

STIMULATING COMMUNITY INITIATIVES IN SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT (SCI-SLM)

SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT (SLM) PROJECT/ SOUTH AFRICA

Preparation for SCI SLM Teleconference; 20th of March 2012

<p>SCI-SLM Programme Objectives: To refine ways of stimulating the further improvement and spread of community-based SLM initiatives to achieve local and global benefits, while simultaneously developing a methodology to upscale and institutionally embed SCI-SLM approaches at local and regional level.</p>		
<p>Objective 1: Identification and analysis of Community initiatives in SLM: Community initiatives/innovators identified screened and selected:</p>		
Activities	Progress	Way Forward
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the Amavimbela Exec. Committee to discuss SLM in their respective CI • Gathering of baseline information from 5 villages where Amavimbela operates. • Organise the baseline community feedback sessions across all community Initiatives 	<p>- Baselines were conducted in three community sites in November 2011. Held a meeting with twenty Amavimbela representatives on the 9th of Feb 2012 at Tabhane in Hoffental Village. SCI-SLM project was presented and discussed some practices that either individuals or the community undertakes to deal with SLM challenges for improved pasture and livestock management.</p> <p>- Facilitated focus group discussions for three villages where Amavimbela operates on social dimensions on the 14 March 2012.</p> <p>- New reserve was visited 13 March 2012. A 'three phases plan' is in the making to structurally replanting trees and maintaining the forest (collecting wood and seeds.</p> <p>- Wattle seeds were planted in November, but due to heavy rain-fall little germination occurred.</p>	<p>Baseline survey Community feedbacks: 29-30 March: Kwasobabili/Reserve & Msinga.</p> <p>Attend SA-LESOTHO Amavimbela meeting 28 March 2012</p> <p>April – May: seeds collected from the forest May-June: Households collecting firewood Planting in Summer</p>
<p>Objective 2: Stimulation and up-scaling of community initiatives</p>		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish linkages with service providers to strengthen and provide support for four CI (3 forest & 1 livestock systems) • Facilitate cross visits across all groups to enhance CI management: Gudwini/Amavimbela/Reserve & Kwasobabili. • Work with communities to set up experimentations/demonstrations to broaden the understanding about the CI. 	<p>- Met with Mr. Masuku from the provincial Dept. of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries to discuss Wattle Forests CI. Meeting outcome was that, the forestry division will provide technical support and capacity building on the two Initiatives.</p> <p>- Engagements with Wildlands (a conservation trust) have led to the exposure visit by Gudwini community to Amazimeleni Community in Ongoye Area on 10 February 2012. A reflection session was held on the 8 March 2012 at Gudwini and plans were developed. Exploring possible links with the provincial Dept. of Environmental Affairs (Empowerment Division) for support for Indigenous Forest in Msinga.</p> <p>- Gudwini community has started collecting seeds from the forest and germinating at homestead. Community has identified a site for experimenting growing different indigenous species in the area and a nursery for raising seedlings with the intention of restoring the forest.</p>	<p>Forestry Development Division meeting with Reserve & Kwasobabili: 30 March.</p> <p>Organise meeting community sessions on sustainable harvesting of firewood from forests Meet: with Lynn Ruddle (KZNWildlife-Conservation officer in Msinga) on 12th April 2012 to explore avenues in terms of technically supporting Gudwini Community</p> <p>Identify sites to adopt the initiative practices (Non-SCISLM sites)</p>
<p>Objective 3: Awareness raising amongst policy makers</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite stakeholders to participate in community exchange visits 	<p>- The Dept. of Env. (Empowerment Division) from Uthungulu District participated in the Gudwini Cross Visit in Ongoye Area. The project team will establish linkages with the Dept. in Msinga. In future, efforts will be made to broaden stakeholder participation in such events, i.e., Steering & Working Committee Members, and others.</p>	<p>Engage partners in field work:</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Circulate relevant and update information to S.A working & Steering committees • Organise meetings with CPSC 	<p>- The project International brochure has been distributed to National key stakeholders</p> <p>- SCISLM SA team participated and presented the project in COP 17 in Durban on the Land-Day 5 event. Mr. Ngwenya (community member) who was amongst the panelists, presented on Wattle Forest Community</p>	<p>Work on developing a National Brochure</p>

	<p>Initiative.</p> <p>Participated in the GEF meeting hosted by the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) with other seven proponents: 24 Jan 2012</p>	
<p>Objectives 4: Development of methodology for upscaling and Institutionally embedding SLM initiatives</p>		
<p>Promote the methodology through implementation to SLM initiatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene dialogue sessions with stakeholders to enhance understanding the methodology 	<p>Gudwini community through Mr. Shelembe will be giving feedback to Machunwini Traditional Authority on current plans.</p> <p>Msinga Local Municipality has been identified as key stakeholder for support in the Gudwini Initiative</p>	<p>Through the Dept. of Env. Emp. Div- Uthungulu District</p> <p>1. Identify other communities and share the practices</p> <p>Strengthen existing and form new relationships</p>