



NILE BASIN DISCOURSE FORUM IN RWANDA-NBDF

Opposite Amahoro National Stadium, Gate N° 17, Nyabisindu, Remera

B.P. 3967 Kigali ; Tél. : (250) 55 101 786 ; Mob (250) 085 63039

E-mail : ndfrwanda@yahoo.fr,

Website : www.nilebasindiscourse.org

PROGRESS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF January 2007

NBD/DFID PROJECT

1. INTRODUCTION

This report concerns the activities carried out in month of January 2007, using the funds of the first instalment in the second milestone under the NBD/DFID project.

The activities consist of establishing a National Nile Knowledge Resource Centre, Consultative meetings with NBI, Designing of the Resource Centre Website, Steering Committee meetings, Facilitating CBSI media network, Publishing monthly newsletter, Publishing and distributing the National Strategic Plan, and office management

2. DETAILED ACTIVITIES REALISED IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2007

1. Establishing a National Knowledge Resource Center on the Nile in Rwanda.

The activities carried out in this line consisted of procuring equipment like a Laptop, UPS, Recovery disk, and computer softwares. Also furniture was procured which mainly were tables, chairs and book shelves.

More to that Library materials were also procured, these included different books on Lands, environment, water, Zoology, agriculture and etc.

Also five newspapers were subscribed to, for a whole year, these are: Umuseso, Newline, Champion, Newtimes and Invaho. We have also installed internet connection in two computers in the Resource centre.

2. Consultative meeting with CBSI on 11th and NELSAP on 30th January 2007 about Nile Day Cerebrations

A consultative meeting was held with CBSI Country Coordinator on 11th January, from the NBDF offices. The main issues discussed were NBDF's facilitation of the Media Network and CBSI integration in its action plan the some activities of NBDF Rwanda, which would lead to amore collaborative mechanism between the two organisations. We agreed that both organisations will work together in the areas of

Awareness rising, Public media campaign, Workshop on the Nile Reporting and see ways of involving NTEAP, the Nile day celebrations and briefing parliamentarians on the Nile issues. It was agreed that CBSI will budget for these activities and will confirm this collaboration was its action plan is approved by the headquarters in Entebbe, Uganda.

The consultative meeting was held at NELSAP offices on 30th January 2007, it was between different stakeholders ie, NELSAP, CBSI, NTEAP and NBDF, we discussed about the Nile Day celebrations, actually this was a preparatory meeting for the Nile day which will take place on 22nd Feb 2007, NBDF Rwanda will participate actively in the activities and it will commit some funds for joint activities, among the activities proposed so far, are: Cultural events (songs, theatres, dances etc) possibly by the National Museum Troupe, Sports (a Nile Cup match either soccer or Basket ball), exhibitions of NBI Projects activities and NBDF activities, speeches and then reception, the tentative venue shall be Stade Amahoro, and its hoped that H.E, the President of the Republic will be the guest of honour and all the NILECOM Ministers and members will be present, since this is earmarked as one of the activities for the NILECOM Meeting which will start on 19th and end on 23rd Feb 2007. It was also requested that the Regional Coordinator of NBD be present. Another planning meeting will be on Friday 2nd Feb at the Presidents office, which will adopt the program.

3. Steering Committee meeting on 11th January 2007

The Steering Committee meeting was held on 11th January 2007, this meeting discussed issues concerning the Resource Centre management, the main issue was on the Librarian, it was agreed that the CCI Librarian will manage NBDF's resource centre but will be given a bonus on his salary which will come from the contingency funds since it was not budgeted for.

Also the meeting discussed issues concerning medical insurance for the office staff, it was agreed that the staff will cover 40% of the insurance and the organisation 60% of the insurance, but this would start with the month of March.

The meeting also recalled the contribution of the CCI on the Resource Centre, it was agreed that CCI will face the renting bills alone and NBDF pays full costs of the internet excluding VAT.

The meeting also approved an NDF New-years party, to be held on 13th January. The meeting agreed that since this was not budget for in the NBDF budget of NBD/DFID project , that it would be financed from the NBDF's Organisational own resources.

4. Designing of the Resource Centre Website

A consultancy was given to develop and design the KRC website, this website will not only be talking about the resource center but will talk about the whole organisation and its partners ie, NBD, NBI and many other things.

It was finally presented for comments on 25th January, and the consultant was highly appreciated.

Its hosted on the Rwandan domain (.org.rw) Its, <http://www.nbdfrwanda.org.rw>

5. Facilitating Media Network on the Nile

NBDF Rwanda agreed to facilitate Steering committee meetings of the Nile Media Network, which would help in the planning of events and easing collaboration with the civil society. The meeting was held on 28th January 2007.

6. Publishing NBDF monthly newsletter

The newsletter was developed by our ICT consultant on an extra cost and was published by 'Imprimerie Select Graph' of Kigali, it's a brochure of 8 pages, with a cover of 'quadrichromie' of the format 'A4', and paper of 135g/m². This is the first issue and it's mostly talking about NBDF Rwanda's objectives, mission, activities, membership and then the CCI.

7. Publishing and distributing the National Strategic Plan

The national strategic plan was published and 247 copies were made available, they are currently being distributed to members, partner organisations and ministries. The strategic plan will also be summarised and published in the newspapers.

8. Office Management

Its imperative to note that all these activities were coordinated by the office staff, and thus the activity of office management was inclusive. Different items were done here, this included acquisition of office supplies and payment of salaries.

9. World Social Forum

We were able to attend the World Social Forum in Nairobi through the funding of the African Rivers Network (ARN) and African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEWS). We got many books and documentation from there for our Resource Center, we also made different contacts which will help our organisation in the future. This was a good occasion for the civil society to manifest their interests; NBD can consider attending social forums.

CONCLUSION

Those activities mentioned above are the ones which were realised in the month of January 2007.

The detailed financial report will also accompany this report.

This marks the fulfilment of the Second Milestone agreement signed between CCI and IUCN, for the utilisation of funds in the first instalment, the remaining balance will

help us to continue with a few activities while waiting for the bank transfer of the second instalment from IUCN.