BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Ujamaa-Community Resource Team (UCRT) (previously called Ujamaa-Community Resource Trust) is a non-profit environmental and social justice organization, which works with indigenous groups of different cultures. The target communities are those who depend on communal resource management regimes to support their livelihood.

The UCRT started in 1998 under what was known as TAZAMA Trust, before its official registration in 2002. UCRT aims to strengthen the capacity of local ethnic minorities in northern Tanzania, principally pastoralists and hunter-gatherers such as the Maasai, Barabaig, Akie, Sonjo and Hadzabe, to better control, manage and benefit from their lands and natural resources. The livelihoods of these communities are threatened by exploitation of local resources by outsiders, political marginalization, and limited capacities and access to information. The UCRT's ultimate goal is to improve local community and household welfare through improved land and natural resource management.

The UCRT is served by thirty one staff most of whom are based in the rural communities on the ground. The Ujamaa-Community Resource Trust focuses on community Based natural resource management with land use planning with pastoralists, hunter-gatherers and agro-pastoralists in northern Tanzania.

UCRT seeks to work with resource dependent communities to reinforce the capacities of these communities to influence policy and legal processes in their favour. Ongoing local government reforms in the country have created opportunities for resource dependent communities to secure their rights over the environment and natural resources, but communities require capacities for policy action and influence. They need to be able to engage meaningfully with policy making and policy implementation.
institutions and processes. This requires that they understand the policy environment and the existing policy framework. That way they will use the opportunities within existing policies, laws and institutions, and advocate for changes where these are necessary.

**VISION AND MISSION**

The vision and mission of UCRT are defined by a concern for participatory natural resource governance and improved livelihoods; founded on recognition of community-based institutions and systems of resource governance. The organisation sees laws and policies as instruments for empowering natural resource dependent communities to manage sustainably the resources on which they depend for their livelihoods.

UCRT’s VISION: “*Strengthened livelihoods and social justice for pastoralist, hunter-gatherer and agropastoralist communities through security over land and natural resources, and sustainable community-based natural resource management.*”

UCRT’s MISSION: *To strengthen community capacity to improve their livelihoods, to secure rights to land and natural resources, and to sustainably manage them.*

**PROGRAMMES AND PROJECTS**

UCRT has been actively involved in a number of initiatives relating to natural resources, education sponsorship and networking on land and natural resources in the operation areas. The most outstanding among these are outlined below.

The programmes include Ngorongoro, Mbulu, Hanang, Simanjiro, Kiteto, Longido, Karatu, and Meatu-Shinyanga.

**UCRT CORE ACTIVITIES**

1. **Land rights Activities**
   - Demarcation- boundary agreements (conflict resolution), surveying, making and placing beacons.
   - Land use planning (different zoning)
   - Mapping- Approval at all government levels
   - Certification of village land and customary land of occupancy

2. **Community Natural Resource Management.**
   - Facilitate community (village) formulation of natural resource management plans
   - Facilitating formation of village by-laws in support of land use planning and natural resource management plans.
• Supporting and advising villages to ensure fair contracts and agreements with investors.
• Training communities to identify locally available resources and enabling them to utilize in a sustainable manner.

3. Community capacity Building
• Training village councils on good governance.
• Training village council on book keeping and financial management.
• Training traditional leaders on peace making and conflict resolution.
• To train village councils and other institutions e.g. Village land tribunals/Mabaraza ya ardhí and village assemblies on land acts, village land acts and local government reform programme
• To sensitize and raise consciousness of the target communities to understand government policies i.e. MKUKUTA, MKURABITA, Vision 2025, SPILL, and LGRP.

4. Lobbying and advocacy
• Influencing policy/laws makers for realization of community needs.
• Building Community Leadership Constituency at the grass roots level
• Gender mainstreaming and women empowerment through equal representation.

5. Education Support
• Provide scholarships for students from poor families to Pastoralists and Hunter gatherers for secondary/colleges for both genders to be able to serve the communities back home.
• Special program of education support for Hunter gatherer communities of Hadzabe and Akie communities.

6. Institutional Capacity Building.
• Human Resource Development support.
• HIV and AIDS Mainstreaming
• Promote linkage and networking with other development stakeholders.

UCRT has successfully managed to build a strong stakeholders’ network as outlined in Box 1: In line with its current thinking and aspirations, UCRT has been able to attract a big number and diversity of stakeholders. These are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box 1: STAKEHOLDERS ANALYSIS</th>
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<tr>
<td>PRIMARY STAKEHOLDERS</td>
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<tr>
<td>i. Communities:</td>
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<td>-- Ward/Village GOT,</td>
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<td>- HakiKazi Catalyst,</td>
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Pastoralists, agro-pastoralists and Hunter-gatherers in Manyara and Arusha

ii. Development partners (Donors)
- Cordaid,
- Norwegian Peoples’ Aid (NPA),
- Oxfam Ireland,
- Dorobo Fund,
- Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)
- United Nation Development Programme (UNDP)

iii. Staff – man power

SECONDARY STAKEHOLDERS

i. Forums: Pingos, TNRF, NGONET and PLTF

ii. Partners:
- Sand County Foundation,
- Pastoral Women Council
- District Councils

- Oxfam GB/JOLIT,
- Hekima Advocate,
- Wildlife Conservation Society of Tanzania,
- LHRC,
- LEAT,
- Hydom Lutheran Hospital
- RECONCILE

iii. Individuals:
- Alais Morindat,
- Michael Ochieng’,
- Francis Stolla,
- Fred Nelson,
- Ben Gardener
- Andrew William

Current Development Partners

Ujamaa-Community resources Trust have been funded by the following organization.

- **Oxfam Ireland** – Oxfam Ireland started to fund UCRT since 2005, the funding program focus six village in Sale division of Ngorongoro and eight village Hanang’, their also contributes for administration. Its on going program.

- **Norwegian People AID** – They started to Fund UCRT since 2005, the funding focused Hunter-gathers program in Yaeda valley and Kiteto - this is ongoing program.

- **Dorobo Fund for Tanzania**-The Dorobo Fund for Tanzania supports education scholarship for children from poor families in the UCRT working area (Hunter-gathers and Pastoralist) as well as orphan support. The Fund also support for administration cost. Its on going program

- **Gorta –Ireland** –Started to fund Ujamaa-CRT 2008 – 2009. The fund supported food security for Olala village in Ngorongoro district, the support ended in December 2009. The aim of this project is to promote crossbreed Gala
goats, small scale farming and improve traditional houses for the Maasai widows in Olalaa village. The project target is to improve live standard of widows' maasai women as the direct beneficiaries by providing them with Gala - goats to improve the quantity and quality of milk, meat, wealth and improves traditional houses.

- **Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS);** Support wages for ten villages' game scouts from two villages in Simanjiro district Terrat and Emboreet as well as limited natural resources activities.
- **CORDAID;** Started to fund the U-CRT in May 2008 for two years programme ended in April 2010 , The funds mainly supported facilitation of participatory land use plan to enhance land and natural resource rights in Ngorongoro and Simanjiro districts northern Tanzania.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT OF THE YEAR

**Winning the Equator Prize 2008**

The Equator Prize was awarded to the Ujamaa Community Resource Trust (UCRT) in recognition and appreciation of outstanding community’s efforts to reduce poverty through the conservation of biodiversity. As sustainable community initiatives take root throughout the tropics, they are laying the foundation for a global movement of local successes that are collectively making a significant contribution to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

For the Equator Prize 2008, the Technical Advisory Committee evaluated 310 nominated projects from over 60 countries within the equatorial belt. Of these, The UCRT together with other 24 organizations around the world, were chosen as Equator Prize 2008 winners. The Equator Prize 2008 winners were drawn from a remarkable pool of nominations that reflect the invaluable work of communities across the world in reducing poverty and conserving biodiversity. The finalists of this year’s prize demonstrated that the challenges of biodiversity loss and deepening poverty can be effectively addressed jointly.

### IMPACT STATEMENT 1

40 years ago, the State-owned NAFCO, with an intention to implement a wheat project, had aggressively grabbed more than 100,000 acres of the pastoralists’ land in Hanang, leaving thousands of pastoral families landless and without hope. After years of
mismanagement of the wheat farms, with pressure from the community, the wheat project failed to perform. As a result recently, the government had agreed in principle to give back the land to the community. However, some politicians in the District manipulated the process by deciding not to give the land back to the original owners (i.e. the Hanang pastoralists). Instead, they wanted to give it to the Mount Hanang cultivators just for the interests of some politicians.

With support from Oxfam Ireland, UCRT could mobilize the pastoralist community to demand back their land, after which 28,000 acres of the land were returned to the originally affected community in Ming’enyi, Mogitu, Mulbadaw, Gidika, Basotu and Gawidu villages, benefiting more than 8,000 pastoral families.

**IMPACT STATEMENT 2.**

20 years ago, the Mr. Stein (UGURO) and Company was given large tracts of pastoral land all along Tarangire National Park in eastern side, for the investor to implement a beans project. 29,000 hectares of the pastoralists’ land were aggressively grabbed for that purpose, leaving thousands of pastoral families landless and without hope. After years of mismanagement of the beans farms, with pressure from the community, the beans project failed to perform and Tanzania government decided to revoke the land title from Mr. Stein and give it back to the village community. That effort was greatly supported by the UCRT with support from WCS. UCRT could mobilize the pastoralist community to demand back their land, after which all 29,000 acres of the land were returned to the originally affected community in Emboreet and over 30,000 acres of the land were returned to Loibor-soit A and Loibor-siret villagers. The secured land is benefiting more than 8,000 pastoral families.

**IMPACT STATEMENT 3.**

UCRT help facilitate fair participatory and transparent agreement between Engare-sero village versus tour operators, which stipulated clearly role and responsibilities for both parties, recognize community land ownership. The village 2009, collects over 30,000 USD yearly from zero before UCRT intervention. The funds earned were use for education support( school fees), health services (hospital bill for poor village patients, employment for nine villagers, Building of health center, primary and secondary school, Women and youth groups benefited from Credit Scheme.

**IMPACT STATEMENT 4.**
UCRT together with other stakeholders manage to establish strong partnership and collaborations with national and international organizations to promote and claim the rights of the pastoralist in Loliondo during the eviction, and disseminate information to national and international level through press conference and media.

[Information on securing rights for Hunter-Gatherers – Hadzabe?]

**CONSTRAINTS AND CHALLENGES**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Constraints</th>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Government bureaucracy in approving Land use plan documents</td>
<td>▪ Outside perceptions</td>
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<td>▪ Limited financial resources.</td>
<td>▪ Bad policies and Laws</td>
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<td>▪ Political interference.</td>
<td>▪ Environmental Factors e.g. droughts</td>
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<td>▪ Contradiction of laws and policies e.g. Village land Act and Wildlife Act.</td>
<td>▪ Low representation for pastoralists in districts where pastoralists are minorities</td>
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<td>▪ Limited physical resources.</td>
<td>▪ Poor community leaders</td>
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<td>▪ Global economic crisis.</td>
<td>▪ Low levels of literacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Climate change</td>
<td>▪ Poverty</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Global forces</td>
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<td></td>
<td>▪ Corruption in some government systems</td>
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