



Finding solutions to Community Based Forest Management governance challenges

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Background

- Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) is a forest management approach that takes place on village land.
- CBFM involves the establishment of Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFRs)
- CBFM is supported by the National Forest Policy of 1998 and the Forest Act of 2002

The Challenges

- Skills shortages among VNRC members as a result of turnover of VNRC members
- Impact on VLFRs when villages are sub-divided
- Municipalization of villages with VLFRs
- Delays by District Harvesting Committees in issuing forest produce allocation certificate

Objectives of the study

- To describe four governance issues affecting CBFM, including the nature and scale of the problems, their root causes and one or more case study per issue
- To generate evidence-based solutions to address the four challenges
- To prepare guidelines that address the four CBFM challenges
- To generate recommendations for further research around the four CBFM challenges

Methodology

- Desk review
- Key informants Interview
- Focus Group Discussions



Key Findings

Challenge	Root causes	Scale of the problem	Impact on CBFM	Recommended Solutions
Skills shortages among VNRC members as a result of turnover of VNRC members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure of the CBFM guidelines to state the need to maintain some members from the outgoing committee Lack of good governance 	Countrywide	Mismanagement VLFRs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support trainings to new members on regular basis Retaining at least half of outgoing committee members
Impact on VLFRs when villages are sub-divided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population increase Political interests <p>Case studies: -<i>Ulaya Kibaoni and Ng'ole villages</i> -<i>Kisanga and Wedo villages</i></p>	Countrywide in both CBFM and Non-CBFM villages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change of Village land use plan Change of forest management plan Forest degradation 	Gazettement of VLFRS
Municipalization of villages with VLFRs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Population increase Political interests <p>Cases studies: <i>Lindi municipality, Mikumi Town Council</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not clearly known May potentially affect villages countrywide 	The villages lose the mandate to manage forests	Review of Forest Act 2002 to recognize hamlet or street forest reserves in urban settings
Delays by District Harvesting Committees in issuing forest produce allocation certificate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GN 417 Funds for DHC meetings Availability of District Commissioner (chair of DHC) <p>Case studies : <i>Kilosa</i></p>	Countrywide as long as GN 417 is being implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of revenues by villages Discouragement to forest produce traders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of GN 417 (give back the mandate to villages) Advise the DC o delegate the chair position to DAS in case not available

How can the findings be applied ?

- **Advocacy interventions e.g. Review of GN 417, Review of National Forest Act, 2002**
- **Review /Preparations of CBFM guidelines**
- **Preparation of Training Manuals for VNRCs**

Recommendations for future research

- **The impact of GN 417 on community forest product value chains**
- **Action research involving the communities in testing different solution pathways for VNRC turnover**
- **Documentation of different experiences and lessons learnt on village sub-division in relation to CBFM countrywide**
- **The environmental, economic and social impact of the transition of CBFM to town/ municipal forest reserve**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

