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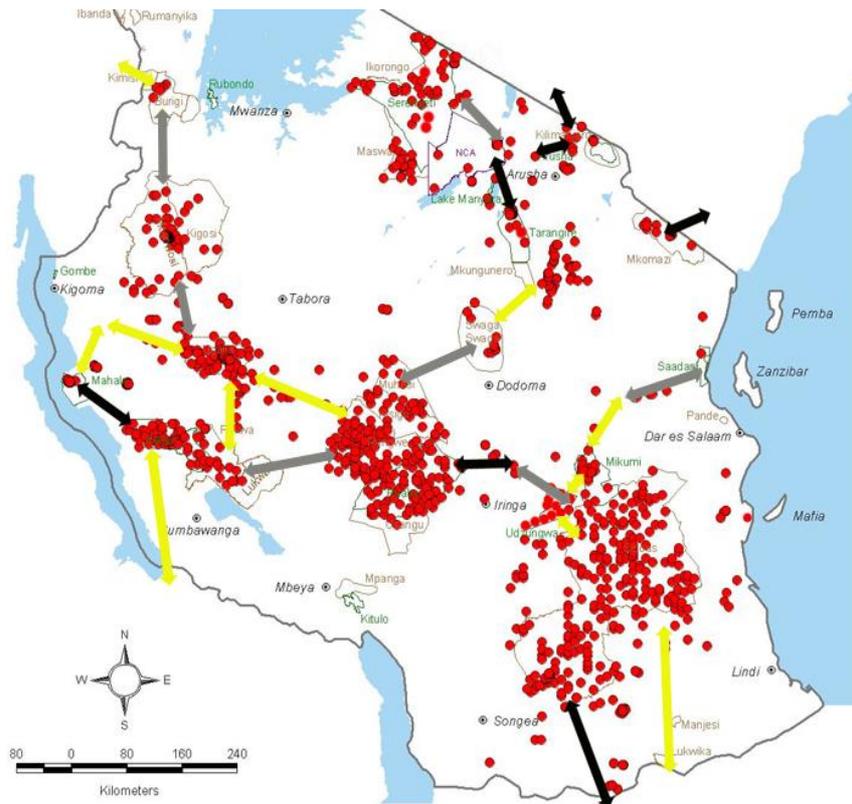


USAID/Tanzania PROTECT Project

Report on

Consultative Technical Workshop on

Wildlife Corridors



Dar-es-Salaam
29 November 2016

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List of Abbreviations

AWF	African Wildlife Foundation
BTC	Belgium Technical Cooperation
CBFM	Community Based Forest Management
CCRO	Certificate of Customary Right of Occupancy
EU	European Union
FZS	Frankfurt Zoological Society
GCA	Game Controlled Area
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
GMGE	Greater Mahale Gombe Ecosystem
IUCN	The International Union for Conservation of Nature
JGI	Jane Goodall Institute
KILORWEMP	Kilombero and Lower Rufiji Wetlands Ecosystem Management Project
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Minerals
MoLHD	Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development
MNRT	Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism
MUSE	Trento Science Museum/UEMC/Association Mazingira (partner on Udzungwa-Selous Corridor)
NCAA	Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority
PAMS	Protected Area Management Solutions
PO-RALG	President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Governments
PROTECT	Promoting Tanzania's Environment, Conservation, and Tourism
SAGCOT	Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania
STEP	Southern Tanzania Elephant Project
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture
TANAPA	Tanzania National Parks
TAWA	Tanzania Wildlife Authority
TAWIRI	Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute
UDSM	University of Dar es Salaam
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WD	Wildlife Division
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WWF	Worldwide Fund for Nature

1. Background to the workshop

Tanzania is among the twelve mega-biodiversity countries in the world. In order to conserve this exceptional biodiversity, an extensive system of terrestrial protected areas was developed, covering 35% on the national territory. Many of these protected areas are still ecologically connected allowing species of wildlife and plants, to move between them. In 2009, a first nation-wide assessment documented 31 remaining important corridors in Tanzania¹, although it was not clear if all of these were still effective and used by wildlife.

It is well known that the viability of protected areas and their ability to sustain their biodiversity increases with their size and decreases with their degree of isolation². The fact that Tanzania can boast large protected area complexes, which are still partially connected is therefore one of its important conservation assets and an increasingly rare situation in Africa and the world. Maintaining this connectivity therefore has to be one of the important objectives for biodiversity conservation in Tanzania. Unfortunately, this connectivity is increasingly threatened: already the 2009 TAWIRI assessment concluded that 74% of the identified corridors were deemed to be in extreme or critical condition with a risk of disappearing in 2 to 5 years.

The importance of maintaining connectivity has been acknowledged by the Tanzania's Wildlife Conservation Act No. 5 of 2007, which foresees the possibility of establishing wildlife corridors, but also dispersal areas, buffer zones and migratory routes. So far this provision has not been implemented as regulations, which can guide the legal establishment of these areas, have not been developed.

However, even without the availability of wildlife corridors regulations, a lot of initiatives are underway by different actors to try to secure existing wildlife corridors. As most of these corridors are situated on village or general land, addressing the land use and tenure question is key to achieve this. It is therefore vital that these experiences are documented and can be valorised in the development of the corridor regulations.

This workshop brought together policy and decision makers and practitioners who have been working on the wildlife corridors in Tanzania to share the lessons that will be useful in the development of the wildlife corridors regulations.

2. Workshop objectives

The workshop was the launch event of a technical study funded by USAID/Tanzania PROTECT Project on land use and tenure options and the status of wildlife corridors in Tanzania, which aims to provide inputs to the preparation of the wildlife corridors regulations.

The launch workshop had the following specific objectives:

¹ TAWIRI (2009). Wildlife Corridors in Tanzania

² Bennet, A. (2003). Linkages in the Landscape. The Role of Corridors and Connectivity in Wildlife Conservation. IUCN Forest Conservation Programme

- To learn from the existing experience on wildlife corridors management in terms of land use/tenure issues and identify interesting case studies;
- To exchange ideas on what could be included in the regulations to successfully protect and secure wildlife corridors in Tanzania.

3. Organization of the workshop

After welcome remarks by Jennifer Talbout, the Chief of Party of the USAID/Tanzania PROTECT/ Project and the introduction of workshop participants, the workshop was officially opened by Professor Alexander Sogorwa, Acting Director of Wildlife. In his opening remarks, the Acting Director stressed the importance of stakeholder involvement to make the regulations more practical and relevant. He also pointed out that some of the identified wildlife corridors sit on village lands and general land hence attract interest of different actors such as agriculture, livestock, mining, Community Forestry etc. He therefore welcomed representations from President's Office-Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG), Ministry of Energy and Mining, Ministry of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries, and Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development. He expressed confidence that the workshop would sketch out further steps of the study, which will be a key contribution to the development of practical and implementable wildlife corridors regulations.

The official opening was followed by a presentation of the workshop objectives and agenda, by the facilitators, Guy Debonnet and Dr. Stephen Nindi.

The opening session was followed by an introductory presentation on the Status of Wildlife Corridors in Tanzania by Dr. Maurus Msuha of TAWIRI. He presented the rationale for ensuring connectivity and safeguarding wildlife corridors in Tanzania, the challenges, which are leading to increasing isolation of the protected areas and fragmentation of the ecosystems and also presented the results of the 2009 corridor study. He concluded that there is a need to verify the current status of the corridors identified in the 2009 study but also insisted on the urgency to identify management options for these corridors.

Mr. Okudo of Wildlife Division also provided a short update on the legal background for wildlife corridors and the current status of the development of the corridor regulations. He noted that the Wildlife Conservation Act #5 of 2009 provides for the development of wildlife corridors regulations. Currently, only a zero draft was available but not ready for circulation. He welcomed the inputs, which would come out of the workshop and the study.

The introductory session was followed by 7 presentations on case studies, documenting the diversified experience on wildlife corridors management in Tanzania. A summary of these case studies is provided hereunder.

The detailed agenda of the meeting and the list of participants is available in Annex 1 and 2 of the report. The evaluation of the workshop is available in Annex 3. A compilation of the PPT presentations can be found in Annex 4.

4. Case Study presentations

A key part of the workshop was the presentations of different case studies, which demonstrated diversified experience on securing different types of wildlife corridors.

Tim Davenport from WCS: presented the work by WCS in the Tarangire – Simanjiro, the Katavi – Ruaha and the Mt Rungwe – Kitulo corridors. He stressed the importance of the Simanjiro Plains as a dispersal area for the wildebeest and zebra population of Tarangire National Park. Efforts are undertaken to avoid agricultural expansion in key calving grounds outside the park by establishing **conservation easements**, through which communities receive financial compensation for reserving these areas for pastoralism and other traditional purposes. Funding comes from tour operators. Tenure rights through Land Use Planning Processes are being secured by acquiring **Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy (CCRO)** for the pastoralist communities. A new area of work is the North Chunya elephant corridor, the last remaining elephant corridor between the Katavi / Rukwa and Ruaha / Rungwa ecosystems. He informed that WCS is also working to maintain and restore connectivity between Mount Rungwe Nature Reserve and Kitulo National Park via the Bujingili corridor, through reforestation and environmental education. He also suggested to consider establishment of marine corridors as they are also important in safeguarding biological resources

John Salehe from AWF: presented activities of the AWF to secure the corridors between Tarangire and Manyara, in particular through the Manyara Ranch, the Kitendeni Corridor between Kilimanjaro and Amboseli in Kenya and connectivity between Selous and Udzungwa via the Magombera forest. He pointed out that the interest in development corridors such as the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) might present an additional challenge to secure wildlife corridors. He stressed out that in the lights of the predicted population growth in Tanzania, time is running out and that it is urgent to prioritize important wildlife corridors now and provide them with adequate protection and management.

Kathryn Doody from FZS: presented efforts by FZS and JGI to secure wildlife corridors in the Greater Mahale and Gombe ecosystems (GMGE). She stressed that Tanzania's human population is predicted to triple by 2050 and this is one of the main drivers behind the threats to connectivity as a result of increasing land conversion, degradation and deforestation for agriculture and livestock. In GMGE, several important corridors and non protected wildlife areas are situated on Village and General Lands and efforts to protect these targets the creation of local authority forest reserves with a view of upgrading this protection status in a second stage. To secure corridors and important biodiversity areas situated on village land, investments are made in village land

use planning supported by spatial planning of priority habitats. She displayed the successful rehabilitation of degraded chimp habitats around Gombe National Park.

Geoffrey Mwanjela of WWF: presented efforts to secure the Selous-Niassa wildlife corridor through the promotion of Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) and the creation of Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). He pointed out that land use planning has to look beyond village boundaries to be effective and stressed the need to balance competing interests within and across the corridors. District or Zonal Land Use Framework Plan implemented together with Village Land Use Planning can yield important conservation efforts in such extensive corridors.

Giuseppe Daconto of BTC: presented the challenges to maintain or restore wildlife connectivity in the Kilombero valley. He demonstrated that different existing corridors between Udzungwa and Selous (Ruipa and Nyanganje corridors) were blocked as a result of land conversion in the valley mostly from human settlements and allied agricultural and livestock keeping activities. Efforts to restore this connectivity target the consolidation of the Kilombero GCA and the development of integrated management for the Kilombero Valley Ramsar site. He stressed the challenges of Village Land Use Plans and the divergent interests between the different stakeholders. Options to restore connectivity included the development of a landscape approach, the improvement of village land use planning and the identification of incentives to set land aside for conservation. The key and important suggestion is that there is no one solution that fits all cases and therefore multiple options are important to be considered in protecting wildlife corridors.

Bart Casier of TRIAS presented a project to protect the Manyara – Natron corridor whilst at the same time addressing land use conflicts between farmers and pastoralists as well as conflicts over limited water resources and fighting poverty. This is achieved through a combination of participatory land use planning, securing land tenure for pastoralists through CCROs, thereby limiting agricultural expansion, addressing human-wildlife conflicts, supporting local economic development and facilitating access to drinking water. The project has been successful in changing the perception of people towards wildlife and conservation but also addressing poaching and land use conflicts in the community.

Trevor Jones of STEP: stressed the importance of wildlife corridors to guarantee genetic exchanges between different elephant meta populations of Tanzania. He noted the crucial importance of restoring connectivity between Selous Game Reserve and Udzungwa National Park to ensure the connectivity between the western and southern meta-population. With the loss of connectivity via Kilombero Valley, the best option was to create wildlife corridors connecting the Magombero Forest Reserve (a continuation of Selous) to Udzungwa. A viability study looking at two potential corridors is just completed. Economic valuation of these options is currently underway. He also pointed out that experiences in Botswana have shown that wildlife migration will resume along blocked corridors once the barriers are taken away.

Based on the case studies and the additional experience of the different participants, three working groups discussed lessons learned on the establishments of wildlife corridors and exchanged views on the important aspects, which could be included in the proposed wildlife corridors regulations. The meeting concluded with a discussion and exchange of ideas on the way forward. The results of these different discussions are summarized below.

5. Working groups

After lunch break, the meeting divided into 3 working groups. Participants to the working group were requested to reflect on recommendations and inputs for the development of the wildlife corridors regulations by considering the following questions:

- What are the best instruments / methodologies to secure the corridor? How are the land use and tenure situations being addressed through these instruments? And what are important lessons learned?
- What are important steps and instruments to address the land use and tenure issue as key challenges in establishing wildlife corridors? What are the DO's and DON'Ts?
- What should the corridor regulations address to facilitate the process of securing corridors? How can the regulations address existing gaps? Other recommendations on the regulations?

Groups were allowed to have a one hour independent discussion, led by an elected chairperson and rapporteur, while the facilitators were moving around in each group to make sure the groups were focused on the agenda. The rapporteurs of the groups then presented their main findings to the plenary.

Group 1 insisted that best instruments for securing wildlife corridors is dependent on the type of corridor and its scale. Important instruments were WMA's, the creation of village forests, land use planning, the gazetment of protected areas, securing corridor land through private sector involvement (for example through leases and easements). The importance of identifying incentives for local communities was also stressed and it was pointed out that multiple land use could be accommodated as long as it was compatible with conservation objectives. The issue of conflicting land use, such as mining, was mentioned as one of the important challenges.

In terms of lessons learned it was noted that village land use planning has to be integrated in larger landscape scale planning efforts to make them work and it was stressed that land use planning was an expensive exercise. It was also noted that there is often a disconnect between the proposed village land use plans and the district development interests. It was also proposed that lessons learned from the WMA approach should be carefully considered. To address the land tenure question, it was recommended to increase support to land use planning and improve governance. The importance of an inclusive participatory process was also stressed.

The group considered that the corridor regulations should address questions of multiple land use and be flexible as to accommodate the use of different instruments to secure corridors. It was also proposed to include explicit restrictions and guidelines on land-based investments or environmentally and culturally destructive practices. The regulations would also have to avoid too much control by the central government.

Group 2 considered CCRO, which is a component in the village land use planning processes (Stage 5) as good instrument to secure grazing lands for pastoralists and wildlife while keeping encroachment at bay. Easements are also an interesting approach but can probably best work for smaller areas. A critical question remains how to ensure a permanent funding stream to cover the compensations. Village Forest Reserves were also considered promising although the enforcement of agreed upon bylaws can sometimes be challenging. There were some skepticism on the WMA model which does not work everywhere and has been known to create false expectations. Payments for Ecosystem Services could also be explored as a tool. It was also pointed out that there are existing legal instruments which could be used such as the Environmental Management Act of 2004, which foresees a ban on cultivation in less than 60 m away from rivers and on steep hills of more than 25°. However, these regulations are not currently enforced.

In terms of lessons learned, the group stressed the importance of involving the communities, investing in solutions for human – wildlife conflicts and the need to define the minimum viability for effective connectivity in the different ecosystems. It was also mentioned that connectivity can also be ensured through a mosaic of land use and tenure systems. Finally, the importance of using a language the communities can relate to was stressed.

The group proposed that the proposed regulations refer to relevant provisions in other acts and regulations, clearly define what is a corridor and buffer zones, define illegal settlement and how to address it, include guidelines for corridors in village land use plans and distinguish between landscape corridors or narrow passages for wildlife. It was also proposed to promote the voluntary buy back of settled land in corridors.

Group 3 identified the following instruments for securing corridors (in order of priority): extending the national parks to include critical areas, setting up Conservancies and Trust Lands, creating nature reserves or other reserves under central authority (like catchment forests), setting up village Forest Reserves, Conservation Areas, gazetted Game Reserves or establishing WMA.

It recommended that the corridor regulations should focus on reserving land for conservation and limit other land uses such as settlements, farming, livestock grazing etc. It further proposes to encourage wildlife farming, ranching and conservancies. It also recommended that for each proposed corridor, a Corridor Coordination Unit is set up to address management issues.

In the **plenary discussion following the presentations**, some participants noted that central government had failed to protect the current protected areas with the exception of National Parks and expressed concern that some politicians were calling on the government to de-gazette protected areas for grazing. They therefore called on efforts to concentrate on conserving existing protected areas expressed skepticism on the feasibility of protecting additional wildlife corridors. Most participants agreed that for the critical areas, use of restrictions would have to be imposed to avoid further corridor degradation. It was further suggested that local communities could be encouraged to practice multiple land uses in wildlife corridors. The importance of creating economic incentives to protect wildlife was also stressed. It was noted that there were encouraging examples how local authorities had been willing to reserve land for the conservation of wildlife corridors but noted that this depended on the people involved and was not always sustainable as any political change had the potential to jeopardize the past efforts. Participants also agreed that there was no “one size fits all” solution and that this should be taken into account while developing the regulations.

6. Way Forward

As part of the discussion on the way forward, a proposal to set up an Advisory Committee to accompany the process of the development of regulations was put forward. MNRT representatives stressed that the Government should lead the process and should determine if there was need to have such body and propose the institutions which could be invited to join the process. It was pointed out that such an Advisory Body would have to include relevant Ministries including President’s Office-Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG), Energy and Mining, Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries, Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development and Attorney General but also non-state actors. NGOs and CSOs present in the meeting signaled the importance of their inclusion in the Advisory Committee should that be the wish of the Ministry.

Participants further stressed that corridor management was a complex issue that would needs to be discussed with many stakeholders. Everybody agreed that securing the most important corridors was a conservation priority for Tanzania and therefore there was an urgent need to move forward with the development of regulations in order to create the legal basis needed. Many participants stressed the urgency, given the level of threat and the risk for an imminent and irreversible loss of many of the corridors. It was therefore agreed that a joint effort was needed from Government and Non Government stakeholders to accomplish the process.

There was consensus that the proposed study could provide a very useful input. It was suggested that the study would include an extensive data collection on the on-going efforts to secure important wildlife corridors in Tanzania as currently these data were scattered. Ideally they could be presented in a systematic format, for example under tabular form. Based on the collected data, it was suggested that some further work could be done on analyzing the data to extract important lessons learned on how land use and tenure issues can be

successfully addressed. These lessons learned could be discussed in a further workshop, which could propose concrete recommendations on what should be included in the regulations. Participants stressed their availability to further contribute to this process.

The meeting was closed at 17:00 by the representative of the Acting Director of Wildlife, Mr. Akudo. He thanked the participants and PROTECT Project for their investment and inputs to support the Government in making sure we have a practical and implementable wildlife corridors regulations.

Annex 1

Agenda of the Meeting

Time	Activity	Responsible
8h00 – 8h30	A. Registration	USAID/PROTECT
	B. Opening	
8h30	B.1. Welcome and announcements	USAID/PROTECT
8h40	B.2. Opening	MNRT Director Wildlife or representative
8h50	B.3. Introduction of participants	Facilitator -Stephen
9h10	B.4. Presentation of workshop objectives and agenda	Facilitator - Guy
	C. Introduction part	Facilitator -Stephen
9h20	C.1 Update on the status of Corridors regulations	WD
9h30	C.2 Wildlife corridors in Tanzania	Dr. Maurus Msuha, TAWIRI
	D. Case Studies (15 min + 5 min Q&A)	Facilitator - Stephen
9h50	D.1 The WCS experience in the Katavi/Ruaha, Mount Rungwe Kitulo and Tarangire /Simanjiro corridors	Tim Davenport, WCS
10h10	D.2 The AWF experience in the Tarangire / Manyara, Kitendeni / Amboseli and Selous / Udzungwa corridor	John Salehe, AWF
10h30	Coffee break	Facilitator- Guy
10h50	D.3 Securing corridors in the Greater Mahale / Gombe ecosystem	Kathryn Doody, FZS
11h10	D.4 The WWF experience in the Selous – Niassa corridor and other areas	Geoffrey Mwanjelo and Mathew Langen, WWF
11h30	D.5 Conserving connectivity in Kilombero valley	Giuseppe Daconto, BTC
11h50	D.6 Working with pastoralists to secure connectivity in the Manyara – Natron corridor	Bart Casier, TRIAS
12h10	D.7 Experiences from the Selous – Udzungwa corridor	Trevor Jones, STEP
	E. Working groups 4 WG to discuss lessons learned and recommendations to include in regulations	
12h30	Intro and creation of WG	Facilitator -Guy
12h45	Lunch	
13h30	Working groups	
14h30	Presentation by working groups and discussion	Facilitator -Stephen
	F. Way forward	
15h30	Discussion on proposal for Advisory Committee	Exper Pius/Stephen
16h00	Conclusions and way forward	Facilitator -Guy
16h20	G. Closure	MNRT, PROTECT
16h30	End of the workshop and announcements	PROTECT

Annex 2

List of participants

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Annex 3 Workshop Evaluation

Number of Respondents: 20

- *The theme wildlife corridors and the development of corridor regulations are one of the priorities for biodiversity conservation in Tanzania.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
13	7	-	-	-

- *This workshop allowed stakeholders to contribute to this process.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
11	8	1	-	-

- *The workshop brought up new ideas and considerations, which would need to be considered in the development of wildlife regulations.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
11	5	3	1	-

- *The case studies were essential contribution to the workshop and contributed to my understanding on wildlife corridors.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
10	6	3	1	-

- *The discussion in the working groups was very fruitful and brought out new ideas*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
9	7	3	1	-

- *The facilitators were well prepared.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
12	7	1	-	-

- *The mix of participants was appropriate to get the results that I expected.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
6	11	1	1	0

(Only 19 respondents replied to this question)

- *The workshop was a good investment of my time, I am happy that I attended.*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
11	8	1	-	-

- *I look forward to further contribute to the process*

Strongly agree	Agree	Not Sure	Disagree	Strongly disagree
14	6	0	0	0

Ideas, recommendations and suggestions proposed by the participants:

- Involvement of local people and their leaders is important;
- Wildlife corridors will be yet another category of protected area and not be well received by stakeholders;
- Keep this group (of workshop participants) active and involved;
- Compile the information from the case studies into a document;
- Solutions can not only come from conservationists, hence involve other sectors;
- Anti-poaching in corridors needs to be considered;
- Think economically: value chain from wildlife to communities;
- Wildlife corridors require a high level of protection;
- Regulations should demonstrate importance of corridors for ecosystem services;
- Rapid assessment of status of wildlife corridors is required to update 2009 data;
- Need to prioritize which corridors require immediate action;
- Involvement of the communities is vital to get their buy in and avoid conflicts;
- Corridors can be used by wildlife and livestock concurrently;
- Efforts needed to bring in pastoralist farmer communities into the discussion;
- More attention is needed to enforcement of by-laws;
- Need to ensure genuine participation of communities, transparency, importance identifying incentives for the communities;
- Roadmap with timeline for finalizing corridor regulations is needed;
- Time is running out to save the corridors;
- Process of development of the regulations needs to be steered by Government;
- More time is needed to discuss recommendations: need for another workshop to discuss this further.

Annex 4 Power point presentations

(attached separately "Workshop Presentations")