



USIMAMIZI ENDELEU WA MALISILI ACTIVITY

Activity Duration:
March 2020 – March 2025

Donor:
United States Agency for
International Development
(USAID)

Partners:
Rukwa Sustainable Development
Organization (RUSUDEO)

Project Areas:
Sumbawanga Rural and Nkasi
districts of Rukwa region



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Activity Overview:

Usimamizi Endelevu wa Maliasili is a multi-sectoral five-year USAID funded activity implemented by Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) and Rukwa Sustainable Development Organization (RUSUDEO). The activity is designed to tackle threats to biodiversity through the use of multiple natural resources governance tools. The activity's goal is to conserve land, wildlife, forests, and water resources and build the resilience of local communities and ecosystems in Rukwa through improved natural resources governance.

Objectives:

- To develop and implement inclusive land-use plans, bylaws and other NRM governance processes and tools;
- To improve capacity of communities to hold institutions entrusted with management of natural resources accountable;
- To improve capacity of communities and local government authorities to holistically manage natural resources; and
- To raise awareness to communities on natural resources management and governance, Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) and climate change through media, theater for development and Information Education and Communication (IEC) materials.

Approach and Outcome

LEAT partners with the Rukwa Sustainable Development Organization (RUSUDEO) and collaborates with Local Government Authorities (LGAs) and like-minded stakeholders in the implementation of this five-year multi-sectoral Activity in the rich yet vulnerable section of the Lyamba Iya Mfipa hills that runs across Sumbawanga and Nkasi districts. The activity invokes SAM principles that call upon rights holders (citizens) and duty bearers to actively participate in the management and governance of natural resources. The Activity provides trainings, resources, and discussion platforms to different stakeholders engaged in natural resources management and governance in the activity districts which enhances the participation of communities in the access, use and control of resources.

The activity expects to reach: 5,311 citizens through training workshops, sensitization meetings and environmental friendly economic empowerment; promulgate 15 bylaws; support 15 income generating groups; establish 15 social accountability monitoring (SAM) teams; facilitate development of 5 land use plans; provide 1000 certificate of customary right of occupancies (CCROs), and conserve 500 hectares of biological significance areas.

By the end of the activity, LEAT expects a knowledgeable, transparent and accountable community with increased law enforcement capacity and ready to participate in the management of natural resources in the activity districts. In sum, the activity seeks to champion sound natural resources management practices and increased capacity to hold duty bearers accountable in conserving and managing natural resources in the country in general and activity's districts in particular.

