

TRAFFIC,
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Government
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& WWF

JOINT REPORT

OCTOBER 2015

RAPPORTEUR'S REPORT FROM THE 3rd EAST AFRICA TIMBER TRADE STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM

Assessing Regional Linkages in the Illegal Timber Trade



TRAFFIC
the wildlife trade monitoring network





TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is the leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. TRAFFIC is a strategic alliance of WWF and IUCN.

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Assessing regional linkages in the illegal timber trade.



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Lush forest of the Udzungwa Mountains Tanzania

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The organizers would also like to thank the Forum participants, and particularly those who made presentations, for their insights and contributions to the discussion. Special thanks to Shanny Pelle of TRAFFIC for her efficient handling of the venue and travel logistics.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASEAN-WEN	ASEAN Wildlife Enforcement Network
SHIVIMITA	Association of Saw Millers Tanzania
AFLEG	Africa Forest Law Enforcement and Governance
CIFOR	Centre for International Forestry Research
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
DNTF	Directorate of Land and Forest Mozambique
EAC	East African Community
FOCAC	Forum on China-Africa Cooperation
IRDNC	Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
KFS	Kenya Forest Services
LATF	Lusaka Agreement Task Force
MCDI	Mpingo Conservation Development Initiative
MMC	Mama Misititu Campaign
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MNRT	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
Q&A	Questions and Answers
RGOZ	Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar
SFM	Sustainable Forest Management
SADC	South African Development Community
TFS	Tanzania Forest Service
TNRF	Tanzania Natural Resources Forum
TRAFFIC	The wildlife trade programme of WWF and IUCN
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature
WWF CEA	WWF Coastal East Africa Global Initiative
DFNR	Zanzibar Department of Forestry and Non-renewable Natural Resources

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Over June 29th and 30th 2015, TRAFFIC, WWF and the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (RGOZ), convened the 3rd East African Timber Trade Stakeholder's Forum at the Grand Palace Hotel in Stone Town, Zanzibar. This year's Forum was aimed at examining the interconnectedness of the illegal trade in timber in Eastern and Southern Africa, including the West Indian Ocean. In addition, it reviewed the progress on the actions identified at the Forums in 2013 and 2014 as well as how national timber trade governance has changed over time.

The Forum brought together 51 participants representing regional agencies such as the South African Development Community (SADC) and East African Community (EAC), government institutions including Tanzania Forest Services and Kenya Forest Service, civil society organizations (CSOs), such as the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum, the private sector (timber traders) and journalists from several media platforms (see Annex 1 for List of Participants). The Forum for the first time had the participation of government representatives from Uganda, Mozambique, and Madagascar.

Day One of the Forum concentrated primarily on country challenges to controlling the trade in timber whilst Day Two offered some of the solutions currently being explored. The Forum included presentations, discussions, and breakout group sessions to review current understanding of the sub-region's illegal timber trade as well as to identify priority actions to resolve this situation. This report provides an overview of the key meeting highlights. The powerpoint presentations given at the Forum are available by contacting traffictz@traffic.org

1.2 Opening of the Forum

For a third year, Mr. Cassian Sianga once again facilitated the East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum. He welcomed the participants to the meeting and thereafter invited Dr. Bakari Asseid, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Zanzibar's Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources, to invite the guest of honour to open the meeting.

The meeting was officially opened by Dr. Assaa Ahmad Rashid, Principal Secretary of Zanzibar's Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs. In his welcoming note Dr. Rashid said Zanzibar recognises that natural forests form an integral part of global ecological systems which must be conserved and used sustainably for present and future generations. He continued by informing participants that publishing data on illegal trade in timber has not been able to reverse the situation in and through countries despite the many efforts taken. He further said that he hopes that the Forum will result in a declaration on combating illegal trade in timber by the participating governments (see Annex 2 – Welcoming note).

Welcoming remarks were followed by special greetings from representatives with the governments of Tanzania (mainland), Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar, and Mozambique, as well as from the East African Community (EAC) and South African Development Community (SADC).

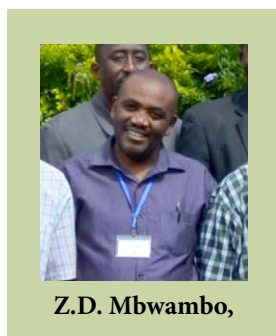
**Opening speech by Dr. Assaa Ahmad Rashid –
Ministry of Justice and Constitution Affairs**



2. PRESENTATIONS - DAY ONE

Ten presentations were made focusing on country updates and CSO initiatives on achieving legality in the timber trade.

2.1 Country update – highlights

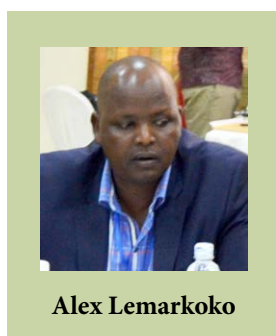


2.1.1 Tanzania (Presentation by Z.D. Mbwambo - Tanzania Forest Services)

The presenter highlighted the results of the National Forestry Resources Monitoring and Assessment (NAFORMA) which found that 67% of the forest resources in Tanzania are found in unreserved land and only 37% are situated in reserved land. He described how the biggest threats to the forest are illegal harvest, encroachment for shifting agriculture, overgrazing, annual uncontrolled fire and charcoal production.

National efforts to reduce illegal harvesting includes government task forces such as TOKOMEZA, revised forest policy and harvesting guidelines and procedures, and improving performance of staff at the checkpoints through training. He mentioned that Tanzania has signed three Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) on addressing illegal trade in timber with Mozambique, Kenya, and most recently, Zambia.

Discussion/Q&A session: A key point made during the discussion was that it is critically important for Tanzania to have MoUs also facilitating legal and economically sustainable trade in timber.



2.1.2 Kenya (Presentation by A. Lemarkoko - Kenya Forest Service)

The presenter informed participants that illegal logging and the evasion of taxes on timber trade results in losses of approximately USD15 billion a year to developing countries. He went on to say that a 2007 desk study was undertaken to analyse the status of FLEG in Kenya. The study identified poverty and governance issues as the key drivers for the lack of sustainable management of forest resources. In 2011 - 2012 the East African Wildlife Society (EAWS) and Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF)

implemented a year-long regional project aimed at studying the illegal wood and wood products trade between Kenya and Tanzania. A similar study (by TRAFFIC/WWF) was undertaken across the Mozambique /Tanzania border. Findings in both studies showed that there is continued loss of revenue for the countries and that there is more unofficial, illegal cross border trade than there is legal. The presenter concluded by insisting that joint training on timber species identification is of paramount importance. Moreover, understanding relevant laws and licensing procedures amongst the countries is important as this will enable greater harmonization.

Discussion/Q&A session: Participants expressed concerns about the statistics on species loss across borders and value attached. The presenter responded that staff at the border have difficulty in timber species identification. The species loss statistics presented includes species that they could identify and those which they could not identify as well. Their failure to identify some species leads to lack of knowledge of the value of such species. As a result, this decreases a country's revenue and leads to incomplete statistics.

2.1.3 Uganda (Presentation by Thomas Otim, WWF Uganda)

The presenter highlighted the differences between legal and illegal timber trade. He also described the drivers of the trade and policy recommendations for improved regulation and management of timber trade as well as for mitigating the negative impacts of the trade. He pointed out that the area of forest harvested through illegal felling is equivalent to 5,600 ha of plantation per year or 57,600 ha of natural forest per year at 25% recovery. He said the Uganda Government loses revenue through illegal and undocumented harvesting and trade. Among the recommendations to address illegal timber trade are: revising permitting systems, processes and regulations for harvesting and trade in timber in Uganda, generating information on the timber resources and trade by increasing transparency and making information publicly available.



Thomas Otim presenting on timber trade in Uganda.

Discussion/Q&A session: The presenter clarified that a WWF study put the level of illegal timber trade at over 80%. The 80% covers reported illegal timber trade statistics from Uganda and neighbouring countries. It was also mentioned that things are not working well after forming the three sectors (i.e. Forest Sector Support Department, District Forest Services and National Forest Authority) as there is no proper coordination mechanism in place. Also, finance mechanisms are supposed to enable financial self-sufficiency as sectors are now facing finance challenges. There are also conflicting interests from district and local governments to maximise revenues from forest resources leading to unsustainable utilization of forest products. Moreover, there are no regulations for timber coming from private land.



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2.1.4 Mozambique (Presentation by Claudio Afonso, Directorate of Land and Forest)

The presenter showed that Mozambique is endowed with considerable forests which are translated into great biological diversity and habitats for wildlife. Forest and other vegetation covers 70% of the total area of the country. Among the challenges presented were incentives to investors, limited capacity of the forest sector to monitor implementation of management plans, lack of capacity in law enforcement, and a weak forest data collection system.

Discussion/Q&A session: It was noted that most timber products are being exported to China. Participants were curious to know what other markets Mozambique expects to trade with as the presenter pointed out that the China market is now down and Mozambique is looking for new international markets.

2.1.5 Madagascar (Presentation by Sahondra Rabesihanaka, Ministry of Environment, Ecology, Sea and Forests)



Sahondra Rabesihanaka

The presenter pointed out that since 2004, Madagascar exports only finished products and that the main importers are Asian countries and Mauritius. These products are being exported in terms of finished goods such as furniture, musical instruments, handmade products, and materials for construction and sometimes as semi-finished goods.

Discussion/Q&A session: Participants wanted to know more on Madagascar's timber categories. The presenter elaborated that since Colonial times, Malagasy timber has been classified into five categories: Category I: special timber e.g. Cercueil; Category II: timber for furniture; Category III: ordinary timber such as Albizia and Eucalyptus; Category IV: timber of average value e.g., hibiscus and tamarind; and, Category V: timber for energy.

2.1.6 Zanzibar (Presentation by Sheha Hamdan, Department of Forestry and Nonrenewable Natural Resources)

Participants were informed that forest covers 40% of the total area of Zanzibar whereas deforestation and degradation range from 1.5 to 2.9% per year. The presenter explained that Zanzibar has little to offer in exporting forest products. Also, in 2014 Zanzibar enacted regulations with the aim of controlling importation and exportation of forest and wild animals.

Discussion/Q&A session: Most questions during the discussion centred on illegal transit through Zanzibar of forest products. Participants asked for clarification on increased reports concerning the on illegal transit of forest products, especially from Kilwa. The presenter explained that as Zanzibar is part of Tanzania, products coming from the mainland are not treated as being illegal, but are being utilized in Zanzibar and not exported abroad.



Sheha Hamdan presenting on Zanzibar's trade in timber.

2.2 Achieving Legality in the Timber Trade



Fredrick Ambwene

2.2.1 CITES and Timber – Fredrick Ambwene, CITES Management Authority, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism

The presenter gave an introduction to CITES, challenges in enforcing CITES for timber species and the way forward. He said that CITES has been in operation for 40 years when it entered into force in 1975. The purpose of CITES is to ensure that international trade does not threaten the survival of species of wild fauna and flora. Participants learned that more than 400 tree species are listed under CITES. In East Africa the CITES listed timber species most affected by trade include rosewood, sandalwood and red stinkwood. Among the challenges facing these resources includes: unsustainable harvest /export quotas and fraudulent permits (export, import and re-export). The presenter concluded that there is a need for member countries to be proactive and promote regional and international cooperation to stop illicit trade in both CITES and non-CITES listed timber species.

Discussion/Q&A session: It was observed that the illegal trade in timber is a problem in almost all represented countries. Therefore, participants wanted to know if there are any experiences in setting up and utilising task forces for curbing illegal trade and/or effectiveness of such task forces. It was mentioned that regionally there is LATF, the Lusaka Agreement Task Force, which is responsible for combating illegal trade of wildlife and forest products. Earlier this year (2015) the Cobra III Operation coordinated by LATF, ASEAN-WEN, INTERPOL, EUROPOL, with involvement of law enforcement teams and agencies from 62 countries, resulted in 300 arrests and 600 seizures, and that included rosewood from Madagascar. Also, a national task force in TZ was formed that altered the dynamics of illegal trade in timber between MZ and TZ. It was also confirmed that Zanzibar and the mainland are meeting on developing CITES implementing legislation. One participant remarked that it would be great to see the legislation in place before the next Conference of the Parties to CITES.

2.2.2 Legality challenges – Gwamaka Mwakyanjala, Mama Misitu Campaign, and Cynthia Ratsimbazafy, TRAFFIC

Tanzania through MMC and TRAFFIC, and the TRAFFIC project office in Madagascar, have used a legality framework tool to assess legality of forest product trade along the value chain. The legality framework encompasses the legal requirements covering the entire supply chain, including forestry operations and corresponding processing and timber trade relating to timber origin, production, transportation, processing and trade and legislation safeguarding agreed upon environmental, conservation and social standards. This includes national laws, rules, regulations and administrative circulars, including contractual obligations that cover these areas. Legislation and regulations outside of these areas are not included in the framework.



Cynthia Ratsimbazafy presenting on the legality framework project in MG.

TRAFFIC, Madagascar project office - Cynthia Ratsimbazafy: The presenter highlighted that the legality checklist was developed for use within a national context. Madagascar's Forest Administration welcomed the legality framework approach as it is a logical continuity of all the initiatives being undertaken pertaining to forest governance. The Government has requested TRAFFIC to produce a manual on best practices and provide training for all the stakeholders involved in timber management, including timber operators. A challenge faced on the use of the framework is the reluctance in adopting it by the private sector. In order to overcome this challenge, awareness raising will be needed to both explain the purpose and benefits from having this tool.

Mama Misitu Campaign - Tanzania - Gwamaka Mwakyanjala: The presenter explained that the legality checklist was developed (with TRAFFIC) to improve legality of timber trade in community managed forests as part of a campaign initiative on improving the governance of Tanzania's forests and reducing illegal forest harvesting. Also that people of Tanzania can increasingly benefit from sustainably managed forests. The checklist is a tool that aims to help communities in ensuring they follow legal harvesting procedures to transporting those products legally to both local and international markets. Stakeholders realized the need to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue to discuss the legality of forest products trade and thus MMC is planning to conduct trainings on the use of the checklist to monitor compliance in timber trade.



Gwamaka Mwakyanjala presenting on the legality checklist project in TZ.

Discussion/Q&A session: The Forum sought to know the plan of MMC to bring the private sector on board to address the challenges they face in their business. The presenter explained that the private sector will be involved in different levels of the checklist implementation. He said, platforms have already been formulated at the district level. Such platforms provide an avenue for the private sector to discuss challenges they face and map alternatives to improve trade in forest and timber products. In addition, such a platform will come up with representatives at the national level to advocate their challenges and improve cumbersome timber trade procedures. The role of the campaign will be to provide avenues that will involve different stakeholders including government officials.

2.2.3 Private sector perspectives - Dr. Azim Fazal, Sandal Wood Industries

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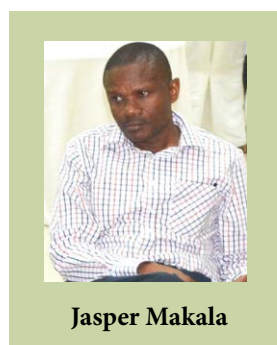
Azim Fazal

The presenter highlighted that environmentally friendly harvesting is his motive. In the past, the private sector used to give money to the Government (illegally) but things have now changed. Many in the private sector are conducting their business legally but on an individual basis and not as a unit or association. This increases challenges in the business of trade in forest products. The presenter insisted that if the private sector continues to work this way, nothing would change. There is a need for the government and its stakeholders to change their models. Adding more bureaucratic procedures will never help the private sector to be competitive in the market.

Discussion/Q&A session: Participants sought clarification on the question of the community's ability to transport forest products to their customers. The presenter responded that many villagers are unable to transport wood/unprocessed timber to their customers in towns or industries/factories. Many timber traders do purchase logs in the village forests and transport them to town centres and/or industries. The presenter insisted that communities' ability to transport forest products to their customers is an opportunity for them to learn and enter into the competitive profit making business.

Also, it was discussed that law enforcement agencies are supposed to enforce laws and regulations and not complicate systems. The Tanzanian Government could learn from the organisations that are doing this business sustainably, such as MCDI.

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Jasper Makala

2.2.4 Achieving legality – Jasper L. Makala, Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative

The presenter noted that Kilwa district is one of the richest districts in forest resources in Tanzania where forests cover 70% of the total land. Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI) is a Tanzanian NGO based in Kilwa, with the main focus on sustainable community forest enterprise. MCDI supports 26 villages in Kilwa, Liwale and Tunduru covering 110,203 ha as the total area of certified forest. MCDI promotes forest certification as a means to control illegal logging. Certification

allows the communities to label timber felled sustainably from community-managed forests and consumers can make informed and ethical choices. MCDI's work to operationalize Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification has created huge opportunities for the communities in Tanzania.

3.0 CONCLUSIONS DAY ONE

Participants were thanked for their full participation, contributions and recommendations made during the presentations. The facilitator officially closed Day One of the Forum by wishing everyone a good evening.

Country updates

- Illegal timber trade is still a problem
- Timber species identification would improve enforcement
- Limited understanding of various laws and licensing procedures amongst the countries
- Limited statistical data/info

Achieving legality in the timber trade

- Checklist applicability for improved forest product trade
- Private sector involvement in forest management
- Need for documentation and learning from best practices of achieving legality through sustainable trade of forest products

Box 1. Summary of common issues - Day One Presentations



4. PRESENTATIONS AND WORKING GROUPS - DAY TWO

Day Two began with a recap of key issues from the previous day's presentations followed by nine presentations and then breakout group work and presentations.

4.1 Regional linkages



4.1.1 Madagascar's illegal trade in rosewood: dynamics, scope and scale – Cynthia Ratsimbazafy, TRAFFIC, Madagascar office

The presenter noted that Malagasy rosewood is prohibited for harvest and trade. In 2004 the first exemption permit for rosewood log collection and trade was given. A total of 36,700 legal and 15,300 illegal rosewood logs were exported in 2009 while in 2014 10,500 illegal rosewood logs were exported. It is estimated that between 2009 – 2015, Madagascar has lost USD 580,460,000.00 through illegal export. The poaching of lemurs has also increased drastically. It has also been reported that 300 people

are killed annually at harvest sites. Different stakeholders including the government, civil society, CITES and donors are working together to curb illegal trade of this precious wood.

Discussion/Q&A session: The Forum participants noted that the figures of forest cover and revenue lost are huge and the Government of Madagascar needs to be more strategic and proactive to curb this situation.



4.1.2 Timber trade in Southern Africa: potential synergies with east Africa – Karen Nott and Dr. Simon Anstey, Integrated Rural Development and Nature Conservation Namibia

The presentation focused on the preliminary results of a study of timber trade occurring across the borders of Angola, Namibia and Zambia undertaken by IRDNC and TRAFFIC. The bulk of the hardwood trade was from Angola and Zambia transhipped through Namibia largely to markets in South Africa, with a growing 'rosewood' type timber harvesting in Zambia for the China market. Issues raised in the study included the

increasing scale of the timber trade and the need for better inter-country collaboration in its joint management, sustainability, economic benefits and legality through cooperative agreements and information sharing. It noted the keen interest in learning from the experiences of East Africa in timber trade and community forest management given the close similarity of their dynamics with these three southern African countries.

4.1.3 Bilateral agreements: Case study from Tanzania and Kenya - Alex L. Lemarkoko - KFS

The presenter described how the objective of the Kenya/Tanzania MoU is to enhance cooperation between Parties on improving forest management, governance and law enforcement as pertains to trans-boundary forest products trade. The two countries have agreed to cooperate on law enforcement, capacity building, monitoring and surveillance and information sharing. The MoU was signed in March and the Parties have since developed an action plan for operationalizing the MoU.

Discussion/Q&A session: Participants observed that the private sector/SME development was not well captured as would be dictated under TFS and KFS protocols. The presenter clarified that as the action plan is still to be reviewed and before implementation, all stakeholders will be involved and provide input.

4.1.4 Opportunities through South African Development Community (SADC) and East African Community (EAC) - Sibongile Mavimbela, SADC, and Shedrack Mashauri, EAC

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Shedrack Mashauri

The Forum participants were provided with background information on SADC's policy framework and Forest Law and Governance (FLEG) programme. They were informed that major causes of forest cover loss are due to agriculture, urbanisation, wood energy harvesting, uncontrolled fires, and illegal harvesting and trade of forest products. Among the challenges presented were: SADC FLEGT programme is not being implemented due to lack of funding and that SADC Member States have not set aside their own contributions for programme implementation. The presenter suggested that SADC Member States should seriously consider setting up their own fund for implementation of a regional FLEGT programme and seek additional support from relevant stakeholders.

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Sibongile Mavimbela

Discussion/Q&A session: Clarification on how SADC and EAC work was provided. Forum participants were informed that no one coordinates with the other and that instead they work according to their programme. Also the Forum discussed the environmental protocol whereas other members have signed, Tanzania has not. It was stated that the protocol of environment and natural resources was completed in 2006. All countries have signed except Tanzania.

4.1.5 Synergies with efforts addressing the illegal wildlife trade – Julie Thomson, TRAFFIC, East Africa Office

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Julie Thomson

The presentation focused on synergies between illegal wildlife and timber trade. For example, the presenter highlighted similarities between timber and wildlife trade flows, wildlife and timber hotspots, smuggling techniques, and funding and implementation challenges and opportunities. She presented a result from a time series analysis of Landsat images characterizing forest loss in southern Tanzania over 10 years and corresponding loss in elephant populations. The presenter also insisted that there is a need for collaboration between the wildlife and forestry sectors along the transportation and supply chains and to participate in initiatives such as interagency training at ports.

4.2 Reflections on Actions from the 2013 and 2014 Timber Trade Forums - Julie Thomson and Cassian Sianga (Forum Facilitator)

The presenters gave an overview of the actions developed at the 2013 and 2014 Timber Trade Forums and requested audience feedback on the progress of actions developed (see Annex 3). The session revealed that whilst progress had certainly been achieved on actions identified from past Forums, such as undertaking studies of Tanzania and Kenya's domestic consumption of timber and wood products, and the development and implementation of a MoU between Tanzania and Kenya on strengthening the cross-border trade in forest products, many actions had not been addressed. As a result, it was agreed that follow-up action between Forums by the organizers is required.

4.3 Working groups

After the reflection session, participants were divided into groups (below) to discuss and develop future actions addressing the timber trade.

4.3.1 Regional cooperation and information sharing group

The group examined how countries work together and use different channels and mechanisms to share findings and forest related information within the region.

The group saw the need for having a hub link with SADC and EAC as there are many studies, reports and publications to share such as trade data and statistics, regional policies, laws and regulations (translated), list of licenses, permits, fees paid and shipping information (containers).

Administering of the hub: The information hub could be managed by an independent or semi-independent institution/group such as from the private sector, CSO/NGO, and research/academic institution.

Sharing of information: Internally, country information is being shared through newsletters, digital platforms, public media, publications, websites, and forums such as the Kenya Forest Working Group, government-CSs-DPs forum, the Tanzania Forest Working Group, Uganda Forest Working Group, MZNR working groups and in Tanzania through 'Misitu ni Uhai' radio & TV program, publication and documentaries. Bilaterally through press release/statements – MoUs, UFWG invited to KFWG meetings/workshops, and south exchange learning. Regionally through websites (INGOs), annual timber trade forums, TNRF and media (e.g., East African Newspaper).

The value of the East African Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum: The Forum helps stakeholders' understanding of changing forest sector issues in the region that lead to improvement in management systems. It also raises difficult issues in a constructive manner while raising awareness for organizations and institutions to collaborate with and join efforts. It catalyses and gives momentum for for inter-agency cooperation. It engages multiple stakeholders and improves accountability among the traders and Government. It was agreed that TRAFFIC should take on the role as Forum Secretariat.



The regional cooperation and information sharing group at work

4.3.2 Timber (Zanzibar) Declaration group

The group started by defining the Declaration as an explicit statement or announcement.

It was discussed that the Declaration is needed to:

1. Formalise a group of interested stakeholders so as they can have one voice in lobbying and taking action on improving timber trade in own countries;
2. Build relations between SADC and other regional cooperation bodies; and,
3. Generate consensus on mechanisms to address illegal timber trade.



Declaration group receiving guidance from the Forum Facilitator

Regional mechanisms that foster collaboration: So far there are sectoral meetings of Environment and Natural resources ministers, EAC, COMESA, SADC, INTERPOL and CITES.

The **MoUs used to provide the framework for the Declaration** are from Tanzania/Kenya, Mozambique/Tanzania, SADC/JICA, SADC/WWF, WWF/ADB, Kenya/China (on forestry), Kenya/JICA, SADC/GIZ and Tanzania/Zambia.

Objectives to be addressed in the Declaration: The group proposed the following objectives:

1. Strengthen regional collaboration and cooperation to curb illegal timber trade;
2. Promote legal and sustainable timber trade industry;
3. Promote information and data management system, knowledge sharing to enhance policy and decision making; and,
4. Advocate and lobby for resource allocation and mobilization.

Actions to improve collaboration: The following actions and lead agencies were identified by the group:

1. Encourage formulation of bilateral and multilateral cooperation, Madagascar/Zanzibar/Kenya/Uganda (TRAFFIC);
2. Bring on board other source countries, DRC, South Sudan, (WWF Uganda);
3. Bring on board consumer countries (TRAFFIC);
4. Development and implementation of action plans for existing MoUs (PARTIES);
5. Ensure monitoring and evaluation plans are embedded in all MoUs (PARTIES);
6. Ensure the sustainability of the East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum, including the establishment of an online portal to enhance communication (TRAFFIC);
7. Finalization of the declaration and follow-up (WWF); and
8. Each Government to have a focal person.

4.3.3 Compliance group

The Compliance group looked at legal procedures and their effectiveness in controlling timber trade. It was presented that compliance depends on corruption levels related to taxes and royalties. Generally compliance is difficult, people are not aware of laws and regulations. The private sector is a part of the problem especially during transporting timber - they usually have all the necessary documents but they still corrupt government officials at check points



Q: Who do you work with to achieve compliance?		
To be addressed	Level	Work with
Corruption	International	Between countries, no access to international bodies
	National	TZ forest Authority, Prevention of Corruption Bureau, police Note: CSOs are still very weak so do not play any role in addressing corruption. Proposed to establish a platform
Regulatory matters	Local	Work with grassroots from where the resources are being stolen
	International	Cross border cooperation to develop legality tool (TRAFFIC), Economic cooperation (FOCAC)
	National	Ministers e.g., Prime Minister parliamentary committees for every sector
Awareness campaign on regulations	International	Media, NGOs, CITES, Regional association, International Cooperation Institution (FOCAC)
	National	Media , NGOs, Private sector, government bodies
	Local	Media, association, private sector organization (Mama Misitu campaign)

Q. What are your main instruments to ensure compliance?

1. Prevention of corruption bureau
2. Civil society
3. Control at check points
4. Forestry offices
5. Government bodies

Q. Independent mechanism to ensure compliance?

1. None that are looking at timber and forestry
2. There should be one, e.g. NGOs, CSO platform, the development of legality framework, FLEGT etc. These should be an appropriate tool

Q. Independent mechanism to ensure compliance?

1. Incentivise the private sector: recognition of best practices (financial recognition)
2. Strengthen the private sector organisation at local and national level
3. Governments to promote “buying only legal timber”
4. Tripartite MoU: Government, Private sector, Civil Society to promote the timber sector

4.3.4 Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar cooperation group

The group looked at cooperation issues on forest management and timber trade between Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.

Cooperation: The group identified how the mainland and Zanzibar cooperate:

1. Law enforcement agencies, organization structure for TRA allows TZ Mainland and Zanzibar to work together. The Deputy Commissioner for Customs and Excise - Zanzibar report directly to the Commissioner for Customs and Excise. Also Police is a union matter and Commissioner Zanzibar reports directly to IGP.
2. No formal cooperative structure on forest issues, cooperation is only in donor driven programs such as (coastal forest for Zanzibar and mainland, REDD+, Climate Change)
3. Internationally they jointly represent Tanzania as one country.



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Issue of collaboration: Currently there is no specific activity that brings them together. However they need to collaborate on:

1. Administrative areas, by clarifying legal issues and identify training needs;
2. Business and transportation of forest products;
3. Sharing a database of forest product traders;
4. Joint law enforcement; and
5. When necessary, harmonize forest legislation including documentation.

Who calls who: It was agreed that whoever has an issue or something to share can contact the other. The group proposed that the TFS-Director of resources utilization to take the lead on collaborative activities.

5.0 CLOSING REMARKS AND WORKING GROUPS - DAY TWO

Dr. Bakari Asseid, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr. Asseid congratulated everyone for their full participation and thanked them for accepting the invitation to attend the Forum. He recommended that the participants consider illegal harvesting when thinking about illegal trade. Secondly, he suggested that understanding demand and supply of resources within a country and region will help to better understand the trade. Thirdly, he stated his belief

in good governance, but as experience has taught him, the participants need to think about our moral responsibilities. He stated that the more we initiate these types of Forums, the closer we will get to our achievements. These Forums provide information and taking actions towards improving timber trade across the country.



Dr. Asseid making closing remarks

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Dr. Assaid thanked the Forum organizers and concluded by saying that he wished everyone the best and welcome to Zanzibar and his wish that next year when we meet again, that there will be a good number of directors who can make the decisions on behalf of the countries represented.

Alex Lemarkoko, Kenya Forest Services

Mr. Lemarkoko stated that the East Africa Timber Trade Forum is a good venue for discussing issues of timber trade. He continued that the discussions held during the forum will be a great way forward in resolving issues that are common to countries. He assured that whatever was discussed in the Forum will be acted upon. He concluded by thanking everyone for their participation and Zanzibar for hosting the Forum.



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Hardwoods (Rosewood sp.) collected illegally

ANNEX 1: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS



3rd ANNUAL EAST AFRICA TIMBER TRADE STAKEHOLDERS FORUM **Zanzibar Grand Palace Hotel, Zanzibar Tanzania** **June 29th - 30th 2015**

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ANNEX 2: WELCOMING NOTE

**THIRD EAST AFRICA TIMBER TRADE STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM ON ASSESSING
REGIONAL LINKAGES IN EAST AFRICAN TIMBER TRADE
29th – 30th JUNE 2015, ZANZIBAR GRAND PALACE,
ZANZIBAR**

**WELCOME NOTE
FROM THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY MINISTRY OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL
AFFAIRS OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
MR. ASSAA AHMAD RASHID**

Distinguished Delegates, Meeting organizers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Assallaam Aleykum,

Dear Delegates, it gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to Zanzibar at the 3rd East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum on Assessing Regional Linkages in East African Timber Trade.

With us here today are delegates from Zanzibar, Tanzania Mainland, Kenya, Uganda, Botswana, Madagascar, Mozambique, EAC and SADC. I would like to extend a special welcome to you all, and especially those you who are visiting Zanzibar for the first time. Allow me to welcome you "KARIBUNI SANA ZANZIBAR".

It is my sincere hope that we shall be seeing you again in the future when you will be coming for private occasions. Zanzibar has a lot to offer from its terrestrial as well as under seawater treasures. I encourage you to take this opportunity to explore and understand Zanzibar.

Dear Delegates,

I would like to thank the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Trade Record Analysis of Flora and Fauna in Commerce (TRAFFIC) for their decision to organize this stakeholder's forum here in Zanzibar. To us in Zanzibar, this provides a tremendous opportunity for collaboration with the countries in the region.

Dear Delegates,

Let me take this opportunity also to inform you of Zanzibar's contribution towards the conservation of forest resources in general. We in Zanzibar recognize that natural forests form an integral part of global ecological systems of which must be conserved and used sustainably for present and future generations.

For this reason, the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has set aside the Jozani-Chwaka Bay National Park, Ngezi-Vumawimbi and Masingini Nature Forest Reserve, Kiwengwa-Pongwe and Muyuni-Jambiani Forest Reserve and a number of mangrove areas for conservation. Likewise, 57 Community groups have set aside 47,000ha of forest areas for conservation purposes, including REDD+ programme. In total these account for 32.3% of the land area of Zanzibar.

Dear Delegates,

Looking at current data on illegal trade in timber, we have not been able to reverse the situation in and through our countries, despite efforts that are taken. However, the recently forged linkages

between Tanzania mainland and Mozambique and that of Tanzania mainland and Kenya give us a sign of relief that we are collaborating. I personally, praise WWF, TRAFFIC and the National Forest Agencies for their initiative and let us give them due support to ensure the materialization of the same.

Dear Delegates,

It should be noted that the illegal and unsustainable trade in timber within our countries and across national boundaries, is also triggered by an uneven balance between domestic supply and demand of timber products. It is imperative, therefore, that while we are meeting here to assess regional linkages, we should also bear in mind each country's supply and demand of these products.

Dear Delegates,

What should we do then? Given the trends of the illegal trade in timber and other forest products across the region, it has become imperative to forge strong regional collaborations across East and Southern Africa. To this end, it is our strong desire that this forum result in a 'Declaration on Combating Illegal Trade in Timber' by all governments on agreed actions to tackle illegal timber trade. I'm aware that all government's representatives will continue meeting after the Forum on 1st of July to formulate such actions. As we look toward the World Forestry Congress in Durban, South Africa, where governments will be discussing coordinated inter-regional approaches to alleviating illegal and unsustainable trade in timber, such a Declaration could be formally launched by the parties present at this forum. Such a Declaration could further cement our good will and the relations between countries from the East Africa Community and the Southern Africa Development Community. On behalf of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, I assure you that Zanzibar is ready to support such a plan to ultimately put measures into place to reduce illegal trade in timber and safeguard forest resources.

Mr. Chairman,

In conclusion, I have taken note of the fact that you have a demanding agenda in front of you that will require sustained concentration and energy for needed critical and open discussion; for that reason, I would not like to keep you any longer than is necessary. It is therefore, my pleasure to wish you a very fruitful meeting and to declare this 3rd East Africa Timber Trade Stakeholders' Forum on Assessing Regional Linkages in East African Timber Trade as officially opened.

Thank You for Your Attention

ANNEX 3: REFLECTION OF 2013 ACTIONS

S/N	ACTIONS	KEY INSTITUTION (INCLUDING LEAD)	STATUS
1	Set time target on how long it is required to get permits after filing an application	Lead – TFS Other TNRF, MMC	
2	Reduce unnecessary bureaucracy by reducing the number of timber trade permits and promote one stop shopping point	Lead – TFS Other TNRF, SHIVIMITA	SHIVIMITA -Different guidelines has been developed for plantation forest
3	Develop and disseminate guidelines/trade requirements for timber trade for traders and other key stakeholder	Lead: TFS Other: MMC, TNRF	MMC/TNRF 1. Checklist is done, will be printed and distributed 2. Working with TFS on translation of guideline and developing popular version. 3. Funds available printing popular version for some selected areas
4	Make TFS a fully autonomous agency with a management board	Lead: MNRT Other: TNRF, TFS	TFS- Ongoing, the process has started
5	Introduce and maintain performance based incentives for TFS to attract more funding	Lead: DPG – E Other: TFS, MMC, TNRF	
6	Prioritise concessions (and upgrade simple) concession in the forest plantations and explore further for the case of natural forests	Lead: TFS Other: TAFORI, SHIVIMITA, SUA	
7	Provide financial reward traders involved in legal trade	Lead: TFS Other: SHIVIMITA, TIC	
8	Strengthening the capacity of TFS and Tanzania Forest Industry Association – enforcing compliance	Lead: TFS Other: DPG-E, TNRF, MMC	TFS has been doing for the past three years, by making people participate in the field and collect resources. MMC/TNRF-platforms are developed at district level; capacity will be built at the district level. MMC/TNRF will utilize the available platforms for advocacy at the national level so as to bring accountability in Tanzania

REFLECTION OF 2014 ACTIONS

S/N	ACTIONS	KEY INSTITUTION (INCLUDING LEAD)	STATUS
THEME 1: INCENTIVES ON LEGAL TIMBER TRADE			<i>Notes: There's no platform for timber traders to voice out their concerns and to work with local level in their networks. MMC have started to initiate these platforms.</i>
1	Facilitate existing stakeholders' platforms at district and national levels (TZ)	TNRF/MMC	Weak stakeholder engagement between the private sector, CSOs, government and local communities
2	Develop active database of private sector in TZ, KE, MZ	TNRF/MMC	
3	Support finalization and dissemination of the joint forest management (JFM) guidelines in Tanzania.	TZ – TFS, TFWG,	
4	Initiation of the cost benefit sharing guidelines in Kenya	TZ – TFS, TFWG, KE – KFS, KFWG	No guidelines for cost benefit sharing in JFM (Tanzania) and participatory forest management (PFM) (Kenya)
5	Support/lobby for inclusion of promoting small holder plantations along with private investment plantations	TZ – TFS, SHIVIMITA	
6	Develop timber supply strategy in the National Forest Programme in Tanzania	TZ – TFS, SHIVIMITA	<i>NOTES: The TFS national programme hasn't addressed cross cutting issues of all stakeholders in Tanzania</i>
7	Support private sector to form national timber associations in Tanzania, Kenya, Zanzibar and Mozambique as per FAO guidelines	TZ – TNRF/MMC SHIVIMITA	Absence of private sector self regulatory mechanisms: Membership legislation and code of ethics <i>Notes: It is important for private sector to regulate themselves and behave according to their association agreements.</i>
8	Strengthening of public-private partnerships in the forest sector	TZ – TNRF/MMC SHIVIMITA	
9	Promoting or scaling up of PFM/sustainable forest management (SFM)	TZ MJUMITA	Weak community involvement in managing and harvesting of forest resources
10	Promoting market information on communal owned forests – share and transfer lessons from Kilwa to other PFM potential areas	TZ MJUMITA	

11	Support review of forest harvest guidelines	TZ – MMC, SHIVIMITA	Unfriendly business regulations e.g. administrative procedures for license processing
THEME 2: INFORMATION			
1	Common methodological framework on the collection of data	TRAFFIC/CIFOR, IUCN	<i>Notes - After the Forum TRAFFIC and WWF CEA agreed that funding would be provided to this but follow-up is required</i>
2	Develop synergies among different organizations undertaking trade studies	WWF/TRAFFIC, IUCN	<i>Notes: CIFOR and TRAFFIC have publications on timber trade. The idea is to have central database that can allow institutions to share data. Information in the database will now be for public.</i>
3	Repository of relevant literature & data / data sharing	WWF/TRAFFIC	<i>Notes: TRAFFIC's timber publications can be accessed online from its website</i>
4	A systematic value chain study to feed into the generation of data	CIFOR	
5	Link networks on communications	TNRF, MMC and WWF	<i>Notes: Different media platforms will be used to collect and disseminate information. Suggested to have target audiences and/or forum of communication people for cross pollination of information</i>
6	Use of media pathways to communicate issues about timber trade	TNRF, MMC and WWF	<i>Notes: no media coverage was reported in the 2015 Forum</i>
7	Monitoring of media coverage and quality of information covered in the media	TNRF, MMC and WWF	<i>Notes: Until recently, the TRAFFIC office in Tanzania collected newspaper clippings of articles pertaining to timber (and wildlife) trade.</i>
8	Share data that is collected on the basis of influencing target audience	TNRF, MMC and WWF	
9	Report media coverage at the 3rd timber trade forum.	TNRF, MMC and WWF	<i>Notes: no media coverage was reported in the 2015 Forum</i>
10	Bilateral agreement regarding language usage on official documents to assist the states in monitoring	WWF, IUCN, TRAFFIC	

11	Indicators to monitor results	UNEP/CIFOR	
12	Explore ETIS for timber	TRAFFIC, IUCN	<i>Notes. After the Forum, TRAFFIC did undertake a preliminary exploration of an ETIS-like system for timber with positive response.</i>
THEME 3: LAW ENFORCEMENT			
1	Create Awareness	WWF/TRAFFIC, MMC	<i>Notes: MMC together with LEAT have developed a simplified version on Forest Act, and currently preparing tax incentive manual</i>
2	Interpretation of the laws in simple language	MMC/LEAT	
3	Coordinate and enhance joint operations	TFS, KFS, and Ports authorities	
4	Empower communities to hold the Government accountable.	TNRF and MMC	
5	Strengthen and expand of community involvement in timber monitoring	TNRF and MMC	
6	Strengthening of NAFOBEDA	TFS, ZFS, KFS, TRAFFIC, TNRF and MMC	<i>Notes: it was said that there is a database, and so what is needed is to strengthen the systems.</i>
7	Dissemination of NAFORMA results	TFS, ZFS, KFS, TRAFFIC, TNRF and MMC	
8	Advocate the Government to allocate more resources on law enforcement.	TFS, KFS, DFNR, TRAFFIC and WWF	<i>Notes: resources to be allocated includes manpower, equipment, and capacity building</i>
9	Strengthen collaboration and networking among law enforcement agencies.	TFS, KFS, DFNR, TRAFFIC and WWF	
10	Involve DFNR in planning and implementation of Forestry laws and regulation in the context of timber trade.	TFS, KFS, DFNR, WWF and TRAFFIC.	Limited engagement of director of forest and renewable energy (DFNR) in the enforcement of forestry laws and regulations.
11	Initiate development of MoUs between TFS, KFS and DFNR		
THEME 4: REGIONAL/COLLABORATION			<i>SADC Protocol (ratified) EAC Protocol Environment & Natural Resources (not yet ratified)</i>
1	SADC with EAC strengthened – share experiences of SADC Protocol	SADC, EAC	
2	Assess levels of implementation of Protocols (county level) and develop joint monitoring systems for tracking the Protocol items	SADC, EAC	

3	Bilateral MoUs on forest issues for 'bridging out' from Forest Departments ((ie., to enable inclusion of Customs, Planning, Security, Finance etc)	TFS – KFS-DNTF regional cross sector (eg., UN-REDD)	
4	Facilitate Zanzibar forest department to participate in regional timber trade/law enforcement (SADC/EAC) given Union and non-Union issues re forestry	SADC/EAC TRAFFIC	<i>Notes: The Zanzibar forest department and TRAFFIC have discussed enforcement training at the sea and air ports. Funding has been obtained for wildlife law enforcement training but not yet for timber training.</i>
5	Strategic planning re regional level of the demand and supply – How can the region meet its needs for timber, charcoal etc??	Ideally requested by SADC/EAC TFS, KFS, DNTF Research + policy entities	
6	Conduct a study on supply/ demand at national and then regional level	WWF/TRAFFIC	<i>Notes: desk-based timber consumption studies undertaken for TZ and KE with a regional timber trade assessment underway for completion by end of 2015/ beginning of 2016.</i>
7	Information Management Systems – need for joint systems across countries and centralized for region - SADC/EAC – provide for harmonization of data collection and joint sharing of information.	SADC	
8	Monitoring frameworks for data management - Select Indicators (10?)- commit to long term regional studies (short term – set up design) - ease of doing business in legal trade/production - cross borders data degree of congruence-		<i>Notes: It was discussed that this could be a role for CIFOR</i>
9	Regional timber stakeholders forum (CSOs-NGOs, Private Sector) linked to SADC/EAC Forest meetings	SADC + EAC to identify options & feasibility	



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Silverback Mountain Gorilla *Gorilla gorilla beringei*, Uganda

TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is the leading non-governmental organization working globally on trade in wild animals and plants in the context of both biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

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