

The human-biodiversity interface in western Serengeti



A research cooperation by a network of partners in Norway, Tanzania and South Africa

Norwegian Institute for Nature Research (NINA)
Department of Biology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI)
Department of Wildlife Management, Sokoinie University of Agriculture (SUA)
Mammal Research Institute, University of Pretoria (MRI)



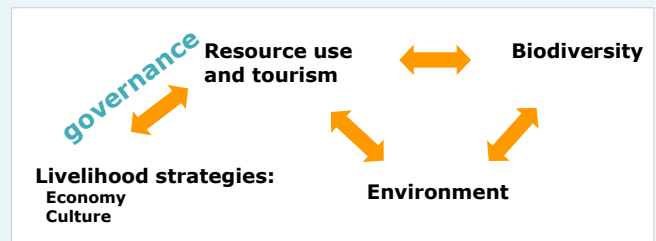
Aim: To improve the understanding of the interplay between humans and biodiversity in western Serengeti.

Cornerstones of the partnership:

Common research interests, capacity building and international experience. The partners focus on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of landscapes with human presence. Through joint research, supervision and staff exchange, we aim to enhance institutional capacities and international cooperation.

An ecosystem approach to understand and manage biodiversity

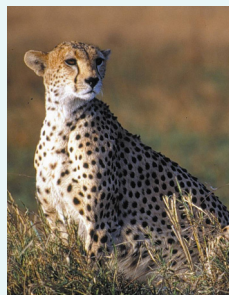
Human perceptions determined by food security and other economic needs, cultural values and institutional contexts are important to determine the value of the services provided by the Serengeti ecosystem. We view the sustainable provision of services by the Serengeti ecosystem as the fundament to land use and conservation.



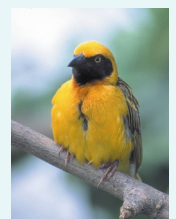
Discipline specific topics deal with:



- Household economy and food security
- Cultural values
- Governance



- Biodiversity
- Impacts of resource-use and tourism



Capacity building in research and education

Through research cooperation, supervision of students and staff exchange we aim to enhance institutional research and educational capacity.

- 6 MScs (4 Tanzania, 2 Norway)
- 6 PhDs (5 Tanzania, 1 Norway)
- 3 years staff exchange TAWIRI – NTNU- NINA – MRI (post-docs, field technicians, lecturers).
- Environmental Impact Assessment

Enhanced international cooperation

The project strengthens our international capacity, through comparable studies in the North and South, international publications and staff exchange programs. The network also makes possible the access to international funding sources.

Contact persons:

NINA: Graciela Rusch graciela.rusch@nina.no
NTNU: Eivin Røskaft eivin.roskaft@bio.ntnu.no