forest resources ...(Section 3b)
5. Draft Forest policy strategy

Sections 2.3 which states:

“Communities are sensitized on sustainable charcoal production within forest Management Units in Village Forest Reserves”
6. National forest programme


Gap - waiting for NAFORMA data, policy approval, completion review of NFP I

developed to address:

- Drivers of current resource depletion = ensure sustainable supply
- Increase contribution of forest sector and livelihood improvement
- Ensure sustainable provision of high quality goods and services to people in an environmentally friendly and efficient way
- To create strong and effective institutions and enabling environment for forest governance and policy implementation
7. Guidelines

- Harvesting guidelines (Harvesting Guideline in VLFR)
- JFM Guideline
- CBFM Guideline
- Government notices (GN)

To be Reviewed/updated to capture sustainable charcoal??

Sustainable charcoal model used as one of the best practices??
8. Way Forward

We all understand that:

- Continuing with unsustainable charcoal and fuelwood (biomass energy) energy means having significant impact on deforestation and forest degradation.

- Continuing with the existing situation of lacking clear policies and waving away to nobody business will lead the charcoal business into chaos and in turn neither benefit the government nor communities both with forests and living adjacent to forest reserves.

- Shifting to other alternative sources under the current situation, need time and resources which is not available.
Way forward

To address the problem we need to:

- Review of the forest act to reflect sustainable charcoal
- Prepare specific guidelines/review the existing ones to capture biomass energy production and transportation
- Constantly update harvesting guidelines
- Put in place a tool to monitor charcoal trade including production and transportation
- Ministry of energy to prioritize and accomplish already initiated Biomass Energy strategy; the process which will involve all the stakeholders
Way forward

- Increase efficiency and effectiveness in the production and consumption of biomass energy;
- Hold meetings with other ministries viz Agriculture and Livestock, MEM, Land, Housing and Human settlement to iron out contradicting issues on land tenure;
- Set aside funds to support the business, Donor dependent?? sustainable??
- Still more time for sensitization and awareness creation communities on harvesting and forest management??