



NILE BASIN DISCOURSE FORUM IN RWANDA-NBDF

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PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF December 2006

NBD/DFID PROJECT

1. INTRODUCTION

This report is brief and only concerns the activities carried out in month of December, using a small balance brought forward from the First Milestone of 4209 USD, while waiting for the first instalment of the second milestone, under the funding of the NBD/DFID project which was received on 13th December 2006.

2. ACTIVITIES REALISED IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2006

1. Finalisation of the registration process of NBDF Rwanda as an NGO

The registration process was finalised with the Ministry of Local Government, the contracts from IUCN were finally signed and taken there, and then on 27th December we received our Legal Registration document which was signed on 21st December.

2. Visiting Flooded Areas in the Basin Area in the Northern Province

It was seen imperative to visit the areas which were heavily flooded in the Northern Province on 8th December, by one of the sources of the Nile. These floods had claimed lives of innocent people and more to that even took away three lives of soldiers and one of their trucks. Some people were never found. They destroyed a lot of property including gardens, and the government made much out cries and we were also touched and had to go and assess the damage and sympathise with the people. It was discovered that poor land use programs helped the floods to take away property and make a lot of damage as waters had nothing to block them.

3. Steering Committee meeting on 22 December 2006

The Steering Committee meeting was held and several reports were given, which included the report of the first milestone, the training of NBDF Coordinators and Finance Officers at Entebbe, NELSAP-CBSI meeting in Bujumbura, NBD SC meeting in Bujumbura, Sida-SIWI training on Lake Victoria Basin in Nairobi and Kigali.

The second Milestone activity plan was read and discussed, in this meeting the issue of transportation was discussed and it was recommended that hiring a van on a milestone period basis was much better than hiring a special tax on a daily basis in town and a big van while going upcountry, this seemed more expensive and un reliable. This new initiative required looking for companies that would do this service and where by the organisation wont have to pay the driver or fuel and use a van which would serve both upcountry and town activities on the same rate. This was also referred to further discussion with the Executive committee of ARECO before a final decision could be taken.

4. Extra ordinary meeting between NBDF and ARECO Committees on 28th December 2006

This meeting was started with a small summary report of the first milestone and the detailed activity plan of the second milestone. It specifically discussed the transportation issue which involved hire of a four wheel drive that could work five days a week and this could go on for six months, i.e., starting from January to June 2007. The idea was appreciated and it was recommended that Proforma Invoices be collected from the transportation companies and individuals if the prices are too high with companies. **This was done and the proforma invoice of an individual was taken.**

CONCLUSION

Those activities mentioned above are the ones which were realised in the month of December other activities done were office management related ones and were concerned with salaries, communication and transportation.