



Participatory Environmental Management Programme (PEMA)

"Facilitating the sustainable stewardship of natural resources for conservation and development"

What is PEMA's mission?

PEMA's mission is to pilot and promote an *approach to the management of natural resources in high-biodiversity areas that reconciles the conservation and development interests of multiple stakeholders at local, national and international levels.*

The sustainable management of protected areas balances the interests of different stakeholders. PEMA believes that management processes and negotiated decisions must be fair to be effective – and this means ensuring that they benefit local livelihoods and reduce people's vulnerability to poverty. This requires:

- Increasing local people's control over natural resources and enhancing their capacity to sustainably manage them
- Ensuring that local people are fairly rewarded for their role as stewards of environmental functions/services that benefit their country and the world at large

What are PEMA's objectives?

PEMA's core objectives reflect its commitment to long-term conservation and development. The Programme aims to:

- Improve the livelihood security of poor, natural resource dependent households in targeted landscapes
- Conserve biodiversity and environmental services of national and international importance
- Enhance the capacity of civil society and government institutions to design and implement natural resource management programmes

How does PEMA operate?

PEMA began in January 2004, and work is expected to continue for at least eight years. Throughout this period, PEMA will act as a:

- *Convenor* of locally owned processes designed to address and shape stakeholders' interests into a common vision
- *Facilitator* of innovative approaches to conservation which emphasize the equitable sharing of benefits between the rural poor and wealthy/powerful interest groups
- *Mobiliser* of resources to reward poor countries and poor communities for their central role in biodiversity stewardship
- *Advocate* for those people whose legitimate needs and interests are frequently the least reflected in natural resource management plans

These roles are intended to empower rather than replace the efforts of local people, their institutions and government.

Where does PEMA operate?

PEMA works in the landscapes encompassing Uganda's Kasyoha-Kitomi Forest Reserve and Tanzania's South Nguru Mountains which are located within the (Northern) Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Eco-regions, respectively.

Kasyoha-Kitomi and the South Nguru Mountains were selected for a variety of reasons. Chief amongst these is the fact that they lie within some of the planet's most important "hotspots" for biodiversity and biological distinctiveness. Indeed, Kasyoha-Kitomi is the largest tract of medium altitude moist forest in Uganda. As such, it is home to an exceptionally high number of endemic plants and animals. Meanwhile, the South Ngurus and other Eastern Arc forests are commonly recognised as a global treasure house for endemic plants.

It is equally significant that the rate of natural resource exploitation in both landscapes is quickly reducing the size of their forest-ecosystems.

Who is PEMA?

PEMA is being implemented by a partnership composed of Birdlife-Denmark, CARE-Denmark, CARE-Tanzania, the Danish Institute for International Studies, NatureUganda, the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group, the World Wide Fund for Nature-Denmark, and the World Wide Fund for Nature-Eastern Africa Regional Programme Office.

In order to encourage synergies and spread lessons learnt, PEMA is collaborating with other civil society initiatives in the Albertine Rift and Eastern Arc Mountains.

By working closely with local authorities, the Forestry and Beekeeping Division/Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (Tanzania) and Forest Authority (Uganda), PEMA hopes to facilitate sustainable natural resource management structures and processes. This way of working with others is a defining characteristic of PEMA's approach.

How do I learn more?

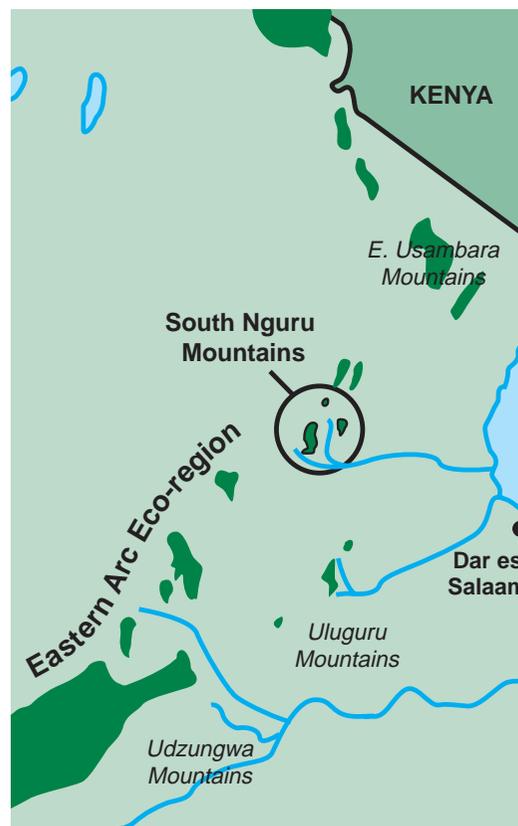
Additional information about PEMA can be found on the Web at <http://www.pema-eastafrica.org>.
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Specific information about PEMA's work in the South Nguru Mountains can be requested from the Tanzania Landscape Coordinator at:
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Mobile phone: (+255) 745-384-708
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Specific information about PEMA's work around the Kasyoha-Kitomi Forest Reserve can be requested from the Uganda Landscape Coordinator at:
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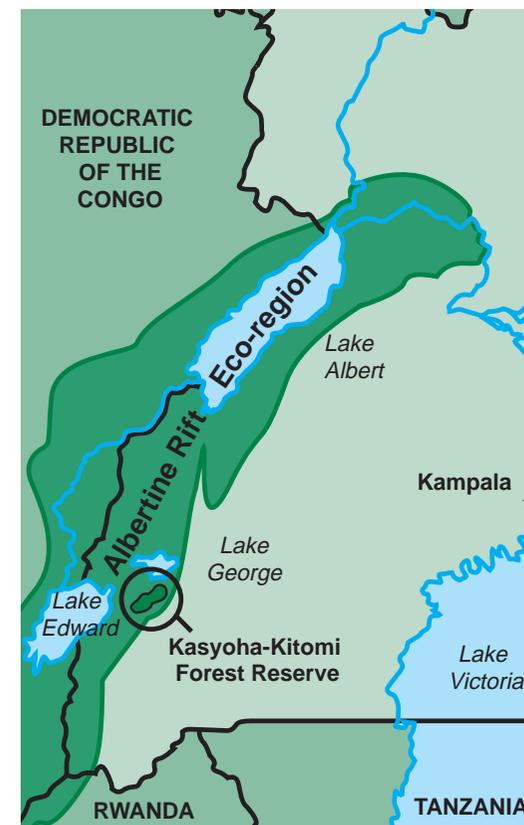
South Nguru Mountains Eastern Arc Eco-region, Tanzania



Quick facts:

- Conservation International ranks the Eastern Arc Mountains as one of the twenty-five richest and most threatened reservoirs of plant and animal life on Earth.
- WWF lists both the Eastern Arc and Albertine Rift Eco-regions amongst the two hundred areas where the planet's biological wealth is most distinctive/rich and where its loss would be most severely felt.
- Though the Eastern Arc Mountains are one of the world's smaller hotspots, they have the world's highest density of endemic species.
- It is estimated that 77% of the Eco-region's original forest cover has been lost.

Kasyoha-Kitomi Forest Reserve Albertine Rift Eco-region, Uganda



Quick facts:

- The Albertine Rift is recognized by Conservation International as a hotspot and by Birdlife International as an Endemic Bird Area.
- The montane forests of the Albertine Rift Eco-region are home to some of Africa's most distinctive biota. They also have the most endemic bird, mammal and amphibian species in mainland Africa.
- The streams flowing out of the Kasyoha-Kitomi Forest Reserve feed Lake George, which is an UNESCO Man and Biosphere site, as well as a Ramsar site.