



ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme Implemented in partnership with UNDP

RETURN TO WORK (RTW) PLAN

PROGRESS REPORT

An initiative of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, financed by the European Union and United Nations Development Programme, and implemented by UNDP.



I. RETURN-TO-WORK PLANS

Return to Work projects are a valuable mechanism for workshop participants' personal and professional development. As part of your sponsorship, you were required to develop a return-to-work plan on a project you would undertake on your return, applying the knowledge and skills gained from workshop to influence change.

This follow-up on the progress of implementation of the return-to-work plan will be used to determine the most successful projects; and subsequently offer a small number of selected participants the opportunity to attend a 1-day symposium on **Industrialization Impact Assessment** and the **ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme showcase during the EU Raw Materials Week** in Brussels, Belgium (01-02 December). Please include the bio page of your passport with the submission of the progress report.

II. REPORTING STRUCTURE FOR RETURN-TO-WORK PLANS

To facilitate ease of reporting on the progress of your return to work project, the structure below outlines the key project elements that need to be covered. **Please submit the progress update on the Return to Work Project (RWP)** using the structure provided below.

| GENERAL INFORMATION |
|--|
| Name(s): Osoro Naftaly Nyakundi |
| Position: Environment Officer, National Environment Management Authority - Kenya |
| Email: osonafny@gmail.com |
| Phone no (office + mob): +254 723 956 270 |
| Brief description of the project: Project Title: <u>Sustainable Sand Harvesting and Extraction in Mbeere South Sub County, Embu County</u> Sand harvesting in Mbeere South Sub County has been taking place for several decades even before the enactment of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA), No. 8 of 1999. This activity is a livelihood for the communities as the area is Arid and Semi-Arid. The viable deposits of building/construction sand occur in rivers, streams and valleys. Due to the growing demand for building sand occasioned by general national growth of the building and construction sector commercial sand harvesting activities in these areas has tremendously increased with consequent adverse impacts on the affected rivers, |

streams, valleys and even infrastructural facilities like roads. There are challenges associated with the sand harvesting in the Sub County. The main challenge experienced is the;

- 1. In-coherent Social Organization among communities in sand harvesting areas:** Rivers are public/national resources sand harvesting may only be appropriately vested on the public-oriented groups as set out under the Sand Harvesting guidelines (which are not enforceable). Failure by the communities in areas endowed with sand to form coherent groups that can provide a framework for implementation of Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) and other environmentally sound practices makes it difficult to achieve the management goals. This is one of the major factors leading to uncontrolled and environmentally destructive sand harvesting.

What were the expected outcomes and what outcomes did you achieve?

Expected outcomes

- A County Sand Harvesting Association
- A GIS map of the sand harvesting sites
- Rehabilitation strategy of degraded sand harvesting sites
- A river model on sand harvesting sites
- Sediment transport in rivers and sites

Outcome Achievement

- GPS points taken along the major rivers where sand harvesting is undertaken.

What were the expected outputs and what outputs did you achieve? Please be specific. For example, if you held a workshop or presentation to share the knowledge you gained during the training workshop: Where was the workshop held? When? How many people attended? What was the gender balance? Please also attach as an appendix any photos or other media.

Expected outputs

- Establishing a Sub County Sand Harvesting Committee
- Establishment of Riparian Resource Management Unit
- Environmental Impact Assessment for the sand harvesting sites
- A review of species composition along the sand harvesting sites
- A cross sectional survey and river models in sand harvesting sites

Outputs

1. Stakeholders meeting

Date: 23rd May, 2016

Venue: Chief office Iriatune Location Office

Invited Members: This forum brought together government agencies that included the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, National Environment Management Authority, Embu County Government Administration Department, Member Of the County Assembly and Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority.

Number of members attended: 20

Gender Balance – 6 Female and 14 Male

Knowledge gained: Conflict resolution among the communities in resource use.

Note: Attached Minutes

2. Sand Harvesting sites GPS points collection

The exercise was done along the two major rivers where sand harvesting occurs. The rivers are;

1. Marivwe River
2. Mururiri Seasonal River

Date: 18th January, 2016 – 29th April, 2016

No of persons involved- 6 (2 Female & 4 Male)

List of people Involved: - The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, National Environment Management Authority, Water Resource Users Association, Embu County Government and the Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority.

Please describe the key partnerships and collaborations that you established in your country as well as any joint collaboration with other countries

Partnerships established:

There was tremendous support from the following institutions at the Country and County levels;

- The Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government,
- Child Development Centre (Faith Based Organization)
- National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)
- Water Resource Users Association,
- Embu County Government – Department of Environment
- Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority.
- County Assembly of Embu
- Community Based Organization
- Ministry of Gender and Social Services (National Government)

What indicators of success have you achieved since the start of implementation? (Describe the indicators of success in relation to the expected outputs and outcomes)

- Collaborations have been established between the institutions charged with sand harvesting resources.
- Inventory of sand harvesting sites has been established in two majors and harvesting rivers
- Capacity building has been enhanced among the community relating legislations that touches on sand harvesting.
- Major conflicts have been resolved that touched on the sand as a resource and a livelihood in Mbeere Sub County.
- Many sand harvesters have formed groups and registered as CBOs and are in the process of following due process of complying with the relevant legislations.

What strategic opportunities have you acted upon that have contributed to the continued success of your project? (include linkages to sub-regional and regional agendas)

Working for the National Environment Management Authority gave and is giving me an opportunity to implement the project. The Authority has the mandate of ensuring that the Environment is sustainably managed. With the above I have been in a position to engage stakeholders who upon my request for forum regarding sand harvesting attend with a keen interest of ensuring that the resources is used sustainably and with no conflicts. The legislation governing sand harvesting is the mandate of the Authority and therefore since we have the guidelines on sustainable utilization of sand as a resource then it makes various stakeholders recognize my efforts in ensuring wise use of the resource.

What opportunities opened up for you personally as a result of your RWP?

- Interactions with community members and major government institutions.
- I was able to attend training on resource use conflict resolutions held at the County.
- I interacted with the members of the county assembly committee in charge of Environment and put forward the proposal of enacting a Sand Harvesting Legislation at the County level.
- I put forward a proposal for funding to the Upper Tana Natural Resource Management Project on rehabilitation of degraded sand harvesting areas (awaiting consideration for funding)
- The project has enabled me be sound in areas relating environment decision making

Please explain any problems encountered during implementation of your project, highlighting any deviations from the project plans (Describe the solutions sought for the problems and corrective actions undertaken for the deviations)

-The notion by the community that Sand harvesting is a common resource for use by anybody – This led me into the use of the relevant legislation in place regarding the use of natural resources in Kenya.

-The various categories of people involved in sand harvesting – the environment legislation in place does no talk about sand loaders and sand transporters, this has led to much rise in conflicts. The solution to this problem was tackled through engaging seriously institutions that regulate sand transporters (County Governments) and Sand loaders (Ministry of genders and social services)

Deviations: - Resource use conflicts – During the project implementation I was in the middle of doing conflict resolution on resource use. This was due to groups not agreeing on the boundaries of sand harvesting sites.

What specific actions have you undertaken to ensure sustainability of your project

-The community has been adequately educated on issues regarding sand harvesting. This has made them come into groups to ensure that they get the relevant documentation to undertake their activities.

- The communities have known the various government agencies that they can forward their proposals for funding in the type of projects they are undertaking.

-The communities have understood that sand is not a common resource for anybody to use but a livelihood that they can get benefits out of it if sustainably used.

Please describe any future actions in the table below

| ACTION PLAN | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Period | Month 1 | Month 2 | Month 3 | Month 4 | Month 5 | Month 6 | Month 7 |
| Activity 1: Collection of GPS points for further 3 Rivers in the Sub County | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Activity 2: Generating a GIS map for the various sand harvesting sites with GPS points | | ✓ | | | | | |
| Activity 3: Finalizing Registration and formation of CBOs along the | | | ✓ | | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| Sand Harvesting Sites | | | | | | | |
| Activity 4: Undertaking specific Environmental Impact Assessment reports for the sand Harvesting sites | | | | ✓ | | | |
| Activity 5. Establishing the Riparian Resource Management Units | | | | | ✓ | | |
| Activity 6. Formation of a sub county sand harvesting Association | | | | | | ✓ | |
| Activity 5: Coming up with the relevant legislation and policies at the County Level | | | | | | | ✓ |

NB:

1. Please attach any evidence of commendation/award/certificate received as a result of implementing your return-to-work plan
2. For any Group return-to-work plans, please indicate the name of the person selected by the team for sponsorship to attend a symposium on **Industrialization Impact Assessment** and the **ACP-EU Development Minerals Programme showcase** during the EU Raw Materials Week.

III. SUBMISSION DATE OF THE PROGRESS UPDATE OF THE RETURN-TO-WORK PLAN

The progress update of the Return to Work plan is due **by Monday 31st October 2016** and should be sent to: development.minerals@undp.org.