



**NILE BASIN INITIATIVE
TRANSBOUNDARY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PROJECT
BURUNDI NATIONAL COORDINATION OFFICE**



ANNUAL REPORT, JANUARY-DECEMBER 2005

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1. Highlights of FY 2005 achievements

During FY 2005, growth in activities implementation was observed. The NTEAP national team was complete and this includes the NPC, the LMGC and driver. Two national working groups became very active. These are the EE&A and the WQ working groups. Vehicles, office equipments and furniture were procured and delivered for both NPC and LMGC's office. One regional workshop and two national workshops were organized and the celebration of World Environmental Day under the sponsorship of NTEAP was a success and a significant opportunity in creating awareness not only on NTEAP but also on NBI.

Two baseline studies were developed by national consultants: (1) the "Environmental Education and Awareness Baseline Study" and, (2) the "Water Quality Monitoring Baseline Study". These studies were endorsed by respective national working groups prior to their submission to PMU approval. The NPC facilitated missions of NTEAP and NBI in Burundi by providing various support and introducing them to Government officials and local authorities.

2. Main Achievements

2.1 Operationalization of NPC Office

All the necessary equipment for the operation of NPC office were procured and delivered. The LMGC was recruited in September and the NPC's driver in June. The NPC and LMGC were delivered and funds for the operation of NPC vehicle were regularly availed.

2.2 Institutional strengthening to facilitate regional cooperation

Project steering committee meeting was held in Khartoum in January. The PSC member from Burundi and the NPC participated in the meeting. A national consultation meeting was held in February to identify national activities to be included in the work plan and proposals were sent to PMU. A project proposal for the delimitation of aquatic zone of the Bugesera region was drafted and sent to PMU together with the terms of reference for the recruitment of a consultant for training the INECN park managers. NPC and the Steering committee member participated in River Awareness Kit (RAK) Development workshop organized in April in Naivasha, Kenya.

The NPC and LMGC participated in the retreat workshop organized in SODERE, Ethiopia, 19-21, 2005.

2. 3 Community level Land, Forest and Water Conservation

Achievements under this components included the recruitment of the LMGC that was finalized in September by signature of his service contract, the participation in 2nd regional micro grants capacity building workshop held in April in Kenya, Nairobi and in September in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa and the facilitation of PMU mission in February for the identification of micro grants host NGO.

Also, under this component, the National Action Plan for MG will be drafted and SC selected during the reporting period.

Contacts were maintained with the selected MG host NGO and documents needed by UNOPS to finalise the contract for hosting the LMGC were collected and sent to PMU.



Figure 1: a view of the catchments zone of the Ruvubu, main affluent of the Kagera River

2. 4 Environmental Education and Awareness

The NPC and two other members of the EEA NWG from Burundi participated in the first regional workshop on environmental Education and Awareness, which was held in January immediately following the NPC meeting.

The EE&A National Working Group became very operational and members were very supportive to EE&A activities. Lecturers, journalists and schools for networks were selected and selected lecturers attended the regional workshop for lecturers network in Dar Es Salaam in May. It is also during FY 2005 that the Initial Country Environment Education and Awareness Review report was endorsed by EE&A NWG and delivered to PMU.

To enhance environmental education among youths, a Consultant for Environmental education modules development was recruited to develop a training module for teaching environment in primary and secondary schools.

A workshop for Training of Trainers on production of training materials on Environmental Education was successfully conducted in July 2005. 20 participants from environmental school clubs and NGO were trained in different techniques for the development of various environmental education materials.

By December 2005 School needs assessment will be conducted in ten schools and report sent to PMU.



Fig 2: Group photograph of participants to the EE&A TOT Workshop on material development, Ngozi, 27-28, July 2005.



Fig.3: The photo shows a working group presenting a poster developed during the TOT on EE&A material development workshop held in Ngozi.

World Environment Day Celebration

The WED celebration was celebrated in Kirundo, northern province of Burundi on 11 June 2005. The Minister of Environment chaired the ceremonies. Three other Ministers, seven District Governors and many senior officials attended all clad in T-shirts with NBI logo. The celebration included speeches, dances and award ceremony. Before that date, a series of activities were organized from 4-10 June and these included workshops, cleaning of water hyacinth in Lake Rweru, delimitation of public garden in Bujumbura and boat ride on the lac Tanganyika for school environment clubs. The project provided support in the organization and the conduct of the celebrations. The project provided awards to three CBOs, journalists and school environment clubs that have made significant contribution in environmental conservation and awareness.



Figure 4: Exhibition of dancers on WED celebration in Kirundo, on 11 June 2005



Fig.5 : The photograph shows the Winner of the context in full exhibition



Figure 6: WED celebration: EE&A LS addressing the audience

2. 5 Water Quality Monitoring

The water quality monitoring baseline study was conducted. The final version was endorsed by National WQWG members and approved by PMU.

The 2nd Regional WQ Working Group Workshop was successfully organized in Bujumbura, 19-21 July, 2005. The objectives of the workshop were:

- Presentation of the Cairo Workshop Report and adoption of its recommendations
- Review and endorsement of the National WQ Monitoring Baseline Reports
- Presentation, discussion and adoption of the Regional WQ Monitoring Baseline Report
- Discuss Basin wide water quality management issues,
- Visit water quality testing and environmental monitoring facilities,
- Get an update of overall Project implementation in Burundi.

National working group members from all NBI countries attended the workshop which was officially opened by the Burundi Minister for Land Management, Tourism and environment



Fig 7: Group photograph for participants to the 2nd WQ regional Workshop

A national WQM workshop is to take place in November 2005. The purpose of the workshop is to assist the Nile Basin countries build the same knowledge base by bringing together water sector technical officers and water sector stakeholders to discuss, issues related to water quality management especially in the Nile basin part of their countries. The Workshop will examine existing policies, strategies, legislation and regulations that relate to water resources management. The challenges facing water quality management, will be examined and proposals on the best practices to be adopted, discussed. The workshop will serve as a forum for all water sector key stakeholders to discuss and re-examine their roles and responsibilities with respect to water quality management.

2.6 Monitoring and Evaluation

The NPC provided baseline data that was to be used in developing Monitoring and Evaluation strategy. The data originated from various stakeholders, including government departments and Civil Societies. In April the NPC and steering committee member participated in the Monitoring and Evaluation workshop that was held in Naivasha.

3. Main Challenges

- i. Lack of funds for field operation of activities.
- ii. Lack of petty cash and operational funds
- iii. Handling of payments through UNDP CO delays disbursement of funds hence delaying implementation of activities.

3. Project Implementation Arrangements

The government of Burundi through the Ministry of Land Management, Tourism and Environment and INECN, the project host institution and UNDP facilitates the project implementation at national level. The host institution has availed to NPC a wireless Internet connection that facilitates communication with PMU and NTEAP partners. The Director General of INECN is the PSC member and chairs the EE&A NWG. UNDP CO facilitates handling of funds and some administrative requirements such as assistance with processing VAT and custom duties exemptions, in-country travel authorizations, mission escorts and clearing of imported items.

Most EE&A and WQ activities are implemented through the National Working Groups.
