

Evaluation of the British ministers meeting
with the Darwin Filming team on the 17th
February 2009

The meeting preparations were scheduled to start at 9.00am at the Kijabe farm with the setting up of the exhibition room (the caravan) and the meeting room (kitchen). There was networking as we waited for the minister who arrived at around 2.30pm, and immediately got the day's programme rolling.

What happened

1. On arrival, Sara Higgins took the team around the campsite to see the exhibition (the caravan), the labs and then introduced the filming team members-William Kimosop, Mbogo Kamau, Jackson Komen, SerahMunguti, Mary Mbenge, Grace Mwaura, Elsie Kariuki, Sammy Njoroge, Sara Higgins, John Kamanga, Reuben Ndolo and James Njoroge and Velia. This took at most three minutes.
2. **First presentation (by Mbogo)-**
 - a. Introduction of LNRA and its involvement in CBCF.
 - b. Brief background of the your conservation and ecological research work in Lake Naivasha and the lakes of the rift valley.
 - c. How the films have been used in schools and with communities in Kenya and Tanzania by different groups.

The minister had several questions concerning Lake Naivasha, and took a lot of time to get explanations from both Mbogo and Sara Higgins; the questions included:

- Ownership of the riparian land
- Access to the lake and riparian land by the pastoralists
- Enforcement of legislation in lake Naivasha
- Papyrus destruction along the lake and its effects
- Primary causes of lake pollution
- Regular water quality analysis in lake Naivasha and the trends
- Plans to reduce organic waste getting into the lake

The responses to these questions came from Sara and Mbogo; this took the first 20 minutes of the time set.

3. Second Presentation (by Kimosop)

- a. Darwin support to the conservation of the lesser flamingo project in Lake Bogoria
- b. How Darwin scholarship has helped him in the management of the national reserve
- c. Use of the CBCF films in Bogoria by the education officer, and how the community has benefitted
- d. His work in bringing together 10 councils from the north and south Rift.
- e. The setting up of the Tourism Information and Operation Centre in Lake Bogoria National reserve
- f. BNR and Darwin support. How they have brought 10 councils together.
- g. Gave the minister a lake Bogoria national reserve strategic plan

This took around 12 minutes

4. Third presentation (by Jackson)

- a. How Darwin has supported communities in Bogoria, the national reserve and schools in facilitating awareness creation

- b. The support By Darwin and Leicester University students in the education projects to schools, establishment of fish ponds to deal with human wildlife conflicts and rehabilitation projects
- c. Support to community initiatives like beekeeping, establishment of grasslands and production of films with the communities on how to do so. Support to women groups in packaging and marketing their honey and other products.
- d. The Darwin Film Project since its inception in 2006:
 - i. The planning meeting in Kenya and Tanzania
 - ii. The Training of Trainers by UK team
 - iii. Partnerships with Nature Kenya, KWS, TAWIRI, and KIE
 - iv. Training camps in Kenya and Tanzania, of people from different backgrounds
 - v. Films evaluation by schools and communities (the MajiniUhai film)
- e. Outputs of the Filming project so far:
 - i. 40 from different backgrounds have been trained
 - ii. 5 film series have been produced
 - iii. 2 digital libraries have been set up in Kenya and Tanzania
 - iv. Good partnership with governments in Kenya and Tanzania, and NGOs like WWF, ALIN.
 - v. 4 training camps held
 - vi. Filming equipments loaned to Kenyans and Tanzanians
 - vii. Production of 50 short films
 - viii. Preliminary evaluation of the films in three different groups of schools (urban, peri urban and rural)
- f. Expectations of the filming project:
 - i. Train 36-48 individuals from different backgrounds
 - ii. Produce over 300 local conservation films 5-25minutes long.
 - iii. Produce over 28 films through the loaning of equipments to trainees in organizations
 - iv. Write materials encouraging other regions to adopt the CBCF approach to communicating conservation
 - v. Produce and show the films to universities and government in 2009 and 2010.

This presentation took 15 minutes, **but it was the best, because it specifically talked about the Filming project milestones**

Break for 5 minutes

5. Fourth presentation (by Dominic)

- a. Explained how he evaluated the films with schools in Kinangop, to proof that they were an effective conservation tool
- b. Explained the link between Kinangop and lake Naivasha- as a catchment under threat, thus the partnership in the CBCF and awareness creation
- c. Mainly talked about the use of films in conservation efforts on the FOK

- i. Partnerships with Darwin, Nature Kenya, LNRA and UNEP
- ii. Alternatives to communities-beekeeping, weaving mats,
- d. Explained how the Environmental education project was a long-term process that required a long-term investment
- e. Mentioned the challenges of the project as:
 - i. Finances
 - ii. Attitude change by communities
- f. Thanked the UK government through the minister for their support to improve the lives of Kenyans, Dr Harper through his research, Sara Higgins and the local communities.

6. Fifth presentation (by SerahMunguti)

- a. On the effectiveness of the CBCF to Nature Kenya especially in communicating conservation to the public, the government and the communities.
- b. Training of 5 NK site officers who are now making films in the project sites
- c. The Tana delta sugar project film to be used for advocacy.
- d. Showed the first 3 minutes of the Tana Delta film (still a draft)

This took 6 minutes

7. Sixth presentation (by John Kamanga)

- a. Due to time, he only presented two minutes of the SORALO film

Vote of thanks by the minister and invitation for the luncheon in Nairobi, where he would announce the next round of Darwin projects in Kenya.

How well it was received

- The presentations were all well done, especially the one by Komen. There was a film at the end of each presentation (only short clips of the film)
- The guests were given copies of the films and documents by each of the presenters (this was a good way of presenting the outputs)
- Questions were well answered by the team, with Sara Higgins adding a few comments on most of them. I found the answers satisfactory.
- The selection of the films to be shown was well done, and the specific portions well chosen.
- The ministers and his team were very happy especially with the films shown, they also had an impact on them.
- The meeting provided a platform for the filming team to convince the UK government that the project was successful and would require further funding to reach more people and achieve more goals.

What we could improve on next time:

- Time keeping especially when making the presentations
- Make our presentations shorter
- Produce a film showing the project milestones and the outputs.