



## Trip Report

**Project: Sustainable Management of Watersheds (SUMAWA)**

**Travelers Siân Mooney, University of Wyoming**

**Location (s): Egerton/Bogoria**

**Dates of Travel: July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004 – July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004**

**Purpose of Trip:** Dr. Mooney has only recently joined the SUMAWA-CRSP project. The general purpose of her trip is to meet and interact with project personnel stationed at Edgerton and Moi Universities in order to become more integrated with entire project team and the applied economics group in particular.

Dr. Mooney identified several specific objectives that she would like to pursue during her visit to the project. These are:

1. Identify work/project activities that are in progress or have been completed to date by the socioeconomic research team.
2. Review the socioeconomic survey instrument that was recently used to elicit producer information within the Njoro watershed.
3. Obtain the raw data collected from the socioeconomic survey instrument as well as copies of completed questionnaires from which the raw data were transcribed
4. Discuss with Ouma, Njeri (others) important drivers for economic activity within the watershed
5. Identify potential additional members/economists to participate in the socioeconomic group future projects and planning
6. Formulate work plan and budget for socioeconomic group activities 2004-2005

## Travel details:

### Travel schedule (generalized)

1. July 3<sup>rd</sup> leave US and travel to UK
2. July 4<sup>th</sup> personal time with my sister and mother in UK
3. July 5<sup>th</sup> leave UK, 9:45pm – arrive at Nairobi  
Taxi to Barbie Allen's house 14 Bendera Lane, Westlands
4. July 6<sup>th</sup> 3pm – travel to Edgerton  
Met with Akula, Shivoga and Habel at Barbie Allen's house and traveled from there to Edgerton by car.  
Arrive ARC at 7:30pm
  - Arrived in project area
5. July 7<sup>th</sup> – tour Njoro watershed
4. July 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> – Project planning retreat at Lake Baringo
5. July 21<sup>st</sup> – Depart Nairobi and commence return trip to the US – arrive US July 22nd

## Specific Details :

**Management Entity • University of California, Davis • Davis, CA 95616**  
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1. July 7<sup>th</sup> – Edgerton

a) 8am met with Akula – breakfast and general discussion of project organization/team members and scheduling future activities during the trip

b) 9am – SUMAWA-CRSP office

Met with Mary, D. Ouma – introductions/orientation plan schedule for later meetings and activities

- Meeting with Njeri and Ouma (socio-economic team) set for 2:30pm today
- Identified meeting time and participants for watershed field trip tomorrow.

c) 2:30-4:30pm met with Njeri and Ouma at SUMAWA-CRSP office

Activities

- General introductions
- Discussion of genesis of socio-economic team
- Discussion of work completed and in progress
- Future work plan developed by Njeri and Ouma in a retreat a few weeks earlier at Naivasha

Outcomes

- General familiarization/discussion of issues within the watershed
- Identified several potentially useful documents
- Made a request to Mary for several documents mentioned by Ouma and Njeri
  - Copy of socio-economic work plan to date (2004-2005)
    - Requested electronic
  - Copy of findings of the women's workshop
    - Requested electronic
  - Copy of the socio-economic survey
    - Requested paper copy

Thursday July 8<sup>th</sup> – Met with Ouma and Habel – field trip to the watershed (9am-4pm)Activities

Travel around the Njoro watershed. Stopped at several sites that have been identified as “impact sites” to discuss and examine issues at those points. Took several photographs of each site for record keeping purposes.

Outcomes

- Familiarization of Mooney with study site
  - Agriculture
  - Living
  - Spatial arrangement
- Photographic record of some areas and specific problems

Friday July 9<sup>th</sup> – SUMAWA office – Meeting with Gideon Obare – Department head Agricultural Economics



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I requested to meet with Dr. Gideon Obare after seeing a paper that he had published on transportation issues faced by farmers in the Nakuru district. The purpose of the meeting was several fold:

1. To meet and introduce myself to Dr. Obare and describe some the economic issues that the SUMAWA project is likely to be modeling
2. To ask Dr. Obare some questions of clarification regarding his previous work in the area. In particular how he collected his data, the region covered by his data and his willingness to provide some of his data to SUMAWA personnel.
3. To find out more about the structure/capacity and personnel available at the department of agricultural economics with view to potentially including some of these personnel in the SUMAWA project to replace the skills gap that has arisen since Dr. Shem Ouma has taken a new position in Nairobi.

#### Activities

- General introductions
- Brief discussion of SUMAWA project
- In depth discussion of Dr. Obare's previous work within the watershed
- Discussion of survey instrument used to collect data
- Discussion of institutional capacity/expertise available within the department of agricultural economics

#### Outcomes

- Dr. Obare provided me with a copy of the survey instrument he used to collect data from producers within the watershed related to transportation issues.
- He expressed some general interest in the type of problems and issues that were being examined by the SUMAWA team and said that he would be available this week for a further meeting if that was necessary
- Indicated the department had resources and expertise in the areas of :
  - Resource economics – soil and water erosion
  - Marketing/agricultural policy
  - Econometrics and macroeconomics
  - Microeconomics – ag/environment interactions
  - A Ph. D student that is valuing environmental pollution (this could be handy for eliciting some values in the park).

#### July 10th 2004 – Saturday – personal day

Personal day – travel to Nakuru National Park “on safari”. Took huge quantity of photographs – wildlife spectacular.

#### July 11<sup>th</sup> 2004 – Sunday

Read PRAs and other materials provided by Njeri and other project personnel earlier in the week. Took a walk to Ngongogeri with Mike Dobson, Manchester University.

#### July 12<sup>th</sup> 2004 – meeting with Njeri at Shivoga's office 2:30-4:30pm



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The purpose of this meeting was threefold:

1. Request sampling design procedure used to conduct the socioeconomic survey within the watershed i.e. how was the sampling frame selected? How was the sample size determined?
2. To request clarification on the PRAs (participatory rural appraisals)
3. To elicit input on future personnel needs

#### Actions

- Went through the questions that I had prepared in advance with a number of points that I needed clarification on for each of the PRAs.
- Solicited perceived needs for additional economic and technical assistance for the socioeconomic team.

#### Outcomes

- Njeri provided me with a brief print out that describes their sampling procedure
  - The report was relatively brief giving just a superficial overview
  - The real nuts and bolts of the formulas etc were not available
  - No time line was given for when the sampling write up would be completed. I have followed up with her in subsequent e-mails on my return to the US.
- Njeri answered all of my immediate questions regarding the PRA analyses conducted to date
  - Some of the PRAs are not written up as yet – Njeri confirmed they were not yet complete
  - FOLLOW UP WITH AN EXPECTED TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION
- Njeri indicated that future economic capacity could be compromised if Shem Ouma continues to remain in Nairobi. Indicated that quantitative expertise was a skill gap within the group.
- Additional meeting with Njeri, Ouma and graduate students set up for tomorrow.

#### Tuesday July 13<sup>th</sup> – Njeri, Ouma, Bett, Anthony, Choochoo, Ndongye 2:30-5:30pm

Objective of the meeting was to i) examine the survey data that has been entered to date and obtain a copy of the data set, ii) discuss with Ouma future needs for economic analyses/expertise.

- Discussed number of responses entered to far (253 of 360)
  - Apparently more questionnaires had been entered at one time however incompatibilities with several versions of SPSS had resulted in data loss when data set were being merged.
  - Takes about 40 minutes to an hour to enter each questionnaire
  - Several questionnaires are still with one of the students. Apparently Charity still has questionnaires – need to get those from her to finish the data entry. Dr. Shivoga made a call to her later on in the trip and she agrees to return the questionnaires.
- Discussed problems experienced with previous data entry/software/hardware etc
  - Computer did not have any means of burning CDs for back up, USB sticks were not available, the computer did not have a UPS system with surge protector, antivirus



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- software needs to be updated; students complained of lack of access to software needed to enter the survey responses; students commented on general lack of access to computers; some comment that students working with other project groups had preferential access to equipment and resources.
- Another problem identified is that there were only 2 GPS units and 7 students
  - There had been several problems with data entry that had held the project back:
    - Students are not making multiple copies of the data set, because of this they have lost work and had to enter data multiple times
    - Lack of software compatibility/computer literacy also resulted in loss of entered data (compounding the problem of not having any back ups).
  - Discussed elements of future economic work plan and match of skill needs with personnel availability with Dr. D. Ouma
    - He was of the opinion that they were not short of economic assistance. However I pointed out that needs for a Ph.D. economist would increase significantly in the future as the model construction for the tradeoff analysis was implemented.
    - We talked about Shem Ouma's availability – D. Ouma seemed to think Shem could handle it on the weekends. I am skeptical because Shem Ouma has not appeared during my time here and apparently has a good position with KARRI.
    - Ouma talked a lot about contract work and how we could hire one of the faculty that were essentially working in Nairobi to work on the project and do the economic analysis – I pointed out that it would be useful for that person to be based here to facilitate increased interaction and co-operation between the different disciplines and groups.

### Outcomes

- Additional meeting with Bett and Anthony the next day at which time I received an electronic copy of the data that was entered so far
- Brief meeting with Scott Miller in the evening where I passed on the concerns expressed by the socio-economic team and provided my assessment of economic personnel/equipment needs for the upcoming years of the project.

### Wednesday July 14<sup>th</sup> - various meetings with graduate students and Scott Miller

Morning – meeting with Bett and Anthony – these students provided me with a copy of the preliminary household survey data

Afternoon – met with Scott Miller to discuss technology needs for the project and possible solutions.

### Thursday July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004

Day spent reading materials and planning for retreat in Bogoria the following week.

### Friday 16<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

Personal trip with Tracy Baldega (student on project). Drove from Njori to Masai Mara – quite the experience! On the Sunday drove from Masai Mara to Lake Bogoria for project planning meeting.



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Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup>, July 2004.

Spent days at Bogoria Lake Hotel with entire project team. Made presentations about work to date and future planned work. Also worked with Njeri and Dr. Ouma on research activity plans for the 2004-2005 funding year as well as identifying what activities had not been accomplished in 2003-2004.

Outcomes

- Completed research activity plan (2004/2005) for applied economics group
- Draft budget for applied economics group

In the afternoon on the 21<sup>st</sup> returned to Egerton University and was then driven by Habel to the Nairobi airport for my return journey to the US.

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup>, July 2004.

Travel day, return to the US via Amsterdam – end of trip.