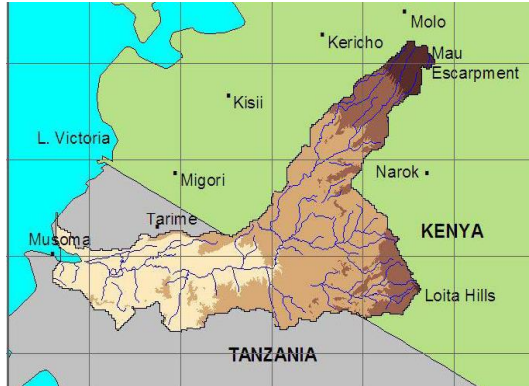




NILE BASIN INITIATIVE

Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program

Mara River Basin Management Project



PROJECT OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To establish a sustainable cooperative framework for the joint management of the water resources of the Mara River Basin in order to prepare for sustainable development investments that will improve the living conditions of the people while protecting the environment.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Mara River basin covers a surface of 13,325 km², of which approximately 65% is located in Kenya and 35% in Tanzania. From its sources in the Mau Escarpment, the river flows for about 400 km and drains into Lake Victoria. The basin is among the most important river basins in East Africa as it traverses the world-famous Maasai Mara-Serengeti ecosystem recently declared one of the new seven natural wonders of the World. Despite of this global and regional significance, the river remains threatened by destruction of forest cover, unsustainable farming practices, high population growth rate and climate change. Consequently, the seasonal water quantities have changed significantly in the sense that there are now higher peaks and lows in the river flows. Consequently, floods have become more common and large parts of the Tanzanian Mara wetlands have become more permanent instead of temporary wetlands. These issues require a whole of basin approach to their management. Recognizing these threats, the project is preparing a number of investment proposals in the fields of water infrastructure, watershed management and irrigation infrastructure for subsequent funding within a consistent basin development strategy.

OBJECTIVES

The project addresses the following medium and long term objectives;

1. Improved water resources development through development multipurpose storage reservoirs for Irrigation, water supplies and Small HEP
2. Improved River Basin Management through Integrated Watershed Management Projects (Environmental Integrity/Alternative Livelihoods).

IMPACT STATEMENT

The Mara River Basin Project contributes to improved living conditions of the basin communities by creating an enabling environment for sustainable development oriented investments and building capacity of riparian staff and communities in integrated water resources management and development.

SUB-PROGRAM

Water Resources and Environment

PROJECT DETAILS

EXECUTING AGENCIES:

PARTNER(S):

Sweden, World Bank, Kenya and Tanzania

PROJECT DURATION

Phase I: Four Years

START/CLOSING DATE

Phase I: Jan 2006 to March 2010; World Bank-NBTF Supplemental Financing:
Bridging Phase: April 2010-March 2012
Phase II of Bridging phase: 2013-2014

BUDGET

The Sida and NORAD funded project preparatory phase (2006-2010) to the tune of US\$3.3 Million. The World Bank-NBTF has funded project preparatory studies at US\$ 2.049million. This raises the total project budget to US\$5.434 million. Sida and NORAD has funded the bridging phase (2010-2012) at US\$ 1,755,806

Phase II of bridging Phase funded by Sweden: 2013-2014 US\$ **2,346,194** million

NCORE/CIWA:US\$ Jan 2015-June 2017 at 605,660

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

The Project Management Unit is located in Musoma, Tanzania. The projects cover three counties in Kenya: Nakuru, Narok and Bomet, and four districts in Tanzania namely Tarime, Serengeti, Butiama and Rorya.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

The project has accomplished the following tasks:

A) FACILITATION OF TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

INSTITUTIONAL STUDIES

- Cooperative Framework Agreement study concluded focusing on policy, legal and institutional analysis.
- Memorandum of Understanding between NBI and riparian countries prepared and awaiting finalization
- **Other outputs** included the development of a capacity building plan, a stakeholder participation plan, and a gender mainstreaming strategy
 - Assessment, design and installation of hydro-meteorological network and water quality monitoring.
 - Staff training and Study tours undertaken to similar river basins in Africa

B) WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

INTEGRATED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROJECT PREPARED

The projects that were formulated in order to reverse the degradation trends include the following:-

- Watershed Management Project (US\$ 21,612m)
- Sustainable Wetlands Management Project (US\$ 7,134m)
- Water Pollution and Sanitation Project (US\$ 4,461m)
- Cross-cutting activities (US\$ 2,313m)

MAU FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN PREPARED

- Projects preparation for Conservation of Maasai Mau and Trans Mara forest blocks finalised and has four main components identified - (US\$ 62.9m). These are namely:-
- Land and Water Management (US\$ 11.4m) – interventions with emphasis on improved land
- Livelihoods Diversification (US\$ 39.7m) - interventions with potential to improve incomes and thus livelihoods
 - Institutional Strengthening (US\$ 3.1m) – interventions for building capacity of the implementing partners, government and community associations;

PREPARATION OF SUB CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS

- Four (4) sub catchment management plans completed. These are Ise and Engare Engito (Kenya), Somoche and Tobora (Tanzania).
- Isei (US\$ 840,000), Engare Ngiito (US\$ 1,070,000) Tobora (US\$ 1,530,000) and Somoche (US\$ 3,480,000)
- Sustainable land management activities include beekeeping, soil and water conservation, dairy goats farming, energy saving devices, poultry keeping, tree nurseries, agro processing and value addition, honey processing, river bank protection

C) WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

FEASIBILITY STUDY OF NORERA AND BORENGA DAMS UNDERTAKEN

- Feasibility study and detailed design for small – medium storage dams at Borenga (Tanzania) on going;
- Borenga ha an estimated storage capacity of 19 million m³ and Norera (Kenya) with capacity 0.5 million m³.
- Borenga dam (Tanzania), will provide water for 8,340 ha of irrigated agriculture in the Mara valley, and Norera will irrigate 2000 ha.
- Independent Environment and Social Assessment completed.

D) KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS

- Water Allocation Model developed;
- Hydrometric network installed.

CONSTRAINTS/CHALLENGES

Mobilizing resources for implementation of the identified investment opportunities

LESSONS LEARNT

- Political good is key in success of projects;
- Adequate time for community engagement is mandatory

STRATEGY TO SUSTAIN THE GAINS

- Lobby for political good will for projects ownership
- Lobby National governments and local governments/Counties to pick some prepared projects for implementation.
- Package prepared projects into proposals for mobilizing finances for implementation



NILE EQUATORIAL LAKES SUBSIDIARY ACTION PROGRAM – COORDINATION UNIT

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Mission: To contribute to the eradication of poverty, economic growth, and reversal of environmental degradation in the Nile Equatorial Lakes region

