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## The Global Support Initiative to Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI)

### Title of Workshop:

Territories and areas conserved by indigenous  
peoples and local communities in Tanzania

**Level:** National

**Place:** Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

**Date:** 23 March 2017



### Background:

As the Global Support Initiative to Indigenous Peoples and Community-Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA-GSI) gears to launch in Tanzania, it organized a national workshop to bring indigenous community representatives together with multi-level key actors and advisors to explore the status of the country's ICCAs. The examination of Tanzania's ICCAs including its governance structures, threats and opportunities is a crucial step as ICCA-GSI prepares to allocate catalytic grants through the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) delivery mechanism.

### Workshop Participation and Activities:

SGP co-organized the 1-day workshop with other ICCA-GSI partners, namely, ICCA Consortium and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The workshop's interactive sessions focused on supporting the self-strengthening process of Tanzania's ICCAs. Participants included representatives from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Management, IUCN Global Protected Areas Programme, civil society organizations such as Tanzania Natural Resources Forum (TNRF), Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG), Ujamaa Community Resources Trust (UCRT), Community Wildlife Management Consortium, Mwambao Community Coastal Network, SAIPRO Trust Fund, University of the Western Cape's Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies, University of Dar es Salaam and College of African Wildlife Management, Mweka.

### Workshop Discussion Points:

- I. History, Values, Threats and Opportunities for Territories and Areas Conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities – a global perspective
- II. Overview and role of UNDP GEF SGP Tanzania
- III. The role of IUCN and ongoing initiatives in Tanzania
- IV. Most important issues that concern ICCAs in Tanzania
  - (i.) The term "Indigenous"
    - No formal legal recognition of the term "Indigenous" and "ICCAs" in the Constitution and in legislation.

- No formal recognition of self-determination for IPs
- Contested definitions of the term “indigenous” and a need for it to be defined and inserted into all existing legislation e.g. Wildlife Act clause 45 vis-à-vis the constitution.
- No recognition of IPs rights to exclusively access, use, control and own their own natural resources.
- No adequate compensation in place where benefit sharing has been identified, little tangible benefits to incentivize communities to engage in conservation initiatives.

(ii.) Traditional knowledge

- Lack of recognition of traditional knowledge as a cultural value and as a fundamental support to natural resource management.
- Traditional knowledge is not written down and therefore, it is easily lost; systems of knowledge inheritance do not function nor are they taught formally in learning centers.

(iii.) Land ownership, uses and pressures

- Loss of land – pressures coming from various land uses e.g. agribusiness (Mikumi) and conservation interests/tourism in Northern Tanzania lead to a commodification of nature (e.g. land grabbing/green grabbing).
- Conflicts in legislation and policies in various sectors with regard to competing land uses
- Population growth, both internal and migratory pressures is a crucial issue
- Climate change

V. Ways to can formally recognize Tanzania’s ICCAs

- (i.) Identifying and recognizing ICCAs as a category of conservation, alongside Wildlife Management Area (WMA), Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM), Game Reserve (GR, National Park (NP) and Forest Reserve (FR).
- (ii.) Reviewing legislation and policy in various sectors and integrating the term “ICCA”
- (iii.) Recognizing communal lands through the land law and tenure systems
- (iv.) ICCA caretaker communities could also formally register their association to the land or body of resources formally. For example, a hunter-gatherer community could register as an interest to a territory by seeking a Customary Certificate of Rights of Occupancy (CCRO)
- (v.) Creating a policy to recognize community caretaker groups and enabling parliament to recognize them.
- (vi.) Examining the regional and international declarations that the Tanzanian government has signed.

VI. Organizations and/or Movements in Tanzania working on the recognition of and support to ICCAs

- (i.) International - Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS), World Wildlife Fund (WWF).
- (ii.) National - Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) is a member-based organization advocating for good governance of natural resources in the country; Pastoral Indigenous NGOs (PINGOs), a member-based forum; Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA); Authorized Association Consortium (AAC) which has a national network of WMAs; Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA)
- (iii.) Local - Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT) operating in Manyara and Arusha i.e. building the capacity of local communities for management land and natural resource (communal areas). They have and are working with both Hunter gathers (Hadzabe and Akie communities) and pastoral (Maasai and Barabaig) communities; and UCRT can work with either PINGOs Forum or TNRF or AAC to conduct nationwide advocacy campaigns OR all of these organizations work together.

## VII. Opportunities

- (i.) Furthering movements for Tanzania's ICCAs with the following characteristics and capacities: a. constituency, credibility and visibility at the national and local level; b. human, financial and technical resources to facilitate progress; c. excellent advocacy, lobbying and communication skills; d. excellent national outreach with ability to link the local to the national; e. involvement in advocacy, research and publications; and f. accountability.
- (ii.) Identified activities include: a. setting up of a formal review process for the recognition of ICCAs in legal frameworks; i.e. a scoping study; b. holding a national workshop to validate the study results; c. organizing communication activities to ensure government engagement in the process; d. developing advocacy and lobbying strategies for ICCA recognition and its formalization in land use planning schemes and securing CCROs; e. building the capacities of TNR Forum members; f. setting up a database of all people who are supporting ICCAs, and for those who wish to join and be identified with ICCAs.
- (iii.) Networking with countries, communities and organizations in the broader Eastern and Southern Africa and beyond is also envisaged
  - (i.) Internal action
  - (ii.) Advocacy through the media
  - (iii.) Diplomatic action
  - (iv.) Legal action

### Outcomes:

The Tanzania ICCA workshop increased the awareness of the participants on the emerging threats faced by ICCAs worldwide and countrywide as well as the opportunities and responses to act on. A team was formed to further document the governance systems for conservation and sustainable development in Tanzania. All participants will continue to collaborate on the opportunities discussed and follow up action points. Additionally, all strategies will be integrated in the individual project framework that will be implemented by a selected NGO. The recruitment of the selected NGO is expected to be finalized by SGP in May 2017.

The [ICCA-GSI](#) is a multi-partnership initiative that is delivered by the UNDP-implemented Small Grants Programme ([SGP](#)) and funded by the Government of Germany, through its Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety ([BMUB](#)). Key partners include the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre ([UNEP WCMC](#)), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Global Programme on Protected Areas ([IUCN GPAP](#)), the [ICCA Consortium](#) and the Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity ([CBD](#)).

