Strategic Review of the Eastern Africa Regional Office (EARO) of IUCN – The World Conservation Union

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Annex 1 Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference Strategic and Programmatic Review of the Eastern Africa Regional Office (EARO) of IUCN

4 July 2005

1. Context and Rationale

1.1 IUCN Cycle of Strategic Reviews

As part of its system of evaluation as set out in the IUCN Evaluation Policy, IUCN undertakes a regular series of Strategic Reviews. These reviews assess a range of key performance criteria including relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability of an IUCN component programme (regional or thematic) or policy. Strategic Reviews may be conducted as internal peer reviews or be externally led depending on the nature of the circumstances or the preference of those commissioning the review. Until now, Strategic Reviews of IUCN regional and thematic programmes are commissioned by the Director Global Programme, recent changes in senior management functions will shift this responsibility to the Director General.

The IUCN Eastern Africa Regional Office has been included in the 2005 review cycle at the request of the Director General and the Eastern Africa Regional Office. This review coincides with the start of the 2005-2008 programme cycle and the impending departure of the Regional Director and is an opportune time to review the process of the Regional Office in Eastern Africa.

1.2 IUCN Eastern Africa Regional Office

The Eastern Africa Regional Office was the first regional programme for IUCN. IUCN's presence in Eastern Africa stretches back more than 40 years when it first carried out wildlife conservation projects in the region. Membership grew in the 1970s and early 1980s and the range of IUCN activities expanded, such that a programme of work was required and the Eastern Africa Regional Programme was developed in the mid 1980s.

EARO operates in ten countries in Eastern Africa, the Horn of Africa and the Western Indian Ocean, including Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somalia, Comoros and the Seychelles. Recently, EARO has interacted with the IUCN Regional Office for Central Africa to implement additional activities in Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. EARO also interacts with programmes in Egypt, West Africa and Southern Africa in Malawi and Zambia. EARO is also active in pan-Africa processes such as AU. AMCEN and NEPAD.

IUCN has 22 members in the region and includes representatives of all the IUCN Commissions with regional Commission structures in place for the Commission on Environmental Law, the Commission on Education and Communication, the World Commission on Protected Areas and the Species Survival Commission (through the Sustainable Use Specialist Group).

The regional programme consists of four ecosystem related thematic areas: drylands, tree-dominated ecosystems, coastal and marine and water and wetlands; as well as six service thematic components, including: social policy, biodiversity economics, conservation areas,

implementation of international conventions, environmental planning and support to environmental non-governmental organizations.

EARO is also responsible for liaison with UNEP and as such is responsible for delivering on a major portion of IUCN's policy work.

1.3 Purpose and Objectives of the Review

The overall purpose of the Review is to assess the performance of the Eastern Africa Regional Office with regard to its mandate and programme and to make recommendations for the future strategic direction of the Programme and the management and organizational development of the Office.

The specific objectives of the Review are:

Organizational effectiveness and structure:

- To assess the effectiveness of programmatic and conservation work carried out in the major thematic areas, including drylands, forests, coastal and marine, water and wetlands, biodiversity economics, social policy, implementation of international agreements, environmental planning and support to environmental NGOs. This will include questions of quality of work and outputs, presence of innovation and leading-edge thinking in conservation and employment of the IUCN strategies of knowledge, empowerment and governance (including influence on policies and agreements, development of useful products, linking with stakeholders).
- 2. To assess the effectiveness of strategic management, leadership, donor relations (including changing donor attitudes and modes of support) and organizational development of the Eastern Africa Regional Office.
- 3. To assess the financial viability of the Eastern Africa Regional Office.

Programmatic Relevance

- 4. To assess the continued relevance of the Eastern Africa Regional Programme to the IUCN Members, partners and donors in Eastern Africa, and to the broader IUCN Programme.
- 5. To assess strategic positioning (niche) of the Eastern Africa Regional Programme in relation to the major sustainable development and conservation issues and trends and other actors in Eastern Africa
- 6. To identify major gaps in the Eastern Africa Programme and to suggest futures direction for programme development and for programme management and delivery (both content and capacity).

Based on the above review, to make recommendations for the future development, leadership, management and organization and funding of the Eastern Africa Regional Programme.

On the whole, the emphasis of the review will focus largely on the organizational structure (80%) and how this contributes to questions of relevance and strategic positioning (10%) and the effectiveness of programme delivery (10%). The financial review of EARO will be addressed in a separate process led by IUCN's Finance Division, the results of which will be incorporated into this review.

1.4 Audience for the Review

The Review is commissioned by the IUCN Director-General for the purposes of accountability and learning for future improvement. Both the Director Global Programme and the incoming Regional Director are expected to use the Review to make improvements in the 2005-2008 Intersessional Period, including programme implementation, management and organizational systems.

The major stakeholders of the Review are: Members, partners, donors, IUCN thematic programmes staff (both in EARO and in the global thematic programme), IUCN senior management and the staff of the Eastern Africa Regional Office.

1.5 Questions and Issues to be covered by the Review

See Evaluation Matrix (attached)

2. Review Team

The Review Team will be led by Andrew Ingles (Asia Region) and supported by Alex Moiseev (Adviser, Planning and Evaluation), Line Hempel (Finance), and Caroline Muller (Finance).

Andrew Ingles (Team Leader) will provide oversight to the evaluation process, undertake sensitive interviews, participate in the drafting of the evaluation report, findings and recommendations and any confidential memos arising from the review. In keeping with recent evaluation processes, all findings related to human resources issues will be treated confidentially in a management memo to the Director, Human Resources.

Line Hempel will be responsible for reviewing all financial aspects of the review, including propriety of financial reporting, efficient use of resources, appropriateness of the ABC List's management, etc. (see annex 2). Line Hempel will be responsible for analyzing data, drafting findings and recommendations and liaising with the Team Leader and Adviser, Planning and Evaluation to ensure that the financial aspects of this review are adequately and accurately represented in the Review.

Alex Moiseev will be responsible for providing the design of the evaluation, developing interview protocols and questionnaires, undertaking document reviews, interviewing IUCN Senior Managers and EARO staff on-site, convening focus groups (as necessary), analyzing data, drafting results, findings and recommendations and providing liaison with the Team Leader and Financial Officer.

3. Methodology

To address the key objectives and answer the major questions of the Review, the Review team will collect quantitative and qualitative data from key IUCN stakeholders in the Eastern Africa region, including Members, partners and donors, as well as from IUCN Senior Management (e.g. Director Global Programme, GTP Senior Coordinators, Head, Donor Relations, Director General, etc) and Technical Staff (Heads of select Global Thematic Programmes or Senior Programme Staff), EARO Senior Management, Technical and Support Staff,

Data collection instruments will include documentation analysis, semi-structured interviews with stakeholders listed above, to reach a representative sample of all stakeholder groups.

3.1 Schedule for the Review

The Review will be carried out between 16 May 2005 and 30 July 2005. A detailed workplan, including the level of effort during those dates for all team members will developed shortly, but it is anticipated that the most intensive period of the review will occur between mid June and mid July 2005.

Key activities and milestones for the review are:

- Design and start-up of the Review finalization of Review Team, Evaluation Matrix, design of interview protocols and questionnaires and scheduling or Review Mission will occur between 4 and 10 July. Documentation Review will commence as early as feasible within this timeframe. Interviews of key stakeholders outside of Eastern Africa (HQ and other locations) will occur between 4 and 14 July.
- 2. Review missions will be undertaken in two phases. The finance team will visit EARO in the first week of July, including a staff debriefing at the end of the visit. The draft findings will be communicated immediately to the Review Team Leader and Director Global Programme and Chief Financial Officer to revise the ToR as needed. The programmatic aspects of the review will be undertaken from 18 to 25 July in Nairobi, with a briefing of EARO staff on 25 July, followed by a briefing of the Director-General, Director Global Programme and the Senior Coordinators on 26 July.
- 3. Data Analysis and Drafting of Report, Findings and Recommendations between July 22 and 26, with a draft report produced at this time.
- 4. Discussion of Finding and Recommendations with key Senior Management (HQ and EARO) 26th July, with a Final Report submitted by the end of July.

3.2 Outputs and Deliverables

The Review process will deliver the following outputs:

- 1. Final evaluation matrix of questions, methodology, workplan and budget, including interview protocols and questionnaires (if necessary)
- 2. Data analysis report summarizing the results of interviews.
- 3. Detailed Review report addressing each of the objectives and questions of the Review, analysis to support findings and recommendations.

Dates to be negotiated for deliverables, but ideally, according to the draft Schedule (above).

3.3 Costs of the Review

The overall costs of the Review include:

- 1. Staff time of one Senior Coordinator, Global Programme Team; the Adviser, Planning and Evaluation and two Finance Officers.
- 2. Travel costs for all four to Nairobi, Kenya (airfare and per diem)
- 3. Local expenses, including communications expenses for telephone interviews and local ground transport

The responsibilities, level of effort and costs/source of funding is detailed below:

Team Member	Tasks	Level of Effort	Source of funding
Andrew Ingles	Oversight of review, participate in review mission to EARO and HQ, drafting of review report, findings and recommendations	12 days total	Staff time (in-kind, Asia Region); Travel costs (GPT)
Alex Moiseev	Drafting of TORs, evaluation matrix, evaluation workplan, questionnaires & interview protocols, draft list of documentation, draft list of stakeholders (in collaboration with GPT, EARO).	5 days	Staff-time (GPT)
	Participation in review mission to EARO/HQ; interviews, drafting of report, findings and recommendations	12 days	Staff time and travel costs (GPT)
	Technical assistance in drafting of action plan to follow-up review; assistance in tracking changes	5 days	Staff time (GPT)
Line Hempel	Lead Financial Review mission to EARO; draft report, findings and recommendations	5 days	Staff time and travel costs (CFO)
Caroline Muller	Assist with Financial Review	5 days	Staff time and travel costs (CFO)
EARO	Preparation of documentation and scheduling of interviews.	5 days	Staff time estimated
	Participate in review, discuss findings and recommendations, develop an action plan for follow-up and execute on the review recommendations and action plan.	5 days aggregate participation in interviews and debrief session	
	Support local logistics, including secretarial and local ground travel		EARO

Annex 2 EARO Review Matrix

EVALUATION ISSUES	QUESTIONS	PROPOSED INDICATORS	PROPOSED DATA SOURCES	PROPOSED DATA COLLECTION METHODS
Effectiveness of the EARO organizational model in delivering the EARP	1.1 Describe the current organizational model	Organizational chart, supporting documentation	Document Senior EARO management	Document review, discussions with senior EARO management
	1.2 Is the spread and reach of the current organizational structure appropriate for the region?	Programme stakeholders' satisfaction on the spread and reach of the current structure	IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Individual or group interviews
	1.3 Is current organizational model fostering the development	Quality of data EARO produces on cost-effectiveness of	Financial records or EARO	Document review
	of a strong regional programme that is programmatically and	Programme activities	Earlier evaluations or audits	Individual or group interviews
	financially sound? <very above="" similar="" to=""></very>	Programme stakeholders' satisfaction on current network of offices and organizational model	IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	
	1.4 What is the current EARO Business Plan? Is it	Current EARO Business Plan	Financial records or EARO; review of OABC List	Document review, including financial review
	programmatically and financially sound?	Evidence from recent evaluations or audits that the programme is financially sound	Earlier evaluations or audits	Individual or group interviews
	(would also look at Communication Strategy, Donor Intelligence and Engagement Strategy, Membership engagements strategy)	Evidence of a satisfactory OABC List (composition, movement, etc) Evidence of the cost- effectiveness of EARO recent and current activities	IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors Business Plan, Communication	
		EARO stakeholders' perceptions	Strategy,	
		of soundness of Business Plan	EARO Financial Officers	
		Evidence of sound and accurate donor intelligence.		

EVALUATION ISSUES	QUESTIONS	PROPOSED INDICATORS	PROPOSED DATA SOURCES	PROPOSED DATA COLLECTION METHODS
	1.5 How efficient and effective is the governance of EARO?	Written and anecdotal evidence of efficient and effective governance at EARO (sound strategic leadership, etc)	Documentation on EARO governance. IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Individual or group interviews
	1.6 How efficient and effective is the management of EARO?	Written and anecdotal evidence of: sound HR management (training, professional development, proper guidance, realistic workload, etc); good office internal and external communication; sound managerial leadership; presence of performance review or self-assessments.	EARO documentation IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Interviews or questionnaire
	1.7 How efficient and effective is the operational structure of EARO?	Written and anecdotal evidence of effective regional planning and programming; efficient implementation of activities.	EARO documentation on operational objectives, TORs for staff and internal management mechanisms, etc. IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Interviews or questionnaire
	1.8 To what extent is the financial management of EARO sound?	FINANCIAL REVIEW TORS- ATTACHED		

EVALUATION ISSUES	QUESTIONS	PROPOSED INDICATORS	PROPOSED DATA SOURCES	PROPOSED DATA COLLECTION METHODS
	1.9 How does EARO interact with its donors? (responding to changing priorities, negotiating specific types of financial support)	Presence of adequate resources for EARO activities; cost-effectiveness of engagement with donors; presence of up-to-date, accurate and reliable donor intelligence and donor engagement strategy.	Documentation EARO Senior Staff, HQ Donor Relations Staff, Donors	Document review Interviews
	1.10 Are the roles, responsibilities and incentives of programme staff clearly defined with regard to delivering results and learning from experience?	Presence of clear EARO policies and agreements delineating roles and responsibilities; HR policies on incentives.	EARO policies and agreements delineating roles and responsibilities; HR policies on incentives. EARO Programmatic staff; HR staff	Document review Interviews or questionnaire.
	1.11 How are new and innovative issues dealt with in the operational management structure?	Presence and effectiveness of organizational mechanisms for promoting innovation.	Documentation Internal EARO Programme stakeholders	Document review Interviews or questionnaire.
	1.12 What recommendations can be made based on the above, to improve the governance and management of EARO to promote more effective and efficient delivery of the EARP?	Recommendations on strengthening the current model	IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Interviews or questionnaire
2. Relevance and rational of the Eastern Africa Regional Programme (EARP)	2.1 To what extent does the EARP mirror the major sustainable development issues affecting people and ecosystems in Eastern Africa?	Major sustainable development issues identified in IUCN & EARO documents. Convergence of the EARP with major sustainable development issues in the region. Satisfaction of programme stakeholders with regard to the EARP's alignment with major sustainable development issues.	EARO Situation Analysis, Programme Plan and other documents IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Individual or group interviews:

EVALUATION ISSUES	Questions	PROPOSED INDICATORS	PROPOSED DATA SOURCES	PROPOSED DATA COLLECTION METHODS
	2.2 To what extent is the EARP aligned with the IUCN Programme?	Convergence of EARP's Results with the IUCN Key Result Areas Convergence of the EARP's Strategies with those of the IUCN Programme	EARO Programme & IUCN Programme IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Individual or group interviews
	2.3 What are the new opportunities and/or areas of work for EARO that are not currently considered in the programme?	Programme stakeholders' view of new opportunities and/or areas of work for EARO that are not currently considered in its programme.	IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Individual or group interviews
	2.4 To what extent does EARO interact and add-value to the work of other units of IUCN?	Evidence of collaboration with and satisfaction of other African Regions (ROSA, BRAC, BRAO, WesCANA). Evidence of collaboration with and satisfaction of Global Thematic Programmes (e.g. Forests, Wetlands & Water, Marine, etc)	Regional Directors and/or Programme Coordinators of ROSA, BRAC, BRAO and WesCANA. Global Thematic Programme Heads and/or Senior Programme Officers. EARO Senior and Technical Staff	Interviews

EVALUATION ISSUES	Questions	PROPOSED INDICATORS	PROPOSED DATA SOURCES	PROPOSED DATA COLLECTION METHODS
3. Effectiveness of the Eastern Africa Regional Programme (EARP)	3.1 Are activities and outputs delivered on time, and on budget?	Planned and actual dates of activities and outputs delivery Programme stakeholders' satisfaction regarding timely delivery of EARO activities	Monitoring reports, donor reporting on EARO activities and outputs delivery. Financial statements on current activities and EARO Financial Officers IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Interviews or questionnaire
	3.2 Are outputs of programmes being used to bring about the desired outcomes? (e.g. changes in individuals, communities and organizations)	Written and anecdotal evidence that programme outputs are used to bring about desired outcomes.	EARO evaluations and internal reviews on outcomes IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Interviews or questionnaire
	3.3 Do the regional programme components have a coherent set of projects throughout the region? To what extent security and access affect the countries and themes in which the EARP engages?	Evidence of coherence from EARO Programme plans and documents Programme stakeholders' views that the programme components have a coherent set of projects throughout the region.	EARO Programme plans and documents IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Document review Interviews or questionnaire
	3.4 To what extent does EARO help deliver on IUCN's global policy work?	Evidence of interaction and influence as the UNEP focal point	UNEP stakeholders, IUCN Global Change and Policy Group	Interviews
	3.5 Does the EARP represent leading-edge thinking in conservation and sustainable development?	Programme stakeholders' views on whether or not the programme represents leading edge thinking in conservation and sustainable development	IUCN Programmatic staff, IUCN Senior Management, EARO Senior and Technical staff, Members, National Committee Chairs, Partners, Donors	Individual or group interviews

Annex 3 Terms of Reference for the EARO Financial Review

EASTERN AFRICA REGIONAL OFFICE

PROGRAMME FINANCIAL REVIEW

DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE - FINANCE ISSUES

ABC List

- 1. Prepare a list of ABC projects/proposals over the last four years indicating the following details and assess the conversion from A to B and then from B to C
 - a. Title of project
 - b. Date development of idea/proposal started
 - c. Date proposal submitted to donor
 - d. Name of donor
 - e. Currency of contract and total amount contracted
 - f. Total project amount in USD (ledger currency)
 - g. Date(s) of follow up with donor
 - h. Key issues raised in follow up
 - i. Date proposal rejected
 - j. Date proposal accepted
 - k. Project amount accepted and committed
 - Date Project agreement signed
 - m. Retained amount and percentage payable on submission of final report
 - n. Date work commenced
 - o. Duration of original project
 - p. Project extension date and duration
 - q. Total committed staff time and management fees on project
 - r. Amount of staff time and mgt fees taken in first year of project

 - s. Amount of staff time and mgt fees taken in 2nd year of project t. Amount of staff time and mgt fees taken in 3rd year of project
 - u. Amount of staff time and mgt fees taken in 4th year of project
 - v. Amount of staff time and management fees not taken at time of the extension

SPECIFIC WORK REGARDING THE ABC LIST

To prepare before travel to EARO:

- Establish ABC lists for the years 2001 2005
- Extract total budget by project and compare to ABC forecast, actual expenditure in order to identify whether there is a pattern of implementation delay.
- Extract from project contracts and budgets total staff time and management fees by project and compare to actual.
- Try to establish how many and at what rate A and B project have converted to

In EARO:

Discuss with relevant staff the concept behind the ABC list construction (especially the factoring of A and B projects)

- Understand who is involved (finance, programme etc) in ABC list revision and how often the ABC list is revised.
- Discuss with relevant staff the discrepancy between actuals and forecast for project expenditure and cost recovery project by project in order to understand why there is a delay in implementation and consequently a shortfall in cost recovery. (C projects)
- B project (programmatic)
- Go through 2005 C and B projects to establish a realistic picture for 2005 and maybe 2006.
- Go through CC budget in details with a view to determining potential areas where expenditure could be cut.

Projects in deficit

2. Review all projects in deficit and those for which provisions for projects-in-deficit have been made and identify the true reasons for incurring the deficits and what has been done to recover the funds from donors. In particular establish the person responsible for the deficit and assess why the deficits resulted and whether there was non compliance with the terms and conditions of the project agreement.

Consultants

- 3. Prepare a list of all consultants used on project work over the last four years and indicate the following details. Establish and record the process followed in awarding consultancy contracts
 - a. Name of the firm
 - b. Name of the lead consultant and the assistants if any
 - c. Project name
 - d. Manager of the project
 - e. Nature of work undertaken by consultant
 - f. Main types of skills required for the work
 - g. Duration of the consultant contract
 - h. Amount of consultancy fees
 - i. Amount of travel costs
 - j. Date work started
 - k. Date final report submitted
 - I. Date work finalised
 - m. Date final payment made
 - n. Contract amount currently outstanding if any
 - o. Comments on nature of work or contract or other observations

Procurement of goods and services

- 4. Review all purchases of goods and services (excluding consultants) valued at more than USD 2,500 each (or a group if done in a batch) over the last four years and establish procedures followed in ensuring there is value for money for IUCN. Record the following details:
 - a. Date of purchase
 - b. Type and quantity of goods or services
 - c. Name of supplier
 - d. Name of alternative suppliers who submitted bids
 - e. General comments and observations

Staff costs

- Analyse staff costs by category of persons (i.e. by department or section) and compare the total category costs over the last four years and identify the main reasons for cost changes during this time. Staff members who are contracted directly to projects should not be included. List the following details
 - a. Name of division or section
 - b. List of staff members under each of the division or section
 - c. Total payroll costs by year for the last four years (including benefits and statutory costs)
 - d. Rate of general salary increase (for inflation and/or merit) for each category if different

Disposal of assets

- 6. List all assets with an original cost of more than USD 1,000 disposed of in the last four years and establish the following details:
 - a. Asset name or description
 - b. Original cost in USD
 - c. Date of original purchase
 - d. Date of disposal
 - e. Net book value at time of disposal
 - f. Net sales proceeds
 - g. Name of person who purchased
 - h. Process used in disposing of the asset

Receivables and advances

7. Review outstanding receivables and advances, prepare an aging analysis and determine whether the amounts that are more than 12 months overdue can still be repaid to IUCN. On this analysis, include both staff loans and travel advances. Check to ensure that there is no expenditure being hidden under advances.

Creditors and accounts payable

8. Prepare an aging analysis of all amounts owed to creditors or accounts payable and establish the reasons for any long unsettled amounts. In particular check to ensure that there is no income or cost recoveries being hidden under creditors.

VAT recoveries

9. Establish the procedures followed for VAT recoveries and assess whether all due amounts were properly claimed and reimbursed by the Revenue Authority. To do this, record the recoverable VAT per year for the last four year and determine the types of purchases that it is based on. Review in total terms such expenditure and ensure that all due amounts have been correctly claimed.

Foreign exchange conversion

10. Review any foreign exchange conversions undertaken and assess the procedure followed to ensure that the best rates are obtained and if there has been any specific negotiation with the bank. In addition, list the bank accounts and record the major transfers between the accounts in the last 2 years and determine reasons for any major ones.

Annex 4 Stakeholders Consulted

	Group 1 IUCN secretariat	
Name	Title or Unit	Organization
Bill Jackson	Director Global Programme	IUCN HQ
Susan Mainka	Snr. Coordinator, GPT	IUCN HQ
Christian Laufenberg	Programme Officer	IUCN HQ
Stewart Maginnis	Global Forest Programme	IUCN HQ
Carl Gustav Lundin	Global Marine Programme	IUCN HQ
Jean-Yves Pirot	ex-WWRP, Senior Coordinator	IUCN HQ
Ger Bergkamp	WWRP	IUCN HQ
Danielle Perrot-Maitre	WWRP	IUCN HQ
Martha Chouchena-Rojas	PBIA	IUCN HQ
Andrew Deutz	IUCN US	IUCN US
Simon Rietbergen	EMP/CEM	IUCN HQ
Jean-Chrisotphe Vie	Species/SSC	IUCN HQ
David Sheppard	PPA/WCPA	IUCN HQ
Nancy MacPherson	Special Advisor, Performance Assessment	IUCN HQ
Eldad Tukahirwa	Regional Director	EARO
Geoffrey Howard	Programme Coordinator	EARO
Kelly West	Technical Coordinator	EARO
Laurent Ntahuga	Technical Coordinator	EARO
Melita Samoilys	Technical Coordinator	EARO
Ed Barrow	Technical Coordinator	EARO
Florence Chege	Acting Head of PM	EARO
Chihenyo Mvoyi	Junior Programme Officer	EARO
Maureen Babu	Junior Programme Officer	EARO
Serah Kiragu	Programme Officer	EARO
Angella Langat	Programme Officer	EARO
Charles Jowi	Programme Officer	EARO
Kimani Kamau	Programme Officer	EARO
Barbara Nkangu	Programme Officer	EARO
Emilie Mottier	Intern, Programme Officer	Tanzania CO
Tom Nguli	Head of Finance	EARO
Atieno Onyoni	Project Finance	EARO
Diana Arodi	Human Resources	EARO
Abdulrahman Issa	Tanzania Country Office	Tanzania CO
	Uganda Country Office	Uganda CO

	Group 1 IUCN secretariat continue	ed
Name	Title or Unit	Organization
Ibrahim Thiaw	Regional Director	BRAO
Daniel Ngantou	Regional Director	BRAC
James Murombedzi	Regional Director	ROSA
Odeh Al-Jayyousi	Regional Director	WesCANA
Aban Marker Kabraji	Regional Director	ARO
Lucy Emerton	ELG2 Head	ARO
Enrique Lahmann	Former Regional Director	ORMA
Gr	oup 2 IUCN members and commi	ssions
Mr, Julius Kipng'etich	Director, Kenya Wildlife Service	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Richard Bagine	Deputy Director, Kenya Wildlife Service	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Ali Kaka	Executive Director	East African Wildlife Society
Violet Matiru	Acting Executive Director	Environment Liaison Centre International
Selby Remie	Senior Conservation Officer	Ministry of Environment and Transport
Julius Francis	Executive Secretary	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Assoc.
Emmanuel Severre	Director	Ministry of Tourism, Natural Resources and Env.
Mr Bazira	Permanent Secretary	Ministry of Lands, Water and Environment
David Mutekanga	Executive Secretary	Uganda Wildlife Society
Holly Dublin	SSC Chair	
	Group 3 Partners	
Dr Peter Acquah	Acting Deputy Director for the Regional Office for Africa (RoA)	UNEP, RoA
James Leten	Programme Officer, Regional Office for Africa	UNEP, RoA
Tom Okurut	Director, Lake Victoria	East African Community
Leo Niskanen	Programme Officer	IUCN/SSC African Elephant Specialist Group
Niger Hunter	CITES-MIKE	
Susan Matindi		WWF, EARPO
Kwame Koranteng	Director, Eastern Africa Regional Programme Office	WWF, EARPO
	Group 4 Donors	
Charles Drazu	Royal Netherlands Embassy	RNE Uganda
Heather Elkins		EU Kenya

Name	Title or Unit	Organization
Frederich Mahler		EU Somalia
Walter Knausenberger		USAID
Kiki Nordern		SIDA
Allan Rodgers		UNDP-GEF
Milagre Nuvunga		Ford Foundation

Annex 5 Documents Consulted

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Annex 6 Excerpts from the EARO Situation Analysis

TABLE 4. SUMMARY SI	TUATION ANALYSIS FOR T	THE HORN OF AFRICA – S	Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritr	EA, DJIBOUTI AND SOMA	LIA
Status	Trends	Pressures	Driving Forces	Opportunities	Responses
Mostly arid and semi-arid	Climate change	Climate change	Population growth and	NBSAPs, NAPs (for	Need for IUCN to engage
with serious droughts and desertification	already increasing		movement + refugees	CCD), PRPSs	in the area and support
descrimention	frequency of dry	Population increase	and returnees		national, regional and
Major economic activity is	periods and floods	and movement +		International	international processes
pastoralism, limited cultivation which has high		refugee and IDP	Food security	conventions - CBD,	related to NRM (incl.
risk	Dryland natural	concentrations		UNFCCC, CCD,	CBNRM) and
T 4 id-	resources/biodiversity		Resource tenure -	Ramsar as most	biodiversity
Large areas reserved with consequent increased pressure	and pastoralism values	HIV-AIDS and human	access to pasture,	countries are	conservation/management
on land users	increasingly	resources	water, biodiversity,	signatories	
C:::C:t	recognised		land, etc.		IGAD increasingly
Significant "under development" and continuing		Global threats of		IGAD	engaged in NMR,
conflicts	Land-use pressures	terrorism	Communal lands seen		CBNRM, biodiversity
Cionificant food ingo somity	increasing, land		as commons, not	NEPAD, AU	
Significant food insecurity	availability decreasing,	Habitat loss through	under communal		NEPAD recognition of
Water restricted to limited	forest and pastures	land conversion and	management	UNEP-ROA, UNECA,	IGAD and NEPAD
sources but unevenly	decreasing	degradation		UN initiative for the	Environment Strategy
scattered across the area			Water management	Horn of Africa	
	Armed conflicts	Competition for land -	and integrated river		Increasing economic
Upstream-downstream potential water conflicts	continuing with	between pastoralism,	basin management	Biodiversity hotspots	understanding of dryland
potential water conflicts	consequent	cultivation,		and areas of endemism	(and wetland) values and
Important centers of	diminishing	forestation, wildlife	Peace process		functions
endemism (on mountains and	infrastructures and		beginning to have	Decentralization	
in drylands + wetter "patches")	increasing refugees	Human-wildlife	effect		Civil society movements
1 /	and IDPs	conflicts		Political stability	including the whole area
			Dryland inhabitants	improving	and becoming vocal in
	Pressure increasing for	Increasing scarcity or	and lifestyles tend to		sustainable development
	rational water use and	NR especially water,	be marginalized	Possibilities for	and environment

	ΓABLE 4. SUMMARY SITUATION ANALYSIS FOR THE HORN OF AFRICA – SUDAN, ETHIOPIA, ERITREA, DJIBOUTI AND SOMALIA					
Status	Trends	Pressures	Driving Forces	Opportunities	Responses	
	distribution	forests, biodiversity		mainstreaming		
				environment in	IUCN Drylands	
	Sectoral policies	Most rural energy is		development,	Programme and CEM	
	related to natural	biomass-based		rehabilitation,		
	resources often			economic planning,	UN and NGOs moving	
	changing	Invasives species			from relief to	
		spreading		Rising voice of CSOs	rehabilitation to	
	Biodiversity under			(in some countries)	sustainable development	
	valued and diminishing				and seeing need for	
				Nile Basin Initiative,	environmental	
				etc.	perspectives	

TABLE 5. SUMMARY SIT	UATION ANALYSIS FOR E	AST AFRICA – KENYA, TA	NZANIA, UGANDA (+ RWA	ANDA AND BURUNDI)	
Status	Trends	Pressures	Driving Forces	Opportunities	Responses
High rural population densities	Climate change beginning to	Climate change - more extreme	Climate change	EAC, IGAD, SADC and other	Poverty alleviated through
in some areas (low in others) &	have impact on patterns of	events of drought and flood -		regional institutions and	sustainable use of NRs and
growth rates still relatively	rainfall and water availability	less reliability of "weather"	Population growth and	programmes such as LVFO,	planning with stakeholders
high			movement	NBI, AMCEN, NEPAD;	
	Ecosystems and habitats	Inefficient and unsustainable		UNEP, UNECA, Highlands	Improvement of integration
Poverty widespread throughout	degrading through over-use	harvest of NRs ("mining" of	Sectoral planning and	Initiative, CGIAR, etc.	and capacity for environmental
	and single-usage	forest, woodland, wetland and	management of natural		views, wise NRM, and
Most people rural and reliant		dryland resources)	resources and environment, i.e.	Decentralization	biodiversity conservation in
on subsistence farming,	Poverty increasing in relative		lack of integration across		regional institutions and
livestock, fisheries,	and absolute terms and	Competition for land, water	sectors or mainstreaming of	Community based natural	programmes
forest/woodland products, NR	resulting in unsustainable use	and biodiversity resources	environmental perspectives	resource management	
use	of water, soils, biodiversity	(including "wildlife")			Support to the NRM and
			Reducing soil and water	Land review, land reform -	biodiversity aspects of
Arid, semi-arid and well-	Deforestation, woodland	Habitat and ecosystem	quality and availability	policy and practice	decentralization and national
watered lands + significant	conversion, wetland reduction	conversion, degradation and			planning (economic and
water storages (lakes) and river	and pasture shortage as	destruction	Perverse economic incentives	International and regional	development)
systems	cultivation increases and		for non-sustainable NRM	agreements related NRM and	
	competition for land increases	HIV-AIDS and loss of human		biodiversity management	Domestication of regional and
Water deficiency critical in		resources (including loss of	Ignorance of the economic		international agreements and
some areas	Increasing human-wildlife	institutional effectiveness &	value of biodiversity and	Concepts of wise use of natural	enhanced capacity to
	conflicts	memory)	ecological services	resources and multiple NR use	implement them
Land-locked countries (UG,				as well as EIA, environmental	
RW, BU) reliant on coastal	Conflicts increasing over land	Human population increase	Globalization process	planning, ecosystem	Capacity enhanced for
neighbours	and natural resources	with consequent pressures on	sidelining and undermining	management and IRBM	biodiversity management - at
		land and access to NRs	equity and sustainable		ecosystem level and in both
Biodiversity hotspots, high	Decreasing availability of good		development initiatives	Civil Society involvement	"hotspots" and areas of lesser
endemism, forests and	quality water in some areas -	Globalization and international			diversity (but of local
wetlands of global biodiversity	for people, industry,	trade affecting markets and	GMOs and invasive species	IUCN's networks of Members,	importance)
importance	agriculture and environment	productivity at the expense of	_ ~	Partners and Commissions	
		biodiversity	Conflicts – political and		Landuse planning and
PAs many and widespread but	Single-uses of land increasing,		environmental	Donor interest - bilateral and	environmental planning at
not integrated for general	communal lands decreasing	Natural processes such as		multilateral and foundations	local and national levels
biodiversity conservation		siltation and erosion -			
l	Increasing awareness of the	enhanced by inappropriate		Improving policy climate	IRBM, landscape and
Water, chemical and solid	need for biodiversity	farming and extraction			ecosystem management
pollution becoming significant	conservation and sustainable	methods		Increased awareness of the	systems in large ecosystems
	development - but little change			need for sustainable	and across borders
Inadequate financial and	in practice to match that	Poverty, food security, family		development and role of NRM,	
political support of	awareness	security (greed?)		biodiversity conservation and	Landscape management and
environment, environmental				environmental management	restoration promoted and

Status	Trends	Pressures	Driving Forces	Opportunities	Responses
aspects of development and	Changing institutions and	Alien invasive species of both			effected - including control of
value of NRs in economic	emphasis on environmental	animals and plants		Interest in ecosystem	invasives
plans	and biodiversity management			restoration	
	in govts	Inadequate support from			All-stakeholder involvement in
International environmental		financial support systems for			planning and management of
agreements not well	Local stakeholders becoming	both government and non-			NRs and biodiversity -
understood, managed or	more aware of their rights and	government organizations with			capacity and policy enhanced
domesticated	responsibilities for NRM but	mandates for NRM And			
	often lacking policies and	biodiversity management			Equity made essential in access
EIA and environmental	capacity to do so				and use of natural resources
planning gradually taking hold		Inadequate capacity for NRM			
- but still limited	Policy and legal environments	and biodiversity management			Mechanisms for conflict
	for national and local NRM				resolution developed and
CSO (NGO, CBO, etc.)	and biodiversity conservation				supported
involvement in NRM and	improving but not yet adequate				
biodiversity management still	across the region				CSOs involved in planning and
not widely accepted					implementation of sustainable
					development
					Economic incentives for
					biodiversity conservation explored
					explored

TABLE 6. SUMMARY SITUA	TABLE 6. SUMMARY SITUATION ANALYSIS FOR EASTERN AFRICA COAST AND ASSOCIATED MARINE SYSTEMS					
Status	Trends	Pressures	Driving Forces	Opportunities	Responses	
A long mainland coast (approx	Declining shallow	Climate change and sea-	Climate change	International conventions	Establishment of	
6,900 km) extending along six countries	marine and coastal	level rise	and sea-level rise	and agreements relating	integrated conservation	
	habitats (corals,			to the high seas and	approach	
High biodiversity in the Red Sea and significant coral reefs, sea-	seagrass beds,	Increasing human	Land-use pressures	fisheries		
grass beds and mangroves along	mangroves)	populations	affecting coastal		Strengthening the	
most of the coast			resources	Regional agreements	activities of MPAs	
Significant and diverse fisheries	Declining coastal	Costal people dependent		such as Jakarta mandate		
along the coast, off-shore and in	fish populations	on marine resources for	Globalisation and	and Nairobi convention	Strengthening policies	
the deep ocean	and local marine	food and income	markets driving		related to EIA, coastal	
Two small island developing states	biodiversity		unsustainable	EAC and IGAD as well	and land tenure, etc.	
with significant biodiversity,		Overexploitation of	fishing methods	as NEPAD		
endemism and reliance on NRs -	Declining pelagic	fisheries resources and	and intensities		Strengthening and	
both coastal and terrestrial	fisheries	unsustainable fishing		Environment acts,	increase of coastal and	
Large proportion of the regions		methods	Inadequate	policies and institutional	marine research and	
people living at the coast and	Rapidly declining		fisheries	bodies	research institutions	
depending upon coastal resources	large threatened	Coral mining	legislation			
Small populations on the islands	species such as		_	Strong research	Establishment of	
with consequent lack of capacity to	dugongs and seas	Declining mollusc	Poor policy	community and	conservation	
manage NRs, biodiversity and environment generally	turtles	populations	practice on landuse	institutions (such as	associations and	
environment generally				KMFRI, CRCP,	societies	
Off-shore and deep-ocean fisheries	Increasing human	Siltation resulting from	Inadequate	CORDIO, UoN,) and		
exploited by other countries and often without regulation	populations and	inappropriate	capacity to manage	conservation agencies	Predictions outlining	
onen wandar regulation	urbanization at the	agriculture,	marine	and NGOs (such as	mitigation measures	
Unsustainable fishing pressures	coast	deforestation, etc	emergencies (e.g.	CDA, TARDA, ICZM,	D 11'	
and methods prevalent along the mainland coast and islands	0 1 0		oil spills)	KCMI, WWF, IFAW,	Public awareness	
	Coral reef	Alteration (reduction) of		EAWS, WIOMSA)	campaigns	
Sea level rise predicted throughout	bleaching from	stream flows affecting				

Land-based pollution affecting coastal systems	time to time Increasing siltation	coastal and marine habitats	Strong donor relationship (with, for example, UNDP, GTZ, NORAD,	Strengthening of institutional capacities
Threats from oil-spills and marine invasives	and land-based pollution affecting	Coastal erosion	SIDA)	Support for ecosystem restoration
	estuaries and coastal habitats	Solid (and other) waste disposal	Greater involvement of community in planning and decision making	Empowerment of local communities
	Conflicts in coastal management	Pollution from shipping	processes	Adaptive management
	Inadequate policies and insufficient	Dumping of dangerous wastes at sea and on coasts	Established Marine Protected Areas	Donor funded projects on poverty alleviation,
	enforcement of regulations for use	Invasive species through	Possibilities for mainstreaming	HIV/AIDS
	of coastal and marine resources	shipping pathways and larval migration	environment in development, rehabilitation, economic	Trials on alternative livelihoods
			planning, Political goodwill	

Annex 7 EARO's Programmatic Evolution

EARO work in the late 1980s and early 1990s was mostly in protected areas – both for wildlife and forests – through large Conservation and Development projects in, e.g., Serengeti, Ngorongoro, TANAPA, East Usambaras, Garamba, Mt Elgon. The ecosystem focus began in 1991 with wetlands, added forests and marine in 2002 then general biodiversity in 2003. By 2005, the emphasis had changed to "working in four key ecosystems" on a range of cross-cutting conservation and NRM issues (e.g. PAs, economics, MEAs, EA and EIA, sustainable development and social issues). In the last ten years this has continued but the emphases have changed as below…

Theme & Location	What we did 5-10 years ago	What we do now	Comment Impact/Rationale
Wetlands – Uganda (also in Tanzania and Kenya)	 Developed wetland programme (beginning 1989) – inventories on extent and condition Built capacity for wetland management Developed wetland policy and in Wetland Departments in government and wetlands strategies 	 Handed over to the Ugandan government and two NGOs (continue to) add specific small technical inputs to members and partners in wetland management 	 Famous across Africa and worldwide Led to Ramsar COP9 in Uganda Stimulated other countries in the region to do the same
Forests – Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania (CDPs)	 Four large forest conservation and development site projects Initiated CBNRM at sites, community contracts, improved management, provided inputs to national policies 	 Handed over to national governments and NGOs Moved to regional multi-country forest issues and CBNRM in other critical forests 	 No need to continue on CDPs, basis developed for others Moved to new issues: climate change, water catchment values and biodiversity hot spots related to river basins
Marine and coastal	ICZM and MPAs	 Completed long-term Tanga project, now a model for rest of TZ and EA coast Moving to Red Sea and Somali coasts – very different problems and issues 	Established EARO/IUCN as a leader in ICZM involving community both in-shore and off-shore and in marine systems

Theme & Location	What we did 5-10 years ago	What we do now	Comment Impact/Rationale
Drylands	 Began process seven years ago in Somalia and three years ago in Sudan (East and West) Pastoral areas in Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Djibouti 	CBNRM, pastoralism as a form of dryland biodiversity conservation and the most effective strategy for livelihood support in arid lands	 New area for IUCN this century – new approaches to pastoralism, dryland biodiversity and coping strategies Also refugee issues
Ecosystem restoration	Began one year ago	Sudan and Eritrea – drylandsUganda - wetlands	Concepts developing, trials beginning
WANI	 IRBM, IWRM began 2002 Nairobi Rivers began 2001 	 Environmental flows, sub-catchment partnerships, Detailed IRBM with NGO and civil society as partners Water users as partners 	Established role for IUCN beyond wetlands to water conservation and management, Environmental flows still evolving
Regional wetlands	Established wetlands as "respectable ecosystems"	Finalized in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan – no need for IUCN except in specific details	Wetlands a word known throughout Eastern Africa – mechanisms, capacity built – new ideas for management now possible
MEAs in the region	 Ramsar support CBD introduced NBSAPs and National reports CMS and CITES Global Biodiversity Forums Regional Biodiversity Forums 	Moved to specific parts of work programmes and country activities – e.g. ABS, IAS and Plant Conservation Strategy	IUCN helped to get countries to understand MEAs and their roles. No longer needed except in specific details moving to synergies between MEAs
Nile	 Began 2001, established in 2002,3 then stopped in 2004 due to donor misunderstanding Provides essential CS support for involvement in large-scale development planning 	Revived 2005 – civil society input in support of the NBI CS capacity and awareness being	 Work of 2003/4 has become a model for Niger and Congo River Basins and is being planned for Zambezi Has become a vehicle for Dams Commission concepts in practice

Theme & Location	What we did 5-10 years ago	What we do now	Comment Impact/Rationale
Lake Victoria	Nile perch economics and livelihoods	 Procedures for CBNRM in Nileperch and beaches Other L.Victoria initiatives Support to shared ecosystems and cross-border management through the East African Community 	 From a specific focus on Nile perch issues to general fisheries and biodiversity of the lake and its catchment –including shared resources between KE, TZ, UG Support to the Lake Victoria initiatives of SIDA and NORAD and other lake organisations EARO now an authority on L. Victoria
Livelihoods and conservation	Stimulated by Nile perch and other ideas of sustainable livelihoods in early 2000/1	 Has become the mainstay of Nile perch project Very much a part of most forest, coastal and dryland efforts – linking to livelihood improvement 	Resulted in many (scores) of case studies and policy recommendations at village and sub-national levels; impacted our work with PRSPs
Social aspects of ecosystem management	Slow start in late 1990s	KRA 2 now the largest in the EA 2005-8 regional programme; largest in 2005 workplan with inputs in KRA 1 and 3 as well	Social/livelihood/poverty concerns now throughout the field and general projects EARO becoming know regionally for this aspect of conservation
EIA	1990-2000 assisted with EIA scoping, planning, technical inputs and assessments	New approach is building capacity, developing regional networks and supporting structures and training across Africa	 A revival of EIA in concert with the new environmental institutions in then region (e.g. NEMA) Situating EARO to have EIA influence in the many NEPAD and NBI development plans and projects

Theme & Location	What we did 5-10 years ago	What we do now	Comment Impact/Rationale
NEPAD and other African Programmes	Entered the arena of NEPAD after WSSD	 Focus on the NEPAD Environmental Action Plan AMCEN and AU and Africa Convention 	 Appreciated for our role in the IGAD Sub-Regional Environment Action plan development, More emphasis needed on NEPAD in the EA context
PA Issues	Originally supporting management planning	Pan African processesPA~management effectiveness	 New approaches to PAs primarily for biodiversity management
Economics	Developed capacity in assessment in forests and wetlands	EARO wants to expand to all ecosystems and to continue to assist with the evaluation of NR in national accounting	(Short of technical expertise at present)
The VEMPs concept (Village Environmental Management Plans) to balance conservation with NRM and more efficiency and use of local resources	Began in Rufiji in 1998 as a trial for village level input to district planning	Now current in coastal processes, in dryland work in Sudan and wetland planning at village level	Provides a local form of environmental governance and is beginning to drive district planning
Southern Sudan	Watched for decades but unable to enter with any certainty of impact or efficiency	Several concepts developed in mid 2005 – EIA, environmental governance, wetland and forest management	A new area for IUCN requiring new partners and new approaches in a new government
HIV/AIDS and conservation		Initiating work on the relationship of HIV (and malaria) to NRM and biodiversity conservation in the coastal situation of Tanzania	EARO hopes that this can stimulate similar work and solutions to this problem in other parts of EA without jumping on the HIV-AIDS "bandwagon"

EARO, July, 2005

Annex 8 Presentations

To be added

Annex 9 Data Collection Instruments

EARO REVIEW - INTERVIEW PROTOCOL SENIOR MANAGERS, REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND PROGRAMME COORDINATION

Background

In support of the Eastern Africa Regional Office Review, we are interviewing a range of stakeholders from inside and outside of IUCN. This review is primarily focused on the organizational and managerial aspects of EARO and how this informs the effective and efficient delivery of a programme relevant to IUCN and the need of Eastern Africa. This protocol has been sent to you so that you may have a guide to the questions asked during the interview. Please do not fill out this questionnaire. Your responses will be held in confidence.

The interview will last approximately 30 minutes.

1. Background						
Name & Position						
1.1 Stakeholder Group						
EARO Senior Manager	EARO Staff	Donor	Member, Partner, Commission	IUCN Senior Manager		
2. Programmatic Relevance 2.1 What sort of interaction do you have with EARO? Please list and describe.						

Key Partner	Helps deliver some key results	Helps deliver some activities	Does not help deliver our programme	Don't know or unsure	
2.3 Comments			· •		
2.4 (If applicable	e) To what extent	do you help EAR(O deliver its progra	amme?	
	_	_	_	_	
Key Partner	Help deliver some key results	Help deliver some activities	Do not help EARO deliver its programme	Don't know or unsure	
2.5 Comments					
2.6 Do you have any joint programming activities with EARO? Please list.					

2.2 (If applicable) To what extent does EARO help you deliver your programme?

EARO address in its programme?				
		Programme meet es in Eastern Afric		tion and
Yes, absolutely	In some key aspects	In a few instances	Not at all	Don't know
2.9 Comments				
3. Programme C	Coordination and	l Delivery		
3.1 To your know	vledge, are activit	ies and products o	delivered on time?	•
Always	Usually	Occasionally	Seldom or never	Don't Know
3.2 Comments – examples of late delivery?				
3.3 From your peand credibility?	erspective, are the	e products and ser	vices of EARO of	good quality

High quality and credibility	Adequate overall	Inadequate overall, but with some positives	Completely inadequate overall	Don't know	
3.4 Examples of	good or poor qua	lity/credibility			
	of changes indicat	at the outputs pro ted by their progra			
Considerably	In specific instances	Marginally	Not at all	Don't know/no basis to judge	
3.6 Can you provide any specific examples with which you are familiar?					
-					

3.7 (If you answered "marginally" or "not at all" why do you think this is the case?						
4. Reporting (Christian and Sue only)4.1 In your opinion, what is the quality of EARO's quarterly and annual reporting?						
Very Good	Adequate	Marginally acceptable	Unacceptable	Don't know		
4.2 What issues have been revealed by the quarterly reporting?						
4.3 How were these issues dealt with?						
,						
5. Business Model & Plan						
5.1 Are you familiar with the Business Plan or Model of EARO? If not, why not?						
_						

5.2 Which elements of the Business Plan appear most sound?						
5.3 Which eleme	ents of the Busines	ss Plan require str	rengthening?			
6. Organizational Model						
6.1 Are you familiar with EARO's organizational structure?						
If yes, proceed to Question 6.2, otherwise, skip to Question 7.1						
			ou have seen acro ating the delivery o			
		_		_		
Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not very effective	Not at all effective	Don't know		
6.3 Comments						

efficient is the EARO organizational model in facilitating the delivery of its programme? Very efficient Somewhat Not very Not efficient at Don't know efficient efficient all 6.5 Comments 6.6 What advantages do you see to EARO's Programme Coordination structure? (highly centralized programme and project coordination, country offices delivering on the EARP) 6.7 What are the disadvantages? 6.8 What changes would you suggest for EARO's Programme Coordination structure or organizational model?

6.4 In comparison to other organizational models you have seen across IUCN, how

7. Management of EARO

7.1 How well managed is the Eastern Africa Regional Office as an organization? (Probe on leadership if offered)

Very well managed	Fairly well managed	Poorly managed	Very poorly managed	Don't know			
	7.2 If you answered "Fairly," "Poorly," or "Very poorly," what changes would you suggest to strengthen leadership at the organizational level?						
7.3 How well-ma	inaged is EARO's	Programme?					
Very well managed	Fairly well managed	Poorly managed	Very poorly managed	Don't know			
7.4 If you answered "fairly well," "poorly," or "very poorly," what changes would you suggest to strengthen management of the EARO Programme?							

8. Other Issues
For Commission Focal Points
Can you suggest any key Commission members from Eastern Africa, familiar with EARO, with whom we should speak?

EARO REVIEW – INTERVIEW PROTOCOL QUESTIONS FOR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

Background

In support of the Eastern Africa Regional Office Review, we are interviewing a range of stakeholders from inside and outside of IUCN. This review is primarily focused on the organizational and managerial aspects of EARO and how this informs the effective and efficient delivery of a programme relevant to IUCN and the need of Eastern Africa. This protocol has been sent to you so that you may have a guide to the questions asked during the interview. Please do not fill out this questionnaire. Your responses will be held in confidence.

The interview will last approximately 30 minutes.

Name and position								
1.1 Stakeholder	1.1 Stakeholder Group							
EARO Senior Manager	EARO Staff	Donor	Member, Partner, Commission	IUCN Senior Manager				
2.1 Overall, how	would you charac	cterize your relatio	onship with EARO	?				
		_						
Excellent	Adequate	Inadequate	Poor	Don't know				

2.2 Comments							
2.3 What kinds	2.3 What kinds of activities are you undertaking with EARO?						
2.4 From your p Eastern Africa?	erspective, does I	EARO's Programn	ne meet your obje	ectives in			
Completely	Meets some of our objectives	Meets a few of our objectives	Not at all	Don't know			
2.5 Comments							

2.8 (2.2) To wha	2.8 (2.2) To what extent does EARO help you deliver your programme?					
Key Partner	Helps deliver some key results	Helps deliver some activities	Does not help deliver our programme	Don't know or unsure		
2.9 (2.7) Comm	ents?					
		ARO's Programmeses in Eastern Afri	e meet the key co ca?	nservation and		
Yes, absolutely	In some key aspects	In a few instances	Not at all	Don't know		
2.11 (2.9) On wh	2.11 (2.9) On what other issues do you think EARO should be working?					
2.12 What do you see as EARO's comparative advantage relative to other organizations you work with?						

2.13 What else should EARO be doing to better exploit is comparative advantage?
2.14 In your opinion, is EARO working in the right countries in Eastern Africa? If no, where should EARO be working?
2.15 (Members) What kinds of services do you receive from EARO as a Member?
2.16 (Members) What kinds of services do you expect to receive from EARO as a Member?

2.17 Overall, how satisfied are you with the services you receive from EARO?					
Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Not very satisfied	Not at all satisfied	Don't know	
3.3 From your peand credibility?	erspective, are the	products and ser	vices of EARO of	good quality	
High quality and credibility	Adequate overall	Inadequate overall, but with some positives	Completely inadequate overall	Don't know	
3.4 Comment					
3.5 To what extent do you think these products and services are bringing about the kinds of changes indicated by their programme?					
Considerably	In specific instances	Marginally	Not at all	Don't know/no basis to judge	
3.6 Can you provide any specific examples with which you are familiar?					

6.2 If familiar, ho	liar with the organ	u think EARO's or	ganizational mode			
facilitating delive	ry of its Programn	ne lor pernaps the	e specific projects	being funded		
Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not very effective	Not at all effective	Don't know		
6.3 Comment						
7.1 How well ma (Probe on leader	naged is the East rship if offered)	ern Africa Region	al Office as an orç	ganization?		
Very well managed	Fairly well managed	Poorly managed	Very poorly managed	Don't know		
7.2 If you answered "Fairly," "Poorly," or "Very poorly," what changes would you suggest to strengthen leadership at the organizational level?						

7.3 How well-managed is EARO's Programme?					
Very well managed	Fairly well managed	Poorly managed	Very poorly managed	Don't know	
		poorly," or "very pont of the EARO Pr		es would you	
9.1 How well do	es EARO manage	its relationship w	ith you?		
Very well	Fairly well	Not very well	Poorly	Don't know	
9.2 What should EARO do differently to improve its relationship with you?					
9.3 How might you manage your relationship with EARO differently?					

Other Issues?			

EARO REVIEW – INTERVIEW PROTOCOL QUESTIONS FOR DONORS

Background

In support of the Eastern Africa Regional Office Review, we are interviewing a range of stakeholders from inside and outside of IUCN. This review is primarily focused on the organizational and managerial aspects of EARO and how this informs the effective and efficient delivery of a programme relevant to IUCN and the need of Eastern Africa. This protocol has been sent to you so that you may have a guide to the questions asked during the interview. Please do not fill out this questionnaire. Your responses will be held in confidence.

The interview will last approximately 30 minutes.

Name and position					
1.1 Stakeholder	· Group				
EARO Senior Manager	EARO Staff	Donor	Member, Partner, Commission	IUCN Senior Manager	
2.1a Overall, ho	w would you chara	acterize your relat	ionship with EAR0	D?	
Excellent	Adequate	Inadequate	Poor	Don't know	

2.2a Comments						
2.3a What sort of activities are you funding for EARO?						
2.4a From your objectives in Ea	perspective, does stern Africa?	EARO's Program	nme or general wo	ork meet your		
	-			_		
Completed	Meets some of our objectives	Meets a few of our objectives	Not at all	Don't know		
2.5a Comments						

2.8	(2.2)	To what	extent	does	EARO	help	you deliver	your	programme
-----	-------	---------	--------	------	-------------	------	-------------	------	-----------

Key Partner	Helps deliver some key results	Helps deliver some activities	Does not help deliver our programme	Don't know or unsure					
2.9 (2.7) From your perspective, what issues would you like to see EARO address in its programme?									
	2.10 (2.8)In your opinion, does EARO's Programme meet the key conservation and sustainable development challenges in Eastern Africa?								
		_							
Yes, absolutely In some key aspects		In a few Not at all instances		Don't know					
2.11 (2.9) Comm	2.11 (2.9) Comment								
2.12 What do you see as EARO's comparative advantage relative to other organizations you work with?									

2.13 What else should EARO be doing to better exploit is comparative advantage?
2.14 In your opinion, is EARO working in the right countries in Eastern Africa? If no, where should EARO be working?

Always Usually		Occasionally	Seldom or never	Don't Know						
3.2 Comment										
3.3 From your perspective, are the products and services of EARO of good quality and credibility?										
				-						
High quality and credibility	Adequate overall	Inadequate overall, but with some positives	Completely inadequate overall	Don't know						
3.4 Comment										
3.5 To what extent do you think that the outputs (products and services) produced by EARO are bringing about the kinds of changes indicated by their programme?										

3.1 In your experience, are activities and products delivered on time?

Considerably	In specific instances	Marginally	Not at all	Don't know/no basis to judge					
3.6 Can you pro	3.6 Can you provide any specific examples with which you are familiar?								
4.1 In your opin	ion, what is the qu	uality of EARO's r	eporting to you?						
				_					
Very Good Adequate		Marginally acceptable	Unacceptable	Don't know					
4.2 What issues	4.2 What issues have been revealed in the reporting?								
4.3 How have these issue been dealt with?									
T.O FIOW HAVE LICSE ISSUE DECIT GEAR WILL!									

6.1 Are you familiar with the organizational structure of EARO?								
6.2 If familiar, how effective do you think EARO's organizational model is in facilitating delivery of its Programme [or perhaps the specific projects being funded]								
Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not very effective	Not at all effective	Don't know				
6.3 Comment								
9.1 What should EARO do differently to improve its relationship with you?								

9.2 How might you manage your relationship with EARO differently?						
Other Issues?						

Thank you!

Questions for Regional Director

- What are the most important things the new Regional Director needs to know about EARO's context?
- What do you see as EARO's niche in the next four year that allows EARO to fully exploit is comparative advantage?
- What are the most important organizational challenges facing EARO?
- What are the most important programmatic challenges facing EARO?
- What is the geographic reach of EARO? Should it be expanded? How?
- What is the donor engagement strategy? How do we address SWAPs, budgetary support?
- What are the immediate changes you see required in the next 6 months?
- What are the medium term changes you see required in the next 18 to 24 months

Questions for Regional Programme Coordinator

Leadership

- To what extent do you think EARO has been well-led over the past ...?
- What qualities should a new RD have to successfully lead EARO in this intersessional period?

Programme

- What sort of leadership do you receive from the Regional Director on programmatic matters? What is his/her role in setting priorities?
- What sort of guidance do you receive from HQ on programmatic matters?
- What sort of guidance do you receive from Global Thematic Programmes
- What is the rationale behind an integrated programme?
- How is the EARP developed?
- How is the Annual workplan developed?
- How is innovation brought into the EARP?
- What are the advantages to integrating the Country Offices into a single programme? What are the disadvantages?
- How is the EARO implemented?
- Who are EARO's implementation partners?
- How do you choose which partners to work with on implementation?
- What would you change about partnership arrangements?

Organizational Model

- How is EARO's programme organized in practice?
- By what mechanisms do you organize the Programme staff? (e.g. Describe TPG, PMD)
- What is the rational behind a Project Management Department?
- Why are Programme Officers in a pool, rather than assigned to Technical Coordinators?
- What role do the Country Offices play in the organizational model? Do you see this as optimal?

Programme and Project Coordination Mechanisms

- In the current structure, what is your role in coordinating the TCs and PMD?
- What is your role in the Technical Programme Group?
- What is the mechanism for agreeing on the timing and extent of input form the TCs into PMD work? What are the strengths and weaknesses of this approach?

Donor Relations

- Is there a donor database? Issues, visits, intel, etc?
- Is there a policy formal or informal for engaging donors?
- Do you shop concepts? or full project documents?
- Have you pursued regional framework agreements? What has been done?

Partnerships

- How do you choose the partners with which you work?
- How do you manage those relationships?

Interactions with other sub-regions of Africa (or other regions in general)

- Do you have joint programming with other sub-regions of Africa?
- To what extent to you think Pan-Africa programme is appropriate for IUCN?

Interactions with HQ - Programme and Policy

- What support have you received from HQ? from GPT?
- What sort of support would you expect from HQ? from GPT?
- How do you interact with the Policy and Global Change Group?
- In what ways does EARO support IUCN's policy work?
- In what ways does EARO support IUCN's policy work with UNEP?
- In what ways does EARO support IUCN's policy work on invasive species?
- What role would you expect PGCG to play in supporting EARO?
- What role would you prefer to see EARO support PGCG and IUCN's policy work?

Questions for the Human Resources Director

- How are staff recruited?
- How are terms of reference developed?
- How are skills matched to jobs?
- How are staff salaries determined?
 - o New job classifications and salary scales?
 - Comparison of this with existing staff salaries (outliers and future costs core staff)?
- How are conflicts resolved?
- How are staff appraisals used?
- · What incentives exist for good performance?
- · What sanctions exist for poor performance?

Appraisal System

- Is the appraisal system different for Senior Technical and Coordination staff?
- How are staff appraised on a yearly basis?
 - o Deliverables or outputs established at the start of the year?
 - o Are these related to annual workplans?

Consultant contracting

· What is HR role in consultant contracting?

Secondments, interns and volunteers

• What strategy, arrangements and current staffing level in this category

Handling variation in portfolio size

• Is there a core staff identified (as opposed to temporary or project staff)?

DOCUMENT – unpublished paper on staff conflict resolution process?

· Local conditions and terms of service

Data on Staff List and Categories

- In different categories, over past three years
- · Staff turnover in different categories

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Questions for Technical Coordinators

This is intended to be a semi-structured interview. It is possible to raise additional issues throughout.

Workflow and workload

- How is your work broken down? (need some categories like: a) admin, b) programme development c) donor relations d) implementation e) programmatic and project reporting f) financial reporting g) supervision of junior staff h) supervision of consultants i)
- Is the ratio appropriate with regard to your terms of reference and priorities for the year?
- What incentives exist for good performance?
- What disincentives exist for good performance?
- · What sanctions exist for poor performance?
- Do you feel that you are adequately rewarded, in financial terms or otherwise for your work?

Leadership

- · How effective is the leadership of EARO?
- How efficient is the leadership of EARO?
- What are the ideal characteristics of someone to lead EARO?

Organizational Structure

- How effective is the organizational structure?
- How efficient is the organizational structure?
- What would you change about the organizational structure of EARO?

Programme Coordination

- How effective is the organization of programme coordination?
- How useful is the Technical Programme Group?
- How effective is the Project Management Department?
- · How efficient is the PMD?
- Do the programmes officers have the correct skills to add value to your theme?
- What are the advantages or disadvantages of a centralized Project Management Department? [e.g. Finance]
- How effectively are Country Offices utilized in the programme coordination structure?
- What changes would you suggest to the management of the Programme Coordination function?
- What changes would you suggest to the utilization of Country Offices in the Programme?

Programme and Project Coordination Mechanisms

- In the current structure, what is your role in coordinating the TCs and PMD?
- What is your role in the Technical Programme Group?
- What is the mechanism for agreeing on the timing and extent of input form the TCs into PMD work? What are the strengths and weaknesses of this approach?

Role of the Programme Coordinator

- How often do you interact with your PC?
- How does the Programme Coordinator add value to your theme?
- What services does the PC provide?
- Is the PC effective in this regard?

- Does the PC help increase efficiency in your theme?
- How effective is the management style of the Programme Coordinator?

The integrated Programme

- · How effective is the integrated programme?
- How efficient is the integrated programme?
- To what extent does the integrated programme facilitate or inhibit integration with other themes?
- Does the programme coordination mechanism facilitate or inhibit the integrated programme?
- How is innovation brought into the EARP?
- What incentives exist for you to promote innovation in your theme?

Partnerships

- How do you choose the partners with which you work?
- How do you manage those relationships?

Project Development and Fundraising

- What new projects do you have in your pipeline?
- Do you have any joint programming with the other themes/Technical Coordinators?
- How would you characterize your relationship with your donors?
- What are the programmatic priorities in the medium term for your theme? How will you resource these priorities?

Policy

- How do you link your work to policy
- Do you have interaction with IUCN's policy units (e.g. PBIA, US/Europe, Law)?

Donor Relations

- Who is responsible for donor management or coordination?
- Is there a donor database? Issues, visits, intel, etc?
- Is there a policy formal or informal for engaging donors?
- Do you shop concepts/portfolios or just full project documents?
- What marketing approaches do you use?
- Have you pursued regional framework agreements? What has been done?

Other issues?

To what extent do security and conflict issues impact your work?

Annex 10. Detailed finance review

EARO visit Line Hempel and Caroline Muller: 04 July – 08 July 2005

NOTE: all recommendations in the following annex are incorporated into the main report

1. Overall Financial Situation

For the last three years, EARO have realized significant Cost Centre deficits totaling USD 670k. The incurred deficit is not a result of overruns of the expenditure budget, but rather a lack of sufficient income to cover the costs of the cost centre as well as the inflexibility in the cost centre budget which makes it difficult to cut costs. The table below shows income and expenditure for the years 2002 – 2004.

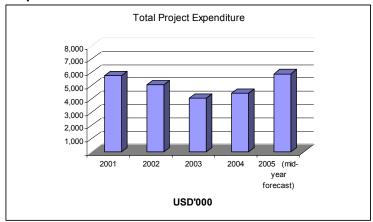
Table 1: EARO Income & Expenditure 2001 - 2005 (USD'000)

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005 (mid- year forecast)
<u>Income</u>					
Framework allocation					
(gross)	347	483	473	500	500
Cost Recovery	1,106	906	747	994	1,034
Other Income	43	39	39	41	31
Total Income	1,497	1,428	1,258	1,535	1,565
Expenditure	1,718	1,662	1,792	1,719	1,657
Surplus/(deficit)	(221)	(234)	(534)	(184)	(92)

EARO depends largely on cost recovery to balance their cost centre budget. Approximately 73% of the budget of USD 1.5m is financed by cost recovery from the project portfolio.

By the end of 2002 several large projects which generated significant amounts of cost recovery came to an end. Although the region had built up the B list to compensate for the completion of the C projects, donor funding changed direction to fund projects directly through governments in the region which left EARO unable to access funds that previously had been available to them. The graph below shows total project expenditure for the years 2001 - 2004.

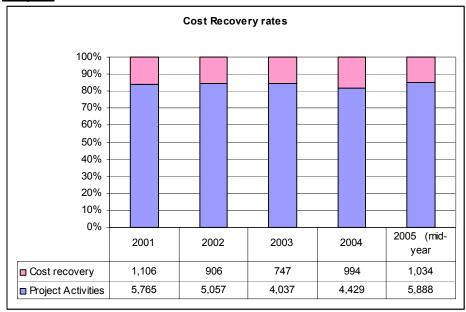
Graph 1.



The EARO Cost Centre annual budget which amounts to approximately USD 1.5m is financed by a core income allocation of USD 420k, with the balance to be financed by cost recovery from the ABC list. In order for the region to realize sufficient cost recovery to cover its expenses, annual project activities has to be approximately USD 5,5m with a cost recovery of 20%.

As can be seen from the graph below the average cost recovery rates for the period 2001 – 2004 was 19.5%, with a 2005 forecast of 18%.

Graph 2.



There is virtually no flexibility in the Cost Centre budget as 80 % of the budget is staff costs. EARO has thus been unable to cut is cost on order to be inline with the decreased income scenario. However, the out look for 2005 and beyond is one of improvement of the financial situation. The B list is strong with several large projects proposals under negotiations some of them close to signature with donors such as NORAD, UNDP/GEF, DFID, and WANI. However as these projects are not to be signed before the 3rd and 4th quarter of 2005 it is expected that the region will have a deficit between <u>USD 90-130</u> at the end of 2005.

Recommendation:

As mentioned above, the region needs to implement project activities to a minimum amount of USD 5.5m in order to recover sufficient income to finance the expenditure of the Cost Centre. Research into to the current climate a donor interest of the Eastern Africa region should be carried out in order to determine whether the outlook is satisfactory enough to sustain the current office structure and associated costs.

Cost recovery rates need to improve. The current average suggests that the Region and IUCN is subsidizing projects. As a rule of thumb, total cost recovery on a project should be 30% of the project budget. This is a problem not only for EARO, but for the Union overall so it is important that the Global Directorates look at the whole issue of cost recovery and develop adequate guidelines and policies which will help Programmes in their negotiations with donors.

If the region is to keep its current size, management need to look into the possibility of providing the region with a "project development fund" which would help EARO to develop project proposal that fits the donor priorities in the region as well as IUCN's 2005-2008 Programme plan. The fund should be allocated to EARO with the clear understanding that it is not a permanent fund, and its use must be clearly earmarked for project development subject to the recommendations from the Programme Review.

There is a clear need for support from the Conservation Finance and Donor Relations Unit to help develop a fundraising strategy and for increased support for entry points into donor headquarters which might be interested in funding projects in the region, as local donor agencies tend to as mentioned above, channel funds through local government. The technical coordinators have little access to the donors at their HQ (de Hague, Oslo, Stockholm, Brussels, Washington D.C etc) and would thus need help from the Corporate fundraising services.

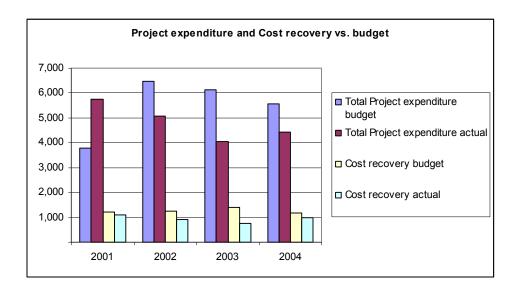
2. Budget and forecasting.

As mentioned in the previous section, the Cost Centre budget has virtually no flexible costs and has thus little or no ability to cut down on expenditure

For the period 2001-2004, EARO has forecasted project activities which have been significantly higher than the actual realized expenditure. The forecast has given a wrong situation analysis of the regions capacity to deliver which in turn has impacted the financial situation with regards to cost recovery. This has a ripple effect for the future as the incapacity to deliver results and consequently the demand for non-cost extensions for projects for which all cost recovery has already been charged, decreases the future cost recovery for the region.

In addition, in order to deliver the region has had to sub-contract a lot of the technical work, which can present a certain reputation risk with regards to the quality of the work as well as a question of efficiency as the TC has to spend a lot of time reviewing outsourced work.

For 2005, the Region has been more realistic in its forecasting of the C list and is at mid-year on track having realized 48% of forecasted expenditure for the year, and gives a truer picture of the actual situation of the Region. The table below shows project activities and cost recovery compared to budget for the years 2001-2004.



Projects implemented in the region are to a large extent implemented with IUCN and implementing partners. Being dependent on third parties for the implementation of projects always exposes an organization to external risk factors beyond its control such as delays in the rate of implementation which in turn can affect reputation, and the financial situation.

The region also tends to be over optimistic with regards to the probabilities of realization of the A and B list as the year progresses. This is illustrated in graph 3. IUCN's policy of allowing up to 40% of total income to be from the A and B list represent a relatively low risk at the time of budget submissions, but if this percentage is not significantly reduced by the time of the mid-year forecast, the cost centre is likely to end in a deficit.

Recommendation:

It is important to factor unforeseen circumstances such as those mentioned above into the budget and forecasting cycle allowing for more time to implement the project than is currently forecasted on the ABC list.

The region should also be realistic about the factoring of it AB projects, especially at the time of the mid-year review exercise.

The two recommendations above will negatively affect the annual cost recovery, but it will illustrate the annual income available to the region in a more realistic manner, thus giving EARO Management as well as the Global Programme Directorate a true situation analysis upon which decisions and strategic choices can be made.

The Cost Centre expenditure as well as the current staffing level and associated cost of the region will then have to be put in context with the real available income.

3. Financial Management

The current structure as well as the obvious tensions between the Project Development Department (PMD) and the Finance Department leaves several issues of financial management falling through the gaps as the roles and responsibilities of the PMD and the Finance Unit with regards to financial management of projects is not clearly defined.

Contract negotiations

The Project Management Department plays an important role in budgeting of activities and cost recovery rates before signature of a project agreement and will highlight to the Finance Unit issues that might have a financial impact on the Regional Office. However, the Finance Department does not have clear mandate or authority in reviewing project agreement with regards to performing due diligence in financial matters.

The due diligence exercise with regards to the above-mentioned issues is clearly a role which should fall under the responsibility of the Finance Department who possesses the necessary skills. However, as this role is not clearly defined in the current structure, adequate due diligence with regards to financial issues of project agreements is not exercised on a regular basis. This can lead to EARO accepting conditions in project agreements that in essence are unacceptable to IUCN and exposes the organization to undue risks. The IUCN Project Operational Guidelines have clear rules and regulations for financial conditions of project agreements such as audit costs, budget flexibility, payment schedules, foreign exchange, and cost recovery rates.

Project implementation

Other than proper keeping of the EARO accounts, the Finance Group has a clear responsibility for providing oversight and general financial management for project agreements under implementation. During discussion with both Finance staff and Programme staff it became apparent that during project implementation the following areas are currently lacking financial control and management.

- Project balances with regards to cash flow balances
- Managing project budgets and foreign exchange
- Consultants' contracts, conditions of payment
- Contracts with implementing agencies
- Liquidity management
- Project accruals

Currently two projects have significant deficits balances and it is at this moment unclear whether these deficit balances can be recovered. The projects in question are "Comoros" and "Mnazi Bay" with deficit balances of USD 149k and 180k respectively. Based on discussions with both the Finance Team and the PMD, it became clear during the review that despite the deficit balances, spending on the projects has continued as none of the units felt is was their responsibility to raise the warning flag and halt the spending. If these balances are unrecoverable it is the IUCN Secretariat Contingency Fund that will have to cover the deficits as the Region has no local reserves.

Project budgets have to be managed in the context of the currency in which it receives income and the currency in which it spends. The current situation for EARO does not present a huge risk in terms of foreign exchange fluctuation as most of the donor income is in USD, but this has resulted in significant deficits on projects in the past (Rufiji Delta, shift from Dutch Guilders to EURO), and can easily do so again if the USD appreciated relative to the EURO. In the current structure, neither PMD nor Finance is whether it is their responsibility to manage this risk for which the potential consequences are obvious.

Finance does not have a clear role in the clearing process of consultant contracts or contracts with implementing partners, which is a large part of the region's expenditure. As a result, Finance Officers tend to exercise judgment and review of the contractual conditions at time of payment. This is an inopportune moment to do so and creates aggravation and frustration among the programme staff. It is however important that Finance clears consultant and implementing partners contracts to ensure that they comply with IUCN's financial policies, and do not expose IUCN to any undue risk.

As the Finance Department does not play an active role in contract negotiations, there is no procedure for ensuring that an acceptable payment schedule for the receipt of donor funds is in place in order to avoid that IUCN pre-finances project activities. Added to the lack of monitoring of project balances, this is resulting in an unstable liquidity situation.

Project managers ask for committed amounts to be accrued to the various projects towards the end of a project life in order to have clear picture of the financial situation of a project. During discussions with both the Finance staff and the PMD staff it became clear that nobody considers it their responsibility to clear the accruals. The EARO accounts show at the end of June 2005, accrued amounts totaling USD 269k, some of which dates more than 12 months back. We did not receive an explanation of the status quo on these accruals, and the risk pertains to double booking of expenditure and also liquidity ass it is unclear when these accruals are to be paid.

Recommendations

It is important and urgent, that the role of the Finance department with regards to financial management is re-established with the Regional Office. Finance has a clear role and responsibility in both contract negotiations and implementation. If the definitions of these roles are unclear, then some kind of workshop with all relevant staff facilitated by someone from the Global Finance Group is an option to consider.

Once the roles and responsibilities if the Finance Group has been clarifies and understood by all parties, its performance can be measured against clearly defined tasks, and several of the financial risks which is currently unmanaged would automatically be reduced.

It is important that both groups communicate and understand each others issues and work better so that the Finance Group can be a unit that has and is considered to have added-value to the Programme, and so that Programme can understand the reason for some of the rules and regulations with regards to financial management. Likewise, the Finance Group needs to understand the nature of the work of the Programme Group and find ways to better assist Technical Coordinators and Project Managers.

4. Financial Information & Reporting

Management reporting

The EARO management only receives status reports for the overall status of the Region's finances on a quarterly basis. Also, it does not receive any information on the balance sheet. As a result the Regional Director does not have clear and full picture of the Regional Office's finances and risks making decisions without the proper information at hand.

Recommendation:

Monthly reports on the income and expenditure and the balance sheet have to be provided and discussed with a management on a monthly basis. The Finance Group should put together a set of reports that give financial indicators upon which management can base itself when they make decisions. If there is a need for management to be further trained of financial issues and understanding of financial issues this should be provided.

Reporting on Project Agreements and budget control

Both Finance and Program observed that they were most of the times unsure about the actual expenditure to date and remaining project budget. It appears that this is mainly due to untimely recording of income expenditure which Finance explained resulted from an excessive workload of the person that does the data entry of financial transactions in the accounting system. Another issue that came to light is the fact that the Finance staff changes coding of transactions without consulting the project managers.

Recommendation:

It is of imperative importance that project managers receive accurate information on the financial status of their projects, in order to be able to monitor their projects. Finance must communicate and seek the agreement of the project staff for any changes of coding to activities. Furthermore, if an excessive workload is the reason for the delay in accounting entries, the Head of Finance must look at options for reorganizing the duties of his Group in order to relieve the person in question. This can by requesting that other member of the Finance Groups help in data entry in peak periods.

Donor Reporting

At the time of the review, six technical and four financial donor reports were delayed. The main reason for the delays in reporting is the delays in the implementation of the project for reasons mentioned in previous sections. Reporting delays represents a credibility and reputation risk not only for the EARO but for IUCN as a whole.

Recommendation:

Accurate and timely donor reporting is of imperative importance. Every effort must be made to report in time. If delays in implementation occur, it is preferable to report financially and technically on actual achieved results and incurred expenditure for the contractual reporting period rather than delay reporting. During project negotiations realistic reporting dates must be set, and delays of implementation should be factored into the reporting schedule. It is also important to communicate with the donor if delays occur, as silence can be perceived with suspicion.

5. Accounting Issues

Staff accounts balances and reimbursement

Staff accounts form a continuous topic for disagreement. An overview of amounts due on each staff account is distributed monthly but staff complain that they do not understand the overview and that the information is often incorrect. There have also been complaints that exchange rate differences were calculated on staff advances, resulting in the staff member having to repay more than was initially advanced due to currency fluctuations.

Recommendation:

A more complete and understandable overview of personal accounts should be provided to individual staff members. If requested supporting documentation and an explanation should be given by Finance. An agreed upon procedure should be established on repayment of the different components. To that extent it would be advisable to separate the components of staff accounts in three separate accounts: 1) staff loans, 2) staff advances for official purposes and 3) staff personal account (for personal expenditure as telephone, private tickets etc). Each component may have a different reimbursement policy. It is advised that personal expenditure should be repaid immediately. The exchange rate calculated on the expenditure should be the same as on the advance and any real exchange losses absorbed by the organization.

Account reconciliation:

It is advised that the AA Account Allocation function in Sun Accounts is used to aid the reconciliation process for staff accounts, bank accounts, suspense accounts etc. and thus increase efficiency by reducing the manual way of reconciliation. Explanation of the AA function was provided during the visit.

Segregation of duties not optimal

Although the Finance department has five staff members the functions of Petty Cash custodian, payments, journal entry and reconciliation are concentrated with one person.

For purposes of internal control, it is recommended that the function of payment, recording and reconciliation are distributed among three persons.

Unbalanced task distribution among Finance staff:

As mentioned in the pervious section, it seems that a large proportion of tasks were concentrated with one staff member who at times is overburdened. This sometimes results in delays in journal entry and reporting and in mistakes. An additional staff member was hired to assist in journal entry but this person is not doing any journal entry.

Recommendation:

It is recommended that journal entry should more evenly be distributed among staff and that in busy periods before deadlines all staff should be willing to take on entry tasks.

6. Efficiency

Although the review concentrated mostly on financial issues, time was spent discussing with EARO staff the organizational model the Regional Office is currently operating within.

At the time of the big decline in the EARO project portfolio few years ago, a decision was taken to keep all staff and to restructure what is called the Project Management Department (PMD). This Department totals nine staff and is a unit designed to support the technical coordinators in the managerial side of project development and implementation. The restructuring resulted in a department that has strong project management skills in terms of planning and budget tracking, but no specific technical background, thus does not provide technical support to the TC.

Recommendation:

It might be more efficient both in terms of costs and in actual delivery of outputs as well as building technical capacity in the Regional Office if the skills of the PMD staff

were more of a technical and project management mix instead of the current skill sets of only project management.

The Finance Department is currently organized in a way that leaves room for improvements. The person that handles petty cash is also dealing with all data entry, and as well as being overloaded she is constantly disrupted by staff needing petty cash for travel.

One member of the Finance Department has very good Sun and IT knowledge, but does seem to empower his colleagues by helping them develop skills that would facilitate their work. Consequently all reporting from Sun Accounts and the other financial management tools fall on one staff member.

The Head of Finance is disrupted for large amount of time every day for clearing and signing payments. In addition he controls each expense claim to be processed by Finance.

Recommendation:

The distribution of petty cash should be limited to fixed times of the day. This will prevent the staff member responsible for petty cash from being too disrupted and will give her more time for data entry which seems to be a bottle neck.

Finance staff members should be further trained on the financial systems and tools available so that they can use them properly and become more efficient in their work. This should also free up some time of the staff member currently doing all the IT reporting so that he can assist in the data entry.

The Head of Finance should propose fixed days for which payments will be signed and sent to the bank. In this way he can organize his time better and not feel stressed about payment files pending on his desk.

The checking of expense claims before processing should be done by a staff member more junior and the Head of Finance. This is not a good use of his time. The junior staff member can check the claims, make sure they are within the financial rules of the Regional Office, and only bring to the attention of the Head of the office those for which there seem to be an issue.

8. Other Issues

Communication and cooperation

There is a lack of understanding and communication between Program staff and Finance staff. This results in dysfunctional communication and inefficiency.

There appears to be a lack of understanding of the functions of the other party and increased mistrust. It was noted that Finance staff provide judgmental analysis which fall outside their competencies and area of responsibility. It was also mentioned that sometimes coding is overruled without consultation. There is a perception in Program of Finance being a costly nuisance. On the other hand, Finance feels Program is not working hard enough to acquire new projects and is absorbing to much money.

Both the cause and result is that Finance (feels it) is not involved in crucial steps in the project development and contract agreement process, which then results in contract conditions that are not always according to auditing standards which in its turn creates more distrust, delays, questions etc.; in other words a vicious circle.

Recommendation:

It is important that this situation is resolved as soon as possible. Cooperation between the two "sides" of the house is imperative for the well functioning of the Office as well as for ensuring the efficient management with regards to Finances. Options to resolve this situation could be a Team Building workshop facilitated by an outsider (professional company specializing in such workshops) or a workshop facilitated by a member from the Global Programme Team and the Global Finance Group from HQ.

Salary increases:

For two years no salary increase has been applied to salaries, a decision which has been blamed on the deficits incurred by the Office. Although salaries still appear to be in line with competitors, a real loss is perceived equal to the cost of living increase of 10-20% over the last 2 years.

Recommendation:

The decision not to grant cost of living increase has contributed to a decrease in staff morale, motivation. Staff members feel that they are taking the consequences of the deficit situation a net decrease in salary. The long term cost of not awarding a salary increase may be a lot higher than the deficits. This situation should be reviewed and preferably be corrected as soon as possible.

WASAA Trust:

Concern was expressed that the WASAA Trust would be making a profit to the expense of the EARO office. It was explained that the WASAA Trust is only a legal vehicle for ownership of the office building and estate and would not make a profit.

Recommendation:

The CFO and the Senior Finance Officer should clarify together with the Head of Finance in EARO and the Regional Director the exact status of the WASAA Trust. EARO Clarification should further be provided on the continuation of rental payments after the WASAA Trust had repaid the loan provided by the WCTF.