

Transboundary Agro-ecosystem Management Project for the Kagera River Basin

Report of a meeting on 18 June 2010 with FAO Permanent Representatives and Delegates from countries sharing the Kagera River Basin

Participants: see list annex 1

Agenda:

- Welcome by A. Müller, ADG and Parviz Koohafkan, Director Land and water division
- Presentation of Kagera project - Sally Bunning
- The project context
 - TerrAfrica and SLM in FAO - Dominique Lantieri
 - Nile basin project and water management - Pasquale Steduto
- Questions / discussion

Information: A project brochure was made available with summary information on the project, including contacts and address of the project website (in development). Three short presentations were made on the Kagera project and the mother TerrAfrica umbrella programme – which is supported by WB and FAO and hosted by NEPAD and comprises 39 GEF SLM projects including Kagera and the development of country strategic investment frameworks in Uganda and Tanzania. The SLM Knowledge base for sub-Saharan Africa and national SLM investment frameworks will be of use to the Kagera project which will, in turn, feed its lessons into the country strategies for mainstreaming. The final brief was on the products and achievements of the just completed FAO Nile basin information products project whose district data, maps and scenarios will be of use in the Kagera project.

Discussion

- The Member Countries expressed their appreciation of the meeting and wish to be informed of the further implementation of the Kagera project. They noted that they are generally not well informed of projects/activities in their own countries. NRL suggested to inform the delegates as soon as the project website will be posted and to provide regular project newsletters. NRL proposes that it could convene a follow up meeting to report on progress at the time of the mid term review.
- The delegates requested copies of the powerpoint presentations on the Kagera and Nile basin information products project and FAOs support to the TerrAfrica programme and to be informed of concrete project results.
- The delegates underlined
 - the importance of forestry issues.
 - the severity of siltation in the Kagera river, resulting from land/agro ecosystem degradation, and the consequences in terms of water quality and the health of the aquatic systems of the Kagera river and Lake Victoria
- Regarding forestry the project team noted that the range of activities to improve land and agro ecosystem management will include community seedling nurseries, agroforestry and managing trees in the farming landscape and will develop partnerships for any required reforestation on steep lands/upper part of selected micro-catchments
- Regarding sedimentation the project team noted that selected micro-catchments will be monitored to demonstrate the effects of SLM practices in reducing erosion and



sediment transport. The monitoring will be supported by the Kagera basin Transboundary Integrated Water Resources Management Project (TIWRM) and LVEMP-II which focus on hydrology and water resources investments. Kagera TAMP activities will focus on integrated soil and water management and water harvesting. for more effective use of rainfall with maybe some localised smallscale irrigation for market gardening with farmer field schools

- Mr Adolf Nyaki, Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania, suggested that Mlingano Agricultural Research Institute , based in Tanga, though far from the basin, could provide technical support (RS/GIS ; soils etc.)
- The project team further referred to the brochure and project strategy noting that Kagera TAMP will develop links / partnerships with related national programmes and proects at national or regional level, to implement a holistic approach and mobilise cofunding .

Follow-up:

- The pdf versions of the presentations (ppt) by Dominique Lantieri and Pasquale Steduto will be sent to the delegates (they were given copies of the Kagera project presentation and draft brochure during the meeting).
- As and when newsletters are issued, copies will be sent to delegates/Permanent Representatives to inform them of the Kagera project achievements.
- Minutes of meeting will be posted on the website.



Annex 1: Participants

Tanzania United Republic

Ambassador Wilfred J. Ngirwa	Tanzania Embassy
Mr Adolf Nyaki	Ministry of Agriculture Tanzania
Mr I . P. Salum	Ministry of Agriculture, Tanzania

Uganda

Ambassador D.K. Rwabita	Uganda Embassy
Mr. Robert Sabiiti	Uganda Embassy

Burundi

M. Macaire Nahimana	1er Conseiller d’Ambassade du Burundi
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Rwanda

Absent (the Permanent Representative of Rwanda is based in Brussels not Rome)

FAO Natural Resources and Environment Department

Mr. Alexander Müller	Assistant Director-General, NR
Mr. Parviz Koohafkan	Director, NRL
Mr. Pasquale Steduto	Principal Officer, NRL
M. Dominique Lantieri	Senior Officer NRL
Ms. Sally Bunning	Technical Officer, NRL (Lead for Kagera project)
Mr. Stefan Schlingloff	Technical Officer, NRL (budget holder for Kagera project)
Ms. Isabelle Verbeke	FAO Consultant communications (NRL)
M. Jean Gault	Technical Officer, NRL

