THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA
&
SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
(2005)

CAPACITY BUILDING IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY PROJECT DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN A LOCAL BASED YOUTH ORGANIZATION

A CASE STUDY OF MBEYA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION
(MCDO)

BY;

MAHINYA OMARY MKWAWA

CAPACITY BUILDING IN PARTICIPATORY COMMUNITY PROJECT DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN A LOCAL BASED YOUTH ORGANISATION. A CASE STUDY OF MBEYA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION.
"MCDO"

BY

MAHINYA OMARY MKWAWA

A PROJECT REPORT SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE UNIVERSITY AT THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA 2005

Declaration Statement

This is the author's own original work, it has not been submitted for a similar degree or any other equivalent award. No part of this work may be reproduced, stored or transmitted in any form by any means without prior written permission of the author or the Open University of Tanzania or Southern New Hampshire University in that behalf.

Dedication

Dedicated to my lovely wife Lucy and our daughters Doroth, Amina, Secky, Lulu and Wene.

January, 2005

AUTHOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Supervisor's Certification

The undersigned certify that he has read and hereby recommend for acceptance by Southern New Hampshire University at the Open University of Tanzania a project proposal entitled in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Masters of Science in Community Economic Development.

....

Noel Kazimoto

(Supervisor)

Date: ....

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

SNHU	-	Southern New Hampshire University
OUT	-	Open University of Tanzania
CED	-	Community Economic Development
CBO	-	Community Based Organisation
MCDO	-	Mbeya Community Development Organisation
SACCOS	-	Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies
NGO	-	Non-Governmental Organisation
NTSP	-	National Tree Seed Programme
CV	-	Curriculum Vitae
ERAPO	-	Eradicate Poverty Mbeya Region
AMCOS	-	Agricultural & Marketing Co-operative Societies
URT	-	United Republic of Tanzania
FAO	-	Food and Agricultural Organisation
SIDA	-	Swedish International Development Agency
MRECA	-	Mbeya Region Environment Conservation Association
NEAP	-	National Environmental Action Plan
NEMC	-	National Environmental Management Council
TANESCO	-	Tanzania Electrical Supply Company
CORRECT	-	Community Optional Removable Resources Council .of Tanzania.

Note: SANAA - A Swahili word referring to ART(SANAA GROUP - Group of ARTISTS)

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF APPENDICES

ABSTRACT

The objective of the study is capacity building in participatory community project design for a local community based organization.

This is a case study of a project design for Mbeya Community Development Organization. The organization is a youth organ based in Mwanjelwa area in Luanda Ward within Mbeya Municipality in Mbeya Region. Mbeya Region is located in the SouthWestern part of Tanzania, about 850 km from Dar es Salaam.

Mbeya Community Development Organization (MCDO) was picked out of five Community based organizations that were approached for a similar exercise in Mbeya Municipality. The other organizations are MRECA, CORRECT, Bread for the Orphan Center and Eradicate Poverty Mbeya Region (ERAPO)

Mbeya Community Development Organization (MCDO) was selected

because of the following reasons:

- Its objectives are compatible to my future-career and aspiration of becoming a professional consultant in community based organizations.

- These objectives cover aspects of establishing projects that address poverty reduction, environmental conservation, promoting community education and gender issues.

Organization of the report:-

Chapter one gives an overview of community-based organizations, the background information of the area of the study and in particular, Mbeya Community

Development Organization. The chapter explains in a nutshell the purpose of the assignment and provides an overview of Mbeya Municipal profile. This chapter also provides the details of study proceedings, work plan, resources and the project's study funding.

Chapter two focus on literature review. Both theoretical and imperial reviews on the study subject are covered. Policy literature review on Community Based Organizations in Tanzania is also covered in this chapter. To achieve the purpose of the assignment, various literatures related to poverty, development, environment – poverty linkage and deforestation have been consulted. Key terms, concepts and theories are also defined.

Chapter three provides a detailed explanation of the research methodology used in the study.

Chapter four provides the findings and recommendations. In this chapter various shortcomings and problems of the area of study are highlighted.

Chapter five provides details of the projects study implementation status and concluding remarks

TABLE OF CONTENTS PAGE

CHAPTER TWO

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

The multitude of problems common to Developing Countries, Tanzania being one of them include: high drop-out rates among young adults, poverty, infant mortality, public assistance receipt and teenage pregnancy, poorly maintained residential and commercial property, and lack of business investment (CCSCE, 1994). Poverty is the single most widely used indicator of urban distress, but there is general agreement that the lack of income alone is insufficient to capture the sense of social collapse that defines those communities.

Poor educational entertainment and the lack of high school facilities severely limit opportunities for employment and social mobility. (Kasarda and Ting, 1996; Kasarda, 1993) Lack of employment is the other external factor that consistently, significantly predicts the growth of communities' poverty, regardless of racial or ethnic make-up of the society.(Galster and Mincy, 1993)

Low-income communities also face problems of environmental degradation.
Their youths are at greater risk of dropping out of school, becoming the victims or perpetrators of violence, becoming teen parents, and facing poverty as adults. To address the above mentioned problems and many others facing the youth community, a Non Governmental Organisation was established in 1999. This youth organisation is known as Mbeya Community Development Organisation (MCDO) which is the focus of this study.

1.0 Mbeya Community Development Organisation History.

Mbeya Community Development Organisation (MCDO) was established in December 1999 by 13 youths who deliberated to form the organization under the leadership of Mr. Hagai Mwakalindile, the incumbent Chairman. MCDO was formed after identifying various needs/problems such as low standard of living, poor environmental conservation and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS disease.

MCDO was registered on 25th September 2001 under the Society Ordinance Act 1954 and holds a Certificate of Registration No. 11178 a copy of which is attached as **Appendix I.**

MCDO Offices are located at Mafiat Area along the Mbeya - Zambia Highway in the former Chakula Barafu Complex. List of the 13 MCDO founder members and 3 others that joined later and was present at the time of registration is attached as **Appendix II**.

1.1. Mission Statement.

"MCDO purpose is to enable the people of Mbeya to afford a high standard of living by being able to develop themselves economically".

1.2 Core Values.

MCDO core values include justice, peace, and participation; being ethical, embracing change, having loyalty to society, promoting open communication, good relations and commitment to work.

1.3. **Goals**

In the framework of the above mission and core values, MCDO set the following five (5) goals.

❖ To acquire better office premises and furniture.

❖ To start conserving environment in Mwanjelwa area within Mbeya Municipality.

❖ To establish MCDO Sanaa Group. **Appendix III**

❖ Have a training program for MCDO leadership

❖ To embark on poverty alleviation program for MCDO members.

A detailed summary of MCDO goals, strategies and activities is provided as **Appendix IV.**

As at January 2001- MCDO had projected cost summary for above goals as follows:

		Tshs.
-	Acquisition of better premises and furniture	105,000/=
-	Conservation of environment in Mwanjelwa	165,000/=
-	MCDO Sanaa Group Establishment	10,000,000/=
-	Training program for MCDO leaders .	500,000/=
-	Poverty alleviation program for MCDO members	250,000/=
	Total amount	11,020,000/=

1.4. Objectives

At inception (January 2000), the MCDO members spelled out the following seven objectives: -

1. To reduce poverty by stimulating economic growth through identifying and starting projects.

2. To initiate a Community Bank.

3. To take care of environmental conservation.

4. To coordinate with government in tasks such as agricultural production and promoting food security at household level.

5. To deal with epidemics and or natural calamities and catastrophes.

6. To promote community education.

7. Promotion of gender issues.

1.5 Activities and Programmes

MCDO members are currently engaged in the following five Programmes:-

(1) **Environment Care Programme-**

They started tree planting (2001) around Mwanjelwa Area, Mbeya Airport road, open spaces, and along the Zambia Highway main road. The target group is mainly youths.

(2) **HIV/ AIDS and Health Care Programme**

Through their Sanaa Group (Artists) which perform in concerts, rallies and campaigns to educate the Mbeya Youths and Community at large on the evils of this deadly disease.

The Sanaa Group performs to sensitize Mbeya Community on the impact of HIV/AIDS disease and associated problems to victim's families and their relatives / neighbors.

- Target group is mainly youths and community at large.

(3) **Youth Economic Support Programme**

Through the Sanaa Group, the programme is aimed at educating and identifying individual potentials among youths to enable them use available resources to solve their daily problems.

- Target group is the youth.

(4) **MCDO Leadership Training Programme**

To ensure the MCDO leadership team attend in various training programs conducted within the umbrella of Mbeya Municipal Council: -

- **Courses**

- **Seminars**

- **Workshops etc.**

Target group is MCDO leadership

(5) **Gender Balance Programme**

To create awareness for all MCDO members and community on the need to make considerations on gender issues and gender balance in any social or economic endeavors carried by the organization.

Target group is youths and community employers at large in Mbeya Municipality.

1.6   Activities & Programmes

- There are four major activities that are being carried out

by MCDO.

These are: -

(a)   Tree planting – as number one activity whereby MCDO

planted 708 trees between year 2001-2003, as indicated in Table

1 below and **Appendix: V**

TABLE: I   Trees Planted by MCDO (2001-2003)

YEAR	TREES PLANTED
2001	130
2002	246
2003	332
TOTAL	**708**

b.   HIV/AIDS and sensitization campaign.

- Seminars and campaigns carried out within Mwanjelwa and Soweto wards

youth community. The group intends to expand its coverage to other wards

in Mbeya Municipality. Over 3,000 youths residing in these wards are

engaged in various commercial activities, selling various items which

include:

- **Used clothes (Mitumba)**

- **Vegetables and food vendors,**

- **Daladala operators (Commuter Small Buses)**

- **Taxi operators**
- **Light trucks operators etc.**

c. **Sanaa Group (Artists)**

This is the wing of MCDO with more than 25 members who are engaged in performing drama, traditional dances, circus, choir etc.

This wing offers education on HIV/AIDS sensitization, protection of the environment, culture, gender issues advice, counseling and entertainment to Mbeya Municipal residents. A list of the Sanaa Group members is attached **as Appendix III**.

This Sanaa Group focus on: -

- Attitude change for youths, to consider work as part of life and stepping-stone to prosperity.

- Create awareness in environment protection and degradation factors

- Sensitization campaign tool on HIV/AIDS disease and its associated problems facing the entire Mbeya Community and nation at large.

- Create awareness in gender related issues in Mbeya Municipal Community

d. **Self Help Scheme (Upatu)**

MCDO is as a co-coordinating agent, acting as a bridge between youths, in providing helpful information in establishing small businesses and creation of small groups credit societies (Upatu).

1.7. Nature of the Organisation

❖ The MCDO is a Non Governmental Organization, which is non-profitable and non-political.

❖ The source of revenue is through contributions by members, the Public, and from the government / donors.

1.8 Membership of the Organization

Members of the organization will be any Mbeya resident youth irrespective of nationality, race, ethnicity, religion or sex. These members come from different walks of life, professionals as well as non-professionals.

❖ Application for membership: -

(a) Membership requires one to be mentally fit to be accepted.

(b) Application is made through a special form authorised by the MCDO Executive Committee.

❖ Organization Contributions: -

(a) Successful applicants pay an entry fee of TShs. 5,000/=

(b) Annual contribution for each member is Tshs .15,000/=

1.9 My Assignment

As a participant in *CDE* programme, the intervention is focused on the underlying theme of peoples participation and empowering the *MCDO* members to be critical partners in a "trickle-up" process, whereby they will be able to utilise their own development potential to bring about the desired goals as stipulated in their *mission statement.*

The intervention is intended to enlighten them to look at what they **have and** *not* **what they lack**. Despite the lack of funds for their big dream of alleviating poverty, MCDO leaders need to make use of what they already have i.e. the potential to make voluntary contributions and make some savings. More important is their enormous potential and ability to work!! They are all young able man/women, a few of whom are engaged as employees to some reliable/ stable institutions while the majority of its senior members are self employed as petty traders and up coming businessmen. Almost 98% of the SANAA GROUP members are unemployed and still under parental care.

The intervention is geared at achieving the following objectives:

1. Participate in MCDO development activities and provide its members with technical consultancy assistance. The consultancy assistance will lead to capacity building in community related development projects and preparation of a project proposal write up on environmental protection.

2. Develop and instil attitude change to MCDO leadership and its members to stop considering their NGO as a **"Launching pad for foreign donors funds inflow"**. The acquired CED knowledge will be used to stimulate attitude change to the group members on the need to be self –reliant by making use of available members / local resources first.

3. Share with MCDO leadership some basic best practices, skills and techniques in management of community based organisations.

The assignment is focused to make MCDO become a co-ordinating instrument that will act as a bridge between its youth members, adults and other community related organs in providing helpful information, skills and best practices in establishing a community based project. It also focuses on making MCDO members become critical partners for ensuring success of their own thoughtful project in the environmental conservation concept and ensure full utilisation of their SANAA GROUP potential. The intervention is aimed at triggering a process whereby MCDO members eventually will be empowered to mobilise own capabilities, make own decisions and manage own resources. This will enable its members to have total control of their project undertakings without dependency on donors, as is currently the attitude of the majority, if not all of its members.

1.10 MBEYA MUNICIPAL PROFILE

In order to form a basis for meaningful study proceedings and observations, a profile of Mbeya Municipal is provided herewith. The profile highlights important poverty and development indicators relevant in the case study under review.

Background

The historical background of Mbeya Municipality can be traced back to 1927. The town developed drastically into a large settlement in 1935. In 1955 the town started to expand enormously following the colonial Governments decision to shift the Southern Zone Province Headquarters from Iringa to

Mbeya. In 1980 Mbeya Town was officially accorded Municipality status bringing it among 13 Municipalities in Tanzania Mainland.

Location and Land Area

Mbeya Municipality is within Mbeya District. It is located between latitudes 8^050' and 8^057 South of the Equator and between longitudes 33^030' and 35^035' East of the Greenwich Meridian. It has a total land area of 214 sq km and borders Mbeya Rural District on all sides. Mbeya Municipality is the headquarters of Mbeya Region. **(Appendix VI).**

Topography and Climate

Mbeya Municipal is situated at an elevated land along the slopes of Mount Mbeya ranges at an altitude rising from 1600 to 2400 meters above sea level. The climate is influenced by its altitude and receives mean annual rainfall of 1200 mm (November - May) accompanied with mean temperature ranging between 11^0C – 25^0C. Mbeya Municipality is generally characterized by moderate climate and sufficient rainfall.

Administration

Administratively Mbeya Municipal Council is divided into two Divisions namely Sisimba and Iyunga and it has 36 Wards with 180 Mitaa (hamlets). At council level, the administration of Mbeya Municipality is composed of 36 councillors representing 36 wards, 13 nominated members and 1 Member of Parliament. Out of the 50 councillors, 15 are female and 35 are males that

constitute the legislative body of the council. The ratio of male/female representatives is 7:3. The Municipal Director and heads of departments constitute the executive component of the council.

The full council under the elected Lordship Mayor is the highest decision making organ of the council that has five standing committees: -

❖ **Finance and Administration.**

❖ **Economic, Health and Education.**

❖ **Urban Planning and Environment.**

❖ **Works and Communication.**

❖ **Control of HIV/AIDS.**

Population

According to the 2002 National Census, the Municipality had a population of 266,422 people of which 126,679 (48%) are males and 139,743 (52%) are female with a population growth of 4% p.a. The Municipality population projection for the year ending 2004 is estimated to be 288,612.

Economic Activities

According to 2002 census results, main occupations carried by Municipal residents are: -

(i) Agricultural and livestock keeping that employs 33.3% of the population

(ii) 43.4% of the population are engaged in the informal sector as petty traders/small business people.

(iii) 21% as employees, 1.4% as contributing family workers and 0.9% in the rest of categories. The estimated per capita income is Tshs. 675,047/=.(Approximately USD $ 600)

Education

Primary Education

As at June 2004 the Council had 78 Primary schools, out of which the council owns 72 and 6 are privately owned with a total number of 60,137 pupils. Out of these 29,352 (49%) are male while 30,785 (51%) are female.

Table : 2 -Status of Service for Primary Schools -2004

No.	Service	Required	Available	Shortages	Percentage of Shortage
1.	Teachers houses	1,207	42	1,165	97
2.	Classrooms	1,369	939	430	31
3.	Toilets(Pit latrines)	2,341	592	1,749	75
4.	Desks	18,323	8,833	9,490	52
5	Teachers III A	1,503	954	549	37

Important Indicators are: -

- **Enrollment of children standard one is 99% (National 85%)**

- **Pupils book ratio is 1.3 (National 1.1)**

- **Performance of attendance 98.0%**

- **Standard seven Examination pass 94.9%.**

- **Government schools selection 11%**

Secondary Education

Within the Municipality there are 18 secondary schools, 10 are privately owned and 8 are Government Schools.

The number of pupils selected to join Government secondary schools from 2002 to 2004 are as indicated in table 3 below.

Table: 3 Status of Secondary School Selection   2002-2004.

Year	Number of pupils set for examination			Number of pupil who passed examination			Number of pupils selected to join secondary Education			% of pass
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
2002	2965	2473	4538	1164	1031	2195	298	291	589	48.4
2003	1530	1537	3067	1351	1252	2603	769	761	1530	84.9
2004	1746	1717	3463	1639	1649	3288	-	-	963	94.9

In the year 2001 alone, 3 Secondary Schools were constructed. Among these schools 2 started in 2002 and the third started in 2003.

In the years 2003/ 2004, a total of 5 Secondary Schools were constructed. From 2001 to 2005 the council in collaboration with community participation constructed a total of 8 Secondary Schools.

Adult Education

According to 2002 census results, 85% of the populations above five years old were literate. Currently the Municipal has 20 MEMKWA Centers with 1040 pupils (566 male and 474 female).

Health

Table: 4 - Health Services Status and Ownership

	Government	Religions	Public institution	Private	Total
Hospital	2	0	0	2	4
Health Centers	4	2	0	0	6
Dispensaries	10	3	4	23	40
Total	16	5	4	25	50

The major top ten (10) endemic diseases are: -

1. **Malaria**

2. **Acute respiratory infection**

3. **Sexual transmitted diseases (Including HIV/AIDs)**

4. **Diarrhea diseases**

5. **Pneumonia**

6. **Skin infection**

7. **Intestinal worms**

8. **Minor injuries**

9. **UTI**

10. **Eye infection**

Water

The Urban Water Authority runs water services. As at June 2004 the Municipal had 6 water sources that are run by UWASA. These sources provide 19,000 M^2 of water, which is 65 percent of the total demand.

However, UWASA has established liquid waste network with the capacity to serve 90,000 Municipal inhabitants. By June 2004 this network served about 4,000 resident's equivalent to 4.4 %of its capacity.

Agriculture

Agriculture is the main occupation for Municipal residents. Mbeya Municipal council has a total of 21,400 hectares and out of those, 9,937 hectares are suitable for agricultural activities. Furthermore, the land that is utilised for agricultural activities is about 9,406 hectares only which is 94% of the suitable/a rabble land.

The crops, which are produced in arable land, are maize, beans, potatoes, wheat, bananas and vegetables as food crops. Coffee and sunflowers are produced as cash crops. For the year 2003/2004 a total of 9,325 hectares was cultivated and produced about 32,920 tons.

Average production per hectare is as follows: -

- **Maize 2 tons per hectare**

- **Beans 0.4 tons per hectare**

- **Potatoes 10 tons per hectare**

- **Coffee 1 ton per hectare**

The Municipal council has 14 extension workers serving all the 36 wards.

Livestock

As at year-end 2003 the livestock population in the Municipality was estimated to be 23,538 comprising of 8,720 cattle; 6,890 goats; 668 sheep and 6,930 pigs. There were 36,950 poultry that produced an estimated 1.1million eggs per year. The Municipal has 5 abattoirs, out of which 2 are for cattle and 3 for pigs. Construction of a modern abattoir for cattle and goats at Ilemi ward is still under progress. The project is expected to be completed by end of the financial year 2004/2005.

Works and Communication

Table: 5 Road Network of Mbeya Municipality.

Tarmac roads	-	**61 km**
Gravel roads	-	**65 km**
Earth roads	-	**90 km**
Total	-	**216 km**
Bridges	-	**61**
Culverts	-	**153**
Drifts	-	**142**

About 80 percent of roads are passable throughout the year.

Urban Planning

Most of Municipal inhabitants dwell in un-surveyed areas. About 70% of Municipal residents are estimated to live on such areas.

Natural Resources

Mbeya Municipal council has one nursery for tree seedlings. In the year 2002/2003, the nursery managed to produce 550,000 seedlings that were planted in different areas within the Municipality. From 2002 to mid 2004,

900,000 seedlings were planted in water sources, schools compounds, residential areas, road avenues, commercial areas and some were given to ward extension workers for planting in allocated open spaces within the Municipality as shown in Table 6 below:

TABLE: 6- Trees Planted in Mbeya Municipal (2002-2004)

No.	Year	Trees planted
1.	2002	200,000
2.	2003	300,000
3.	2004	400,000
	Total	**900,000**

Co-operatives

The co-operative sector has been given priority as means for the majority to own and participate in economic activities, through the formation and management of their co-operative societies. As at June 2004, there were 58 active co-operative societies operating in Mbeya Municipal as follows: -

Table: 7 – Co-operative Societies Status June 2004

1.	Saving and Credit Co-operative societies (SACCOS)	35
2.	Industrial Co-operatives	4
3.	Union	1
4.	Transportation	2
5.	Agricultural and Marketing Co-operatives Societies (AMCOS)	2
6.	Multipurpose and other services societies	14
	Total	**58**

Within the Municipality, there are 35 SACCOS with 5,600 members, out of whom 2,765 are female and 2,635 males. Their total shares amounted to Tshs. 128,308,526. Municipal SACCOS managed to offer loans that amounted to Tshs. 2,500,300,000/= to its members for the period ending 2003/2004.

Trade and Industry

For the year 2004 the Municipal Council issued trade licenses as shown in the

Table below: **Table: 8 - Trade Licenses issued in 2004**

1.	Shops	2,184
2.	Garage/Workshops	29
3.	Butchers	59
4.	Petrol stations	25
5.	Hotels	36
6.	Bars/Groceries	93
7.	Milling machines	171
8.	Guest Houses	95
9.	Others/Informal sector	1,778
10	Total	4,470

Table: 9 – Status of Production in Industries June 2004

No	Type of Industry	No	Production Line
1.	Heavy Industry	7	Soft drinks, tires, milling and coffee curing, woods and plastic
2.	Small scale Industry	545	Milling machines, car repair and services, oil and food processing
3.	Artisan and Hand Craft in Informal Sectors	548	Carpentry, woodwork, tailoring, masonry, tinsmith etc.

Markets

As at the end of financial year 2003/2004, Mbeya Municipal had 14 formal

markets, with 1,380 stalls, and 796 apartments and rooms.

The data provided in the Mbeya Municipal profile form a base for the

evaluation of the poverty status of the community as analysed in the study

proceeding's that follows below and **THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY on CHAPTER THREE of this report.**

1.2.0   STUDY PROCEEDINGS

On 18th September 2003, the author wrote a letter to Mbeya Community Development Organisation (MCDO) Chairman introducing himself and indicated his interest in learning and sharing experience with their NGO. This is a youth based organisation, which is located at Mwanjelwa area in the Municipality of Mbeya.

On 26.09.2003, a reply letter was received signed by the MCDO Chairman Mr. Hagai Enock Mwakalindile acknowledging receipt of the letter and inviting him to their offices at Mwanjelwa area, at the former " CHAKULA BARAFU OFFICES ". Copies of the initial contact letters are attached as **Appendix: VII &VIII.**

On 19th October 2003, the author held a telephone conversation with the Chairman requesting for a formal appointment with him. Unfortunately he was on safari and promised to call on his return on or around 15th November 2003, which he did and was invited to call at his office on 22nd November 2003 at 15.00hours.

On 22nd November 2003, visited MCDO offices as per the appointment and was cordially invited by the Chairman. He introduced the author to the other leaders who were present at the office that included the following: -

Mr. Linus Solomon, the MCDO Vice Chairman.

Mrs. Anna Mwakalambile, the MCDO Secretary General.

Mr. Petter Njibha, the MCDO Projects Co-ordinator.

Mr. Geoffrey Mwakabona, the MCDO Executive Committee member.

The author held a lengthy discussion with the Chairman, which included among many others, a brief overview of the Study Programme and the intended Project Paper as a requirement for MSc Award from Southern New Hampshire University and Open University of Tanzania. The Chairman expressed his appreciation for having chosen their organisation as a partner and hoped that his presence would make an impact on many issues that needed technical advice especially on development and poverty alleviation strategies as spelled out in their Organisations MISSION STATEMENT.

The other members of the MCDO leadership team were asked to join in the discussion. In view of the nature of their activities and time constraints, a consensus was reached to progress with what ever was possible on that particular day. The following issues were tabled as the agenda for the meeting:

❖ **Climate setting and levelling of expectations.**

❖ **Explanation of the goals and objectives of my intervention.**

❖ **Quick review of the Organisation profile.**

1.2.1 Climate Setting and Levelling of Expectations.

The objective of this agenda item were:

❖ To identify the skills and experience the MCDO leadership could bring to the study.

❖ To understand the goals and objectives of the Organisation.

❖ To understand the Organisation mission, vision, programmes and activities.

❖ To familiarise with the existing and ongoing projects of the Organisation.

The concept of *POVERTY* was discussed at length at this meeting and analysed its source or causes, interpretation, impact on their social economic status and how to overcome. The acquired *CED* knowledge and exposure on this aspect made all the difference with regard to how it was delivered to this team.

After a brief acquaintance with the MCDO Leadership, an agreement was reached on the need to review the following areas: -

❖ The MCDO mission

❖ The MCDO goals and objectives

❖ The MCDO programs and activities

❖ The existing and ongoing projects of MCDO.

The following observations and revelations were noted and recorded during the meeting: -

1.   The mission statement was too broad and required to focus on the MCDO members and their immediate dependants as against covering

the entire Mbeya community. Proposed that mission statement should read " **MCDO is to enable its members and communities around them afford a high standard of living by being able to develop themselves economically.**"

2. The MCDO goals and objectives to be redefined so as to be specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, realistic and set on clear time frame (SMART). While revisiting each goal, the meeting participants agreed **that all five MCDO goals were specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and realistic except for the time frame, which needed setting.**

1.2.2 Some adjustments were considered necessary on the organisations seven OBJECTIVES as follows: -

1. The first objective that focus on reduction of poverty by stimulating economic growth through identifying and starting projects was considered relevant, realistic and attainable. The time frame could easily be fitted in.

2. The second objective of initiating a Community Bank appeared to be too ambitious, possibly unattainable and appeared to be a fantasy. This was based on the fact that even the MCDO Savings Account at the National Micro finance Bank Mbeya Branch was not operating. Apparently it had been closed for over a year by the time this meeting

was discussing about the subject. Agreed this objective to be shelved until such time when conditions allowed.

3.   The third objective focuses on taking care of environmental conservation.

This objective appeared to be relevant, realistic and attainable. MCDO had already made their mark on this subject by planting 708 trees between years 2001 to 2003. However, the magnitude of the organisations involvement was also questionable and the reason provided was lack of funds and support from the government authorities, both local as well as foreign donor agents.

4.   The fourth objective focused on MCDO coordinating with government in tasks such as agricultural production and promoting food security at household level. This objective appeared to be relevant and realistic. However, the magnitude of MCDO's involvement shaded doubts and looked to be over ambitious. Agreed this objective to be shelved for sometime until when conditions allow.

5.   The fifth objective focuses on dealing with epidemics and or natural calamities and catastrophes. This also appear to be an over ambitious objective that is too broad, possibly to be left to big national institutions or international relief agencies like RED CROSS, UNHCR etc. Agreed

this should be shelved out completely and focus on the much more realistic and attainable objectives.

6. The sixth objective is to promote community education. This was considered as relevant, realistic and attainable through their SANAA GROUP (Artists). Through the use of *drama, concerts and other live performances* the group posses the resources and the potential to undertake tasks geared to achieve this objective. However, it was suggested the SANAA GROUP should transform its approach on a much more commercial inclination as against current status where by the group members only perform in national programmed events. This was considered as a serious waste of resource and potential of the youths who are mostly under parental care and the majority are just standard seven leavers and unemployed. This objective spells a lot of opportunities if the group is well organised and properly directed.

7 The seventh objective focuses on promotion of gender issues. This also appeared to be possible through the use of the SANAA GROUP which could construct plays, drama, live concerts etc. for public consumption and possibly at a fee through national agencies like CARE INTERNATIONAL or TACAIDS and international ones like ILO, UNICEF, UNHCR etc.

Out of the seven MCDO objectives, four of them posses the potential to steer the organisation to much higher heights only if the leadership could get focused and committed to stand on their own feet. One very prominent excuse for not climbing the already potential heights was luck of funds and support from local as well as foreign donor agencies.

1.2.3   A review of MCDO programmes and activities had following revelations:

❖ The Environmental Care Programme was already being taken care by the tree planting activity and the SANAA GROUP activities. It only needs a little bit of commitment by the MCDO leaders and its members to plan the way forward. Waiting for the would be donor agencies and government support was a very serious handicap. The organisation has all the resources including the most important one; "The Human Power of its Members and the might of their youths potential which could produce a great combustion if well organised, directed, focused and committed to *change their attitudes and act*".

❖ The HIV/AIDS and Heath Care Programme, The Youth Economic Support Programme and The Gender Balance Programme are all possible and could well be taken care by the SANAA GROUP through the HIV/AIDS and Sensitisation campaign as well as the Self Help Scheme activities. It only needs a spark to set alight all these potential relevant, realistic, attainable programmes and activities under the MCDO umbrella. What is needed is just change of attitude to set the wheel rolling.

❖ The CED expertise possibly came in at the right time and all set to make use of this knowledge for the future betterment of this youth organisation in Mbeya Municipality. To make this become a reality, a WORK PLAN was required to accomplish the TWO requests made by the MCDO Leaders who participated in this CLIMATE SETTING EXERCISE MEETING on the 23rd November 2003 at MCDO offices in Mwanjelwa. The WORK PLAN is to achieve and fulfil the following:

- (i) Prepare Proposal writing on environment protection for MCDO.

- (ii) Help develop a strategy that will make MCDO SANNA GROUP active and operate as an economic wing. If possible arrange to solicit contributions from local donors within Mbeya to finance THE SANAA GROUP shooting for their existing video films, which are currently on manuscripts.

1.2.4 Work Plan

This has been prepared and elaborated as per attached **Appendix XII.**

1.2.5 RESOURCES:-

In order to complete this assignment the following resources are required:

Resources List:

(a) Available & provided literature from course instructor.

- Community empowerment: A participatory training manual on community project Development by Stanley Gajanayake & Jaka Gajanayake.

- How to conduct surveys: A step - by - step Guide: by Arlene Fink & Jacqueline Kose Koff.

- Other Literature from Shapiro Library

(b) **Handouts**: Provided by Course Instructor.

- Pacific Livestock project

- SWOT Analysis

- Logical Frame work

- Planning for the future

- Developing and Using work Plans

- Strategic Planning Workbook

- Chad Potable Water Project

(c) **SOFTWARE:** Microsoft Project Management.

(d) **INTERNET USAGE:** A budget for minimum Two hours per week to be spent sourcing information from various Drive Engines Ex-Internet cafes in DAR & Mbeya and Shapiro Library.

(e) **GROUP DISCUSSIONS:** With fellow course participants during monthly one week meeting at Dar-Centre and Mbeya Residents participants.

(f) **MCDO REPORTS RECORDS:**

Mbeya community Development Organization office Bearers to provide me with available literature and any relevant information from their records, reports, interviews and discussions.

(g) REPORTS/RECORDS

From Mbeya Municipal Council Planning and Community Development Department. The Mbeya Public Library is another important resource

(h) FUNDING

During the whole course period and active participation in the community activities of MCDO, the author expect to use Tshs. 145,000/= out of pocket and 52 man-hours.

CHAPTER TWO

2.0   Literature Review

2.1   Theoretical Review

Important concepts and terminology used in the study report are defined and elaborated here below:

2.1.1   Welfare

Welfare implies the level or standard of living of an individual, household or community. Two definitions are commonly used to define this concept. The first defines welfare, as needs satisfaction. The more an individual, household or community satisfies its needs, the higher the level of welfare and vice versa. A major weakness of this definition is that interpersonal comparison is not possible unless preferences of individuals and households are known.

A second definition which recognises this weakness defines welfare as household's command over resources in terms of food, money, property, health, schooling, working conditions, housing, security against crime, means of transport and communication, liberty etc., with the help of which individuals can lead their lives and satisfy their needs.

2.1.2   Indicator

The welfare of an individual, household or community can be measured and monitored, using "welfare monitoring indicators". For each welfare component, several welfare monitoring indicators can be developed to measure

the welfare related to that particular component that an individual, household or community enjoys.

An indicator is a measure that reflects progress, stagnation or deterioration in a particular phenomenon or situation such as literacy situation, economic situation, health status, poverty situation, etc. Indicators are used to measure changes over time. With the use of indicators, it is possible to determine whether a particular phenomenon or situation has improved, stagnated or deteriorated over time.

From the Tanzanian perspective the Mbeya Municipal Development is also evaluated through the use of following poverty monitoring indicators:

Income poverty

Headcount ratio – basic needs poverty line

Headcount ratio – basic needs poverty line (rural)

Headcount ratio – food poverty line

Asset ownership (as proxy for income poverty)

Proportion of working age population not currently employed

Overall GDP growth per annum

GDP growth of agriculture per annum

Percentage of rural roads in maintainable condition (good and fair condition)*

Human capabilities

Girl/boy ratio in primary education

Transition rate from primary to secondary

Literacy rate of population aged 15+

Net primary enrolment

Gross primary enrolment

Drop-out rate in primary school

Percent of students passing Std 7 with grade A,B,C

Prevalence of ARI in under-fives

Population with access to safe water

Survival

Infant mortality rate

Under-five mortality rate

Life expectancy

Seropositive rate in pregnant women

District covered by active HIV/AIDS awareness campaign

Maternal mortality rate

Malaria in-patient case fatalities for children under 5

Children under 2 years immunised against both measles and DPT

Births attended by a skilled health worker

Social wellbeing (governance)

Ratio of primary court filed cases decided

Average time taken to settle commercial disputes

Nutrition

Stunting (height for age) of under fives

Wasting (weight for height) of under fives

Underweight (weight for age) of under fives

Extreme vulnerability

Proportion of orphaned children

Proportion of child-headed households

Proportion of children in the labour force

Proportion of children in the labour force and not going to school

Proportion of elderly living in a household where no one is economically active

Conducive development environment

Ratio of reserves to monthly inputs

2.1.3 Participation

People's participation is a cardinal element in the community development strategy. It has emerged as one of the central ingredients in development in the recent past for many reasons. First, participation of people provides an effective means to mobilise local resources, organise and tap the energies, wisdom, and creativity of people for development activities. Second, it enables prior identification of community needs and helps to customise development activities to meet these needs. Above all, participation of the people provides legitimacy to the project or activity, promotes commitment on the part of the people in its implementation, and assures sustainability. Recent experience in development activities suggests that there is a significant correlation between

the level and intensity of people's participation and the increase in the success of development activities. Participation varies according to the nature of the development project.

2.1.4 Empowerment

Empowerment is a concept that goes beyond participation. It implies enabling people to understand the reality of their environment, reflect on the factors shaping that environment, and take steps to effect changes to improve the situation. It is a process that encompasses people deciding where they are now, where they want to go, and developing and implementing plans to reach their goals, based on self-reliance and sharing power. Most importantly, empowerment helps people to liberate themselves from mental and physical dependence. It is in essence, the ability to stand independently, think progressively, plan and implement changes systematically, and accept the outcomes rationally.

2.1.5 Project Evaluation and Monitoring

Evaluation generally implies measurement, appraisal, or making judgements. Frequently, it is a process designed to assess the degree to which the intended objectives have been achieved. In a project situation, evaluation implies a systematic examination of the project to determine its relevance, effectiveness, impact, or benefits to the target population. Monitoring will help to assess whether a program is being implemented as was planned. A program monitoring system enables continuous feedback on the status of program implementation, identifying specific problems as

they arise. Impact evaluations can also explore unintended consequences, whether positive or negative, on beneficiaries. (Wilson, Sandra Jo. 1998) of particular interest for this study is the extent to which project benefits reach the MCDO members and the impact that these benefits have on their welfare.

But what do we mean by poverty? And what are its causes?

In order to define POVERTY, an understanding of the Concept of development is crucial in view of its direct coloration with the poverty aspect under review.

2.1.6   Development defined.

According to Arndt, H.W. (1915), people in developing countries or in the Third World sees economic development as a major political purpose. He further points out that people in the Third World see that economic development is a task for the government.

2.1.7   Economic Development Defined:

Economic Development is a rise in the levels of living standards of the common people.   Noted economists like Adam Smith define economic development as the universal, continual and uninterrupted effort to better people's conditions.

According to Arndt, there are various ways to define economic development. Each community label economic development on its own way such as modernisation, or westernisation or industrialisation. But all means the same. Modernisation refers to

rapid economic change compared to the continuous economic progress of traditional societies.

2.1.8   Underdevelopment

On the other hand, Arndt describes the poor economic state of countries like India as a result of anti-modernisation views and clinging to tradition and religious ideals that condemned the pursuit of wealth!   He points out that the leaders of India, since the days of their independence movement, had different minds on what should be done on economic development.   Some saw it as a means to an end or a necessary part of a wider program for national regeneration.

Arndt sums up by pointing out that the new thinking in this historical process, which seems to be universally agreed, is that of giving opportunity to developing countries that were left behind, actually exploited under the colonialism, to participate in the global economy processes and be assisted in doing so.

According to Ndullu B. (1993) development encompasses sustained economic growth which in turn results into improved standard of living by expanding opportunities for earning income and improved access to goods and services.

Ndullu focuses on Tanzania's economic development and differs with Arndt who centred his discussion on the successes of modernisation and capitalism of Europe, America and the Far East.   Ndullu mentions that one of the major causes for Tanzania's underdevelopment is a result of its development policy which differs from

people like Tony Waters (2000) who see it as a result of the historic process of exploitation from the colonialists.

Ndullu like Arndt, shares the same ideas that the change from socialistic development policies to free enterprise economy, have contributed to a significant rise in investment and its productivity, revival of real growth, a rise and diversification of export growth and the decline in the inflation rate.

Stan Burkey (1987) urges by saying that there is no fixed and final definition of development. Development necessarily involves structural transformation, which implies political, social and economic changes.

He defines development as a process by which people through their own individual and or joint efforts boost production for direct consumption and have surplus to sell for cash. In this process people must be involved.

Burkey sees social development as the goal of any development process and stands on the foundation of human development and on the pillars of economic development and political development.

Burkey argues that economic development is not a full solution to poverty.
Some people and institutions adopted the basic needs approach of which meeting basic human needs of poor people is considered as a crucial element for development

strategies. He sees there is a clear relationship between development and social transformation.

Burkey (1987) sees development as a process that must involve people of varying socio-economic status, varying occupations and skills levels, education and ambitions. Development must involve changes in the social, economic and political structures. He also insists that development must begin with and within an individual. Burkey adds a more contemporary thinking about development. He champions the idea of participation in decision making and planning by all stakeholders and more specific by poor people.

Burkey's views about development are what most developing countries have been pushing since early 1980's that development is a participatory process. Arndt and Ndullu failed to explain plainly the role of ordinary citizens in achieving development. Burkey insists that development focuses on the needs of poor people and should be planned from below involving all stakeholders.

Moreover Stan Burkey agrees with the World Commission on Environment and Development (the "Brundtland Commission") which in 1987 led the way in framing a working concept, stating that in essence, "sustainable development is a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development, and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations" (WCED, 1987:46).

2.1.9   Poverty as a Concept

What is poverty?

Poverty is among the factors that facilitate hatred, misunderstanding, desperation and conflicts among people, families, clans, communities and nations.

The word poverty has however been defined differently by different scholars.   Stan Burkey defines poverty in terms of basic needs, that is the inability of an individual, a community or a nation to satisfactorily meet basic needs.

The basic needs are categorized in two: -

- a) That are necessary for the survival of the human beings physically, biologically and spiritually that includes:-

  - **clean and safe water**

  - **adequate and balanced foods**

  - **physical and emotional security,**

  - **shelter,**

  - **physical and mental rest**

- b) The second category is at the level of community's basic needs for the community's survival. They include

  - **sexual regeneration**

  - **beliefs**

  - **health facilities**

  - **education facilities**

  - **a stable political system.**

Majid Rahnema (1996) describes poverty as a myth, a construct and the intervention of a particular civilization.

In African languages at least three to five words have been identified for poverty, although in many cultures of the world, poor was not always the opposite of rich. According to Amartya Sen (1989) (Articles on poverty as capability deprivation) "Poverty is defined as the deprivation of basic capabilities rather than merely as lowness in incomes". However, agrees to the fact that inadequate income is a strong predisposing condition for impoverished life.

On the other hand Robert Chambers (1990) in his article "POVERTY AND LIVELIHOODS: WHOSE REALITY COUNTS" analyses poverty based on realities and puts forward the following observations.

"The realities of poor people are local, complex, diverse and dynamic". Income-poverty, though important, is only one aspect of deprivation. Other actors that revolve along poverty include social inferiority, isolation, physical weakness, vulnerability, seasonal deprivation, powerlessness and humiliation.

If R. Chambers (1990) stands to be true, then he also concurs with M. Rahnema on the contention that "poverty is a construct and invention of a particular civilization". To amplify this contention, Majid Rahnema picked an example where by one Helena Norberg Hodge (a Swedish National) asked a young Ladakh where were the poorest houses? **"We have no poor houses in our village" was the proud reply.** However,

eight years passed and the young Ladakh had seen new things like cars well clothed visiting Europeans, etc. Helena happened to see the same Ladakh young man talking to an American tourist and overheard him say **"If only you could do something for us: we are so POOR"**.

The above example confirms two writers' views on poverty. Majid Rahnema says, "Poverty is a construct and invention of a particular civilization" and R. Chambers assets that "The realities of poor people are local, complex, diverse and dynamic".

When discussing about poverty the time frame aspect as well as cultural intervention are very vital. The poors' perception of their predicament is inevitable, affected by how others view them.

According to Majid Rahnema, (1992) it was only after the expansion of the mercantile economy, the processes of urbanization leading to massive pauperization and, indeed, the monitization of society that the poor were defined as lacking what the rich could have in terms of money and possessions.

With all the good literature on poverty that has been reviewed in this study, one fact is very obvious. That is "despite all the efforts of the so called professionals, politicians, social workers, community development experts, NGOs' etc. there is ample evidence which signify existence of global institutions with offices and branches in every corner of the world who persistently work hard to ensure that POVERTY remains as a sustainable tool for betterment of the RICH. Millions of the so-called professionals,

politicians, philanthropists and humanitarian activists in every corner of this world flourish, survive and brag by the most popular slogan.

"READY TO WORK AND DIE FOR THE POOR

BUT

Not ready to live with the poor"

This is a challenge that report writer faced with Mbeya Community Development Organisation for the two years of his stay.

Based on above definitions we witness a situation in Tanzania whereby the poverty crisis has kept more than 50% of Tanzanians below the poverty line. At the same time we witness efforts made by the Tanzanian government, faith organizations, individuals and NGO's like MCDO to fight against poverty and alleviate the poverty situation.

An English industrialist working in Norway in the 1880s wrote the following statement.

'There is no use trying to help these people. These dirty, ignorant people are putting too many children into the world. They won't work; they have no discipline. They misuse every opportunity they get. Every time they get some money in their hands it all goes to drinking and senseless waste. All the help we give them is just an incentive to laziness, and another opportunity to produce even more children. ''

Norway was indeed a poor country 100 years ago. The fact that nearly every Norwegian family has relatives in Canada or the United States, who emigrated for a

better life; attests to the widespread poverty during the last century. And yet, Norway today has one of the highest incomes per capita of the industrialised nations.

The above notion is well amplified by one leaflet that states " To reflect and act" which was distributed to MCDO members in December 2003, the contents of which are provided below and herewith attached as Appendix XIV.

- ❖ The difference between poor and rich countries is not the age of the country. This can be shown by countries like India and Egypt that are more than 2000 years old and are poor. On the other hand, Canada, Australia and New Zealand that 150 years ago were inexpressive, today are developed countries and are rich.

- ❖ The difference between poor and rich countries does not reside in the available natural resources. Japan has a limited territory, is 80% mountainous, inadequate for agriculture and cattle raising, **but has a second world economy.** The country is like a big floating factory, importing raw material from the whole world and exporting manufactured products.

- ❖ Another example is Switzerland, which does not plant cocoa but has the best chocolate of the world. In its territory they raise animals and plant the soil during four months per year. However, **they produce dairy products of the best quality in the world.** It is a small country that transmits an image of security, order and labour, which made it the **WORLD'S STRONG SAFE.**

❖ Executives from rich countries who communicate with their counterparts in poor countries show that there is no significant intellectual difference.

❖ Race or skin colour is also not important: immigrants labeled lazy in their countries of origin are productive power in rich European countries. What is the difference then?

❖ The difference is the attitude of the people, framed along the years by the education and the culture.

❖ On analyzing the behavior of people in rich and developed countries, we find that the great majority follow the following principles in their lives:

    i. **Ethics as a basic principle**

    ii. **Integrity**

    iii. **Responsibility**

    iv. **Respect to the laws and rules**

    v. **Respect for the rights of other citizens**

    vi. **Work loving**

    vii. **Strive for saving and investments**

    viii. **Will of super action**

    ix. **Punctuality**

❖ In poor countries, only a minority follows these principles in their daily life. We are not poor because we lack natural resources or because nature was cruel to us, we are poor because we lack attitude. We lack the will to comply with and teach these functional principles of rich and developed societies.

The MCDO members were later cautioned that if they did not forward this message nothing would happen to them. Their pets would not die, they would not be fired, they would not have bad luck for seven years and also they would not get sick. If they really love their country, this message was to be circulated for a major quantity of people so that same could reflect about this and CHANGE, ACT!!

The contents of this leaflet and the literature on poverty formed a major stride in the study as it triggered a lot of enthusiasm, energy and power to the leadership and members of MCDO- (especially the MCDO Sanaa Group Members).

2.1.10 Environment

Environment, is the totality of all things that surrounds living things. The main components of the environment include earth, atmosphere and living things. Earth is the planet that supports life, and comprises of both biotic and abiotic factors. The atmosphere is the shell surrounding earth. In this case any resource is useful material information or service supplied by the environment. Wherever there is development, humans are interacting with the environment.

Continued environmental deterioration is a source of continued impoverishment. Majority of poor people depends on natural resources or their livelihood. And they are more likely to be vulnerable to environmental changes compared to the better off.

2.1.11 Poverty – Environment Linkage.

There are strong links between poverty, the environment and the country's natural resources. These resources provide the main sources of peoples' livelihoods and play an important role in some key economic sectors, including agriculture, tourism and mining. Most people in Tanzania directly depend on a robust, healthy environment for their livelihood and to provide them with building and cooking materials and fuel, clean water, food and medicine. The environment is therefore critically linked to poverty in many ways.

In recognition of the importance of environment to poverty reduction and for the purpose of this case study report, a brief overview of the most lethal environment degradation factor is discussed. This factor is none other than **DEFORESTATION**, which has for a major part contributed to the environment destruction/degradation in Mbeya Municipal area since the early 1990's. This destructive phenomena is a product of an award of a Tender to one businessman in Mbeya for the supply of electrical poles to the **Tanzania Electrical Supply Company** which is the sole supplier of electricity all over the country.

More than 2000 Hectares of full-grown trees were harvested from this part of the Municipal and not a single tree planted as replacement. This exercise was conducted unabated for 9 years until 1999 when there was nothing left worth harvesting and this contractor moved to another spot in Mufindi District in Iringa Region for the same purpose.

The impact of this rampant felling of the valuable trees which not only provided firewood to the Municipal residents and construction material to builders, but also acted as convenient wind breaker to the salient Municipal environment which situate along the foot of the famous Loleza mountains. This exercise of deforestation caused serious and severe climate changes within the Municipality that not only aroused the attention MCDO members, but the entire population of Mbeya Municipality. Watersheds were severely affected and have resulted to serious reduction of the water levels, thus inviting water rationing in most parts of the Municipal for the first time in 2002 since independence in 1961.

This was the seed which aroused the attention of the environmentalists like MCDO members who included it as topmost agenda in their organisational activities described in Chapter One of this study report (Environmental Care Programme and Tree Planting Activity, pp 4 - 6)

2.1.12 Deforestation

Forests and related land cover types (woodlands, Shrub lands, and forest fallow) are important terrestrial ecosystems. They are vital to the ecological functioning of the planet, producing 60% of the net productivity of all terrestrial ecosystems, of which tropical forests account for approximately two thirds. They are also habitats of a large proportion of the earth's plants and animal species, providing bases for the biodiversity.

Trees resources are also of major economic importance. They form a range of industries e.g. timber, processed wood and paper. Forests and woodlands (including patches of woodland in agricultural areas) are also the source of many products, which are vital to the viability of agricultural communities throughout the developing countries, e.g. fuel, fruits, building materials, medicines and herbs. These forest products provide diversity to the rural economy and security when times are difficulty. The loss of tree resources undermines the viability of agriculture economies, and in particular makes the poor more vulnerable to economic or environmental disruption. Forest cover is estimated at 46% of the land area in Latin America, 41% in Soviet Union, 15% in Asia, 35% in Europe, 36% in North and Central America.

(i)   **Concern over deforestation**

Within the developing countries, in recent years, there is a growing awareness of the many interrelationships between deforestation and land degradation, floods, droughts, famine and rural poverty. Popular movements in several countries by indigenous and other groups negatively affected by deforestation process have contributed to political concern about deforestation issues.

International concern over deforestation has been articulated through the United Nations system, of which the 1972 "Stockholm Conference on the Environment" and the subsequent creation of the "United Nations Environment Programme" (UNEP) are the most notable examples. The world conservation strategy emphasising the interdependence of conservation and sustainable development was launched in the early 1980's by the "International Union for Conservation of Nature" (IUCN) together with the "Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations" (FAO), the United

Nations Environmental Protection Programme (UNEP), the "United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation" (UNESCO) and by "World Resource Institute (WRI)" with the support of World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The United Nations system role led in organising the "Global Conference on Environment and Development" (UNCED) referred to as *"Earth Summit"* held in June 1992 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Deforestation issues received high priority in preparatory discussions as well as in the UNCED proposed plan of action, known as *Agenda 21".* This declaration stated that: *"Deforestation is a result of many causes, some natural but mainly due to human development, such as inappropriate land tenure systems and incentives expansion of agricultural areas, increased forest product demand and lack of information and understanding on the value of forest"* (UNCED, 1992, p. 58).

(ii)   Environmental Consequences of Deforestation

Environmental degradation commonly attributed to deforestation is discussed in a vast amount of literature. There is considerable uncertainly about of the relationship, but there is a wide consensus that they do exist.

Deforestation is frequently associated with decrease in crop yields and increased costs in traditional agricultural systems. Many tropical soils are generally shallow and easily eroded when exposed to rainfall and wind without the protection of forest foliage, undergrowth and root systems.

2.2.0 Empirical Review

In the course of the study and participation, several study visits were made to NGOs, CBOs and SACCOS in Mbeya Municipality. Concentration was mainly focused on those dealing with environment care, protection and preservation, HIV AIDS programmes and cultural organisations. In order to have a wider understanding of the concept of environment protection, several empirical study literatures were consulted as follows:-

2.2.1 Tanzania: aforestation, reforestation and the real causes of forest destruction

Tanzanian's forests are quickly disappearing and illegal commercial logging is the main cause of the problem. Not only does the government seem unable to address the present state of things, but also forestry officials themselves have been accused of being directly involved in the illegal timber trade. Other suspects in the illegal timber business are timber product dealers, private individuals, sawmillers and logging companies (see WRM Bulletin 27).

Tanzanian government has launched an ambitious national tree planting campaign aimed at **re-greening** the country by planting 100 million trees. To the official viewpoint, forest destruction is particularly alarming in the rural areas where traditional shifting cultivation and livestock keeping are practised.

2.2.2 Tanzanian tree-planting: A voice from the villages

By: E.M. Mnzava

Once the need to plant trees – whether for fuelwood, food, fodder, shelter, income or environmental protection - is accepted and made a part of government planning, methods must be found to make such an effort successful. E.M. Mnzava discusses what has worked – and what has not worked -in the United Republic of Tanzania in this regard. If the Tanzanian experience can be summarised in one simple statement, it is this: listen very carefully to what the villagers themselves have to say.

MASAI WOMAN PLANTING A SEEDLING a need for local responsibility

More than 87 percent of the United Republic of Tanzania's population of about 19 million people live in rural communities. These communities depend chiefly on biomass energy for their household and village or cottage industry activities. Fuelwood (including charcoal) is the principal energy source, accounting for about 96 percent of the total. More and more urban residents (especially those in the low-income brackets) are using fuelwood, particularly charcoal. More than 85 percent of residents in towns use charcoal alone or an "energy mix" with other energy sources (Nkonoki. 1981). For instance, between 1978 and 1982, charcoal consumption in Dar-Es-Salaam increased from 120-150 to 315 kg a person a year.

Thus, Tanzania is the second largest fuelwood user in Africa (after Nigeria), with a per capita consumption of about 2.5 m³ a year (Nkonoki, 1981). Like many other developing countries, it uses little commercial energy for cooking. The current fuelwood consumption is estimated at 35 million m³; it is expected to rise to about 62

million m³ by the year 2000, when the population will have almost doubled - to 35.7 million people. The natural forest formations, from which more than 98 percent of the wood is collected, can supply only about 19 million m³ without being detrimentally overcut.

E.M. Mnzava *is Director of Forestry, Forest Division. Ministry of Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism. United Republic of Tanzania. This article is adapted from a study he completed for the Government.*

To bridge this energy supply-demand gap, a massive amount of tree-planting is needed. The natural forest is shrinking very fast, and most alternative energy sources have had no significant impact so far. Either they are physically and economically unavailable or their technology is still relatively new and more time is needed for further development.

Direct-labour costs of establishing an average hectare of wood-lot (first-year)

Activity	Work-days	Cost (US dollars)
Seed and nursery	20	43.0
Land preparation	25	53.8
Planting	12	25.8
Filling in dead trees	3	6.5
Weeding (4 times)	35	75.3
Protection	2	4.3
Total	97	208.7

A study done by the University of Dar-Es-Salaam on the acceptability of charcoal from softwood among local communities revealed that the market was unwilling to buy the charcoal despite the effective caloric value/unit weight - almost the same as that of the favoured hardwoods - and despite the fact that the price of the softwood charcoal was reduced by 50 percent. The main problem seemed to be the relatively quick burning of the charcoal and the fact that it produces more smoke. However, with acute shortages, more energy sources considered inferior are being accepted.

With "wondering" livestock it is difficult to keep tree and wood-lot damage to a minimum, especially considering that villagers often keep more livestock than is commensurate with the land-carrying capacity.

Nurseries

More than 92 percent of all nurseries catering for villages are still located at regional and district levels. A relatively small percentage are owned by the villagers. One of the reasons often given for this is that villagers lack the expertise to look after them. In fact, most farmers normally run their own small nurseries in raising agriculture crops such as coffee, which is a tree. Are forestry trees really so different?

As a result, seedlings have to be transported long distances, sometimes even beyond 50 km. The inadequacy of transport is one of the major setbacks in tree-planting, in terms of both availability and cost. The practical approach is to decentralise the nurseries as much as possible. In order to attain economies of scale, and since not all villages have the necessary conditions for nursery establishment - like ample water supply - several villages could jointly run a nursery whenever circumstances permit. Data indicate that

such nurseries are best located in primary schools (normally parts of villages), where there is an infrastructure and more expertise.

Neither the government-owned nor the village nurseries are raising enough seedlings at the right time. The main reason seems to be inadequate resources, combined with the fact that utilisation of locally available materials is neglected. A good illustration is the use of polythene seedling pots. Since polythene is a petroleum product, it is often in short supply. Yet foresters sit and wait for these tubes for several months. No wonder that 70-90% of all late tree-planting between 1970 and 1980 was attributed to the late arrival of these polythene rolls in the regions and districts.

There are other options. Villagers have been using banana peelings to make coffee-seedling pots for ages. Of course, banana plants are not spread all over the country. Earth balls (a ball-like pot made from clay and other types of soil) have also been tried at the Sao Hill Forest Project. They have been found to provide a reasonable amount of tree survival and are low in cost: almost two-thirds lower than a polythene tube.

One of the main reasons tree-planting is failing among the Masai is that they are often given species only for firewood, like eucalyptus.

The inadequacy of transport is one of the major setbacks in tree-planting, in terms of both availability and cost.

Planting

Tanzania's Tree Planting Programme is not as successful as those in India, the Republic of Korea and China. One of the main problems in tree-planting, and especially in communal wood-lots, is the coincidence of this planting with agricultural

crop plantings and their subsequent maintenance. How does one reconcile these two work schedules?

When there is a conflict, crop-planting is naturally a clear winner. The rainfall in many parts of the semiarid areas (Dodoma, Maswa, Ngugu and Magu districts and so on) is so unpredictable and unreliable that missing one *right* day for planting may mean curtailing the whole season's crops. Under the principle of "safety first" villagers therefore plant food crops before they plant trees. Villagers interviewed by Scutsch (1982) reported that there was no shortage of labour for tree-planting or maintenance. As will be seen below, a lack of adequate labour when it is needed is one of the causes of wood- lot failure in a number of villages.

In certain cases, targets for planting in the establishment of wood-lots are not realistic. For example, the World Bank Reforestation Project in Tabora to produce fuelwood for tobacco-curing has not fully succeeded, partly because of over-ambitious targets. Each village is supposed to plant 25 hectares annually in addition to its tobacco-growing and processing activities (which are very time-consuming). Experience, however, indicates that a village can plant only 2-5 ha a year.

People's participation

People's participation is a magic phrase that appears in every rural development project or programme. It is used so often that many writers no longer bother to explain who is participating, at what level and for what purpose. In some instances, bureaucrats use participation cosmetically in order to popularise projects or for their quick approval by politicians or donors.

Last, the linkage and co-ordination among villages need strengthening. If for instance, a village has a nursery, it should share seedlings with neighbours on whatever terms that can be agreed upon.

Experience indicates that food, fuelwood and income are the major concern of the 1980s.

EUCALYPTUS SEEDLINGS READY FOR PLANTING are local species better?

Beyond Tanzania

Like many developing countries, Tanzania is facing a serious decline in forest resources which has, in turn caused shortages in fuelwood and its derivatives. Most people are aware of this problem. In Malawi it is reported that many farmers are now planting trees. The same has been reported in the Sudan and other Sahelian countries; India (Gujarat); Indonesia; Thailand; the Republic of Korea; China; and Peru, to mention but a few examples. A common denominator in these countries is that the farmers are involved. In fact, in most countries they are the main decision-makers.

Further, it is clear from the experiences of these countries that tree-planting is not so much a technical issue. Rather, it is a socio-economic problem. And experience indicates that food, fuelwood and income are the major concern of the 1980s. So the fuelwood "crisis" must be solved in the context of broader issues. One of the principal focal points should be meeting food and agricultural needs through forestry.

The FAO/SIDA mission on Forestry for Local Community Development visiting some parts of Tanzania in 1982 reported that it was evident that there was "genuine official acceptance... and a real awareness of the needs of the people on both the political and

technical levels of government in the area". Similar commitment has been observed in Mali, the Niger, Senegal, and the Republic of Korea and China.

One fundamental difference between Tanzania and other countries, however, is that once seedlings are distributed in Tanzania, the government interferes little with villagers' activities. This is not to say it does not provide extension services. But it does not, for example, plant the trees for villagers and still call the result a "village wood-lot".

Recommended steps to be taken:

In order to accomplish this ultimate goal the following steps are recommended:

☐ All efforts must be made to decentralise nurseries as much as conditions allow, so that they can be run, with advice from the government, by non-government institutions as well as the "model" tree-planters like those already operating in the Mbulu district.

☐ Attempts already under way to concentrate tree-planting, rather than trying it everywhere, should be continued.

☐ So far, tree-planting has not made use of the credits and loans given by various institutions such as the Tanzania Rural Development Bank. These credits and loans could possibly alleviate the problem of labour competition (e.g., between forestry and agriculture).

☐ At present the extension workers, especially those below district level, are not well motivated; they have no incentives at all. A study to find practical means to motivate them would help. In the meantime, they should be allowed loans for bicycles and

motor cycles, since a large part of their extension service is greatly hindered by lack of transport.

☐ Training has not been able to keep pace with farmers' extension needs. Between 1971-72 and 1982-83, only 858 certificate students, 691 diploma students and 150 graduates with degrees were trained. Expansion in training and education needs urgent attention.

☐ Finally, Nkonoki (1981) suggests the setting up of permanent rural energy committees to plan and advise on overall rural energy at village, ward, divisional and up to regional levels. Experience indicates that committees are over-enthusiastic at the beginning and later lose momentum. Since some committee members may not necessarily understand the intricacies of rural energy, such committees can become arenas for unnecessary arguments rather than practical working groups for solving people's problems. The more specific the assigning of responsibilities, the better.

It is easier to talk about such solutions than to implement them, but a clear notion of what is possible and what is not is an important first step. The United Republic of Tanzania has now made that step.

Therefore, MCDO Plant Nursery project venture is in line with the existing Tanzanian government initiative amplified in the above empirical literature review.

2.3.0 Policy Review

2.3.1 Tanzanian Community Development Policy

Since independence Tanzania has been preparing and implementing policies, strategies, and long and short term plans which were intended to help the people to bring about their own development. The First President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Mwalimu Nyerere emphasized that "True development is development of people, not of things". (URT 1996)

The Arusha Declaration clearly stated that the people are one of the basic resources in bringing about development. The Third Phase Government has emphasised this by stressing that "all those who can work should work". On the basis of the above, a clear concept emerges that "true development is the development of the people and is brought about by the people themselves". (URT 1996)

Thus, this Policy, which articulates and develops this concept, is a core one. Because Tanzania is a large country with many variations in culture, natural resources, wealth and the environment in general. This policy has been prepared with all these variations in mind.

2.3.2 Definition of a Community

It is difficult to give a comprehensive definition of a community because people are changing their way of life as a result of the environment, the economy, communications and intermingling through migration and intermarriage.

A community can, therefore, be defined as people of the same origin, living in the same area or people with similar occupations; people who are joined by some or all of these elements. In addition, as a result of developments in transport and other communication technologies, almost all communities in the world are so close to one another that they have formed international communities such as the United Nations, based on a common belief in equality, peace and universal development.

Tanzanian Communities:

In the light of the above definition of a community we can identify and define Tanzanian communities according to the following criteria:

(a)   A community based on similar occupations; such as farmers, pastoralists, fishermen, employees and self employed, small and big business people.

(b)   A community based on ethnic origin: such as Europeans, Asians and our African ethnic groups composed of more than 120 tribes.

(c)   A community based on geographical location; such as rural and urban Communities.

In all the above types of community, there are groups of people who need special attention. These are women, children, youth, old people and people with disabilities.

For the purpose of this study, the youths have been picked who forms the Mbeya Community Development Organisation (MCDO)

2.3.3 The Meaning of Community Development (CD)

The concept of Community Development refers to those measures, which enable people to recognise their own ability, to identify their problems and use the available resources to earn and increase their income, and build a better life for themselves.

Therefore, in order to achieve community development, people must be enabled to develop their capacity to identify their problems and plan ways of solving them. In addition, people must be helped to develop their capacity and enhance their desire to participate in decision making related to greater social and economic development. Government, donors, NGOs and other related organisations and institutions are most responsible in supporting the communities to achieve the envisioned capacity.

2.3.4 Indicators of Community Development:

Although community development is a product of many elements, including changes in thinking, cultural beliefs, traditions, etc, the following indictors can generally be used to show the levels of development and welfare in communities:- an increase in social services such as good housing, health, education, nutrition, clean environment, and sufficient clean and safe water etc. In addition, an increase in income that enables families in a community to meet their needs and set aside savings could be another indictor of community development. A decrease in infant and maternal mortality, a demand for modern technology, sustainable use of the environment and the reduction and eventual eradication of poverty in the community and the nation in general are also relevant indicators.

On the basis of the above indicators it is clear that community development will come about as a result of the efforts of many people, including the government, donors and Non-Governmental organisations (NGOs) and above all, the communities themselves(URT, 1996).

2.3.5   The Need for Community Development Policy:

For many years the Government has been preparing and implementing various plans aimed at bringing about the economic, social and cultural development of Tanzanian communities.   However, the cost of continuing to implement these plans and improving social and economic services has been rising too fast in relation to Government Budget capacity.   It is for this reason that the Government has been implementing various economic and institutional reform programmes aimed at improving efficiency in service provision and administration.

These reforms place the responsibility for providing and improving services, especially social services, more on the society itself and NGOs.   In such an approach, Government will have the responsibility to prepare policies and create a conducive environment for the people and other concerned parties such as NGOs and Religious Organisations to render and sustain delivery of the services.   In such an environment, communities are given the responsibility of identifying their problems, formulating plans to solve them and implementing their plans by utilising to a large extent their own resources on a self reliant basis.   This policy gives guidelines on how communities will be helped to build their capacity to implement their responsibilities.

The policy also states clearly the responsibilities of different concerned parties in speeding up community development in the country.

2.3.6 Aims of the Community Development Policy:

(a) To enable Tanzanians to bring about their own development by working to improve production so that they may have increased income which will enable communities to build a better life through self-reliance and the use of locally available resources. This is the only way poverty can be eradicated in the country.

(b) To enable Tanzanians to use their wealth to improve their welfare and bring about social and economic development.

(c) To enable the majority of Tanzanians to enter into an economic system in which they can exchange their goods for money and use the money to pay for goods and services that will raise standard of living.

(d) To enable Tanzanians to enter into the budget system and spend their income carefully and develop the habit of placing their savings in the bank.

(e) To enable Tanzanians to join together in groups and increase their commitment to self-development.

2.3.7 Objectives of Community Development Policy:

(a) The major objective of the Community Development Policy is to enable Tanzanians as individuals or in their families and/or groups/associations to contribute more to the government objectives of self reliance and

therefore bring about development at all levels and finally the nation as a whole.

2.3.8 Areas of Emphasis of the Community Development Policy:

The community Development Policy will place special emphasis on:

(a)   Eradicating poverty through involving those responsible for bringing about community development by:

(i)   Advising and training individual families and households.

(ii)   Encouraging group or co-operative productive activities.

(b)   Consolidating the informal sector by encouraging economic activities, industries, small businesses and production in groups both in urban and rural areas and assisting communities in setting up savings and credit societies based on existing community customs and traditions of co-operation such as women's groups and various urban groups.

(c)   Responding to and meeting the needs of special groups of women, children and youth in order to:

(i)   Reduce their workload

(ii)   Strengthen family income generating projects

(iii)   Enable them to participate in decisions and ownership of family property.

(d)   To guide efforts to improve the rural and urban environment for example through programmes for planting trees and forests in households, villages, wards etc.

(e)   To realise the importance of strengthening Local Governments so that they can provide the expertise required for guiding and promoting development in different communities.

2.3.9 Those responsible for bringing about community development (Community Development Actors)

In principle the main actors in the realisation of community development are the people themselves both in the rural and urban areas. It is necessary that 'every person who can work should work thereby enabling everyone to lead self-reliant lives'. However, because there is a limit to what people can achieve on their own, their efforts must be backed up by support at the point when they can go no further on their own.

2.3.10 The main actors involved in the process of community development can be identified as follows: -

(a)   Family/household (individual) contributing to the development of families/households in their areas.

(b)   Local Government: Village Governments, District Councils, Municipalities and the City Council.

(c)   The Central Government together with its parastatals and other institutions.

(d)   Politicians

(e)   Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

(f)   Donor agencies

(g)   Various religious denominations.

All these actors have their strengths and part to play although they may also have some shortcomings in their efforts to promote community development.

2.3.11 Responsibility of NGOs, Donors and Other Institutions:

Donors and various NGOs should support community efforts to develop themselves in line with the Community Development Policy with emphasis on collaboration and strengthening people's capability to be self-reliant.

2.3.12 Basic Principles of Community Development Work

It is the people themselves as individuals or in their families/household or villages who decide for them on what should be done to promote their own development.

In order to enable people to develop fast they must be sensitised to be desirous of development, education and skills, which are obtained through learning from one another, practically or through seminars, meetings and special training. Resources available in the community such as land, forests etc and those from outside the community such as money, building materials like cement etc will also be needed in the course of development. In addition, leadership, organisation and management are essential elements in supervision and monitoring of implementation. Good and firm leadership in the community is crucial to the eradication of poverty. Leaders must be transparent, observe the rule of law and peoples' rights and fight against corruption, social and environmental evils.

2.3.13 Mobilisation of assistance both external and internal

Although the people are most responsible for their development, there are times when external contributions are needed in order to complete and reinforce these efforts. To a large extent, such contributions are in the form of expertise and equipment.

This is where the report writer comes in to intervene using the CED knowledge and skills to help the Mbeya Community Development Organisation stand on its own feet.

2.3.14 Strengthening the Community Development Profession:

If the Community Development Policy is to be implemented successfully, it is imperative that the profession and professionals of the Community Development sector are strengthened. These professionals are development catalysts. In carrying out their roles and responsibilities they are guided by the following: -

- They go where the people are

- They live with them

- They learn from them

- They identify development priorities with them

- They plan together with them

- They look together for resources to implement the plans

- They collaborate with experts from other sectors to implement the plans

- They help people manage their projects themselves

- They evaluate together with the people

The contents of the LITERATURE REVIEW, especially the theoretical and policy review are the basis for the study proceedings, project design, research methodology used in this report. Project findings, recommendations and implementation have been made possible through the use of the literature review presented in this chapter.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0   RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

During the study, participatory research methodology was used through active participation in driving MCDO activities.   It became evident that the MCDO leadership had lost steam especially on formulating and implementation of their programmes following none contributions from both local and foreign donors. Weak fund raising strategies were also found to be a major drawback. The existent bank account No 6801043200 at the National Microfinance Bank (NMB), Mbeya Branch was closed and needed reactivating.

3.1   Problem Defined

The major problem that came to light was none realisation by MCDO leadership to secure funds from local as well as foreign donors. *MCDO had established this organ so as to act as a launching pad for Donor funds inflow".* Lack of properly defined programmes, non- feasible activity strategies and   weak financial procedures usually repels potential donors to commit their funds to an organ like MCDO. The above weaknesses call for professional intervention that can device a strategy that will instil some discipline to adopt accepted financial practices that could warrant MCDO to get any support locally and externally.

3.2 **Design**

Simple random cluster sampling was used to collect relevant information and data. Methods used to collect data included review of organisational project and programme records; interviews and self-administered questionnaires.

3.2.1 Hypothesis of the Study Research

"NGO's in Mbeya are established so as to become launching pads for both local and foreign funds inflow"

3.2.2 Objectives of the Research

(a) The intervention is geared to assist MCDO build high confidence level among its members in fostering their own development, confidence to the Municipal Council of Mbeya and consequently confidence to other Local as well as Foreign Donors who may come in to assist them. They need to satisfy any potential donor that their organisation has a clear vision, mission and practical implementation of their programmes/activities as per set goals and objectives.

(b) Sound operational and financial practices need to be formulated and installed in this youth organisation. Monthly/Quarterly and Annual meetings to be convened to review progress of the NGO, make changes where appropriate and develop strategies for continued organisational development.

(c) Following the recent government's directives to have all NGO's produce reports on their activities, this study came in timely and

focused to assist MCDO fulfil this condition for year 2004/2005. The organisation needs to comply with this government requirement especially on financial reporting so as to be legally recognised.

3.3 Unit of Inquiry

The study research approach focused on two units

    a)   Sampling of the respondents

    b)   Sampling data collection

Sampling of data collected through personal interviews to MCDO members and other residents who were provided with questionnaires that had qualitative and quantitative questions.

3.4 Data Collection

- In the study, the following methods of data collection were used.

3.4.1 Primary Data.

- Oral interviews with MCDO senior members and SANAA GROUP members.

- Questioners sent to other NGO's within Mbeya Municipality and the general public, which came out with both qualitative and quantitative answers for the primary data. This exercise was conducted through 3 contracted individuals and 3 MCDO volunteers.

3.4.2 Secondary Data.

- The Mbeya Municipal Planner and Mbeya District-Planning Officer provided most of the secondary data.

- Limitations experienced in the study-included lack of literature and records covering the environmental conservation aspects within Mbeya Municipality. These were partly made available by the CED Sustainable Environment Course instructor during the second semester.

Funds were another limitation that hindered thorough coverage of the rest of NGO's activities in Mbeya Municipality.

14 NGO's were picked from the Municipal and their representatives completed the questionnaires provided. These NGOs are among the 43 registered ones in Mbeya Municipal Planner records indicating their postal, physical addresses, activities and programmes.

Clustering of NGOs was intended to establish areas of concentration in their activities with special focus on environment protection, HIV AIDS campaigns and Orphans care (Out of 43 NGOs).

3.4.3   Primary Data Analysis

Out of 85 questionnaires issued to randomly picked Mbeya residents, all were answered and submitted by the study research assisting team to author for analysis.

TABLE: 11 - NGO'S ACTIVITIES BASED ON SAMPLE SELECTION

	NGO'S ENGAGED IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION, HIV/AIDS CAMPAIGNS AND ORPHANS CARE	NGO'S NOT ENGAGED IN ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION, HIV/AIDS CAMPAIGNS AND ORPHANS CARE	TOTAL GROUPED
TOTAL NUMBER	26	17	100%
RANDOM SAMPLE TAKEN	10	4	70%

This data reveals that over 70% of the NGO's in Mbeya concentrate in the areas of environment protection, HIV/AIDS' campaigns and orphans care which are the current global issues that are potential avenues for both local and foreign donor funding.

However, except for those dealing with orphans and HIV/AIDS victims who at times get little support form Local and External Donors, none has ever received assistance from any donor on environmental protection. These NGO's, CBOs, have failed to convince the potential donors on the seriousness of the project ventures undertaken by their organisations. Most have good and nicely prepared project proposals, well binded and ready for soliciting support of potential donors. However, they lack evidence to convince and support what they have managed to implement on their own efforts and resources.

Data collected from random sampling of individuals, 85 respondents revealed following status on environmental issues (specifically tree planting)

TABLE: 12 - MAJOR REASONS FOR LACK OF TREES IN MBEYA
MUNICIPAL

WHY NO TREES IN MOST AREAS OF MBEYA MUNICIPAL	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
LACK OF SEEDLINGS AND NURSERY BEDS	6	7%
LACK OF FUNDS TO PURCHASE SEEDLINGS	11	13%
LACK OF AWARENESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF TREES	68	80%

Above data reveals that it is not lack of seedlings or funds to purchase tree seedlings but lack of public awareness on the importance of trees as evidenced by 80% of the 85 respondents. However, a thorough assessment of the deforestation status in Mbeya have revealed the following:

1.   The Mbeya Local Authority consider the tree planting exercise as a one off National Event which is conducted in the month of March of every year. Once this event is conducted, neither the Government officials nor the Local Authority officials take trouble to furthern this Noble sustainable development programme. The majority of Mbeya Municipal residents consider tree-planting activity and environment conservation practice as a task for the Government or Municipal Authority. It is not a surprise to note that even the forestry department at the Regional Office and Municipal Council are fully engaged in issuing permits to cut and harvest the already full bloomed trees for use as firewood, construction material or fencing poles. The once famous forest area which covered over 3,000 hectares at the Mbeya suburb is now history and no efforts appear to be at hand for continued re-planting by either the Local Government or the Municipal Authority.

MCDO, other NGO's and CBOs within Mbeya, the Local Authority (Municipal Council) and the Central Government have a dual task of first creating awareness and then sensitising public to embark on this Nobel task of tree planting and conserving the environment starting with the areas surrounding the seven water sheds (Nzovwe, Iziwa, Sisimba, Meta, Mwizimu and Hanziya.) **See Appendix IX.**

3.4.4   Secondary Data Analysis

Mbeya Municipal Profile

The profile provides/highlights important poverty and development indicators relevant to the case study. The positive aspects include good soil for agriculture, moderate climate and sufficient rainfall. The population growth rate is 4% while the national standard growth rate is 4.5%. Currently the population stands at 226,422 people and projection for year ending 2005 is estimated as 288,612 people.

Per capita income is US$ 600 that is equal to the national standard.

Education

Primary school enrolment is 99% while the national is 85%. However, book ratio is 1-3 while national is 1-1. Attendance is 98% for primary school while standard seven pass is 94.9% which is overwhelmed by the very small percentage of 11% who are selected to join secondary schools. While there are 78 primary schools of which 72 are government owned and only 6 are private, the reverse is the case for secondary schools whereby the Municipal Authority has only 18 secondary schools of which 8 are government owned while 10 are privately owned.

TABLE 13:   Percentage of those selected to join secondary schools

YEAR	NO OF PRIMARY SCHOOL STD. VII LEVERS	SELECTED STUDENTS	% OF SELECTED STUDENTS
2002	4,538	589	12.9
2003	3,067	1,530	49.9
2004	3,463	963	27.8

The above table reveals serious social problems for the Municipal Community. For the year 2002 only 12.9% of the students who completed Std. VII were admitted to secondary schools leaving out 87.1% as jobless and unemployed youths. The trend has not improved as indicated by the 50% dropped out in 2003 and 72% dropped out in 2004. At an average the Municipal generates over 2,000 young standard seven leavers in the basket of unemployed youths every year.

Concerted efforts are needed to recoup the lost human resource that was dropped out after primary schools education every year. However, the adult education indicator shows 85% of Municipal residents above 15 years of age are literature as per 2002 census. In terms of health facilities the Municipal has 4 hospitals, 6 health centers and 40 dispensaries. This interprets that 40,000 people are attended by each unit yearly out of the estimated 288,000 residents by the health centers. The disease factors are typical of poor African countries that includes:

-        **Malaria**

- **Acute respiratory infection**

- **Diarrhea**

- **HIV/AIDS**

- **Intestinal worms**

- **UTI etc.**

Only 65% of the Municipal residents enjoy clean and safe water while only 4% are saved with the liquid waste network of the Municipal. 70% of the Municipal resident are estimated to leave in un-surveyed areas.

Natural Resources

Municipal Authority has only one nursery for tree seedlings. For the period 2002-2004 the Municipal Authority managed to produce only 900,000 seedlings planted in different areas, this gives an average of 1.5 tree planted by each Mbeya resident. MCDO members managed to plant 1,600 trees in year 2004 alone that surpasses the Municipal average of 1.5 trees because each member planted an average of 36 trees. If MCDO continue with this spirit of environmental conservation by planting 36 trees each, then 145 trees will be planted by each MCDO member for the next four years giving a total of 72,000. MCDO will shine as an example if the Municipal residents are sensitized to plant at least 20 trees each so as to bring 5,760,000 trees to the community each year (288,000 inhabitants times 20 trees which is equals to 5.7 million trees).

MCDO group members have all the reason to embark on the plants nursery project so as to participate effectively in their quest for poverty alleviation objective/goal for the coming years.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 Findings and Recommendation

Having collected a lot of primary data from 14 NGOs respondents and 85

individual public respondents SPSS program was used to analyze the data.

(From questionnaire as per **Appendix IX &X)**

The SPSS programme revealed the following: -

- People are not fully conversant with the impact of deforestation and

  the need to plant trees in their areas.

- The government's campaign on tree planting is usually a fire fighting

  short-lived political campaign carried out only once per year instead

  of being a continuous exercise.

- Tree seedlings nurseries are remotely located within the municipal

  area.(The Municipal Authority has one plants nursery while four

  others are privately owned and operate at very small scale level)

4.1 Findings

1. It is not true that poor people are hopeless and useless as portrayed by the

   English reporter who visited Norway in the 18th Century. People do

   everything for a purpose as exemplified in the performance of the Sanaa

   Group attendance register June 2004 – Jan 2005 (See **Appendix XVI)** during

   preparations for their first ever *VIDEO FILM SHOOTING EXERCISE.*

   People only need proper direction, coaching, clear focus and an

understanding of the task ahead. They must see for themselves value for the time and money spent in any undertaking.

2. No body can motivate other people. Someone has to create an environment where people can motivate themselves. The positive attitude and attendance of MCDO SANAA GROUP MEMBERS exemplify this after attending the 3 days seminars on *POVERTY* in November 2003.

3. Poverty is an attitude problem rather than materials deficit. This has been proved by the fact that only two MCDO senior members who volunteered to finance the groups first ever *VIDEO FILM SHOOTING ACTION* are not amongst the well to do *MCDO* Members financially if one does ranking. The fact is, they are amongst the 3 senior members of MCDO who effectively participated in the *poverty seminars* conducted in November 2003. It is change of attitude and positive outlook on the mission ahead for these two senior members and S*ANAA GROUP* Members that triggered the motion and inspired them to contribute out of pocket (As a two men Army) to finance the *VIDEO FILM SHOOTING COSTS.*

4. People do things for themselves. This is exemplified by the fact that despite the original emphasis on having the plants nursery as proposed by the *SENIOR MCDO LEADERSHIP*, the *MCDO SANAA GROUP* Members positively spearheaded and showed commitment in first participating in their *VIDEO FILM SHOOTING EXERCISE* rather than having the plants Nursery

established and working. The pace at which the video shooting exercise is directed and the vigour of its members on this issue out ways the pressure and efforts taken by the members to get the plants nursery getting established and working. The fact is, the Plants Nursery establishment idea came from *MCDO leadership* and *senior members* who set with facilitator and report writer in November 2003 while the *VIDEO FILM SHOOTING EXERCISE* is the original idea of *MCDO SANAA GROUP* Members who are actually on the ground participating daily as evidenced in the attendance register (See **Appendix XVI)**

4.2   Recommendations:

Sanaa Group Activities

It is recommended that the group leaders strengthen the MCDO Sanaa Group, which is the only reflector of what this organisation has in store and what it has already delivered to the community. At the same time the leadership is encouraged to solicit for more contribution from other senior MCDO members after the release of their first film titled TUZO. The funds expected to be realised from the first film will finance other Sanaa Group activities and part thereof to finance the Plants Nursery.

The Plants Nursery

Implementation of this project is vested upon the two senior MCDO members and the 6 Sanaa group members who have shown keen interest in the venture. As spelled out in the study findings, people do things for themselves and one

has only to create an environment whereby people can be motivated by themselves. This project is well complimented by the Tanzanian government initiative of establishing a National Tree Seed Programme (NTSP) in 1989. This was a result of the fact that the availability of tree seed was seen as one of the major constrains to the adoption of agro-forestry throughout the country. Consequently the NTSP Programme have a crucial role to play. **MCDO venture of establishing a plants nursery is in line with this national programme.**

In 1989, the Forest and Beekeeping Division of the Ministry of Tourism, Natural Resources and Environment of Tanzania established the National Tree Seed Programme (NTSP), in collaboration with the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). The Programme responds to Tanzania's problem of deforestation and its growing need for a seed reserve for reforestation programs and as potential resources for export.

The NTSP Programme has a National Centre and three Zonal Seed Centres. The National Centre carries out research and development, seed gathering, tree improvement, botanical research, marketing and training. The Zonal seed Centres undertake seed collection, storage and sale. Research focuses on assessing new species for use in forestry, provenance trials, and seed storage and handling. An important goal is the promotion of indigenous trees, particularly multipurpose

species, in part through the establishment of an arboretum. The Programme provides training through courses, seminars and workshops, offers consultancy services and produces a number of publications including research notes, technical reports and manuals. MCDO will definitely benefit a lot from this programme in view of the fact that one of the zonal centres is at Iringa Municipality (Iringa Region) adjacent to Mbeya Region, which is just a four hours drive from Mbeya Municipality. **(See Appendix XI).**

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 Implementation

5.1 Implementation of Study Proceedings

(a) Office premises and furniture – There has been no changes in office location. However, the office has acquired 2 tables, 6 chairs and 3 benches out of own member's contributions. The windows have been repaired and new curtains secured. In addition

- A notice board already in place at MCDO office.

- A notice indicating office opening and closing hours and who will be available to attend members/public/other official visitors.

- Official contacts register now in place e.g. important telephone contacts etc.

- Official communication and reports to be in Swahili – unless otherwise necessary English will be used as second official language. This is intended to expand information network and coverage to its members and the general public.

- Important office items now in place at MCDO offices.

  - **The President's Portrait and that of Mwalimu Nyerere**

  - **Visitors book**

  - **Desk and wall calendars**

  - **Filing cabinets**

  - **Suggestion box for members/public**

  - **Membership list particulars updated**

- A review of the tree planting activity (2201-2003) and suggested report for 2004 where by 1,600 trees were planted by end December 2004 and early January 2005.

- MCDO strategic plan developed by Mr. Peter Njibha the MCDO Project Co-ordinator.

(b)   Capacity Building

Seminars on poverty were conducted to MCDO members in November 2003 and empowerment seminars in June 2004. The MCDO SANAA GROUP was fully revamped and is now engaged in production of video films, an exercise that will continue as an economic venture. The groups first movie/film titled TUZO (name of a young beautiful lady who is well mannered and well groomed by her aunt) expected to be broadcasted live in the Mwanza based Star TV following a proposal, which has been forwarded to them for consideration and agreement signing in September 2005.

Identity cards for MCDO members now available that indicate physical address and telephone contacts. These have been made possible through member's contribution.

5.2 The Plants Nursery

The Plants Nursery has also been accorded the desired weight and priority it deserves by the MCDO SANAA GROUP Members. So far the group has done the following:-

a)   Secured a nice spot and area to establish the Nursery.

b)   Cleared the space for putting up their first tubing packaging exercise for seedlings.

c)   Secured one trip of compost manure and put or site for tubing exercise. Out of 34 active Sanaa Group Members as at end of December 2004, six members have shown keen interest in making the MCDO PLANTS NURSERY come true. The only two senior MCDO Members who are also positive on this exercise apparently are the same people who participated in the POVERTY SEMINARS and who personally volunteered to finance the VIDEO FILM SHOOTING EXERCISE out of pocket (Tshs. 280,000/=). These two individuals appear to see light in the tunnel and determined to ensure the project takes off. As for the rest of MCDO SANAA GROUP Members the establishment of the Plants Nursery appears to be a superimposed project for most because originally they were not a partly to its proposition. However, it all depends on the attitude and commitment of the two senior active members and the 6 Sanaa Group members. As long as the space is available, the soil and compost manure on site, the project proposal is available, these 8 members can come out with a strategy to get the MCDO PLANTS NURSERY come true.

d)   MCDO members have planted trees around the plants nursery site as boundaries, which are going on very well and promising. A few dotted ornamental trees and shade trees have also been planted within

the area. At the same time the group has planted 1,600 trees in one season alone at forest area which surpasses 708 trees planted by the group between 2001-2003.

Conclusion:

- Based on facts and findings from this study report, the need for establishment of a plants nursery is valid and will be implemented. The 8 members who have shown keen interest in the venture will definitely progress this noble task in view of the facilities already in place that includes the site and committed people.

A Project Proposal write-up for MCDO Plants Nursery has been prepared and is herewith attached as a separate document. (Appendix XVIII).

References

- **Arndt, H.W (1915)** Economic Development: The History of an Idea Caps. 1-3, The University of Chicago, 1987.

- **Stan Burkey, 1987** "people First: A guide to self-reliant participatory rural development", Zed Books, London, Chapter 1 & 2

- **Benno J. Ndulu, (1993)** "Tanzania's Economic Development: Lessons from the Experience and Challenges for the Future" in Development Challenges and strategies for Tanzania: An Agenda for the 21st Century. Edited by: Msambichaka, Moshi & Mtatifikolo. Dar es Salaam University Press, 1994.

- **Majid Rahnema (1992)** "Poverty" in Wolfgang Sachs, in The Development Dictionary; A guide to knowledge as Power. London, Zed Books 1992. (pp 158 – 176)

- **Robert Chambers (1990)** "Poverty and Livelihoods: Whose Reality Counts?" in Institute of Development Studies 9monograph series) DP 347, January 1995.

- **Amertya Sen, (1989)** "Poverty as Capability Depravation," in Development as Freedom Anchor Books/Random House, New York 1999.

- **URT (1996)** The United Republic of Tanzania: "Community Development Policy" Ministry of Community Development, Woman Affairs and Children, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, June 1996. (pp. 54).

- **Douglas, Barnes F.** *et al.* **1982.** *Social forestry in developing nations.* Resources for the Future discussion paper D.73 F. Washington, D.C.

- **FAO. 1980.** *Village afforestation: lessons of experience in Tanzania,* by Elifandhili M. Mnzava. Rome.

- **FAO. 1982.** *Support to village afforestation in Tanzania, by* David Brokensha. Survey of Wood Fuels Supply Needs, consultant's final report. Rome.

- **Moris, Jon R. 1981.** A system perspective. In *Managing induced rural development,* p. 57-58. International Development Institute, Indiana.

- **Nkonoki, Simon R. 1981.** The pour man's energy crisis. In *A report of the Tanzania Rural Energy Consumption Survey.*

- **Scutsch, Margaret. 1982.** Why people don't plant trees, a case study of social forestry in Tanzania (draft report), pp. 1-10. Resources for the Future. Washington, D.C.

- **Swedish International Development Authority** (with Ethiopian Forestry and Wildlife Conservation Development Authority) 1983. *International Seminar on Community Development report,* p. 1. Stockholm.

- **Thomson, J.T. 1981.** Public choice analysis of institutional constraints on fuelwood production in the West African Sahel. In *Public choice and rural development* Resources for the Future research paper R-21. Washington, D.C.

- **Winterbottom, Robert T. 1980.** Reforestation in the Sahel: problems ands strategies, p. 22., Paper presented for the African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia.

- **WRMs bulletin No. 29, December 1999**, World Rainforest Movement

  Maldonado 1858 – 11200 Montevideo –Uruguay

  Wrm@wrm.org.uy

- **Wilson, Sandra Jo. 1998**. "A Multi-Method Proposal to Evaluate the Impact of CGIAR-Instigated Activities on Poverty Reduction." Paper presented to the Annual Conference of the American Evaluation Association, November, 1998.

- **WCED (World Commission o Environment and Development) 1987**. Our Common Future. Oxford: Exford University Press.

- **Richard Le Gates (CCSCE, 1994).** Literature Review on Urban and Community Development. p.p. 1-2

- **Kasarda and Ting 1996**, Restructuring and Special Polarisation in Cities. p.p 16.

- **Galster and Minay, 1993**. Citing Jorgowsky, 1993: Kasarda, Literature Review on Urban and Community Development.