

# TANZANIA NATIONAL PARKS



## CANOPY WALKWAY GUIDELINES



## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

Canopy walkway is an aerial trail system that allows people to journey through the upper parts of the forest. The unique structure of the walkway enables visitors to closely explore the flora and fauna that thrives in the lofty environment.

Through the walkway visitors' can experience birds singing, insect chirping, baboon barking, flowers and various other species of animals and plants that leave in the roof of the forest and which are otherwise invisible from the ground but can only be seen from an elevation located near the tree top canopy level.

This activity is conducted in accordance to GMP of respective National Park and nature of the park. These guidelines will provide room for the environment to be well protected while the visitors continue to enjoy the nature.

## **2.0 AREAS WHERE ACTIVITIES CAN TAKE PLACE**

The areas for conducting the activity shall be clearly stipulated in the respective park GMP.

## **3.0 CANOPY WALKWAYS CONSTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS**

Before the commencement of the canopy walkway construction the project proponent shall comply with the following;

- i. Submit project proposal/feasibility study with detailed drawings of infrastructure.
- ii. Agree on the specific site with the Park management.
- iii. Ensure EIA is carried out.

## **4.0 CONDITIONS FOR CANOPY WALKWAY OPERATORS**

- i. Shall have a valid TALA license.
- ii. A clean business record.
- iii. Ensure that the activity is conducted in a safe, quality and orderly manner that comply with GMP.

- iv. Shall be environmentally responsible.
- v. Shall carryout periodic maintenance of the facility.
- vi. Shall use well trained professional Tanzanian guides.
- vii. Have a reliable communication system and emergence evacuation programme.

## **5.0 OPERATION OF CANOPY WALKWAYS**

- i. The Maximum number of visitors' per time and per day shall be as stipulated in the approved proposal and EIA.
- ii. Activity will be conducted from 0800 hours and end at 1800 hours.
- iii. A TANAPA staff shall be stationed at start point.
- iv. Children between 10 to 16 years shall be accompanied by adult.
- v. Visitors who will be proved to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be prohibited to participate in the activity.
- vi. Flat closed toes shoes are required while participating in the activity.
- vii. Comfortable casual dresses that allow flexibility are recommended.
- viii. Visitors' shall notify the guide if he/she has any of the following conditions as participation is not advised and may be denied :
  - ix. Pregnancy.
  - x. Existing injuries and serious musculoskeletal disorder or medical conditions that could require immediate medical attention.
  - xi. Under extreme weather condition the respective Park will stop the activity.
  - xii. The canopy walkways will be closed if the Park is concerned with the safety of visitors.
  - xiii. Prior booking to the respective park is recommended at least six hours before commencing the activity. Last minute visitors will be allowed to perform the activity if there is available space.

## **6.0 MODALITY OF PAYMENTS**

- i. All payments shall be done at the respective park before the commencement of the activity.

- ii. Payment shall be made through MasterCard and Visa cards. Cash money is highly discouraged.
- iii. Fees for the activity shall be in accordance to TANAPA fee structure as may be reviewed from time to time.

## **7.0 Indemnity forms**

All visitors must fill and sign **indemnity form** before commencing the activity.

## **8.0 Monitoring and evaluation of the activity**

Regular monitoring shall be carried out to see if the activity complies with the operating agreement and TANAPA legislations. Annual evaluation will also be carried out to assess the impact of the activity and recommend effective mitigation measures or suspension of the activity

Issued by,

**The Director General**

**Tanzania National Parks**