

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

The world's oldest ecological organization, namely International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in full International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. Formerly called World Conservation Union, which is a network of environmental organizations founded as the International Union for the Protection of Nature on 5th October 1948 in Fontainebleau, France. However, in 1956 it changed its name to the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), it was also known as the World Conservation Union from 1990 to 2008. Its headquarters are in Gland, Switz. Its mission is to influence, encourage and assist communities around the world to conserve nature and to ensure that every use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. IUCN is a membership organization, consisting of State and government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and Indigenous Peoples Organizations. However, a considerable number of prior research discusses the role of NGOs in responding to environmental issues. Managing the environment is very important in international relations (Devi, Priadarsini, & Widya Nugraha, 2019) for the welfare of all citizens. There has been progress in policy and establishing environmental authority, and there is an international environmental commitment (Siddique, 2016). Therefore, NGOs have been divided into different classifications. The first focus starts from the orientation and level of operation. This orientation refers to the type of activity, including human rights (Ginanjar, 2020), environment (Putri, 2019), or development

work. The involvement of NGOs is highly effective in monitoring conservation corporate governance (Li, 2016) creating and implementing democratic participation (Hashim, 2010), and serving as a private-sector institutional framework that provides substantial support to development challenges (Siddaraju, 2011).

With the involvement of IUCN, the development of projects and programs can run effectively and efficiently because each actor has their respective roles in the process. Furthermore, IUCN is classified as the only environmental organization that already has observer status at the United Nations. Besides that, IUCN also provides scientific information and various advice relating to global conservation policies through a wide range of international forum (Canada, n.d.). They also promote and help implement laws, policies, and provide national conservation practices, and operate or manage thousands of field projects worldwide. IUCN's activities are structured in several programs, ranging from business, biodiversity, forest conservation, to water and wetland conservation. IUCN also deals with specific issues, such as climate change, conservation, and poverty reduction (Britannica T. E., 2016).

Africa is known as a country that has vast grasslands, wild animals, and fierce jungles. Besides being blessed with a diversity of fauna, Africa also has a tropical rain forest habitat, with the dry savanna plain of the Sahara Desert, which is home to a variety of wildlife. One of them is the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania which is the most famous wildlife sanctuary in Africa (Destriyana, 2014). The Serengeti, a vast ecosystem in east-central Africa which hosts the second largest terrestrial mammal migration in the world. The name Serengeti is taken from the Maasai language which means "endless plain." Serengeti National Park has also been designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of Africa Geographic's seven wonders of the world (IUCN, n.d.). This ecosystem

covers approximately 12,000 square miles (30,000 square kilometres) (Schmaltz, Serengeti, 2006). It lies west of the Rift Valley, in a highland savanna area with plains and forests ranging from 900 to 1,500-meters above sea level. The western part stretches close to Lake Victoria. The northern boundary follows the border between Tanzania and Kenya. It lies within the administrative areas of Mara, Mwanza, Shinnyanga, and Arusha. This location is used as the foundation of the Serengeti ecosystem. There are several protected areas in the vicinity: the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, four Wildlife Sanctuaries (Maswa, Ikorongo, Grumeti, and Kijereshi), the Loliondo Control Area in Tanzania, and the Maasai Mara National Reserve in Kenya. The Serengeti including The Serengeti National Park and several nature reserves and conservation areas are protected by the governments of Tanzania and Kenya. The altitude on the Serengeti reaches 3,020 feet to 6,070 feet (920-meters to 1,850 meters). The season is usually warm and dry, but is interrupted by two rainy seasons, March to May, and a shorter season in October and November. The Serengeti landscape is divided into two areas, namely forest and grassland. These categories are determined by their dominant vegetation, according to Bridget Conneely, a wildlife ecologist at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in Maryland (Zimmermann, The Serengeti: Plain Facts about National Park & Animals, 2017).

Issues related to the environment have received more attention in recent decades, especially with the rise of data on environmentally caused extinction of animals. Like several other tropical ecosystems, the Serengeti also faces several stresses that can threaten its ecological integrity. There are several main challenges in ecosystems: the existence of illegal hunting for wildlife, unsustainable activities that can endanger habitats, and the development of large-scale projects that have the potential to have negative impacts on wildlife species and habitats. These factors arise due to the rapid growth of the

human population, poverty, and the failure of conservation authorities to offer compensation for the losses suffered by local communities because of conservation (Kideghesho J. R., 'Serengeti Shall Not Die': Transforming an Ambition into a Reality, 2010).

A report from the Tanzanian government, stated that illegal hunting in the Serengeti has increased from year to year, it needs an effort to control it, the additional guarding and more patrols are needed (UNESCO, 2012). The Serengeti on the west side has high levels of poaching due to an increasing human population density. Based on (Mutterback, 2012) it is estimated that 52,000 to 60,000 hunters live within approximately 45 kilometres west of the Greater Serengeti Ecosystem (GSE), those number will continue to grow as the population in Tanzania increases. Many hunters set up wire nets in the dark by hiding from being seen by patrols. In fact, hunters continue to hunt even after they were caught because the rewards they get are worth more than the punishment. With a growing population and low protein supply, poverty, and long hunting history, this is the reason why people hunt wildlife within the Serengeti National Park. The results of interviews conducted by (Mutterback, 2012) mentioned that more than a thousand community members in the western Serengeti, scientists found that most community members were aware that hunting wildlife is illegal, and the conservation of wild species is important. However, they prefer to hunt wild animals to fulfil their needs.

Another challenge is that in recent years, in 1972, it was stated that the water in the Mara River began to shrink. The Mara River originates from Napuiyapui on the Mau Slope (2,932m above sea level). It flows through the plains of Kenya's Maasai Mara National Wildlife Refuge and Tanzania's Serengeti National Park before entering the Lake Victoria area. The drying up of the Mara River is affecting most wildlife migrants and the migration will be permanently

destroyed. This event raises other concerns, although there will be leeway in maintaining the flow of the Mara River during the drought, this phase has the potential to cause new problems, such as the worst electricity shortage in Kenya. Thus, there will be an unforeseen pressure on demand in delivering all available Mara water to the Ewaso Ng'iro hydroelectric project (Kideghesho J. R., 2010). Therefore, millions of animals in the Serengeti rely on their survival (1,134m above sea level). IUCN recalls that the main causes of decreased flow of the Mara River including deforestation in Kenya, high river sediment load from erosion, and over-extraction of water. These impacts, combined with the likely effects of climate change, could potentially lead to prolonged droughts and, in the worst-case scenario, stop the Mara River's water flow and compromise the Serengeti's iconic migration. This is a significant problem in the Serengeti ecosystem because it can impact statistical spikes in endangered animals. Therefore, IUCN raised this case to be a concentration in finding solutions to maintain the preservation of biodiversity.

Contributions made by IUCN have a wide scope. In this case, IUCN acts as a bridge between one organization and a state party that will later support problem solving. It was recorded that from 1994 to 2021, IUCN was involved in dealing with nature conservation in the Serengeti.

The Serengeti/Mara environment was designated as a priority transboundary ecosystem by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) in 2001 (Committee, 2001). The Serengeti's environment is one of the world's most undisturbed wildlife migrations. In addition, the Serengeti is home to one of the world's largest and most diverse prey-predator relationships. As a result, the Tanzania National Park is responsible for the management and operation of Serengeti National Park and all other parks and conservation areas in Tanzania. Even though the state is set up for TANAPA (Tanzania National Park), it does not provide subsidies and

must pay taxes. As a result, other organizations have taken the lead in taking significant steps to preserve Serengeti National Park (IUCN, n.d.).

B. Research Question

According to the background explained above, the author takes the research question below which will be further discussed in the next chapter:

1. What is the IUCN contribution as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in handling Serengeti's issues?

C. Theoretical Framework

The Concept of Sustainable Development

In writing this thesis, the researcher utilizes the concept of sustainable development. In this section the concept is used as a reference to answer the Research Question above. According to Brundtland Commission, sustainable development is a development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generation to meet their own needs. The concept of sustainable development in fact does not only focus on environmental issues. There are another three interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars that supporting the mission of sustainable development, there are economic development, social development, and environmental protection (Nations, 2004). However, the researcher focuses attention on social development and environmental protection. The two pillars have a strong attachment to each other. The existence of the concept of sustainable development makes people aware of the role and importance of environmental factors as well as the goals and facilities provided by the environment. (Dogaru, 2013).

- **Social Development**

As we recognize that our physical world is organized into an ecosystem that contribute important values to our daily lives. The intended contribution is the real action of the community in maintaining the surrounding ecosystem, such as cleanliness, sustainable resource use, wildlife conservation, etc. Mukherji (Sharma, 1993) has increased the analogous egalitarian conception of social development. He identified and divided them into three sets of groups, namely Discrimination, Exploitation, and Oppression (DEO). Mukherji defines social development as a form of progressive reduction in DEO. Social development can be associated with a sense of brotherhood. Society is not just a collection of individuals, but this is a manifestation of the human desire to reach the necessities of life.

The role of social development in solving problems that occur in nature conservation in the Serengeti, through cooperation between international organizations in conducting socialization in the Serengeti area where there is still a lack of public awareness in maintaining the surrounding ecosystem which has a negative impact on wild animals. With the existence of social development, it can change the mindset of the community on how actions should be taken to maintain the conservation of the Serengeti nature.

- **Environmental Protection**

At the international level, the 1992 Rio Declaration affirmed the desire of the

international community to implement and support the protection and sustainable development of the ecological and global economy. Similarly, the 1986 Brundtland Commission Report (Dogaru, 2013), underlined the importance of environmental protection. The issue of environmental protection is a challenge that has no policy, but a combination of existing opportunities and increased efficiency in all social and economic areas also contributes to solving resource and distribution problems. Environmental protection gets attention from international cooperation and regulation in global or cross-border scope.

Based on the explanation above, environmental protection plays an important role in carrying out international measures that have been provided, stated, or recognized at the level of general or conventional international law. Sustainable development should be considered in setting lines of action at the level of the communitarian pit process, establishing the urgency that information about goals in long and short youth is maintained across all five environmental impact domains (Dogaru, 2013).

D. Research Argument

By using the concept of sustainable development, this research will describe IUCN in carrying out environmental protection processes that aim to ensure that environmental goals enjoy the same level of importance as social goals.

Basically the way in managing the environment is very influential on the quality of the environment itself. Therefore, it is important to increase the protection and wise management of the environment. The protection and sustainable management of the environment is not only the responsibility of the government but the community. The government plays a role in the function of public services to protect and manage the environment. This aims to ensure that all residents get a good and healthy environment.

This study argues, with the concept of sustainable development, will support IUCN in carrying out a social development process that aims to raise public awareness of tourism exploitation that can damage ecosystems in the Serengeti and cause extinction. Society must also realize that our world depends on the ecosystem in it. This ecosystem will later provide important values for humans in everyday life. Therefore, to prevent negative things, we need a law that regulates relationships and fosters an attitude of legal awareness to live life between humans.

E. Methodology

There are many data collection methods in research, each method has its strengths and weaknesses (McGrath, 1982). A researcher must have thorough and adequate knowledge of the relevant data collection methods to be used. According to (Mulyadi, 2011) the research paper technique has numerous characteristics. First, the author will discuss problems with a specific occurrence or case distinct from many other social phenomena. Second, case study methodology writing can provide detailed information and explanations of the dynamics of the events or cases being discussed. Third, using the case study technique of writing allows the author to properly define the setting and background, indicating that the case is unique. The researcher employed a research design to ensure that the data gathered could respond to questions as

precisely and thoroughly as possible. This research took a hybrid strategy, combining qualitative and library research.

Secondary research is a research method that involves using existing data. The existing data is summarized and collated to increase the overall effectiveness of research. The data used is a source of information about the contribution of the IUCN in tackling the problems in Serengeti National Park. Therefore, the data collection can be obtained from various sources such as newspapers, public libraries, journal, etc.

Qualitative research is defined as the study of the nature of phenomena including their quality, different manifestations, the context in which they appear or the perspectives from which they can be perceived. Qualitative research aims to form a descriptive explanation of an event using the information that has been obtained. This qualitative technique can analyse and explain the contribution of IUCN in handling the problems in Serengeti National Park based on the information obtained from the secondary data or literature sources.

F. Research Scope

The scope of this research is needed for the researcher to limit the analysis. Therefore, in this thesis proposal, the author will limit the scope to environmental protection, especially in the Serengeti National Park area, South Africa. This research wants to explore the IUCN contribution in supporting environmental conservation programs, specifically in nature conservation programs in Serengeti National Park, South Africa. The program run by IUCN aims to reduce the spike in extinctions in the Serengeti as one of the organizations responsible for preserving biodiversity. The role of IUCN is highly respected in this project. Depletion of water that occurs in the Mara River has a profound influence on the Serengeti habitat because it is a source of necessity. Therefore, this study

was conducted to describe: 1) The International Union for Conservation Nature (IUCN) contribution as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in handling Serengeti's issues, and 2) The IUCN's approach in resolving Serengeti's nature conservation challenges.

G. Systematic Writing

The structure of this thesis will consist of three chapters which will be described through the following systematics:

Chapter I: In this chapter, the background and formulation of the problems is presented. In addition, in this section the researcher also explains the framework of thought in the form of theories or concepts used as a reference in conducting descriptive analysis. Furthermore, this chapter presents the main research methodologies that have contributed to the writing. Finally, this chapter explains the research scope used by researchers to find out the limitations of the research.

Chapter II: In this chapter, the researcher focuses in explaining about The Crisis of Conservation in Serengeti. This chapter provides further explanation regarding the problems that occur in the Serengeti. Furthermore, this chapter will present some data with the aim of convincing the reader that the written statement is indeed true.

Chapter III: In this chapter, the researcher explains the contribution of the IUCN towards Serengeti. This chapter contains an explanation regarding IUCN in general, followed by what contributions have been made by IUCN. This chapter is divided into several sections according to the type of contribution made, such as Policy Advice and Collaboration.

Chapter VI: The last chapter, the researcher summarizes and concludes the research results.