

Tanzania Eflows WIOSAP Demo Project
Meeting minutes
Date: 18th August 2021
Venue: Microsoft Teams

Opening

The meeting was called to order at 15:00Hrs (EAT) with Angela welcoming all in attendance and thanking them for creating time to attend the meeting. This was followed by a brief introduction of all in attendance.

The purpose of this meeting was to get the updates of the Eflows project in Tanzania, challenges they are facing and technical as well as communication support they may need for the convention.

Min 01: Project Progress

- Prof Japheth mentioned that the project is progressing well despite the COVID-19 disruptions. The project was launched through a well-attended event that was officiated by the district commissioner. He mentioned that they had obtained permission to conduct assessments at the project site. Scoping and programme of activities that will be undertaken is already done in consultation with the stakeholders and activities such as awareness creation on environmental flows on the ground are underway.
- From the technical side of view, there is a team in place and that was ready to go for dry season sampling. This would include site selection, geophysical surveys, ecological analysis and for monitoring of the riparian zones. Another sampling is planned during the wet season.
- Preparation of the capacity building materials was ongoing.
- It was mentioned that masters students had joined the project to address key input into environmental flows; hydrological modeling, water allocation assessment and ecology and riparian characterization.
- Prof. Japheth mentioned that the project is well on track and they were expecting to complete the project on time.
- He mentioned that after doing the field sampling, they would know the amount of money that would be needed in addition to what is already allocated for the project.

Min02: Communication Needs

- The survey with the members of community was planned to take place from mid-September to October and would be spearheaded by the social scientists' team. They already had the initial stakeholders' survey and would conduct Environmental Flows Assessments (EFA) trainings to raise awareness.

- Prof. Japheth highlighted that they would share images of the sites as soon as the activities are completed.
- It was noted that COVID-19 had caused serious delays on the project implementation and that the no cost extension had helped recover some of the lost time.
- He noted that the results would be conveyed to the community and other stakeholders through: meetings and workshops, publications and journals and also written policy briefs and this would require capacity from the Nairobi Convention Secretariate. Therefore, communication assistances that would be required includes packaging the project results in layman’s language, formulation of policy briefs and translation from English to Kiswahili
- The project has a positive impact on environment when it comes to sediment load and water quality and it was highlighted that there was willingness to expand the scope to the Rufiji river catchment in Tanzania and need to replicate it in other parts of the country.
- The project had drawn government attention and the project result would inform further conservation efforts of coastal zones in Tanzania.

Closing

There being no other matter the meeting came to a close at 16:00Hrs.

In attendance

No.	Name	Affiliation
1.	Japhet Kashaigili	SUA
2.	Melisa Wandia	UNEP
3.	Jane Ndungu	UNEP
4.	Angela Joan Patnode	UNEP
5.	Nathan Majwa	UNEP