

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION FOR WILDLIFE AND COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE (ECOWICE)



## ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL YEAR 2018

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### Statement from the Board Chairman



We are glad to accomplish another year of success to our organization. Last year the organization managed to initiate project that increased organization financial sustainability. Our major plan for this year was to ensure we obtain more projects and increase stakeholder participation that was well achieved. My gratitude congratulations to all board members and the management who worked efficiently to ensure all these outcomes are achieved.

This report shows plans, strategies and success stories that trigger efforts toward our goal of developing communities for biodiversity conservation.

The board is promising to support the management team in all planned activities for the next financial year



**Dr. Suzana Agustino**

**Board Chairman**

### **Statement from the Chief Executive Officer**



It's an exciting moment to see another year of success to our organization, last year we managed initiate conservation project that changed our organization. Our institutional capacity was well improved and also we gained partners.

This was a year of success that shows how well we are going to achieve our 2016-2019 strategic plans. We managed to improve our financial status, we established activities and develop programs that ensured stakeholder participation and partners. Our Institutional capacity has also increased to a good extent. However in every success story you will never stop to find challenges, this year we met with various challenges that some of them they were overcome while we are still finding solutions to existing ones

My call to all staffs, board members, members and all stakeholders is to increase support, accountability and morale to ensure in 2019 we do the best than this.

In this annual report, we shall see the real picture of how we managed to accomplish our plans. We shall see the success stories and challenges, we shall also discuss the way how our organization can grow. There we shall have the base for the plan of the coming year and we shall see our organization financial conditions.

I wish you all the best



.....  
**Mr. Felician E. Chemihanda**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

## 1. BACKGROUND

Environmental Conservation for Wildlife and Community Enterprise (ECOWICE) is an organization that aims to increase income and food security for biodiversity conservation in Tanzania. The organization promotes environmental friendly income generating activities that also provide food security to community adjacent protected areas. Since its establishment on P2014, the organization has been involved on various projects to ensure goals are attained. On each year the organization implement its activities basing on planned strategic objectives. This year our main focus was on the following strategic objectives;

- Initiate different conservation projects
- To improve institutional capacity
- To Increase partnership

### 1.1.Vision

The vision of ECOWICE is developed rural communities for biodiversity conservation

### 1.2.Mission

The mission of ECOWICE is increasing income and food security for biodiversity Conservation

### 1.3.Core Values

- **Accountable** in biodiversity conservation
- **Innovative** in finding solutions regarding to challenges facing human and

Biodiversity

- **Efficient** in utilizing available resources for biodiversity conservation

#### **1.4. General Objectives**

- To improve crop productivity per household
- Reduce ecosystem degradation through sustainable agriculture
- Enhancing rural communities to generate income from environmental friendly income generating activities
- Adding value on the commodities produced by local communities
- Using fair price as an incentive for biodiversity conservation
- Promote stakeholder awareness and participation on different issues relating to wildlife conservation and local people economic activities.

#### **2. Approach and methodology**

- This report has been prepared based on the workshop held by staffs of the management Team based on the following;
- Presentation on the status of the implementation of strategic objectives from Planning perspective
- Presentation on the status of the implementation of strategic objectives from Field/practical perspective
- Presentation on the key issues emanating from the objectives and review of other external perspective.
- After presentation, participants gave their views and comments that analyzed to produce this document, to be presented to the board for approval before presented on the annual general meeting.

#### **3. Three years strategic objectives**

- Improved organization capacity to operate effectively and efficiently
- Improved production of commercial enterprise
- Realization of Organization sources of revenue
- Ensure stakeholder involvement/participation.
- Ensure effective management of programs and plans

#### **4. Main focus;**

- Increase number of conservation projects
- To improve institutional capacity
- To Increase partnership

### **5. IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES ON 2018**

#### **5.1. Conservation awareness and youth engagement**

Studies shows that young people are more concerned to economical than environmental issues. ECOWICE through its program SAVE WILD INNOVATION, enhances young people to capture self employment opportunities that will enable them to generate income while contributing to environmental conservation

##### **5.1.1. Research to young people**

ECOWICE conducted research to young people on their ability to create self employment and contribute to environmental conservation. The research was done to 75 youths including students and graduates. The results showed that, for youth to have



concern on environmental conservation, environmental issues should be incorporated with economical issues from which they have a great concern.

#### **5.1.2. Training on beekeeping and Mushroom farming**

Youths were trained on how to produce environmental friendly products that includes beekeeping and mushroom farming. The training involved 52 youths from Sokoine and Mzumbe University, they were also awarded certificates at the end of training



#### **5.1.3. Training on project design and management**

150 young people (from Mzumbe and Sokoine University of Agriculture) were trained on project design and management, the skills will help them to design and develop conservation initiatives.



#### **5.1.4. Training on business planning**

25 young people were trained on developing business plan that will help them to develop business that contribute to environmental conservation



### **5.1.5 Conservation education through green club**

ECOWICE is developing a green club to secondary schools in Morogoro, the club aims to raise conservation awareness to students so that they can learn about wildlife and develop the spirit of conservation. The main activities of the club is learning through practice by writing and singing wildlife songs, drawing pictures of wildlife, playing games, visiting protected areas and establishing tree nursery.



Wildlife photos drawn by student of Morogoro Secondary school



ECOWICE staff delivering conservation education to students

### **5.2. Market development to villagers adjacent Mikumi National Park**

ECOWICE enhanced communities of Maharaka village to promote and market honey they produce. ECOWICE enhanced communities by buying and adding value honey products 112kg of honey were purchased from the community, the amount worthy Tshs. 610,000/=.



A villager from Maharaka village(Adjacent Mikumi National Park) counting money after selling honey.

### **5.3.Participation on National Validation workshop of 1998 tourism policy**

ECOWICE participated on National validation workshop of 1998 tourism policy that was conducted on May 2018 at LAPF tower in Dodoma City, the workshop was chaired by the minister of natural resources and tourism Hon. Hamis Kigwangala and was attended by

different stakeholders from the ministry, tourism department, Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), NGOs, Academic institutions and media.



**5.4. The project on conservation of Coastal ecosystem to community adjacent Indian ocean**

The project was done to conserve coastal ecosystem that is threatened by tree cutting for making charcoal. Adjacent communities make charcoal to obtain quick cash to fulfill their daily needs. The project aimed to raise awareness for conserving mangrove



ecosystem and establishing alternative means of generating income (mushroom farming).







### **5.5. Marketing and promotion of Environmental friendly products**

To increase market of products produced by communities and raise conservation awareness to consumers, ECOWICE have been participation on exhibition. This year also the organization participated in three exhibitions of NANENANE (Peasants exhibitions), Sokoine Memorial (Sokoine University of Agriculture) and TCU exhibitions (Under Sokoine University of Agriculture).



### **5.6.Campaign on the use of plastic materials and Visiting plastic recycling workshop**

ECOWICE conducted a campaign on social media to reduce the use of plastic materials by posting video clips and pictures on social media. We also visited workshops in Morogoro that recycle plastic wastes, the workshop prepare hard plastic materials that are exported to China for recycling. Only hard plastic materials like plastic bottles and thick plastic bags are prepared while soft plastic bags are not taken.



### **5.7. Conservation education to secondary schools students**

The program aim to promote conservation awareness to secondary schools students,It is currently conducted in two schools in Morogoro municipal, Morogoro Secondary and Mafiga Secondary School. Students are engaged on conservation activities such as writing essay, singing songs and drawing conservation issue. Students also are enhanced to visit conservation areas and laboratory for learning.

### **5.8.Promotion of eco-agri-food systems- Uluguru mountains Nature reserve**

For sustainable conservation, it is important to have a proper linkage between food, agriculture and ecological systems. Community must produce food through agricultural systems while ensuring that ecological processes are conserved. ECOWICE conducted training to enhance the community of Magadu village to reduce farmland expansion toward the Uluguru mountains nature reserve. They were trained on mushroom farming that use small area and have high nutritional value.



### **5.9. Training on beekeeping for sustainable forest conservation**

In most cases the community of Kwedihuo village engages on activities that contribute to forest degradation. They cut trees for making charcoal (and sell along the highway), fuel wood and building poles. The community was supported 70 beehives by World

Vision Tanzania, however they had little knowledge how to manage the apiary, ECOWICE conducted three days training on the proper apiary management. 30 villagers were trained and they are currently managing the apiary properly.





**5.10. Participating on Google digital skills training**

ECOWICE participated on Google digital skills training that was organized by google and Raleigh Tanzania. The training aimed at enhancing young people to develop digital skills on running their enterprise particularly on project designing and management and social media marketing.





## **6. Registration from authorities**

The organization processing and packing facility got registration from TFDA to process and pack food products, and permission for conducting business. The organization was also registered by BRELA and got business license from the municipal council to conduct business that will help to increase market of products produced by the community.





## **7. Improvement of working environment**

There is high improvement on the office environment; the organization purchased new tables, EFD machine, printer and pressure cooker for making spawn. There is increase on number of rented rooms from one to three rooms, necessary for food processing, laboratory for making spawn and office. The organization also purchased motorbike as a transport facility.



## **CHALLENGES**

### **Inadequate financial support**

Most of the initiatives have not implemented properly due to inadequate fund, the organization annual operating budget is still not enough to run all projects. For example, the program of youth empowerment is funded by the profit obtained from selling products which in is not enough.

### **Lack of awareness**

Although young people are encouraged to engage on activities and programs, still most of them are not aware on the significance of participating on these programs. The situation happened also in other projects in rural areas where in some areas few villagers participated on the project.

### **Lack of profitable market**

This challenge has been observed nearly to all products where the market obtained doesn't bring the desired profit. This has made the community (producers) to sell their products at minimal price.

### **Government Bureaucracy**

There has been bureaucracy in obtaining certificate nearly from all government institutions; the situation has made the organization to wait for the certificate in a long time.

**Inadequate commitment**

Some community members and groups are not committed to monitor and manage the project, a situation that results to poor performance on some projects, for example in mushroom project at Mwakikonge village, the project is not performing well due to poor member participation.

**Climate change**

Climate change has caused the variation of rain and summer season a situation that affect beekeeping calendar to beekeepers. Some beekeepers suffer low honey production due to continuous rains or prolonged summer season