

Nile Basin Initiative
Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Project
Micro-grants Program Kenya
Annual Report 2006

1. Background Information

1.1 Program/Project Background

The Nile Transboundary Micro-grants Program aims at integrating environmental and natural resource management concerns into the development process through capacity building, more effective environmental monitoring, assessment, and planning with enhanced local participation through demonstration of projects involving full range of key stakeholders as well as policy reforms.

The Nile Transboundary Micro-grants Program supports in strengthening of institutions and development of human resources required for effective environmental management. It focuses on preventive policies and technical interventions to avoid potential damage to natural resources and curative measures to address current problems and lastly natural resource management programs for sustained use and conservation of natural resources.

1.2 Report Background

The 2006 Annual report covers the activities from the beginning of January 2006 to December 2006 which much emphasis on the processing and delivery of grants to NGO/CBOs, Follow-up and Monitoring of activities and capacity building to enhance the implementation process of the granted NGO/CBOs.

2. Project Context

2.1 External Context

This year 2006 there was quite improvement in the implementation process as there was support both from the government sectors and as well civil societies Organizations. Due to rigorous awareness creation about the project in 2005 among the government Agencies and CSOs, the program received over 300 applications for grants, an indication that many organization were interested in working with the Micro-grants Program in Kenya.

The government Agencies particularly National Environment Authority is providing overwhelming support to the project in terms of awareness raising and monitoring and provision of technical support to the grantees.

2.2 Internal Context

The fact that 2006 the COB was being managed by the Host NGO (CARE-Kenya) made it easy for operations at the same time authorizations from the PMU improved and therefore most of the activities went on schedule.

It is as well 2006 that Micro-grants Program received the project vehicle and this made work easier, especially on organizational assessment and monitoring.

2.3 Effects on Project Implementation

The low capacity of NGO/CBOs has made it very challenging to not only receive substandard proposals which take time to be revised for eventual approval by the NSC, but as well quite challenging during implementation.

3. Actual Results for the Period Outputs

3.1 Impacts (if any)

Impacts are yet to be realized, as the grantees are still not yet halfway in their implementation.

3.2 Short- and Medium-term Outcomes

Generally the level of awareness has increased on the importance of conserving and protecting the river catchments and the river banks along the streams that drain to lake Victoria

3.3 Outputs

- 1) During the period project vehicle was received in January from UNOPS Nairobi and this has made the fieldwork more accessible.
- 2) The first and second tranche of the Country Operating Budget was received by the Host Institution CARE-Kenya thus local procurements and recurrent expenses have been easily paid for.
- 3) The Micro-grants Program Driver was employed and started working in May 2006.
- 4) Held a meeting in Nairobi to resolve the hitches of micro-grants operation within the UNDP/GEF/SGP, the meeting was attended by the micro-grants lead specialist, NPC Kenya, NC Kenya, LMGC Kenya, NTEAP PSC Kenya and NMGC Sudan. The meeting was useful and a way foreword was charted.
- 5) During the period 22 proposals were approved by the NSC where 21 are full projects while one being a planning grant, with a total of about USD 524,000.00
- 6) A total of USD 246,792.00 has been disbursed to grantees during the period.
- 7) 14 projects are currently being implemented which started in the month of May and others in August 2006, by the end of December 6 more projects will be implemented as well bringing to a total of 20 projects implemented.

- 8) Attended the NileRAK launch, Finance and M&E Workshops in Cairo Egypt in May 2006.
- 9) Attended watershed management training and M&E workshop in Addis Ababa Ethiopia.
- 10) Conducted training for grantees on financial recording and reporting and Monitoring and Evaluation using the M&E Manual developed.

3.4 Unintended Results (if any)

None so far.

4. Project Management

PMU

5. Project Expenditures

| Activity | Disburse |
|--|----------------------|
| Grants | \$ 246,792.00 |
| Disbursement on COB | \$ 12,077.00 |
| Other authorizations (include activities not covered through COB) | \$ 5,342.00 |
| Total | \$ 264,211.00 |

6. Risks and Mitigation Strategies

7. Recommendations and Lessons Learned

-CBOs with less capacity and are twined with NGOs needs frequent follow-up as the NGOs can easily over charge them for services even poorly rendered.

-Baseline data collection exercise needs to be closely monitored as the organizations are not aware of the key information to be collected.

8. Appendices

(expenditure and achievement details, etc)