PINGOs FORUM

Vanishing Rangelands

June 2012

This is an investigative report about the scope of the rangelands lost to other land uses in Tanzania.

A ranger of Tarangire National Park impounding trespassing livestock

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Synopsis

The History: **When Europeans arrived in North America, they encountered indigenous communities living in a great continent endowed with an extraordinary wealth of biological resources. The Columbuses nearly wiped out Indians and wildlife. Like in America, the Europeans pillaged their way into Africa without any visa and drove several species of wildlife towards the brink of extinction. The wisest among them started to campaign for creation of wildlife protected areas to save animals. To created wildlife protected areas like Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Kilimanjaro, Tarangire and many more, local communities like the Maasai pastoralists and Hadza hunter-gatherers were violently evicted from their ancestral territories without compensation. These communities were plunged into seas of abject poverty. In the meantime the colonial Governments encourage cash crops production in the areas which were originally under natural pastures. Peasant agriculture together with state corporations and institutions like the army, the police, prison and the like took the remaining areas.**

The Present: **Tanzania has 28 core wildlife preserved areas. It also has forest reserves, game controlled areas, wildlife management areas and even marine parks. To be lenient, all this amounts to 236,272 km^2; as massive as nearly 80 smallest countries in this world combined. The country has also designated massive territory for state corporations and institutions. In the meantime a considerable percent of land is designated to small-scale agriculture.**

The Need: **The scope of the rangeland lost in Tanzania needs to be examined as a matter of urgency.**

The primary aim of this study is to investigate the size of the range lost to other forms of land uses. This will support the argument that it is time to reconsider the pastoralists sector as a legitimate mode of production in the country which, like other sectors, deserve due priority.

We need to understand the exactly area and perhaps value of the remaining for pastoralists in Tanzania. This study managed to capture almost accurately the size of areas converted into different categories of wildlife preservation areas. Areas covered by airports and spreading towns as well as areas cultivated by pastoralists remain largely unknown. There is a need for a validation workshop to improve this report. The participants of such a workshop should come from mainly traditional pastoral districts from around the country.

Wildlife preservation areas

Wildlife conservation under the rule of the so-called international wildlife conservation movement is the most ruthless appropriator of the rangelands in modern Tanzania (Shivji, 1998).Tanzania is among the leading countries in the world that have designated huge portions of their land area for wildlife conservation. Tanzania has set aside well over 40 percent of its territory for wildlife conservation. The following table depicts the types and sizes of wildlife preservation areas in Tanzania.

Type	Number	Percent
National Parks	15	4
Conservation Areas	1	1
Game Reserves	33	15
Forest Reserves	570	12
Game Controlled Areas	30	8
Marine Parks	8	?
Total	657	40

Source: MNRT, 1998 & ZG Design, 2008: 106

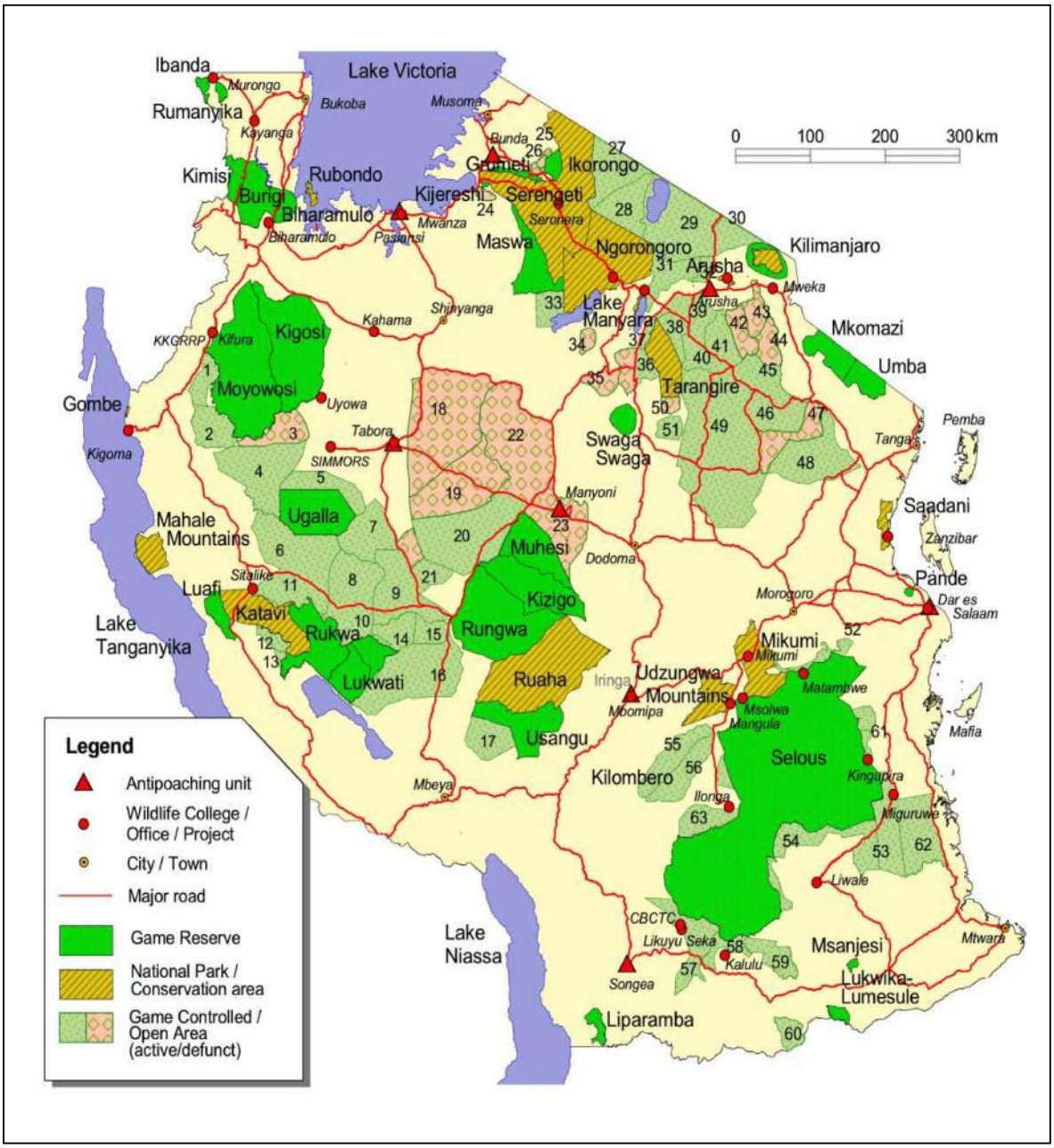
By comparison the continental U.S.A., one of the main countries supporting conservation in Tanzania, has set aside less than 4 percent of her land for conservation (Adams & McShane, 1996:103).

It should be unsurprising therefore to see the self-appointed so-called international wildlife conservation agencies such AWF, WWF, UNESCO, IUCN and others jumping about pastoralists destroying the environment.

Their central goal is wildlife preservation, always at the exclusion of local human interest.

The following map also depicts the size of the land designated for wildlife conservation in Tanzania.

Wildlife Protected Areas - Tanzania[1]



[1] **Source: MNRT**

WMAs

Tanzania has 16 pilot WMAs in 135 villages. This covered an estimated 16,000 km^2 (Nelson 2007). In an email to this author Dr. Martin Walsh says that he has seen a "amore recent statement that 33 WMAs (not all gazetted, surely) cover an estimated 35,000 km^2." Perhaps it is important to consider wildlife management areas in some details here since they sooner or later will take the remaining rangeland.

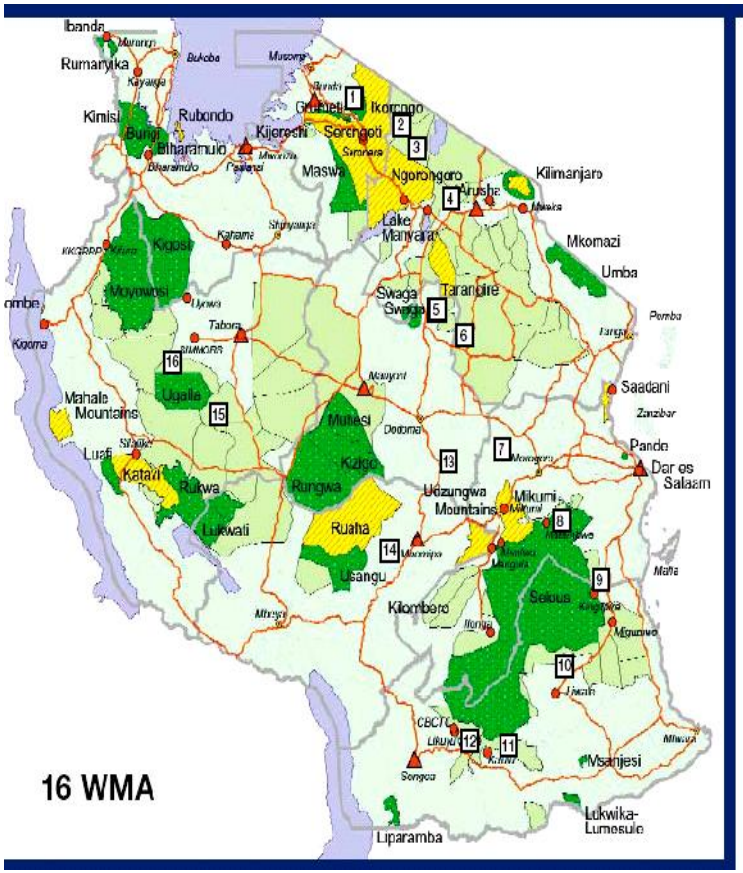
The strength and logic of the philosophy of managing wildlife with the interest of people, in mind, emanates from the mesmerised traditional societies sustainable use of resources. The philosophy, now in its full motion, purposefully disregards the fact that pre-colonial societies managed to use land resources sustainably because of technological bankruptcy, low population pressure and subsistence lifestyle which conserved the environment. Colonialism blocked that type of conservation.

Thus conservationists are more than a century too late in their ambition. Under what conservation use reason do the Maasai,[i] for example, live side by side with wildlife in Ngorongoro? Above all, to pick one aspect of African life and generalise it to represent the entire race is not only unscientific but it is to succumb to racism (Babu, 1981). The attitude reinforced by tourist promotions is that the Maasai are part of the landscape, not so unlike the wildebeest and zebra. The Maasai, in truth, are like indigenous people elsewhere, are capable of destruction (Adams & McShane, 1996:42). Sincerely, why do the Maasai need lions and elephants in their midst that are destructive and dangerous and from which they gain nothing?

In 1985 TANAPA established a Community Conservation Service (CCS) termed Ujirani Mwema, Kiswahili for Good neighbourliness (Sachedina, 2008). The impetus for CCS came from support from African Wildlife Foundation (Neumann 1998: 209). TANAPA, driven by its notorious financiers, posed as if it wanted to improve relations with neighbouring villages through the provision of social benefits (Ndaskoi, 2005:85). Tarangire National Park was significant in that the CCS was pioneered there in 1990 before being integrated into all Tanzanian National Parks (Sachedina, 2008).

A similarly gambit is Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs); initiated by "the international" wildlife preservation lobby in collaboration with the Wildlife Division, is 'an area declared by the Minister to be so and set aside by village government for the purpose of biological natural resource conservation' (MNRT, 1998:35). By design, WMAs are deliberately formed concentric rings around core preserved areas.

Location of 16 Wildlife Management Areas –WMAs in Tanzania[2]



16 PiLOT AREAS

Area Name	Community Based Organization
1. Ikona	IKONA
2. Tarime	---
3. Loliondo	---
4. Enduimet	ENDUIMET
5. Burunge	JUHIBU
6. Makami	NDEMA
7. Wami Mbiki	WAMI MBIKI
8. Ukutu	JUKUMU
9. Ngarambe/Tapika	MUNGATA
10. Liwale	MAGINGO
11. Tunduru	NALIKA
12. Namtumbo/Songea	MBARANG`ANDU
13. Twatwatwa	---
14. Idodi-Pawaga	MBOMIPA
15. Ipole	JUHIWAI
16. Uyumbu	UWIMA

This is a map of Tanzania depicting the locations of the 16 pilot WMAs. The map does not give more than an indication. To be sure, the areas are in existence but there is no map so far; more than ten years since the country introduce them. Maps are key tools in land use plans. The fact that these areas are in existence without maps is one of the weaknesses of wildlife preservation in Tanzania. Twatwatwa in West Mikumi NP and Ololosokwan as well as Tarime in East and West Serengeti NP respectivey refused WMAs

[2] **The author got the map from a well positioned source at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism who requested anonymity.**

Private concessions

Given the bearing they have on the livelihoods of pastoralists and hunter-gathers private concessions need to be considered here. The unprecedented private concessions are increasing. The hedge-fund trader, billionaire Paul Tudor Jones II owns huge portions of different legal status of lands in Western Serengeti. Put together the area is approximately the size of Maasai Mara National Reserve in Kenya.

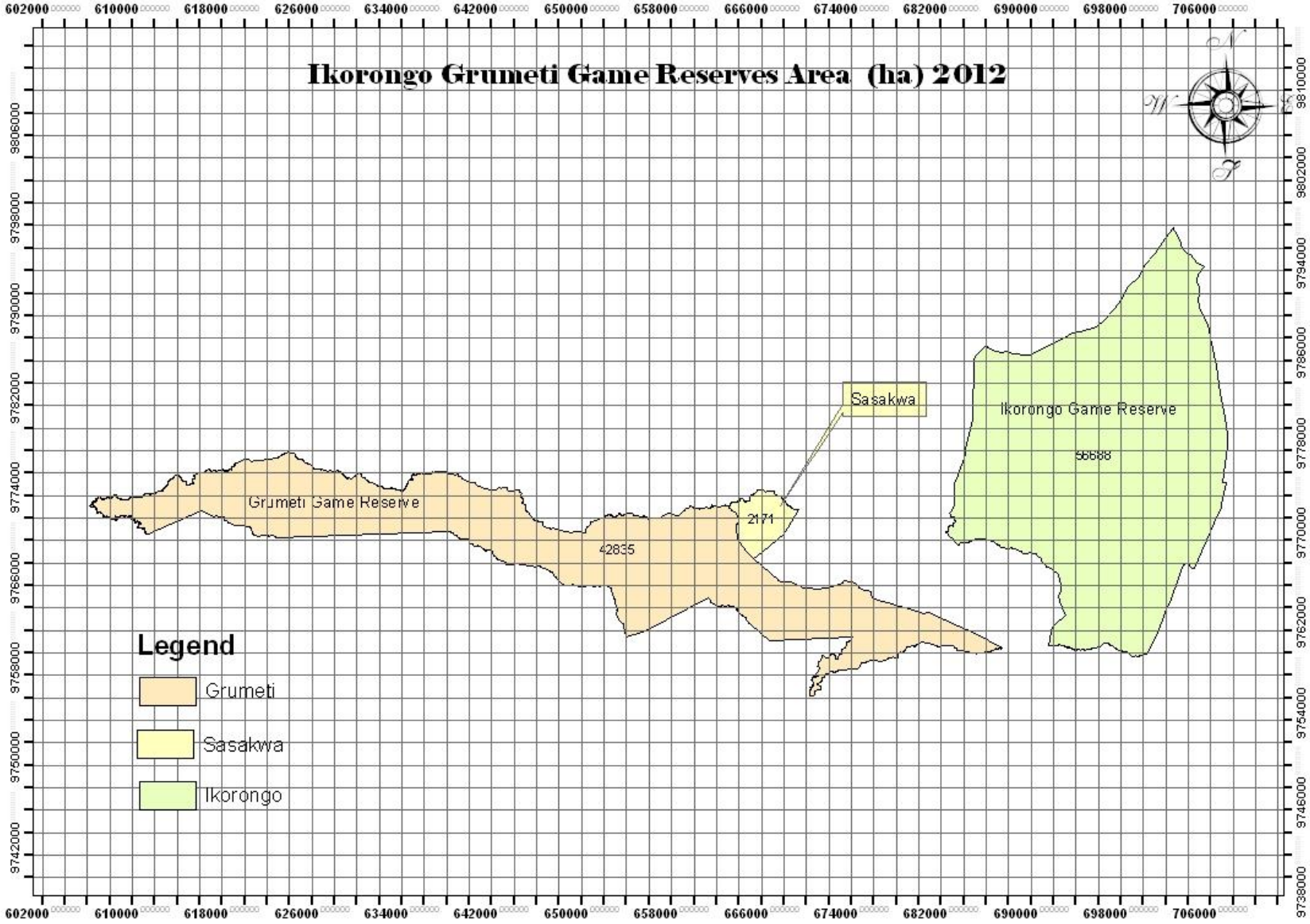
No country in East Africa had ever allowed a single land grabber to control so much area. It should be remembered that agro-pastoralists of Western Serengeti were evicted to give room for the creation of Serengeti National Park in 1958 (See Shetler, 2007). Another American millionaire Thomas Hoyt Friedkin owns the concession of the entire Maswa Game Reserves. The following table depicts the Serengeti ecosystem on the Tanzanian side of the border and private concession West of SNP.

Thomas H. Friedkin and Paul Tudor Jones II are isolated cases. Both are billionaires from the United States. Focusing on Jones II is inevitable. *Forbes* once said PTJ is among 100 richest Americans.

In the late 1990s he has been hunting in the West of the famous Serengeti National Park. With loads of money around him the mogul systematically leased Grumeti and Ikorongo Game Reserves as well as Fort Ikoma Open Area West of Serengeti National Park in 2002. He knocked out other concession holders by surreptitiously paying above the market price. In this way Jones II made himself the sole legal concession holder of the areas. The law prohibits construction of permanent structures in a concession area. Concessions are won through competitive biddings. They are held for five years renewable. It is unclear why PTJ is holding concessions for decades in the Western Serengeti region.

Vividly, Jones II has a voracious appetite to kill innocent animals. To be sure, he made a slip in an interview on January 13, 2000 admitting that he is still an insatiable hunter. He cleared his chest, "I think I would probably be airborne hunting and fishing all over the globe every day in my life." However, he had to run as far away from transparent societies as possible. He saw soft targets in the shape of two African countries; disturbed Zimbabwe and corrupt Tanzania. The reason is that in 1990 he bought himself out of prison by entry of a guilty plea for allegedly tempering with tidal waters in the Chesapeake Bay.

No country in East Africa had ever allowed a single land grabber to control so much area.


Ikorongo Grumeti Game Reserves Area (ha) 2012
602000
610000
618000
626000
634000
642000
650000
658000
666000
674000
682000
690000
698000
706000
9806000
9798000
9790000
9782000
9774000
9766000
9758000
9750000
9742000
9810000
9802000
9794000
9786000
9778000
9770000
9762000
9754000
9746000
9738000
Sasakwa
Ikorongo Game Reserve
56688
Grumeti Game Reserve
2171
42835
Legend
Grumeti
Sasakwa
Ikorongo

State organs and corporations

Tanganyika gained independence in 1961. Nationalisation, following the Arusha Declaration of 1967, created vastly over 400 parastatals. These included a number of big agricultural and ranching corporations. District development corporations were also established. These and other state organs were involved in "national projects." Village lands were alienated to state organs (Shivji, 1997).

The establishment of Oljoro National Service as well as Makuyuni National Service as well as Tanzania Military Academy and its associated institutions in the heart of Maasaland are just a few examples of these. These organs acquired huge territories for the military use. The police force also occupies a massive territory of the once rangeland between Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Meru (Fosbrooke, 1972).

In practice, lands taken over in the name of the state or in "public interest" very frequently ended up being used for private benefit of the state bureaucracy and leaders. For example the Government alienated about 100,000 acres of Barbaig pastoralists for the joint Tanzania-Canada Wheat Complex, now a monument of bad development, in Hanang District of Arusha Region Northern Tanzania (Lane, 1996). The pastoralists whose traditional pasture lands have been sown with wheat are today reduced to absolute penury, their independence gone, their way of life shattered, their dignity destroyed as they queue in rags for food handouts (Hancock, 1989). This is sadly how pastoralists live today.

In 1984, for example, Ngorongoro District Council in collaboration with the ruling party supported the criminal grabbing of 12,600 hectares pasture land by Tanzania Breweries Limited and turned it into barley plantation (A letter from Soit-Sambu Village to MP for Ngorongoro in 2008). The Land in question was "recently purchased (or leased) by Thomson Safaris and the tour company reportedly now wants to convert the 12,600 hectares into both a private conservation ranch and campsite." The Maasai have been resisting this criminal plunder of their land. In one of such protests a Maasai Moran, Lesinko ole Nanyoi was shot in the jaw by the police defending the company (*Arusha Times* [Arusha] May 10, 2008).

In 1987, recommendations were made to turn 34,176 hectares into agrarian in Loliondo (NLUPC, 1987 & Parkipuny, 1990). It is estimated that if all the land applications in the Loliondo Division had been granted over

80% of the land would have been alienated leaving the pastoral Maasai community landless (Shivji, 1997). In short, states companies and institutions set on the territories which once supported natural pastures in the country and thus leaving the pastoral communities landless and poor (Parkipuny, 1991).

This table provides a general inventory of the 34 farms that belonged to NAFCO as at December 1984

	FARM	REGION	OWNER	COST[3]	SIZE[4]
1	Bagamoyo Farms-Pimbini	Coast	Vulfrida Grace Mahalu[5]	0.043	566
2	Bagamoyo Farms-Kitopeni	Coast	Fresh Farms Ltd		354
3	Bagamoyo Farms-Kidagoni	Coast	Fresh Farms Ltd	0.73	566
4	Mbegani Farm Limited	Coast	Tan Consult Ltd.	0.225	90
5	Ruvu Rice Farm	Coast	Small-scale Farmers	0	3,000
6	West Kilimanjaro Farms-Journeys End	Kilimanjaro	Not privatized		1,768
7	West Kilimanjaro Farms-Fosters	Kilimanjaro	Not privatized		727
8	West Kilimanjaro Farms-Matadi	Kilimanjaro	Not privatized		298.34
9	West Kilimanjaro Farms-Harlington	Kilimanjaro	H. H. Mosha	0.252	1,237
10	West Kilimanjaro Farms-Kanamondo	Kilimanjaro	Not privatized		2,203
11	Basotu Plantation Co. Ltd	Manyara	Privatization underway	0	10,000
12	Gidagamowd Wheat Farm	Manyara	RAI Group	1.15	10,000
13	Setchet Wheat Farm	Manyara	RAI Group	1.15	10,000
14	Murjanda Wheat Farm	Manyara	RAI Group	1.15	10,000
15	Mulbadaw Wheat Farm	Manyara	Haydom Lutheran Church	1.09	10,000
16	Gawal Wheat Farm	Manyara	Farmers/Pastoralists[6]	0	10,000
17	Warret Wheat Farm	Manyara	Farmers/Pastoralists	0	10,000
18	Mbozi Maize Farm	Mbeya	Not privatized[7]	0	12,000
19	Mbozi Coffee Farms – Ruanda	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council		51
20	Mbozi Coffee Farms - Ng'amba	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council		156
21	Mbozi Coffee Farms – Shiwanda	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council	0.0646	157
22	Mbozi Coffee Farms – Ihanda	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council		120
23	Mbozi Coffee Farms – Ndugu	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council		140
24	Mbozi Coffee Farms – Tukumbi	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council		132
25	Mbozi Coffee Farms – Ishera	Mbeya	Mbozi District Council	0.1115	88
26	Kapunga Rice Farm	Mbeya	Export Trading Co. Ltd	2.311	18,425
27	Mbarali Rice Farm	Mbeya	Highlands Estate Ltd	3.5	14,437
28	Dakawa Rice Farm	Morogoro	Cooperative Society	0	6,000
29	Namtumbo Maize Farm	Ruvuma	Not yet privatized[8]		14,410
			TOTAL	**11.771**	**146,925. 34**

Source: Chachage & Mbunda, 2009

[3] This entry is in Billions Tanzanian Shillings (Tsh.). 1 USD = Tsh. 1, 293 (BOT rates as at 13 February 2008).

[4] This entry is in acres and, unless stated otherwise, they are based on the data compiled by CHC in early 2009.

[5] This entry – and her husband – has been discussed in the parliament in connection to grand corruption dealings.

[6] According to CHC (2009), the farm(s) have been given to small farmers but that is misleading.

[7] According to CHC (2009), entries with "not yet privatized" signifies that CHC is awaiting government approval.

[8] According to CHC (2009), the farm was advertised/tendered but did not get a buyer-no other explanation is given.

Table showing general inventory of former and current NARCO's ranches

S/N	RANCH	DATE/ START	REGION	AREA (H)	HECTARES (H) SUBLEASED	NARCO SPECIAL RANCH
1	Manyara					*
2	Kongwa	1957	Dodoma	38,000	-	38,000
3	Missenyi	1969	Kagera	60,851	21 blocks: 118 – 14829	23,998
4	Kikulula Ranching Complex [9]	1976	Kagera	76,960	22 blocks 1,390 – 2,500	30,752
S/N	**RANCH**	**DATE/ START**	**REGION**	**AREA (H)**	**HECTARES (H) SUBLEASED**	**NARCO SPECIAL RANCH**
5	Kitengule		Kagera	41,700	9 blocks: 1,000 – 2,500	30,688**
6	Uvinza		Kigoma		21 blocks: 2,550 – 3,000	
7	West Kilimanjaro	1968	Kilimanjaro	30,364	-	30,364***
8	Usangu		Mbeya		16 blocks: 2,127– 4,165	
9	Mkata	1965	Morogoro	62,530	11 blocks : 3,000 – 4,000	19,466
10	Dakawa		Morogoro	49,981	2 blocks : 2,479	*****
11	Ruvu	1964	Pwani	48,383	-	48,383
12	Kalambo	1976	Rukwa	23,588		
13	Mzeri	1970	Tanga	41,246	9 blocks: 2,127 – 4,165	21,236
			TOTAL	**473,603**		

Source: Chachage & Mbunda, 2009

Notes on the table above

*** This ranch is under World Wildlife Foundation (WWF)**

**** 30,688 hectares have been given to Kagera Sugar Company.**

***** According to NARCO's Planning Officer, this ranch is waiting for private investors.**

****** 30,007 hectares have been given to Mtibwa Sugar Company; 1,997 hectares to Mvomero village, 5,000 hectares to small-scale farmers, 3,000 hectares given to Mvomero district, and 5,019 hectares to small-scale livestock keepers.**

Gained territories

The Tanzanian State supports the spontaneous and organic immigration of peasants onto rangelands on the grounds of exercise of common rights of all citizens for resources within the borders of their country, irrespective of places of origin of individuals. This, in addition to different categories of land appropriations explained above, set the pastoralist on the vicious circle of displacements.

Some pastoral tribes were in Morogoro, Iringa, Mbeya, Tanga and Coastal Regions way before independence (Nimtz, 1980 & Ndaskoi, 2009). Infringement of cultivators into the rangelands triggered a movement of pastoralists as seen today. That is how the Parakuyo Maasai, the Barabaig, the Sukuma, the Gogo, the Taturu, the Kamba, the Iraqw and all the others found themselves in Morogoro.

The Barabaig pastoralists from example were originally in Hanang District of North Tanzania. As cultivation engulfed their rangelands they moved into Dodoma, Singida, Shinyanga Regions and beyond (Lane, 1996). The colonial Government introduced cotton in Sukumaland. This led to destruction of pastures. The Sukuma then started moving into far away regions like Rukwa, Morogoro and others.

In these regions however the pastoralists are not only badly outnumbered in organs of decision making but hated and annihilated. They were the target of the large-scale eviction which took place in Mbarali District in 2006 and in Kilosa District in 2009 as well as a similar eviction in Kilombero and Ulanga Districts which started way in 2012 and still going on to this day (Walsh, 2007 & Ndaskoi, 2009).

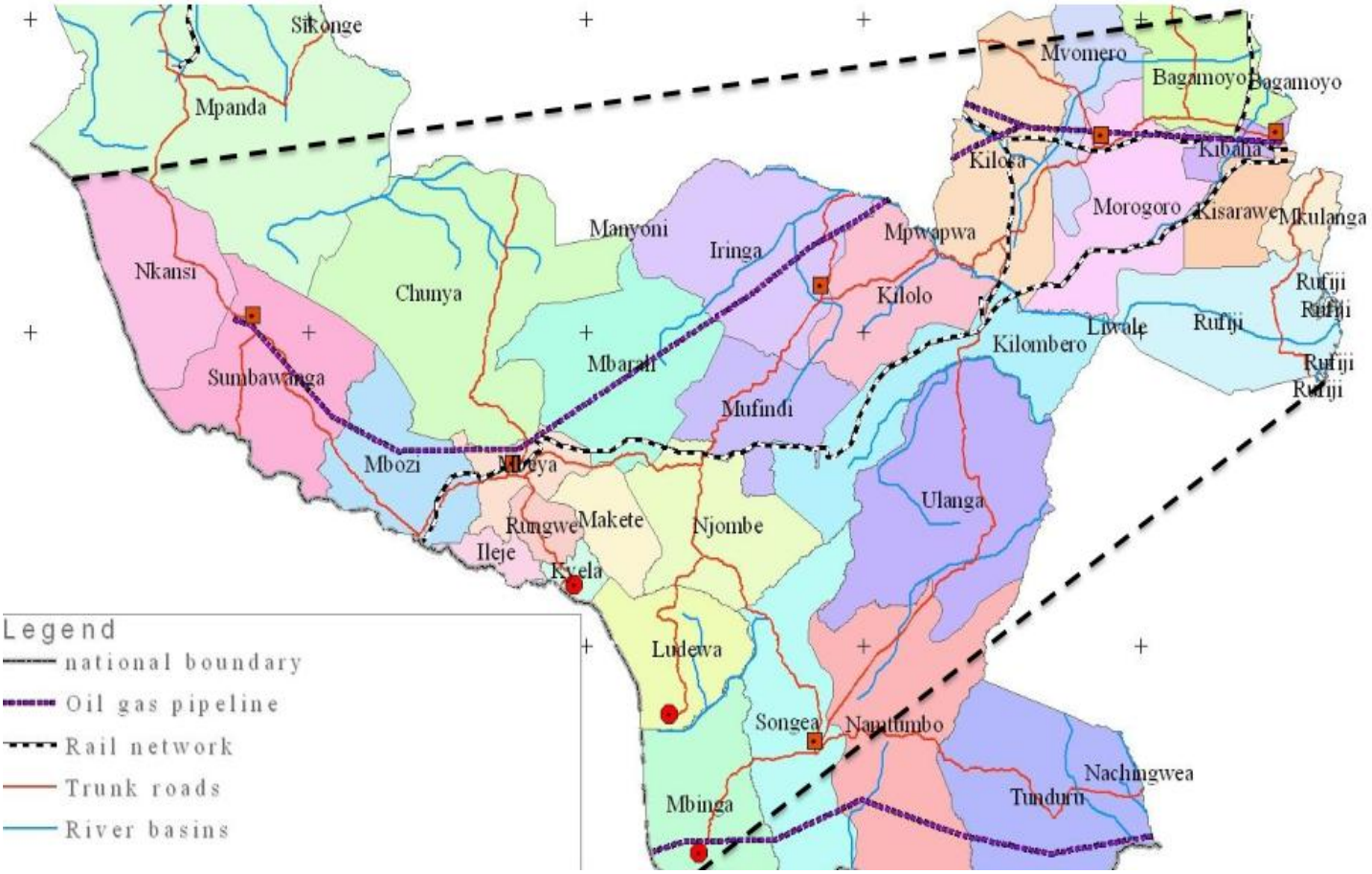
Government directed pastoralists who were evicted from Usangu Wetland to go to Rukwa, Lindi, Ruvuma, Coastal and Mtwara Regions. Apart from not having infrastructure to support pastoralism these areas are being designated to other uses. Since they are a minority pastoralists remain largely voiceless.

One major threat of pastoralists in these gained territories is SACGOT. In 2010, President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete launched the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) initiative at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland (SAGCOT, 2012).

SAGCOT stretches from the Indian Ocean to the Zambian border. The corridor encompasses nearly 300,000 square kilometers stretching along both sides of the infrastructure backbone that extends inland from Dar es Salaam. SAGCOT says, "While the region has considerable agricultural potential, it currently suffers from low productivity, low levels of investment, and high rates of poverty. To unlock the region's potential, the SAGCOT initiative seeks to attract more than US $3 billion of investment to dramatically increase food production, increase annual farming revenues by more than US $1.2 billion, benefit small-scale farmers and the rural poor, and establish southern Tanzania as a regional food exporter" (GoT,

2012). The partnership is the centrepiece of Tanzania's high-level *Kilimo Kwanza* strategy for enhancing food security, poverty reduction and reducing vulnerability to climate change (SAGCOT, 2012).

Map of Tanzania depicting 30 districts covering SACGOT



Source: MLHSD, 2012p8

Conclusion and Way forward

Two aspects of pastoral land tenure render pasture land vulnerable to appropriation. First, the practice of a seasonal grazing rotation means that at some times in the year land is free of human habitation and grazing livestock. This has led people to think that this land is unoccupied and can be taken over. Second, a failure to understand the value of pastoral production has encouraged planners to think that pasture land is underutilized and better put to non-pastoral use. In the face of the chronic food shortages, the state has encouraged those who want to convert pastures into farm land. Most pressure for this is directed towards the more fertile wetter pockets of rangelands leaving pastoralists with nothing.

The Tanzania-Canada Wheat Project farms covered 12 of Hanang District and the significance of this loss to the Barabaig is far greater than just the land area involved. Together with the land occupied by encroaching farmers it represents the loss of virtually all the crucial forage regime that is so important to pastoral production. If the spreading urban development of Katesh town on the Hamit River, and the village expansion in the district as a whole is added to the land lost to TCWP, together with limited access available to the Mount Hanang Forest Reserve, the salt pan of Lake Balangda Lelu and the tsetse-infected bushland to the South of the district, it is clear that the impact of the loss is greater than would seem at first. The combined area amount to as much as 50 percent of that land once available to herds for grazing. These in turn have resulted in a substantial decline of the productivity of the herds (Lane, 1996).

This logical observation could be fairly stretched to the entire once pastoral districts of North Tanzania; Monduli, Ngorongoro, Longido, Simanjiro and Kiteto as well as other districts in which pastoralists carry their day to day economic activities. These districts are Mwanga, Same, Hai, Siha and Handeni. Forages areas in these districts which were at some seasons rested are now more intensely used.

Wildlife conservation projects have also dwelt a fatal blow on the rangeland in Tanzania. This, together with the land converted to large-

scale cultivation and state institutions like the army, has drove pastoralism toward the brink of extinction as a viable mode of production.

This, rough sketch, depicts different types and sizes of land lost by pastoralists. It is pertinent to call validation workshop to as a way to improve and finalize this report and make it ready for public consumption. Insights and critical comments from such a workshop will significantly improve this report.

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