



CONASA PROJECT

(Community-based Natural resource management and Sustainable Agriculture project)

Mission Report, Covering SAFIRE`S Visit To CONASA Project In August 2001.

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Introduction

This report covers the visit by research officers from the Southern Alliance For Natural Resources (SAFIRE) project of Zimbabwe. The objectives of the visit included the assessment of the non-wildlife natural resources that have potential for development into business opportunities for the local communities. This would then help guide the development of commodity groups that would be the main instruments for the promotion of local business ventures.

The team from SAFIRE, which arrived Kalomo on Sunday the 19th of August, consisted of Phosiso Sola, the Ecologist and Nyarai V. Kurebgaseka, the Product Development and Marketing Officer. The core team for the exercise thus included the above, and the CONASA Small Economic Activity Promotion, and the Natural Resource Management Coordinators Highland Hamududu and Charles J. Chiboola respectively.

On Monday the 20th of August 2001, a meeting was held whose main objective was to plan for the activities of the trip as well as streamline the roles to be played by two organisations, CONASA and SAFIRE.

Proposed Role of SAFIRE

Background of SAFIRE

SAFIRE is Community based natural resource management and business /enterprise development organization involved in: -

- Community mobilisation
- Food based production
- Biochemical production
- Brick moulding
- Crafts
- Irrigation

SAFIRE works in Partnership with the local councils who are the custodians of the natural resources. Other partners include Government ministries, research institutions and other organisations in the private sector.

The other activities that SAFIRE is involved in are the development of resource management plans, eco – tourism, trust development, impact assessment and evaluation, financial viability assessment and by law formulation.

Main activities

Objectives of the visit

The main purposes of this visit were to:

- ▶ Conduct an overview of **non-wildlife natural** resource assessment inventory.
- ▶ Identify **non-wildlife natural resource product** ranges.
- ▶ Assess the utilisation levels of these resources among communities.
- ▶ Assess the skills and technology levels among communities.
- ▶ Develop guidelines for formation of Commodity Groups and for setting up promotion for business ventures.
- ▶ Develop a Plan of action for business development and resource management.

The field visit program was drawn during the meeting after being clear of what the visit would achieve. The team started with literature review from the PRAs reports On the first day making references to materials with botanical names of local trees and plants for easy identification.

Findings

The team first visited Bbilili Village Area Group (VAG) of Sichifulo Game Management Area (GMA) on the first day and Nkandanzovu under Bbilili GMAs on the second day.

Peter Gondo the Director of SAFIRE joined the team on the visit to Shezongo area, also in Bbilili GMA. The two- day visit covered all the three VAGs of Mbila, Kakuse and Nanzila in chief Shezongo's area.

On Saturday 25th August 2001 Charles Akashambatwa, the Community Development Officer, from the Livingstone Conservation Service Centre of the Trans-boundary Natural Resource Management (TBNRM) office joined the team, while Peter Gondo left the group.

The team equally took two days in Mulobezi GMA and visited four out of the five VAGs. During the visit, the team talked to CBO leaders and general community members. In Moomba Central, they were accorded a chance to converse with the chief in spite of the traditional Kazanga Ceremony, which was in progress. The Chief outlined the variety of abundant resources found in his area, but bemoaned the lack of economic benefits from these to his subjects.

Some local people and the CRB Chairperson assisted the team to identify some of the tree species available in the area. People who are involved in the exploitation and utilisation of these resources were visited and talked to. In some cases sample products of such resource use found were bought.

The team presented the preliminary findings to the field office for comments. This was aimed at giving an opportunity to others to contribute to the findings. The detailed field data is annexed to this summary report.

1. Product Range In The Area

- ▶ Timber processing
- ▶ Crafts
- ▶ Pottery
- ▶ Medicinal

- ▶ Honey
- ▶ Caterpillars

2. Skills and technology

In timber, crafts, pottery and honey production the skills do exist **but a few in certain areas.**

3.Business and market potential.

In most areas visited, market opportunities are non-existent. Only chance buyers will sometimes purchase timber, crafts and pottery products

4.Institution and policy

No groups exist in all the areas visited. Some regulation exist for charcoal and Timber production by forestry department and council.

5. Recommendation

ACTIVIES/ AREAS	Bbilili	Nkanda	Nanzhila	Mbila	Kakuse	Mabwe	Mooba	Kalobe	Mulanga
Carpetry	1	1		1	1	2	2	1	
Carving	1						1,2		
Fruit processing	2	3	1,2	2	2	2	1,2	2	
Medicinal	2,3						2,3		
Caterpillars						2			
Honey	3	2			2	1			
Pottery		1							
Thatch grass	3								
Charcoal									1, 5
Crafts	1	1	1,2	2		1,2	1		
Brick making	4	4							

Key

- 1**-business institution development (commodity groups)
- 2**-research product development
- 3**-research on market development
- 4**-ecology and social economic
- 5**-policy research

Scoring.

The areas were then scored to assess their potential for sustainable exploitation of non- wildlife natural resources for enterprise development.

The scoring was based on the perception of four team members based on the field visits. Four criteria were used to score: resource base, skills & technology, business &

marketing and institutional arrangement & policy. The final score is an aggregate of scores from each individual criterion.

Score key:

- 0 lowest
- 20 highest

Activities\ Area	Bbilili	Nkandanzovu	Nanzhila	Mbila	Kakuse	Mabwe	Moomba	Kalobe	Mulanga
Carving	4.5						3.5		
Carpentry	3.5	9.75	1.25	4.75	8.33	4.25	4.25	8.25	
Fruit processing	3.75	4.25	6.5	3.25	2	2.25	6	4	
Medicinal	9						6.25		
Caterpillar						1.5			
Honey	4.75	6			2.5	9.75			
Pottery		6.5							
Thatchgrass	8.75								
Charcoal	11.75								11.75
Craft	5	6.75	2.5			6		8.25	3.25

An immediate market opportunity exist for:

- ▶ Honey in Mabwe and Nkandazovu
- ▶ Crafts in Mabwe , Nkandazovu and Kalobe
- ▶ Pottery in Nkandazovu
- ▶ Timber/carpentry in Kalobe ,Nkandazovu and Kakuse

Action plan;

A joint action plan was developed as a way of operationalising the partnership between SAFIRE and CONASA. The action plan has three parts as follows: Business development, Resource management and Market development.

Business development.

Activities	Person responsible	Period
Literature reviews	Highland/Nyarai	On-going
Finalisation of product range	All	May 02
Market analysis	Highland	Nov 01
Sample collection	Highland	On-going
Establish private -sector linkages	Highland/Nyarai	On-going
Market identification and testing	Highland/Nyarai	On-going
Trail production, -Technology development And identification, -Technology testing	Nyarai	On-going
Identification of entrepreneurs	Highland	On-going
Group establishment	Highland/Flo M	On-going
Production/processing training Of groups	Nyarai	On-going

Market development

Activities	Person responsible	Period
Business plan development -Marketing strategy -Resource assessment -Monitoring systems -Financial -Operations	Highland Charles Mwangala	April 02
Business training -Leadership -Book keeping -Product enhancement *Exchange visit *Training	Highland	May 02

Resource management

Activity	Person/s responsible	Period
Planning -Land use planning -Resource management planning (Rmgt strategies) fire mgt, gully control	Charles Charles/ Sola Flo.M. Tawanda	Oct 01 Nov 01
Assessments -Ecological survey -Environmental impact assessment	Sola/ Charles Charles/ Mwangala	March02
Institutional development	Flo M/Charles Tawanda	On-going
Monitoring -Developing of livelihood & resource monitoring systems at VAG level	Charles/Sola/ Mwangala/Ian	May 02
Impact evaluation	Mwangala /Charles/Flo M Highland/Tawanda	2 nd year of operation
Environmental auditing	Charles/ Mwangala Sola	As above

Conclusion

Following the visit of SAFIRE to the project, the importance now is stressed on gaining positive economic impact as soon as possible in order for the community to have confidence to the project. The action plan provides a speed action to all involve if given the respect it deserves, this is the desire for everyone. The visit flagged off all the activities and a quick repose from the project will create interest in the community and other stakeholders.

Annex: Natural resources inventory

PLACE	RESOURCES	SKILLS/ TECHNOLOGY	BUSINESS/ MARKETING	INSTITUTION/ POLICY	SCORE	RECOMMENDATION
1. MULOBEZI GMA Moomba VAG	Fruit processing Strychnos spinosa(maabo) Strychnos cuccoloides(mawi) Strychnos pungens(metu) Strychnos madagascensis (manteme) Parinari curatelifolia(mubula) Vangueriopsis lanciflora Ximenia american Eclea natalesis Fricdelisis abovata Diospyros(mufumbo/mjongola Dialium engeranum(muuumani) Mukuwa(wax) Mabango/molongo Ngombe ifule/mumbue	-Limited skills and technology -Add milk to porridge -Fruit burn -root-skimmed for oil,used for colds	None	None		-Resource assessment -Skills assessment - -Resource mgt development -Product development -establishment of CGs -technology acquisition
	4	2	0	0	6	

	Timber processing Pterocarpus angolensis (mulombe) Baikiaea plurijuga (mukusi)	-Skills available Limited technology	-Low production	-Forestry permits		As for fruits
	2.24	1.5	0.5	0	4.25	
	Carving Shimophytou.rautenmii (mungongo)	-Skills available Limited technology	-Limited sale by chance	None		As above
	Medicinal Swartzia madagascarensis (muyongolo) Securidaca longipendiculata (mwiinda/mufufuma)	-Skill exit Limited technology	-Local market	None		As above
	2	1.5	1.75	0	6.25	
Kalobe VAG	Fruit processing Strychnos pungens (metu) Strychnos spinosa (maabo) Gulbortia colesperma (muzauli)	-No production Eaten fresh	None	None		As in moomba
	3	1	0	0	4	

	Craft production Hyphaene petersiana (malala) Combretum zeyheri (mukenge) Phragmites mauriliana (mabu)	-Skills available Technology not adequate	-Low market depend on chance or order	None		As above
	3.25	3	2	0	8.25	
	Timber processing Gulbortia colespermo (muzauli) Burkea africana (mwandakazi) Pterocarpus angolensis (mulombe)	-Skills available Limited technology	-Production is low sales by chance or order plunks sold outside	-Permit system		As above
	3.25	2.5	2.5	0	8.25	
Mabwe VAG	Honey production Water Julbernardia paniculata (mutondo)	-Skill available Limited technology	-Low production depend on local market for brewing	None		Resource assessment Establishment of CGs Skill assessment Production development Development of Resource mgt strategy
	4.75	2.5	2.5	0	9.75	

	Timber processing Pterocarpus angolensis (mulombe)	-Skills available for plunks production Limited technology	None	None		As above
4		0.5	0	0	4.5	
	Fruit processing Strychnos cucioloides (mawi) Parinari curalifolia	-No processing	None	None		As above
2.25		0	0	0	2.25	
	Craft production & carving Hyphaene petersian (malala) Berchemia discolor (muzizila) dye Burkea africana - (mwandakazi) dye	-High skill levels Limited technology	-Sales by chancing Low production	None		As above
2.25		2.75	1	0	6	
	Food Collection Caterpillars (Juibernadia globiflora (mutondo))	No skill & technology	None	None		As above
1.5		0	0	0	1.5	

Mulanga VAG	Craft production	None	None	None		As above
	Sensevieria personii (nzizi/mukonje) Hyphaene etesian (malala)					
	2.5	.75	0	0	3.24	
	Charcoal Colophorspermum mopane	Lots of skill and processing of mupani into charcoal	Sold into livingstone town	Permitat forestry and council markets		As a above Assess and review local policy and develop by –laws to support the business and mgt of mopani woodlands.
3.5	3	3.25	2	11.75		

<p>2. Bbilili GMA Nanzhila VAG</p>	<p>Fruit processing Shimophytou rautananii(muungongo) Parinari curatiliifolia(mubula) Kegelia africana(munzungula) Strychnos pungens(metu) Strychnos spinosa(maabo) Strychnos cucioliodes(mawi) Adansonia digitata (mubuyu) Ziziphus mueronata(mukona) Piliestigma thonningii(musekese) Vangueriopsis lanciflora(mahumo Mafumo) Guibortia coleasperm(muzzali)</p>	<p>Technology limited -Nuts and oil -porridge and nuts Eaten fresh “ “ “ Eaten fresh Porridge and Juice Local drink</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>6.50</p>	<p>Skills enhancement Technology acquisition Resource assessment Diversification of products Management strategies Establishment of commodity groups</p>
	4	2.50	0	0	6.50	

	Timber Processing Culbortia coleosperma (muzauli) Pterocarpus angolensis(mulombe)	-Technology limited -No products identified	None	None		Skills enhancement Technology acquisition Resource assessment Diversification of products Management strategies Establishment of commodity groups
	4.75	0	0		2.50	
	Crafts Production Adansonia digitata (mubuyu) Sensevieria personii (mukonje) Hyphaena petersiaua (malala) Borassus aethiopum (mahuma)	- No products identified	None	None		Skills enhancement Technology acquisition Resource assessment Diversification of products Management strategies Establishment of commodity groups Impart skills
	2.50	0	0	0	2.50	

Mbila VAG	Fruit Processing Diospyros mespiliformis (muchenje) Shimophytou rantenii (mungongo) Kegelia africana (muzungula) Vangueriopis lanciflora (mahumo/Mafumo) Parinari curatelifolia (mubula)	- Skills available - Drink porridge and dry fruits	None	None		Skills enhancement Technology acquisition Resource assessment Diversification of products Management strategies Establishment of commodity groups Impart skills
	3.50	0	0	0	3.50	
	Timber Processing Ptercarpus (mulombe) Baikiaea pluriyuga (mukusi)	-Production of plunks	-Sales of plunks to outside area	None		Skills enhancement Technology acquisition Resource assessment Diversification of products Management strategies Establishment of commodity groups Impart skills
	2.66	1	1	0	3.50	
Kakuse VAG	Fruit processing Parinari curatelifolia (mubula) Vangueriopis lanciflora (mahumo/mafumo)	-No products identified	None	None		- Resource assessment - Skill assessment - Product development - Development of Resource mgt strategy
	2	0	0	0	2	

	Timber Processing Pterocarpus angolensis (mulombe) Baikiaea plurijuga (mukusi)	-Processing of plunks, sold in near by town	-Sale of plunks	None		- Resource assessment - Skill assessment - Product development - Development of Resource mgt strategy
	3	2.33	3	0	8.33	
	Honey Water	-Skills available Limited technology	-None	None		
	1	1	0.5	0	2.5	
Nkandanzovu	Craft Production Adansonia digitata (mukuyu) Hyphaene petersian (malala) Sensevieria personii (nzizi/mukonje) Brachystigea boehmii (mubuyu)	-Low skills levels and technology for palm only	-Very low due to location	None		Improve quality and design Resource diversification Assess resource and develop management strategies Product development Business development
	3.50	2	1.25	0	6.75	

	Fruit processing Diospyros mespiliformis (muchenje) Berchemia discolor(muzizila)dye Syzigium cordatum (mutaya) Parinari curatelifolia (mubula)	porridge nuts and oil	No markets of fruits and fruit products	None		Explore products (jam,juice,oil,nuts) Improve quality and design Resource diversification Assess resource and develop management strategies Product development Business development
	1	1.75	1.5	0	4.25	
	Timber Processing Pterocarpus angolensi (mulombe) Afzelia quazensis (mukamba) Pericopsis angolensis (mubanga) Burkea africana (musese) Kirkia accuminata (muzuminwa)	- Skills available but lack technology	-Local business exist -Production on order -Limited market	None		Improve quality and design Resource diversification Assess resource and develop management strategies Product development Business development
	3.50	2.75	3	0	9.75	

	Pottery White clay Water	- Skills available and adequate technology	-Locally based market	None		Product enhancement Fine tune design, shape and artwork Improve quality and design Resource diversification Assess resource and develop management strategies Product development Business development
1		2.75	2.75	0	6.50	
	Honey production Water (dams) Brachystigea boehmii (bark)	-Low skill level and production limited technology	-Medium production	None		Improve quality and design Resource diversification Assess resource and develop management strategies Product development Business development
	Brick Making Water Dambo	-Some skill but limited technology	- Medium production	None		Improve quality and design Resource diversification Assess resource and develop management strategies Product development Business development

3.SICHIFULO GMA Bbilili VAG	Carving Commiphora africana/mossasmbicensis (mubwabwa) Terminalia sesicea(mutwamaila)	- Low skill level and production -Limited technology being used /applied	-Currently low due to location (local mkts) quality of product low	-No business groups -No active resource institution even through CRB, VAGs, VMCs		Need for training to improve skills Acquisition of improved technology Establishment of business group Market extension Product development
	Carpentry Xeroderis stulhmanii Kirkia acuminata (muzuminwa) Pterocarpus angolensis (mulombe) Afzelia quazensis (mukamba)	Limited technology	-Low business potential due to location -mostly local markets	-No business groups -No active resource institution even through CRB, VAGs, VMCs		Need to investigate skills levels farther Need for training to improve skills Acquisition of improved technology Establishment of business group Market extension Product Conduct a resource assessment and develop mgt strategies

<p>Fruit processing</p> <p>Parinari curatelifolia (mubula) Vangueriopsis lanciflora (mahumo/mafumo) Azanza garckeana (manengo/matobo) Adansonia digitata (mubuyu) Lannea discolor (musamba) Mimusops Zyeheri Flacourtia indica (intumbulwa) Sclerocarya birrea (muongo) Strychnos cuccoloides(mawi) Strychnos spinosa (maabo / matamba) Uacapa kirkiana (masuku)</p>	<p>-No fruit processing Fruits eaten fresh</p> <p>-Limited sales for uapaca (masuku)</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>-No business groups -No active resource institution even through CRB, VAGs, VM</p>		<p>Product development Impart processing skills including harvesting Establish business groups and train Technology acquisition</p>
<p>Crafts</p> <p>Hyphaene petersian (malala) Adansonia digitata (mubuyu) Brachystigea boehmii (mubombo) Cocculus hirsutus</p>	<p>-No product identified - Evidence of harvesting</p>	<p>- No business potential and evidence of marketing</p>	<p>No institution and local policies governing use</p>		<p>-Conduct resource assessment and develop resource mgt strategies – -Product development -Establishment of business group - Skill development</p>

	Honey production Water (dams) <i>Brachystigea boehmii</i> (bark)	-Low skill level and production limited technology	- LFSP provided bee hives	- Interest group identified		-Conduct resource assessment and develop resource mgt strategies – -Product development -Establishment of business group - Skill development
	Medicinal <i>Swartzia Madagascarensis</i> (muyongolo) <i>Diplorynchus condylocarpon</i> (mutowa)	-some skills but limited technology	-High business potential and markets	No institution for business mgt		Conduct resource assessment and develop resource mgt strategies – -Product development -Establishment of business group - Skill development
	Thatch Grass <i>Hyperhenia hirta</i> spp Mine stone	-High skill level	-Some business potential -Relay on outside markets mostly	No institution for business mgt		-Conduct resource assessment and develop resource mgt strategies – -Product development -Establishment of business group -Skill development -Training on thatching to (access local Market) Create local demand

	Brick moulding Water Dambos	-Some skills available	-Some business potential	No institution for business mgt		Conduct resource assessment and develop resource mgt strategies – -Product development -Establishment of business group -Skill development -Training on thatching to (access local Market) Create local
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