

TAMP RWANDA

PDF-B ACTIVITIES, FINDINGS
AND AREAS OF ACTION

PROJECT START:

- Appointment of the Project Focal Point by MINAGRI: October 2004
- Recruitment of the National Project Coordinator (Manager): November 2004
- Project Office provided by MINAGRI and equipped by FAO: January 2005

Finding: High support from MINAGRI

MEETINGS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES

- With representatives of the provinces and districts: January 2005
- Presentation of the project and invitation to the launching meeting

Finding: The project addresses felt problems: i.e.

Land degradation (declining productivity)
and

Climate changes (frequent droughts).

PROJECT COMMITTEES

- TAC was established in February 05
- Members were appointed by and from:

MINAGRI (3)

MINITERE (3)

REMA (1)

Provinces (3)

FAO (1)

- PSC: November 05
- Members were appointed by:
MINAGRI (1)
MINITERE (1)
FAO (1)

MEETINGS

- Project launching meeting: February 05
- 37 people (Representatives from Ministries, Provinces, Districts, Projects and Research Institutes) attended.
- Agenda:
Information sharing on the project
Contribution on the needs and
implementation plan of the project

- Findings:

They contributed ideas,

Were interested to collaborate with the

Kagera TAMP

Later on, they participated in the field diagnosis assessments.

- First TAC meeting: March 2005
- 14 people (Members and Observers) attended
- Agenda:

Roles and responsibilities of the Committee

Discussion of the Action Plan

Proposed a visit to the project areas

- TAC 2-day reconnaissance field visit in June 05
- Visited the most degraded sites in two provinces
- Met and discussed with provincial, districts, projects and community representatives
- Formulated recommendations on potential priority interventions

FIELD WORK

The field diagnosis training in July 2005

Field diagnosis study: Sept. 2005

Study sites: Six; i.e. 2 per province in 3 provinces

Sites selection criteria: altitude, topography,
And major agro-ecosystems

PEOPLE ENCOUNTERED

- Executive Secretaries of the provinces
- Mayors of the districts
- In charge of Agriculture and Environment at the provinces' level.
- Staff of some of the projects
- Agronomists and Vets of the Districts
- Elders and Community representatives at the villages level.

- All these contributed information on the status and trends of NR degradation in respective areas; and
- Helped in problems and solutions identifications and
- Made suggestions / recommendations for the project to take into consideration.

FIELD DIAGNOSIS

- Five consultants conducted the diagnosis:
- Specialities in:
 1. Land and crops use and management
 2. Soil quality and degradation
 3. Forests and Agro-forestry
 4. Livestock and pastures, and
 5. Water, flora and fauna.

- At each of the 6 sites, the study was through transects and PRAs
- 3 days per site; i.e. transect (1 day), PRA (1) and restitution (1)
- Draft reports are available

DESK STUDY

- In addition to field studies, consultants conducted desk studies for secondary data and information
- Documentation was already gathered by the NPM

GIS / RS STUDY

- Was conducted by the GIS/RS department of the NUR – Butare
- Draft data are available

LESSONS LEARNT FROM THE STUDIES

- The Rwandan Akagera river watershed covers almost the entire country (+/- 80%).
- The data collection was extended to the entire watershed
- The watershed was divided into three ecological zones:

- Higher Zone (in the West and North of the Watershed) characterized by:

High altitudes

High hills with steep slopes

Narrow tops and bottom valleys

High soil erosion on hillsides

Population on tops and bottoms of the hills

Very few vegetation cover.

- Medium Zone in the center of the country :

Medium altitudes

Large plateaux

Low soil erosion

Rich vegetation cover and biomass

- Lower Zone in the East:

Low altitudes

Flat and rolling plains

Dominated by livestock keeping,

And rangelands

- These are described in the consultants reports
- Conclusions from the studies will help in choosing project sites; at least one in the lower, one in the medium, and one in the higher zone.

End