

# CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR RESULTS-BASED MONITORING, EVALUATION AND AUDITING UYUI DISTRICT



Submitted by:



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## ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

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AFSP	Accelerated Food Security Programme
AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
AIRCs	Agricultural Information Resource Centres
ATI	Access to Information
CBFM	Community Based Forest Management
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DPs	Development Partners
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FI	Food Insecurity
HBS	Household Budget Survey
HIV	Human Immuno- Virus
ICT	Information Communication Technology
JFM	Joint Forest Management
KM	Knowledge management
LGAs	Local Government Authorities
LTPP	Tanzania Long Term Perspective Plan
MAF	Millennium Development Goals Acceleration Framework
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MDGR	Millennium Development Goals Report
MKUKUTA	<i>Mkakati wa Kukuza Uchumi na Kupunguza Umaskini Tanzania (NSGRP)</i>
MKUZA	<i>Mkakati wa Kukuza Uchumi na Kupunguza Umaskini Zanzibar (ZSGRP)</i>
MS	Microsoft
MVP	Millennium Village Project
NAIVS	National Agricultural Inputs Voucher System
NGO	Non- Governmental organization
NSA	Non–State Actor
NSGRP	National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty
PFM	Participatory Forest Management
SACCOS	Savings and Credit Cooperative Society
SNV	Netherlands Development Organization

SP	Service Poor
TASAF	Tanzania Social Action Fund
TFYDP	Tanzania Five Year Development Plan
TDV	Tanzania Development Vision
TV	Television
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
URT	United Republic of Tanzania
USA	United States of America
USD	United States Dollar
VIFs	Village Information Facilitators
VG	Vulnerable Group
ZSGRP	Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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### 1.1 Background Information

Tanzania was one of the 189 nations which endorsed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in September 2000 as part of the Millennium Declaration of the General Assembly of the United Nations (URT 2011). Since endorsement of the MDGs, Tanzania has taken a number of measures to mainstream MDGs in its national development frameworks such as the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP/MKUKUTA I and II for the Mainland), Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (ZSGRP/MKUZA I and II), Tanzania Long Term Perspective Plan, LTPP, (URT 2011) and Tanzania Five Year Development Plan (TFYDP) (URT 2011). All these frameworks are vehicles for realizing the long term aspirations of the nation as articulated in Vision 2020 for Zanzibar and Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) for the Mainland.

Since publication of the first country MDG Report in 2001, successive reports have continued to show that great challenges lie in achieving the poverty goal (MDG 1) and MDG 5 (Maternal mortality). Progressive achievements have been noted in MDG 2 (Primary School Enrolment), MDG 4 (infant and Under-five mortality rate), and MDG 6 (Malaria, HIV and other major diseases) (URT 2008, 2010). Greater efforts are needed to achieve Goal 3 (empowerment of women), environment goal (MDG 7) and MDG 8 (global partnerships for development). This mixed state of progress in implementation of MDGs drove the government, together with other stakeholders (Development Partners, Non State Actors) to advocate for and put in place sound policies and institutions at national, local and community levels to ensure that Tanzania is on track to achieving most MDGs by 2015.

The MDG country reports so produced served only to present a broad picture of the state of progress (first generation reports) and financial requirements for meeting MDGs (second generation reports, including the Gleneagles scenario). Being essentially national averages, the scores were not capable of fully accommodating analysis of local disparities, hence articulation of the term “localization”.

Localization in Tanzania was driven by results of HBS 2000/01 Household Budget Survey (HBS) and the bleak prospects of achieving key MDGs, the need to promote inclusiveness in growth, the need to promote governance and need for ensuring sustainability by, among other measures, building local capacity. To this effect, District MDG reports were produced in 2010, with Uyui being one among the first three (others were for Bagamoyo and Bunda).

The global initiative, Millennium Development Goals Acceleration Framework (MAF) launched in 2010 sought to enable countries to get quickly on track in the most challenging MDG. Tanzania piloted MDG 1. The key MAF methodology identifies challenges and

bottlenecks and proposes strategic interventions to be implemented to address the identified challenges and bottlenecks at all levels.

In the same vein, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Tanzania and the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV) in collaboration with Local Government Authorities and civil societies implemented a pilot project on Access to Information (ATI) Initiatives in four (4) rural districts: Bunda, Uyui, Morogoro rural and Bukoba rural between 2007 and 2010. ATI pilot initiative aimed at improving the quality of local governance and access to basic services by increasing access to and use of relevant local information (the demand side of information) and support the local government in their relatively new role of supplier of information. ATI activities include, strengthening the capacity of local government authorities (LGAs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) to analyze data and supply relevant information to citizens, and strengthening the capacity of CSOs in monitoring and evidence-based advocacy. Lessons are drawn and shared with policy makers with the ultimate goal of improving national processes<sup>1</sup>.

The specific challenges at local level relate to inadequate resource mobilization, poor enforcement frameworks, disruption of the ecosystem and climate change with adverse impacts on agriculture and health, and poor state of physical infrastructure (especially in rural areas). Other challenges include high incidence of poverty (especially income poverty), high illiteracy rate, and limited ability to train, attract and retain skilled personnel, especially in education and health sectors in rural areas (UNDP 2012).

Tanzania requires concerted efforts from key actors particularly at the local level to facilitate the implementation of MAF solutions for the country to get on track. Experience and/or lessons from MDG localization have re-confirmed that it is useful and essential to engage local partners such as local government authority, civil society and local communities. This bottom-up approach and MDG localization has enabled collection of adequate social and economic information at communities and District Councils levels thus enabling integration of the findings in local plans and practices with good achievements<sup>2</sup>. MDG localization and ATI are essential building blocks for the efficient implementation of MAF by identifying major bottlenecks and implementing relevant solutions.

Each of the implemented MAF project generally seeks to address growth and livelihoods. In accelerating achievement of MDGs, attempts are made to identify effective and feasible solutions for the bottlenecks that have been identified and respond to the respective challenges. These initiatives should be seen as enhancing opportunities to empower communities to assume ownership of development efforts.

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<sup>1</sup> See Millanzi and Mwisomba (2008)

<sup>2</sup> for example Kangonet (2012); URT (2011); URT (2012a) and URT (2012b)

### *Uyui district*

Uyui district is one of the districts of Tabora region, located in central Tanzania. The district forms part of the vast central plateau of Tabora region, an area of flat and gently undulating plains broken in some places by prominent hills. Most part of the district lies between 1,100 meters and 1,200 meters above sea level and forms the main watershed separating rivers flowing north eastward into the Manonga River and the Wembere Swamps. The district has the second largest basin in the region, that of the Manonga river and Wembere Swamp, draining ultimately into Lake Eyasi.

According to HBS 2000/01, Uyui district had a high incidence of poverty (48.1%). A number of initiatives have since then been undertaken to improve the situation. The efforts have included Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), National Agricultural Inputs Voucher System (NAIVS), Participatory Forest Management (PFM), Millennium Village Project (MVP) and other MDGs initiatives, (see also section two).

## **1.2 Problem Statement and Project Justification**

Despite the Government's effort to initiate and put in place policies and programmes for socio-economic development in Uyui District, the livelihoods of the people in rural communities, especially outside MVP area, are not improving fast enough. Implementation of the initiated projects under MDG Localization, MVP, ATI and other development initiatives has brought another dimension, that of natural environment and the ecosystems, largely because the two had not been adequately integrated during the design stage and initial implementation phase of projects. The ecosystem is increasingly facing pressure as a result of rapid population growth, extensive agricultural practices, livestock increase and unsustainable land use and management practices. Disruption of the ecosystem not only impairs capacity of the natural environment to support life and livelihoods of the present generation, but also denies future generations of the opportunity to access and utilize productive resources.

On the one hand, mitigation of these adverse impacts is low, while on the other hand, effective monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of projects to track the impacts on ecosystem in Uyui District has been lacking. Evidence reveals that poverty and low awareness in the local communities are among the major factors affecting the ecosystem. Local communities are not informed of the linkage between the ecosystem and livelihoods. Thus, it has been difficult for the local population to appreciate the interventions and/or solutions addressing ecological challenges in their communities.

### **1.3 Objectives and Justification of the Study**

It is against this background that further evidence was sought on results and effectiveness, of the various projects being implemented in Uyui district (MVP initiatives, ATI and TASAF). To this end, this study was commissioned with, among other objectives to:

- (a) Conduct a baseline study and benchmark the practice of implementation and execution modality of MVP and MDGs localization projects ; and examine role of ICT in accelerating and addressing performance gaps of current programmes;
- (b) Assess local ecosystem-based interventions to address ecosystem-related challenges;
- (c) Recommend actions that need to be taken in order to improve the performance and impacts of the projects in terms of productivity, quality of the ecosystems, and knowledge management.

The ultimate goal is to identify areas that need improvement and scaling-up for better results and that can be emulated by other communities. The proposed measures are expected to improve performance of the projects and resource utilization thus leading to improved livelihoods of the people.

### **1.4 Organization of Report**

Five sections form this report. The first part has dealt with introduction and background. This is followed by section two which covers Situational analysis. The third section presents Findings from assessment study 2013, followed by section four which is devoted to Challenges and proposed interventions. Concluding remarks crown the report.

## 2.0 SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

A number of studies have documented the socio-economic conditions in Uyui District, of which two deserve special mention: Uyui District Socio– Economic Profile of year 2008 which described the situation of the district and Uyui District MDG report of 2010 which assessed achievement of MDGs.

### 2.1 Uyui District MDG Report

The results of the assessment showed that greater efforts are needed in the poverty goal, Under-five mortality rate and births attended by skilled health personnel which were off track. With respect to infant mortality achievement was likely. For the rest of the goals, achievement was possible.

The progress in MDGs was greatly improved because of the intervention of Mbola Millennium Village project established in 2006.

The MDG report in particular, identified the challenges of development in the district as being (not ranked):

- (i) inadequate local level resource mobilization,
- (ii) Ineffective enforcement frameworks,
- (iii) Climate change with adverse impacts on agriculture and health,
- (iv) High incidence of poverty, especially income poverty,
- (v) High illiteracy rate
- (vi) Inability to attract and retain skilled personnel especially in education and health sectors.

**Table 2.1: Uyui District - Progress in MDGs at a Glance, 2008**

MDG	1990	2008		2015	Glance
	(base line)*	Actual	Expected**		
Proportion of population below basic needs poverty line	39	48.1 (2000/01)	23.4	19.5	
Under-5 Underweight (%)	7.8 (2002)	6.0	6.1	3.6	
Primary school net enrolment rate	54.2	95.9	84.5	100	
Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	155	144	80.6	51.7	
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	95	64	49.4	31.7	
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 100,000 live births)	529	83	244	133	
Births attended by skilled health personnel (%)	43.9	60	77.0	90	
HIV prevalence, 15-24 years	6	2.8	<6	<6	
Proportion of population with access to piped or protected water as their main drinking water source	25 (2001)	46	43	50	

Key: \* = national ;\*\*= Computed as % passage time thus 2008 is equivalent to 18 years or 72% time that has elapsed. Thus by 2008 at least 72% of the MDG target should have been achieved

Colours: green = achievable; yellow = achievement probable; red – not achievable.

The wide consultations with stakeholders on the findings of the MDG report led to recommendations of how best to make localization deliver. The recommended actions were (not ranked):

- Ensuring that national policies and programmes are supportive of district efforts;
- Attracting investors through pursuing strong, sustainable social and economic change that promotes small businesses, generates decent and productive employment,
- Sharing knowledge;
- Promoting change in practices and attitude towards work;
- Ensuring high quality livelihood;
- Ensuring equity and quality services delivery;
- Recognizing community participation in planning and implementation processes.

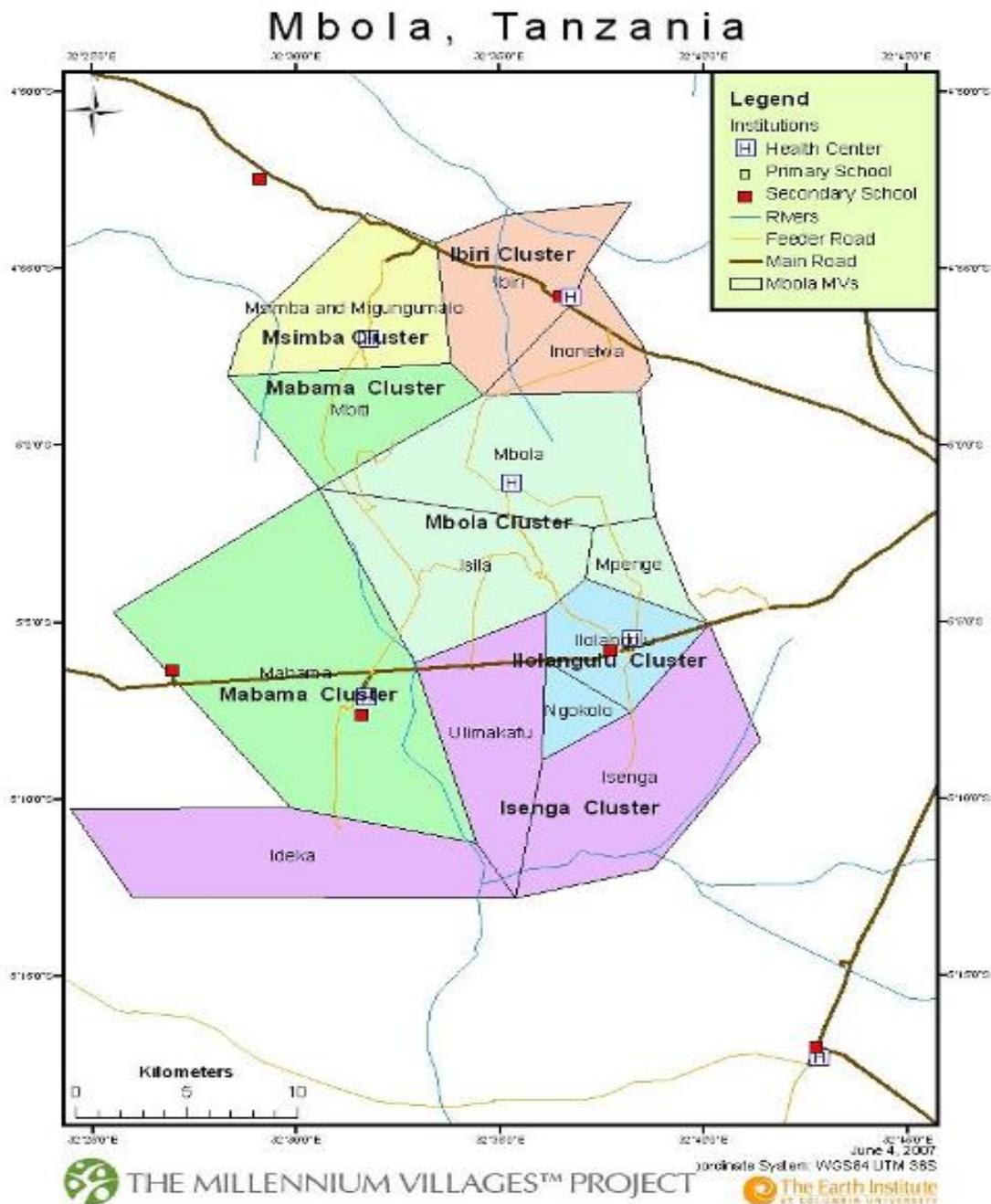
## **2.2 Mbola Millennium Village Project**

Mbola Millennium Village project (Mbola MVP) aimed at changing the lives of selected communities through attaining all eight Millennium Development goals (MDGs) by involving the local people. The project was officially launched in May 2006 by Jeffrey Sachs (United Nations Secretary Advisor on MDGs issues.) and took off in September 2006. The project was implemented in 16 villages (located in four wards namely Ilongulu, Mabama, Ibiri and Usagari) which together form Mbola Millennium Village<sup>3</sup> (Figure 2.1). Uyui district and the villages in particular are located in the wet *miombo* woodland zone and has one rainy season. The project covers 6,068 households with a population of 38,445 people who are beneficiaries of the project. This was the village with the poorest household in Tanzania and Uyui district was second poorest district (HBS 2000/01) thus warranting this intervention. It should be noted that the aim of the project was to make various intervention aimed at attaining the MDGs by 2015.

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<sup>3</sup> The villages includes; Mbola, Mpenge, Isila, Isenga, Ngokolo, Iloa Ngulu, Ilongulu, Mabama, Ideka, Mbiti, Msiliembe, Ibiri, Inonelwa, Migungumalo and Msimba.

**Figure 2.1: Mbola Millennium Village Project Implementing Wards/Clusters in Uyui District**



The starting point in the implementation of this project was community training, empowerment and identification of the sectoral needs such as education, agriculture, health, environment, infrastructure and water, done through Participatory Rural Appraisal methodology. Sensitization meetings and seminars were conducted in each village which led

to the establishment of various project implementation and monitoring committees as follows:

- (i) Agriculture and environmental Committee;
- (ii) Health Committee;
- (iii) Water and Sanitation Committee;
- (iv) Infrastructure; and,
- (v) Education committee transformed out of existing school committee.

These committees have 557 members of whom 44.9 percent are women. The main role of these committees is to oversee project activities. The committees work together with village government leaders. The project council (the Millennium Village Council) has 56 members composed of representatives from village committees, village government leaders, Ward leaders and all councilors within the project area.

Two MDG localization projects are also implemented in this district namely, Access to Information (ATI) and Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF). ATI project was implemented between 2008 and 2010 in Uyui district. The project was implemented in collaboration with Local government Authority (Uyui District Council) together with private sector, represented by CSOs e.g. JIDA. The entry point for this project was the health sector with Malaria as pilot. Millennium village experts were involved in conducting studies to establish the extent of malaria prevalence..

Three information centers were established one in each ward and were equipped with office furniture, TV set, computers and Notice Boards. A district information center was also established which, in addition, had internet connectivity. Solar power panels were installed where there was no electricity source connected to the national grid. Each village had Village Information Facilitators (VIFs). Through established village information groups (*Vikundi vya upashanaji habari*), villagers received training from time to time on best use of mosquito net, good governance and analysis of developments reports e.g. amount of development funds received from the council and projects to be implemented.

TASAF is a government agency which provides mechanisms that allow local governments and village governments to respond to community demand and design interventions that will contribute to the attainment of MDGs particularly MDG 1 (poverty and hunger). Uyui district participated in both TASAF I and TASAF II. The second phase used Participatory Rural Approach (PRA). The programme in Uyui was designed to cover three areas, Services Projects (SP), Vulnerable Groups (VG) and Food insecurity (FI). These projects were funded through National Village Fund, Participatory Forest Management (PFM) and Accelerated Food Security Programme (AFSP). SP projects funded social services-related projects such as education, health and water. VG project supported vulnerable groups such as widows, orphans, people living with HIV and AIDS and old people. Projects involved in this group in most cases are livestock (chickens, cows and goats) and vegetable farming. PFM community

projects aimed at maintaining keeping natural forests. FI targeted households with household members who are able to work but for some reasons suffer food shortages.

### **2.3 Ecosystem**

Uyui district has two distinct agro-ecological zones, namely, the western zone and the central eastern zone. The terrain of the Western zone is low lying with soils that support paddy cultivation. This zone is the main paddy producing area in the region. A small part of this zone has appropriate conditions for tobacco growing, while the northern part is suitable for growing cotton. Soils are sandy loam and alluvial. The zone is about 80 percent tsetse fly-free and therefore it has good range land for cattle rearing. The Central Zone lies in the central eastern part of Uyui district and is covered with alluvial soils. The zone has low rainfall of between 750 mm and 850 mm and hence limits maize yields leaving groundnuts and paddy as the major cash crops. Cattle rearing is practiced in this zone.

The main challenges of the ecosystems in Uyui District include increased population, poverty, extensive tobacco farming and other agronomical malpractices, overstocking, low understanding and knowledge on the importance of ecosystem conservation, bush fires, climate change, etc. There is a notable increase in the District's population in recent years compared to the past. According to Uyui District Profile, population was at 131,247 inhabitants in 1988, increasing to 281,101 inhabitants by 2002, an increase of 114.2%. The increase in population is localized in some potential areas. The rate of population increase in Millennium Village Project (MVP) area is higher than in other areas of the district, the main pulling factor being availability of good services provided by the project (school, employment etc). Business opportunities have in turn sprouted up, further pulling populations to the area.

The increase in population in the area has increased pressure on natural resources. Climate change and variability of soil condition caused by poor agronomic practices and deforestation aggravate further the stress on ecosystem. Some of cited agronomic malpractices include mismanagement of farm inputs (which destroys living organisms and the ecosystem) frequent and uncontrolled bush fires; encroachment of marginal areas of cropland such as in steep slopes; and reduction in the use of crop rotation, intercropping and land fallowing. These practices lead to loss of productive land and greatly reduce thus increasing food insecurity and vulnerability.

**Figure 2.2: Tobacco Farming in Uyui District**



Like in other areas of Tanzania, the threats and challenges to the ecosystem have negatively affected performance of the activities under MDG localization, MVP, ATI and other development initiatives. For example some of the agricultural chemicals and veterinary drugs are said to be poisonous thus, wiping out some species of birds that used to eat or remove bugs from livestock.

To address environmental challenges, various initiatives have been initiated in Uyui district such as afforestation, Agriculture intensification and Environmental Impact Assessment.

**(a) Participatory Forest Management**

Under TASAF, Participatory Forest Management (PFM) was implemented. The major objective of PFM initiative was to reduce forest degradation thereby increasing ecosystem services; and to improve the livelihoods of local communities. PFM was implemented through Joint Forest Management (JFM) and Community Based Forest Management (CBFM).

Under JFM, communities cooperate with government through formal agreements to protect forests. This mainly takes place on reserve areas where land is owned by local government or central government, and village communities enter into management agreement for delivery of certain services. For example in Uyui District JFM was implemented in Mayombo forest and Nzubuka forest, where local communities declare and gazette village, group, or private forest reserves for both village land and private land. The ownership of trees is vested on the village council through the village natural resources committee, or a group or an individual. Any costs, benefits, utilization are internal to the owner. This kind of forest management and conservation was practiced in many villages e.g. Igalula and Imalakaseko forests.

**(b) Aforestation**

Tabora region in general has high deforestation rate due to extensive farming, particularly tobacco farming; and increased demand for forest resources for fuel wood and timber

extraction. This demand for fuel wood is aggravated by the increase in population and in tobacco curing. In order to curb deforestation problem, afforestation programmes have been established in all districts of Tabora region including Uyui district. For example, tobacco growers are required to plant trees an area equivalent to the cleared one. However, response is low. Other initiatives include sensitization and mobilization of communities and institutions (schools and hospitals) to plant trees on their farm lands. In Mbola Millennium Village project afforestation was one of the activities that have been implemented with notable success. However, as found out during discussions and interviews, the survival rate of exotic planted trees is low.

***(b) Agriculture Intensification***

Local communities, especially in MVP areas, have been encouraged and supported to practice intensive agriculture by using improved inputs (seeds and fertilizers) so as to increase yield per unit area. This has resulted in reduction of area under cultivation and fallowing or sparing out the rest of land for regeneration. It was noted in MVP areas that some of the farmers currently use less than half of the land they used for cultivation before the project and with higher output.

***(c) Environmental Impact Assessment***

In order to reduce stress on the ecosystem and protect the natural environment, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been made mandatory under MDG localization, before any project is undertaken. The EIA has to be comprehensive showing the impact of the project on ecosystem and the way the project will address the impact and challenges throughout the project cycle.

## 3.0 FINDINGS FROM ASSESSMENT STUDY 2013

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The assessment study of 2013 differed from previous studies in four key areas:

- ✓ Additional areas of investigation – ICT, knowledge audit;
- ✓ Focus on livelihood changes;
- ✓ Focus on local perspectives (challenges and solutions);
- ✓ Focus on attestation – how and where “it works”, in an integrated manner.

### Methodology

In order to meet the objectives of the study as specified in section one, a combination of methodologies had to be applied. These included literature survey, Focus Group Discussions (FDGs) and surveys. Rigorous sampling was performed for the collection of both qualitative and quantitative data.

### 3.1 Field Survey

Two field surveys namely, baseline and benchmarking and ecosystem were undertaken in the rural communities in Uyui District where Millennium Village and MDG localization projects have been implemented.

The studies used both qualitative and quantitative tools. The qualitative approach used *Focused Group Discussion* (FGD) to collect data and *purposive sampling* to identify the participants. A total of 37 individuals participated in these studies including beneficiaries (women, youth, and most vulnerable groups), representatives of Civil Societies Organizations, District Officers, councillors, project coordinators, agriculture extension officers, village leaders, and researchers who in one way or another were linked with MVP and MDG localization projects. It was important to approach interviewees using non-intrusive techniques such as asking them to narrate “most significant change” stories, or encouraging them to tell the stories that they felt conveyed a picture of what has changed, why it has changed, how learning can be applied in the future, and what solutions they suggest so as to fill gaps and meet challenges in order for interventions such as poultry farming, Agricultural Information Resource Centres (AIRC), Knowledge Management (KM) and conservation of the ecosystems can more effectively facilitate development in rural areas. The consultants further avoided biased and leading questions to avoid unrealistic responses.

### 3.2 Analysis of Data

Micro Soft Excel (MS-Excel) computer software was used to analyse quantitative data in terms of cross tabulation, frequencies and calculations of averages which were used for comparisons and trend analysis. Qualitative data gathered from farmers and key informant interviews were carefully transcribed. These transcriptions were then read and re-read to

interpret and get the key messages. From these transcriptions key themes or patterns of ideas, concepts, behaviour, interactions, incidents, terminologies, or phrases were then identified. Furthermore, as the way to gain more insights abbreviated codes such as few letters, words, or symbols were assigned to key themes and placed near them. This was meant to help researchers organise data into common themes emerging from the responses. Afterwards, these themes were organised into coherent categories which were summarized in order to study and extract key messages to answer research questions.

### **3.3 Summary of the Major Findings**

#### **3.3.1 Change in Livelihoods**

Among the objectives of this study was to establish the current status in terms of change in social-economic condition and livelihoods of people that can be attributed to implementation of the MDG localization projects. Respondents were asked to assess their status whether there have been social and economic changes as a result of implementing the projects.

##### **(a) Millennium Village Project**

- Production of food crops (maize in particular) has increased from 0.97 tonnes per ha before the project to 4.2 – 5.8 tonnes per hectare in 2012. Through a non government organization TDFT the project distributed 18 dairy cattle under the arrangement formally known as “*Kopa Ng’ombe lipa Ng’ombe*” (borrow a cow, pay a cow). About 765 cows were distributed to farmers under rotation arrangement. These were also being vaccinated against Newcastle disease after every three months;
- The project involved training of farmers on best agricultural practices including efficient ways of using farm inputs. Apart from increasing income, this has had implications on sustainability via impact of knowledge, even after the project phased out. From 2007 to 2009, about 5950, farmers were trained on best agricultural practices including input uses such as seeds, inorganic fertilizer usage (DAP, CAN, UREA, MINJINGU etc). The project introduced cash crops such as sunflower, cotton, cassava, groundnuts and sweet potatoes;
- In business and financial sector, about 316 beekeepers were identified and trained on best beekeeping practices, of whom 32 were provided with bee hives.
- MEMBO<sup>4</sup> farmers group were given loan to purchase a power tiller, milling machine, sunflower oil processing machines and electricity generators;
- Mbola Millennium Village SACCOS was established, thus assuring sustainable access to financial services. During 2012/13 agricultural season, the SACCOS managed to

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<sup>4</sup> Kikundi cha Maendeleo endelevu (Sustainable development farmers group)

collect a total of Tshs 163 million Input Rotating Fund and a total of Tsh 70 million was loaned out to members;

- Through school feeding programme that started on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008, student attendance increased from 60% in 2008 to 85% in 2012. Student enrolment rate also increased from 70% to 98%. Pass rate in Standard seven exams increased from below 25% before 2008 to 65.1% by 2012. Two primary schools Isila and Msimba were among the district's top 10 performing schools;
- The number of patients seeking health services increased from an average of 15 patients per day per health centre to 30 patients a day per health centre;
- Number of deliveries at the health centre increased from an average of 15 pregnant mothers per month to 25 per month;
- Voluntary HIV testing increased; the number of people publicly declaring themselves to be HIV positive increased from 2 people at the initial stage of the project to 107 people;
- Usage of alternative sources of power increased: 16 out of 17 schools were now using environmental friendly stoves for cooking ("*majiko sanifu*" low on fire woods. Five classes at Inonelwa, Mbola and Isenga primary schools and one class in Ibiri secondary school are connected to solar PV. Eight classes at Mabama, and Ilolangulu primary schools, and six classes of Lolangulu Secondary school and Ilolanguru, Mabama, Migungumalo, Isenga, Ibiri and Mbola Health Centres are connected to electricity from the national grid;
- Increase in the use of computers and cell phones. All schools connected to solar power and electricity from the national grid were provided with four (4) computers each. All the respondents in this study area own cell phones;
- Improved village road network and communication. A total of 28 kms of village roads (13.4 km from Ilolangulu to Mpenge to Mbola and 14.6 kms from Msumba to Migungenalo to Mbiti) were upgraded. The project, in collaboration with Airtel Tanzania and ERICSON companies erected three communication towers at Mbola, Ilolangulu and Ideka villages. ERICSON also donated 70 cell phones to health workers to simplify communication during emergencies and accessing of ambulance services.

### Access to Information (ATI)

- There has been improvement in access and use of information through the centres established by this project. The information includes TV broadcasts and agricultural information through leaflets, books available at the center's library and notice board information;
- Malaria cases have been reduced to a large extent due to people responding positively to the campaign of better use of treated mosquito nets and other initiatives;
- Increased awareness which is an essential part of capacity building to increase transparency, accountability and change of mindset. This has greatly increased accountability of leaders to the communities they serve;
- Increased access to information which has increased empowerment and good governance as citizens were now able to question and demand their rights boldly.

**Figure 3.1: ATI Resource Center in Tabora Town**



### **Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)**

- Construction of primary health centers (where communities identified this as priority) thus increasing access to delivery at health centers;
- Change in life styles of beneficiaries in term of income generation, provision of social services (e.g. education and health to orphans) and food security. This was particularly through the SP, VG and FI projects;
- Reduced school drop outs from school;
- Construction of classrooms, teacher's houses and administration blocks creating conducive environment for teachers, thus improving the retention rate of teachers;
- Construction of roads where communities chosen it as their priority. This facilitated transportation of crops to the markets;
- Conservation and preservation of natural forests through PFM project. It was through this the project that communities were assisted by law professionals on environmental by laws which help in environmental protection and management.

#### ***3.3.2 Ecosystem***

In response to the challenges of ecosystems in Uyui district, a number of interventions have been initiated and implemented by local people in collaboration with district council and other stakeholders. Notable initiatives include Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), Millennium Village Project, MDG Localization and ATI.

##### ***(a) Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)***

The first phase of TASAF implementation started in 2000 and ended in 2005 when the second phase was initiated and implemented for eight years up to June 2013. In the second phase, four projects, namely, Service Poor (SP), Vulnerable Groups (VG), Participatory Forest Management (PFM), and Food Insecurity (FI) were implemented.

PFM is the only project under TASAF which focuses on ecosystems and is therefore relevant to this study. As mentioned earlier, the major objective of the PFM initiative was to reduce forest degradation thereby increasing ecosystem services and improving livelihoods of villagers. PFM was implemented through Joint Forest Management (JFM) and Community Based Forest Management (CBFM). For example in Uyui District, JFM was implemented in Mayombo and Nzubuka forests while CBFM was implemented in Igalula and Imalakaseko forests.

**(b) Bee keeping**

Modern beekeeping intervention is a good and practical solution to ecosystem and livelihood in areas where it has been established. This was underlined by all stakeholders. Beekeeping discourages deforestation and ecosystem disruption activities. It was explicitly pointed out that in villages where MVP has supported farmers in beekeeping there is a great change in ecosystem with increased forest cover. The extensive forest cover makes Uyui district a very good potential area for bee keeping. The district is very rich in the *Miombo* tree specie whose flowering is ideal for honey and bee wax production (Figure 3.2).

**Figure 3.2: Miombo Forest in Uyui District**



**(c) Promoting alternative crops to tobacco**

Promoting other cash crops to replace tobacco which is unfriendly to ecosystem is being encouraged. For example in MVP area, sunflower, groundnuts and paddy have been promoted and supported in order to reduce the dependence on tobacco farming as sole cash crop. It was noted that if the promotion of alternative cash crops is scaled up and the community is sufficiently sensitized to adopt the new crops, the impact of tobacco farming to ecosystem can be reduced greatly.

**(d) Use of alternative sources of energy**

Use of biogas and solar energy has been encouraged and promoted especially in MVP areas with beneficiaries including dispensaries, schools and households. This has greatly reduced use of fuel wood and fossil fuels as sources of energy. The use of biogas has not yet been fully exploited in the district, but can be an alternative source of energy. It was however noted that the extent of support and promotion of the use of the alternative sources of energy in the district is still low.

*(e) Promotion and use of energy saving stoves*

Use of energy saving charcoal stoves is common in MVP area. The project provided energy saving stoves to 16 schools and promoted use of charcoal stoves at level of households in order to save the amount of fuel wood used for cooking.

*(f) Use of organic manure*

Although Uyui district is rich in livestock, application of organic manure by farmers is low. There is thus need for promoting use of organic manure to conserve soil fertility as organic manure stimulates soil micro-organisms activities and improves soil structure. During discussion with farmers and village leaders it was revealed that soil condition has deteriorated though crop productivity is high (due to use of organic fertilizers) “.....if we don’t apply organic fertilizers we get nothing unlike in the past when we could get at least three bags per acre.....”

**3.3.3 Information and Communication Technology (ICT)**

The projects implemented in Uyui district, namely, MDG localization, Millennium Village, ATI and TASAF put emphasis on the role ICT can play in addressing obstacles towards attainment of MDGs. The present study analyzed ICT situation with respect to access to information, infrastructure, nature of information required and dissemination channels.

This study found that the level of ICT use in Uyui district, particularly the Millennium village, is very high. Before the project the area had no network coverage.

ERRICSON and Airtel Companies together with the Millennium village project constructed three communication towers which cover all project villages. In order to ensure efficient connectivity, (high speed internet and Data connectivity), 3G technology was installed. Currently coverage network particularly the voices<sup>5</sup> connectivity in the area is at 80 percent to 95 percent while 3G connectivity is at 55 percent to 60 percent.

The following can be considered as indicators of successful use of ICT in Uyui district:

- Household possession of cell phones is high. The target was initially to have at least three out of ten households owning a cell phone. Evidence from the field showed that all respondents were owning cell phones;
- Famers use cell phones to obtain information on crop prices in various markets before they decide to sell. Apart from increasing income, this has led to saving in terms of time and travel cost;

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<sup>5</sup> The voice connectivity is for cell phone connection

- Millennium village SACCOS uses ICT to record various transactions such as input credit scheme, in electronic form. The officers also use e-banking to reconcile their transactions with CRDB bank. Through e-banking the officers can also access their bank information such as transactions record and balances.
- ICT training: ICT Kiosk in the study area is used specifically for training, targeting groups such as teachers (both primary and secondary), students and the general public. About 149 teachers (secondary and primary) received ICT training during 2010/11. The kiosk was initially under the Millennium project but is currently under the Millennium SACCOS. A fee of Tshs 10,000 is charged and includes other services such as scanning, printing and photo copying.
- The project introduced “Connect to Learn” programme by which students exchange views with other students in other countries such as USA, through skype. Schools in the project area are provided with computers and laptops to facilitate internet services and other computer training;
- Findings from the study indicate that cell phones lead as means of accessing information, followed by radio. The reason behind was that almost in each household one member owns a cellular phone and many households own radios. In order to improve access to information further, establishment of a community radio was recommended.

## 4.0 CHALLENGES AND PROPOSED INTERVENTIONS

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### 4.1 MDG localization Challenges and Proposed Interventions

#### Challenges

##### *Mbola Millennium Village*

##### *Agriculture*

- Climatic change has resulted into insufficient and unreliable rainfall. Some time rainfall is enough but falls rather late and for a shorter period of time;
- Soil fertility is low forcing farmers to incur high cost in buying inorganic fertilizers;
- Hand hoe is still the dominant farming mode;
- There are fewer extension officers compared to requirement, to conduct farmers training and monitor progress of agricultural activities.

##### *Education*

- Over enrolment of students caused by preference of students from other villages to join primary schools located in the project area. This has led to increases in teacher student ratio from 1:40-45 (standard) to 1:46-65, overcrowding in classrooms, insufficient desks, insufficient books and overstretching of sanitary facilities;
- Long distance to schools thus affecting performance of both students and teachers;
- Early pregnancies especially for secondary school girls;
- Bad cultural practices, for example, hiding disabled children at home and forcing early marriage to girls who would have otherwise been attending school.

##### *Health*

- Stressed services delivery capacity due to influx of patients from other villages to health facilities in the project areas;

##### *Water and Sanitation*

- Unwillingness of beneficiaries to pay for water services (it was initially proposed that for sustainability of water projects water users should pay Tshs 25 per 20 liter-bucket). The main reason for the low level of willingness to pay is the fact that the water table is high making it possible to secure shallow well water despite uncertainty about its safety even if the water looks clean.

##### *Access to information (ATI)*

- Unnecessary bureaucracy in administration of funds: the fund was channeled through district council, which rendered it prone to bureaucratic procedures and thus delayed implementation of some activities;
- Delay in disbursement of funds from the Donors (UNDP and SNV);

- The cooperation from the public and local level leaders was a little bit low since the project didn't involve direct provision of money to those who participated in the project.

### ***Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)***

#### *SP project*

- Delays in implementation of SP projects due to the requirement by TASAF that beneficiaries put upfront 20 percent of the required project cost. This proved difficult to some communities;

#### *Other projects*

- Unsatisfied demand: due to budget constraint on the part of TASAF resulting in some of the proposed projects being shelved while others not funded in time;
- Low capacity community leaders.

### **Proposed Interventions**

#### **Mbola MVP**

- Roll-over available services such as in education and health available at MVP to adjacent villages.

## **4.2 Local Ecosystem-Based**

### ***(a) Beekeeping***

#### *(i) Rationale and context*

Beekeeping discourages deforestation and any ecosystem disruption activities. Villages in MVP area that has received support for beekeeping experience a great change in ecosystem especially increased forest cover. Beekeeping does not only contribute to ecosystem conservation but is also a good potential source of household income and revenue for district council. .

#### *(ii) Proposed Strategic Interventions*

- Accelerate transformation from traditional to modern beekeeping by providing training on better methods of beekeeping, improving processing of honey, marketing and selling techniques;
- Support construction and acquisition of modern beehives through cost sharing with the communities in farmers groups;
- Promote savings and credit organizations for sustainable financing of beekeeping activities;

**(b) *Agriculture intensification and promoting alternative cash crops to tobacco***

**(i) *Context and rationale***

Uyui district farming system is characterized by extensive agricultural and overstocking practices, which lead to progressive reduction in farming and rangeland areas. These practices are unfriendly to the ecosystem as they involve forest clearing and unsustainable land use. Tobacco farming aggravates the problem as farmers need virgin land for tobacco farming and firewood for curing tobacco.

**Figure 4.1: Typical Household Barn for Tobacco curing in Uyui District**



There are good lessons to learn from Millennium Village Project areas that intensive farming is more profitable. Through use of improved inputs (seeds and fertilizer) high yields have been realized; results that further encourage households to cultivate small and manageable areas while sparing or leaving fallow some areas of land for regeneration of local tree species.

**(ii) *Proposed Strategic Interventions***

- Support and promote use of improved agricultural inputs through scaling up and improving existing mechanisms;
- Training of local communities on the benefits of land sparing/fallowing for regeneration of local trees as this method is less expensive compared to planting of exotic trees which also have shorter life span;
- Promote environmental friendly crops e.g. sun flower, paddy and groundnuts and increase extension services in order to realize the full potential from such crops.

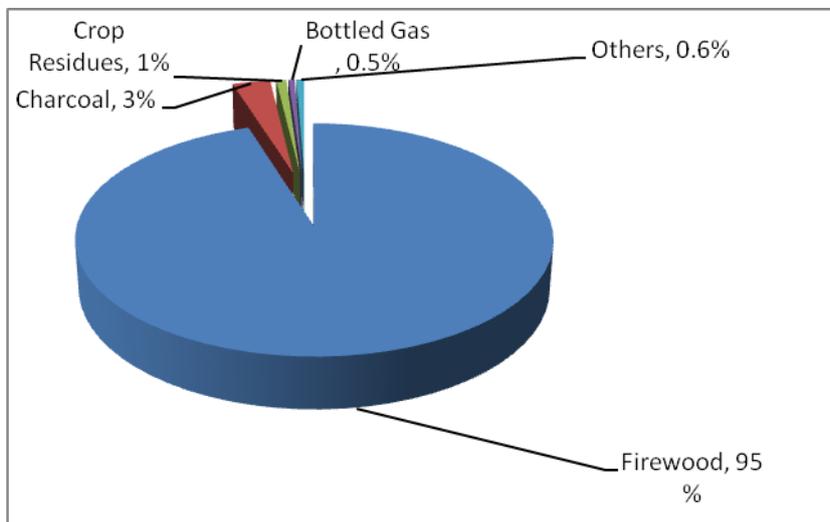
**(c) *Alternative Energy Sources***

**(i) *Context and rationale***

Firewood is the most prevalent source of energy for cooking as confirmed by Uyui District Profile of the 2008 and discussions with communities. Statistics shows that 95 percent of households in the District use firewood for cooking (followed by charcoal (2.9 percent). A small proportion of households use crop residues and bottled gas as a source of energy for

cooking (0.8 percent and 0.5 percent respectively). An insignificant number of the households reported using modern and/or environmental friendly sources of energy for cooking such as electricity, solar energy and paraffin/kerosene (0.2 percent each) (URT 2010). If current practices continue, deforestation and depletion of natural vegetation will destroy the nature and ecosystem of Uyui District.

**Figure 4.2: Main Source of Energy for Cooking in Uyui District, 2008**



Source: Uyui District Council 2008

**(ii) Proposed Strategic Interventions**

- Promote use of energy saving charcoal stoves and solar energy at household level in order to reduce the amount of fuel wood use;
- Support establishment of technology and materials for making energy saving charcoal stoves, simple solar energy and biogas tools/equipment.

**4.3 ICT**

**Challenges**

- Low availability and reliability of energy: most wards are not connected to national;
- Low public understanding of the best use of ICT for development;
- Low capacity of Ward Information centers to function; attributed mainly to low incentives given to operators and the nature of the training they received being mere basic;
- Absence of local community radio - programmes aired by currently accessible radio stations are not relevant to their activities and are mainly commercial oriented.

### ***Proposed interventions***

- Housing information and resource centers in independent offices instead of Ward offices and install solar panels where there is connection to national grid or where existing power source is unable to support the full range of ICT infrastructure (TV, computers, etc);
- Increasing office furniture and number of computers, as well as installation of printers, photocopies, binding and document scanners (to be operated on commercial basis) for sustainability of the centers. This will therefore call for training of local based personnel to man these centers.
- Establishment of community radio (such as through the Millennium project requiring USD 55,000 to be fully operational);
- Establish bulk messages package for conveying important messages related to developmental issues.

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

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There are a number of success stories from implementation of projects such as ATI and ICT that have been implemented in MVP areas. These need to be scaled-up and rolled over to other localities.

Attestations from ICT users on how their livelihoods have changed as a result, show great potential if rolled to other community members. In this vein, ICT means that can be comprehended easily by the majority of community members could even have greater potential. The wide consultations undertaken in the course of this study, point to the need for establishing wide-reach means such as local radios that can use local languages to reach communities.

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