About   SANREM CRSP

1.0 Back ground of the Project

The sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management Collaborative Research Support Program (SANREM CRSP) is sponsored by the United States Agency for International Development and participating U.S and host country institutions around the world.
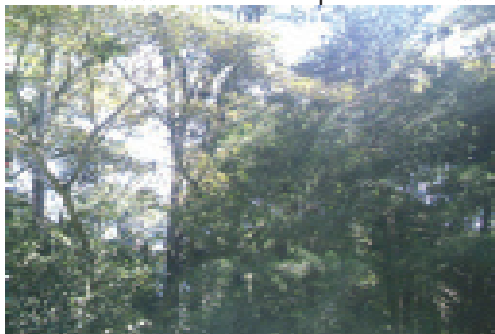
The project is based in Indiana University, Bloomington and targets four countries namely Kenya, Uganda, Mexico and Bolivia. The Kenyan component is housed by the Kenya Forestry Research Institute (Natural Forest Programme)

2.0 The Aim of the Project

It aims at collecting and analyzing data to identify the institutional conditions and interactions that will deliver benefits equitably to local people while sustaining local resources.

The project aims at:

☐ Finding out how decentralization affects forest sustainability and livelihoods

☐ Evaluating how decentralization policies can be modified to more effectively improve ecological sustainability of forests and the livelihoods of the communities that depend on them.

A Section of Kakamega

Forest

☐ Finding out the implications of forest decentralization policies for different groups, including women, the poor and marginalized groups, at the local level.

☐ Finding out the implications of forest decentralization policies for resource conservation, biodiversity, and ecological sustainability at the local level?

3.0 Objectives of the Project

3.1 Overall Objective

The objective of the SANREM CRSP is to support sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources Management (SA & NRM) decision makers in developing countries by providing access to appropriate data, knowledge, tools and methods of analysis, and by enhancing their capacity to make better decisions to improve livelihoods and the sustainability of natural resources.

The programme aims to study different approaches of devolution in forestry sector.

3.2 Specific Objectives

☐ Develop capacity within resource user groups at the selected forest sites to enable differentiated actors (particularly women, the poor, and other marginalized groups) to identify, understand and participate in forest governance, benefits, and policy processes.

☐ Develop capacity within key organizations in the forestry sector to understand the impacts of policies on differentiated local actors and to adopt strategies for inclusion of such actors within broader policy processes.

☐ Develop effective monitoring techniques for use at the community level to assess the impacts of decentralization and other property right reforms on natural resources and livelihoods.

4.0 GOAL OF THE PROJECT

SANREM CRSP activities will result in the development, cataloging and transfer of technologies fro increased income generation, stakeholder empowerment, enhanced resource management, strengthened local institutions, improved market access for small holders and communities, and sustainable and environmentally sound development.

5.0 AREAS OF COVERAGE AND ACTIVITIES

5.1 Sites Established

The Project has so far established three sites; Kakamega forest in Kakamega District, Geta and Wanjohi block in Aberdare Ranges, Nyandarua District, Upper Imenti forest in Imenti North district and Tugen Hills in Baringo District. Other sites scheduled to be done include Arabuko Sokoke, Ramogi and Mt. Elgon.

5.2 Stakeholder Training

The project trains various types of stakeholders in each SANREM site. The stakeholders include community members, government officials and other local and international actors. The community is trained on issues such as PFM principles and the New Forest Act aimed at including community members in decision making on forest issues and general forest governance.

Some members during one of the training on SANREM data collection methods

The project further builds local capacity through training community members on IFRI/Sanrem data collection methods and further working with them throughout the data collection exercise in each site.

5.3 Round Tables

The project focuses on creating opportunities for organizational learning at a number of "learning nodes." Through round tables, local user groups and organizations that support them have the opportunity to learn from the findings at their own sites and to interact with other user group communities to expand on their learning.

It is expected that support organizations and national partners will benefit from the findings by sharing information with other stakeholders. Round tables consist of policy makers, academicians, members of local administration, people from the other government ministries and non government organizations, local organizations and members of local communities.

The Project has held a round table meeting in Kakamega and it expects to carry out others in its seven sites.

5.4 Future Activities

The project will hold trainings of various interested user groups, regional meetings to share ideas with other researchers.

The Project also hopes to revisit its already established sites to determine changes in the governance of the forest. Through this, Resource and Recourse diagrams will be drawn up indicating the level of decentralization in forest management.

A section of Aberdares Forest

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Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management

Collaborative Research Support Program

(SANREM C R S P)

Promoting Stakeholder empowerment and improved livelihoods through knowledge based sustainable agriculture and natural resource management systems