



Territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities (ICCAs) in Tanzania

National Assembly of Members, Honorary members, and partners
Tembo Club, Kisongo - Arusha, 31 January 2022

MEETING REPORT



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Opening

Registration and welcome

Participants arrived within a reasonable time, and the meeting started promptly at around 9:20 am.

Opening prayer

The meeting started with prayers led by two elders – Makko Sinandei and Ali Thani.

Opening Remarks by Regional Coordinator, and introductions and adoption of the meeting agenda

- Emmanuel Sulle, the Regional Coordinator for East Africa and the Horn of Africa, delivered opening remarks where he emphasized the importance of the meeting and the need to strengthen communication, collaboration, and Members' participation in the ICCA Consortium initiatives and national, regional, and international events like the at [UCN Africa Protected and Conserved Areas Congress \(APAC\)](#) Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC) Pre-Congress Meeting and at the ICCA Consortium African Regional Assembly taking place two days ahead of APAC taking place from 18 – 23 July 2022.
- He then invited participants to discuss all the agenda items openly and honestly. This was followed by the Coordinator's suggestion that one of the Members chair the meeting. Makko Sinandei from UCRT was then approved to chair the meeting.
- All Members and invited partners then discussed proposed agenda items for the National Assembly and made suggestions and decisions.

Discussion about the Members' and partners' needs and priorities for 2022

1. All the participants – Members, Honorary members, and partners made individual (informal) presentations of their work, priorities for 2022, and synergies with the ICCA Consortium Members in the country, region, and globally.
2. Key issues that emerged from Members' presentation is the high levels of similarities and synergies among the work that each organization was doing, even, there was also massive difference for example, between the works of most of the pastoralist and Indigenous communities organizations and Mwambao, which serves coastal communities in Zanzibar and Tanzania Mainland.
3. TNRF presented its achievements and efforts made in the country with some ICCA Consortium Members and partners to implement projects funded through the SGP, The GEF Small Grants. TNRF director also highlighted one of the outcomes of their advocacy initiatives as the formulation and adoption of the Rangeland Management Guideline launched on 22 December 2021 by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development. These success and Tanzanian experiences have been shared at various global ICCAs related meetings and published in newsletters and websites.
4. Members agreed to host quarterly online meetings to discuss their needs, priorities, and ways in which they could increase the visibility of the ICCA Consortium as the global organization and Tanzania's ICCA Members' lose network (lose for now).
5. Members agreed to communicate with the fishing communities in the country and host a networking meeting sometime this year. Ali Thani will assist the national and regional coordinator in this activity as Mwambao works with national and regional organizations. This may also lead to a regional meeting proposed by the ICCA Consortium team.

Needs and priorities for action in support of ICCAs and CAs by IPLCs

Because there were only eight participants, we all remained in a plenary to discuss Members' needs and priorities for action in support of territories and areas conserved by Indigenous Peoples and local communities in Tanzania. These include potential funding for fishing communities in the country and planned regional meetings in 2022.

1. Documentation of ICCAs in the country without bias. For example, most reports showcase business models, describing mainly economic gains, with details on the livelihood impacts of such cases. Members raised that they know even money from Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) is going to community projects but cannot be connected to households. It must be a development that connects with the household's

interest and that each household benefits. We must connect such initiatives to individual development. How do such initiatives affect people in such areas? How do we ensure the model we introduce positively affects people's livelihoods and reduces opportunities costs they incur?

2. Document good cases of ICCAs in the country. Supporting communities to submit information regarding their ICCAs to the ICCA Registry should be part of such a documentation process.
3. Work on changing narratives about pastoral and Indigenous communities in Tanzania. Members asked: How do we change from negative to good narratives about pastoral communities because we are viewed as bad?
4. Review policies, laws, and structures governing ICCAs and secured rangelands.
5. Invest in conducting research, disseminating findings, and advocacy, empowering communities to express their interests.
6. Capacity building for communities – as ICCA Consortium Members, we have a lot to do, especially in training communities on resilience. How do we prepare communities to respond effectively to challenges? We must prepare communities to respond to crises, including political crises. How communities can deal with the development project for which they must endure hardship to realize its benefits. This is to prepare them to adapt and cope with emerging situations within their areas, including climate change-related changes and development-related practices.
7. Create a national umbrella – a national **ICCAs network**. As ICCA Consortium Members, we must draw a map of Tanzania, create and understand ICCAs and know what they are doing and how we can bring them on board with such a national network? We have to document the ICCAs in the country in a detailed manner. We should not forget that communities have a lot of knowledge, and they are very dynamic. We must learn from the experiences of others. By organizing such meetings, we have an opportunity to zoom in and understand things much more broadly and improve our understanding much better.
8. Improve governance structures of secured rangelands for Maasai/ pastoral communities. For example, in places like Olengapa, we must work hard to improve management. Inside OLENGAPA, there are water issues, grazing areas, markets, and farmers. Even in Loliondo, there are farmers/farms and land use plan issues that fail to recognize the need to do integrative land-use planning effectively. Now – the Sukuma People have cleared and settled on the land of Hadzabe People and cleared it completely, and nobody can chase them away. They have declared that area as their

land. This is a significant loss to the most marginalized Indigenous Peoples in Tanzania – the Hadza, so we must act now.

9. We Need to advocate for integrated management and planning process – where we bring on board all Peoples and sectors in the country. If it is land use planning, we must have people from different ministries and organizations to ensure such plans and titling are inclusive of all interests and are equitably done and accepted by all communities affected or engaged.
10. Scale up the work done by ICCA Consortium Members and partners and improve and expand the concept of ICCA at the national level. Members highlighted and appreciated lots of work done by UCRT, TNRF, Mwambao, PWC, ALAPA as ICCA Consortium Members in Tanzania but stressed the need to appreciate the advantages of having an ICCAs network in Tanzania. They also agreed to coordinate Members’ priorities and needs, create synergies for collaboration, etc. This would address the problem we have in the Tanzanian NGOs landscape, where most NGOs are based on a sectoral approach (NGOs dealing with wildlife, forestry, and pastoralists). They are not coordinated and do not communicate with each other.
11. Address the persistent land tenure insecurity issues, especially where community interest conflicts with investors’ interest, etcetera, or where govt plays a powerful actor’s role.
12. Understand that the climate crisis affects people in many areas. Due to drying up grazing areas and water, Maasai or pastoralists’ youth are opting to live and work in towns and the urban regions earning poor wages because they do not have fair contracts.

ICCA Regional Assembly, IPLC pre-congress and APAC

- Members discussed how they and their organizations’ representatives would effectively participate at the ICCA Consortium’s regional assembly, IPLC Pre-Congress, and APAC from 18 - 23rd July (previously set for 7 - 12 March in Kigali, IPLC Pre-Congress).
- They raised issues about *just conservation* and human rights violation and whether we are engaging with APAC wrongly. Sulle clarified that attending APAC is one of the strategic opportunities to raise our concerns as ICCA Consortium Members and provide alternative views about conservation. He further explained that ICCA Consortium submitted two proposals to APAC - all of which have luckily been selected as Keynote Speaker and Workshop organizer, respectively. APAC Secretariat/IUCN also approved one proposal submitted by TNRF to showcase its work in Community Conserved Areas in terms of posters.

- Members agreed to use Ngorongoro as the real case of challenges associated with conservation, even in areas where communities fully participated in setting up such areas.

Tanzania ICCA Consortium Members' network – recognition, identity, and registration

Members discussed the need to strengthen communication, coordination, and collaboration among Members themselves and coordination with key partners and ICCA Consortium Members globally.

Selection of national coordination unit / organization

- Participants first discussed the criteria to select a national coordination unit. Two criteria were put forward, and these are:
 - The national coordinating unit or organization must be a Member of the good standing order.
 - The national coordinating organization must have a dedicated team to coordinate, communicate and organize meetings of Members and be a bridge between in-country Members, the global ICCA Consortium Secretariat, and the regional coordinator.
- After a short deliberation, Members unanimously endorsed Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT) as the National Coordinating Organization for ICCA Consortium Members and partners in Tanzania.
- Members advised TNRF to apply for ICCAs Consortium membership. Since TNRF is the current catalytic organization, has existing contracts with the UNDP Tanzania office, and has overseen the implementation of the small grants offered to ICCA Consortium Members and other community-based organizations in the country. It has also promoted the successes of these grantees at national and global level events. Therefore, Members agreed that TNRF would continue to play its oversight role for such contracts and projects until its current contract with UNDP expires. After this, UCRT will take control of the rest of the coordination and oversight roles of ICCA Consortium Members for projects funded through UNDP/ ICCA Consortium small grants, if any, in the future.
- The coordinating organization will be in this position for three years or until the new guidelines and rules governing ICCA Consortium Members' affairs in Tanzania are developed and adopted by the council.

Council governing ICCA Consortium Members' network in Tanzania

After the national coordinating organization was selected, Members discussed the need to have an oversight body to oversee the work of the coordinating organization and provide strategic direction to the operations of the network in the country.

Members decided to have five Members of ICCA Consortium Members' council. Therefore, the selected council members include:

1. Saitoti Parmelo, Director, ALAPA
2. Ali Thani, CEO, Mwambao
3. Zakaria Faustin, Director, TNRF
4. Sarah Alakara, Programme officer, PWC
5. Elifuraha Laltaika, Honorary member and Lecturer, Makumira University, Arusha, Tanzania

After the selection of the members of the council, it was agreed that the membership to the council is on an individual basis to ensure accountability and commitment. That means selected individuals are the only ones considered members and not just anyone from their organization. The council member will be in position for two years.

The council was tasked with leading:

1. Establishing ICCA Consortium Members' loose network to be hosted by UCRT.
2. Draft a constitution for a loose coalition and use this document to secure the recognition and lay grounds for registration of ICCAs Members' network in the country.
3. Help and support the development of the network's strategic plan.
4. Help develop the leadership and governance framework and leadership ethics.

Emerging and other issues

- Members discussed critical emerging issues in the country where the much-discussed looming eviction of Maasai communities within the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Loliondo was discussed.
- Members observed the Maasai's danger, especially if the government continued its decision to annex 1500km² of village lands and set it aside as a Game Reserve.
- They also observed the problems of different strategies applied by other organizations, groups, and individuals working to safeguard the interest of the Maasai People.
- Finally, Members agreed to take two bold steps; to unite and coordinate their efforts and ensure that proper approaches are adopted to secure dialogue with appropriate government authorities. All these activities and further coordination and communication must be done and overseen by UCRT.

Conclusions and final prayers

- Both the regional coordinator (Emmanuel Sulle) and the meeting's chair, Makko Sinandei, gave concluding remarks, urging Members and partners to work hard in putting to action all the Members' needs and priorities in 2022.
- In the end, the final prayer was done to mark the end of the meeting. The meeting then closed at 18:40 hours (6.40 pm).

Participants

1. Ms. Sarah Alakara – Member (PWC)
2. Mr. Mako – Member (UCRT)
3. Mr. Saitoti Parmelo – Member (ALAPA)
4. Mr. Ali Thani – Member (Mwambao)
5. Dr. Elifuraha Laltaika – Honorary member
6. Dr. Stephen Nindi – Partner and nominated Honorary member
7. Mr. Faustin Zakaria – Partner – TNRF – the national coordinating organization
8. Dr. Emmanuel Sulle – Honorary member / Regional Coordinator for East Africa and Horn of Africa

Apologies

1. Mr. Casian Sianga – Honorary member
2. Mr. Mohammed Kamuna – Member (CWMAC)
3. Mr. Emmanuel Kileli – Honorary member