

Proposal to CEPF

REFERENCE NUMBER: LOI S13-065-TAN

TITLE: EMPOWERING WOMEN TO BECOME AGENTS OF CHANGE FOR CONSERVATION AND PRESERVATION OF SPECIES IN FOUR VILLAGES SURROUNDING NJOMBE FORESTS

APPLICANT: DEVELOPMENT IMPACT

Free Prior and Informed Consultation of Indigenous Peoples

Background to Project

Since when have you been working in the area? What has been achieved so far? Who are living in the area? Which Indigenous People are present? How many? What is their status, means of livelihoods, and what is the relation between your project and these Indigenous People?

- This is the first time DI will work in Njombe.
- There are indigenous people of tribes of Bena and Kinga living in the area. There are also other people who have moved to the villages.
- Majority live in poverty, they mostly depend on forest resources to obtain income, energy and food to sustain their lives.
- Our project will help these indigenous people and provide them with means that will enable them to sustainably engage with nature. The project will educate them on conservation and conservation benefits while providing means to gain income to sustain their lives.

Consultations

Which consultations have taken place to date? How, when, with whom? Do you have any documentation (letters, minutes of meetings etc) with regards to these consultations?

- During the site visit we had meeting with village leaders however we did not write minutes we only informed them about our intention to work with them in case we are funded. On signing the agreement we will go back and have a meeting with them, this time we will document and keep the minutes

Project

Are the Indigenous People informed about your planned project? Do they agree? How will you involve them during the implementation of your project? Will they be part of the decision-making process?

- *Local Government Authorities* at all levels: DI has notified local leaders in Njombe and are willing to cooperate in all activities that contribute to conservation and poverty reduction in their localities
- We are not sure if the leaders we met did inform their people nevertheless experience shows that local community never rejects any development project if enough awarenessraising is done. Once DI conducts inception meetings with Regional, District and Ward authorities, the organization intends to conduct awareness raising and educate the local people (living in the selected villages) on the project and benefits it will bring. Based on the discussion we have had with the village leaders and Government officials from Njombe district DI is sure that the project will be accepted and people will be eager to participate. Last time we were in Njombe we were informed that, it is Government's desire to rehabilitate the Njombe forests but they lack funds to do so.