

Pwani Yetu Issue # 16
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ICM Strategy, key to sustainable coastal development - Ngoile

Tanzania has ample potential in enhancing sustainable development in coastal areas if it will effectively implement the proposed Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Strategy. This was underscored by Dr. Magnus Ngoile, the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Director General, while officiating at the closing ceremony of the semi-annual coastal management meeting popularly known as a 'Coastal Management Retreat' in Dar es Salaam.

Addressing participants who included representatives of different sectors relevant to coastal resources management from national to local level institutions, the NEMC chief expressed his hope and anticipation that the government will soon endorse and adopt the proposed ICM strategy that will fuel development actions in coastal resources management and development initiatives.

"The unique qualities and roles of the proposed ICM Strategy include not only community participation at all levels, but also facilitation and monitoring with the focus on combating poverty and ignorance that has persisted in our coastal areas," Dr. Ngoile emphasised.

He noted that the success of ICM will highly depend on the key players including the communities who draw the resources from the coast and the government that has the responsibility to direct on how to draw the resources. To this effect he challenged participants who are key coastal resources managers to uptake the challenges ahead in ICM implementation.

Underlining ICM's significance in improving the quality of life of coastal communities, who for decades have remained in poverty strains despite the abundant natural resources, Dr. Ngoile observed that coastal communities can potentially achieve better living if they use and manage sustainably the coastal resources. But due to mismanagement that result in environmental destruction, the coastal resources are not benefiting the coastal communities equitably.

Quoting the words of the former President Mwinyi that 'poverty and environment degradation are twins and their parent is illiteracy', Dr. Ngoile noted that through effective application of ICM principles, which tread on learning by doing through participation at all levels, there are all opportunities for improved livelihoods of coastal communities.

**Tanzania's Mariculture Guidelines and Investor's Guide
impress Indonesia**

Indonesia, a coastal country grappling with unsustainable mariculture industry has been impressed by the recently published Tanzania Mariculture Guidelines and Mariculture Investor's Guide. In a two-page review of the two documents published in the Indonesian Journal of Coastal and Marine Resources, Dr. Ian Dutton of the Nature Conservancy (NTC), Indonesia Program prays to the Indonesian national and local government authorities to pick up the Tanzania guidelines and adapt them for local conditions.

"Better still, I hope that someone applies the principles inherent in the guidelines before we cut yet another mangrove or rework another estuary for short term profit," Dr. Dutton pleads in his review of the books.

Describing both as outstanding references for Indonesia he says: "With somewhat similar climatic and socio-political conditions and a clear need for better dialogue between developers, communities and government agencies concerned with mariculture, Indonesia could learn much from this initial effort in Tanzania."

Indonesia, according to Dr. Dutton, is faced by a paramount challenge of unsustainable mariculture industry that is literally not only tearing apart the delicate coastal ecosystem, but also causing great loss of income and opportunity for coastal communities.

Both the Tanzania Mariculture Guidelines Source Book and Investor's Guide, prepared under the guidance of TCMP by local experts drawn from different sectors, describe the planning, permitting and sustainable development of mariculture industry that benefits the nation and the community while maintaining environmental quality.

CEAS 2002

Tanga crown CEAS celebrations with a soccer match

By Mussa Dengo

In a move to expand and popularise the Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS) in Tanga Municipality, the CEAS District Committee in collaboration with the Tanga Football Association successfully organised a unique football cup competition that crowned the award scheme celebrations held on the World Environment Day.

Uruguay Football Club of Mikanjuni won the soccer match that was attended by thousands of Tanga residents in an entertaining clash against Central Printers. The winners were awarded a glittering cup, a set of jerseys and one football. The runners up in a mini league known as Mazingira League were also rewarded with a set of jerseys.

Eight teams took part in the special league that started on 25 May. The teams included Usagara Sports Club, Jogoo F.C, 17 Rangers, Reli F.C and Central Printers. Others were African Sports F.C, Raider F.C and the winners Uruguay.

Speaking at the cup presentation ceremony, the Tanga District Administration Secretary Mrs. Nuru Millao underscored the critical need to safeguard the delicate coastal

environment which, is the backbone of development. Thanking organisers of the special football competition that crowned the CEAS celebrations in a unique style, Millao pleaded to the Tanga community to participate actively in the scheme which, she described as a motivation tool for sustainable development for coastal people. She further pleaded to the business community to support the special football competition so that it becomes Tanga's major event in the future.

Spread CEAS in all district villages - Dololo

By Doroth Ndunguru

The Mtwara District Commissioner Mr. Gilbert Dololo has called on the Mtwara District committee for the Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS), to spread the scheme to all villages in the district. Addressing a large gathering that assembled at Nanyamba to commemorate the World Environment Day, that was colourfully crowned by awarding winners and participants in the CEAS competitions, the DC underscored the great role being played by the scheme as 'teaching by doing' and recognition of good actions.

"This award scheme is a tool that since its introduction in Mtwara, has successfully helped the district authority in enhancing wise use of resources, apart from contributing to sustainable development. I urge the district committee under the District Natural Resources Officer, to spread the scheme in the whole district - even to villages far from the coast. This is the reason I decided to hold these celebrations at Nanyamba despite the fact that the village did not participate in the CEAS competitions", the DC said.

Explaining further, the DC who has been stewarding CEAS since its introduction in coastal districts in 1999 when he was in Lindi, he said national and local government leaders are faced by a big challenge in guiding communities in wise use of resources. Hence, they need every support in awareness raising and promoting of wise use and conservation of the resource base which, is the 'blood vein' for development.

At the ceremony adorned by traditional dances, songs and speeches, the DC who recently successfully banned coral mining for lime making, that was literary becoming a scourge in Mtwara, took the opportunity to condemn environmental destructive activities, particularly wild fires, turtle killing and shifting agriculture.

Rufiji villagers draw others into their webs on World Environment Day

The Rufiji district marked the World Environment Day in unique trends. Apart from district level celebrations led by the District Commissioner Brigadier General Hemed, who presented prizes to winners and participants in the Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS), communities in pilot villages of the Rufiji Environment Management Project (REMP), took the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in environment management.

As described by Rose Hogan, this year's celebrations 'took the top to the bottom' with village communities teaching the leaders and officials on the wise and sustainable management of the resources. This was perhaps a glorious moment that demonstrated results of community commitment and desire in enhancing micro-level initiatives for collaborative management of the delicate but valuable Rufiji wetland.

"It was more than gratifying to see how villagers have now gained confidence in their skills as environmental managers and awareness raisers. With clear sense of confidence, the villagers demonstrated their abilities in natural resources management adorned with a sense of environmental safeguarding. They are indeed becoming the models from which to learn", explains highly impressed Hogan.

Rufiji, that boasts East Africa's largest floodplain and delta, with the guidance and support of IUCN through the Rufiji Environment Management Project (REMP), decided to popularise micro-level initiatives for collaborative management of the valuable wetland. The results, as was demonstrated by the local communities who are taking stronger control of their natural resources and promoting their wise use, are more than encouraging.

Enthusiasm and pride of their actions in sustainable development is the key to their success. According to Horgan, the villagers took great pain and time to prepare for this unique day dedicated to environment. Beehives were given glass-viewing panels, maps were drawn, posters were made, songs were created, and dramas and games were invented. Practice sessions went on into the night. Herbalists and crafts people were invited to display the way they depend on the forests and organic growers to show how to avoid chemical pesticide solutions.

"The results were impressive and surprised the visiting leaders and guests. They were amazed that villagers could draw maps of their natural resources and develop rules for their use. They could not hide their amazement as they listened to a villager teaching them on beekeeping so authoritatively. They didn't know that hot peppers or garlic could be used to keep insects away from tomatoes until the women of Mbambe displayed their orange and blue concoctions for protecting their plants. There were lessons in how to use tree roots to prevent chicken disease and in administering Newcastle disease vaccinations to your chicks. Locally made water pumps, which have been introduced in the four pilot villages couldn't fail to impress the visitors", Hogan explains.

Explaining further on the occasion Hogan says that the strong theme of the displays, which showed great innovation, was to emphasise the great need to use good practices, which can make more money, but without distracting the environment.

The Kikale celebrations, which were associated by prize giving to winners and participants in the Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS), apart from songs, dances and poems, provided an opportunity to the District Commissioner and other leaders to sensitise the community in taking initiatives to manage and protect the environment which, is the foundation for development and economy of Rufiji.

Dar residents in advocacy for environment on WED

Dar es Salaam was not left out in celebrating the World Environment Day on June 5 as our photographer captured this scene at Mnazi Mmoja grounds, where Dr. Irma Allen, the GreenCOM Tanzania technical advisor couldn't resist from joining the big crowd that was dancing in advocacy for environment. At the event attended by district, municipal and national leaders, the Ilala District Commissioner Mr. Mdoe, apart from presenting prizes to participants in the Coastal Environment Award Scheme, condemned unconfined environment destructive acts and called on the people to change behaviour for sustainable development. The DC who was officiating at the event on behalf of the Regional Commissioner urged the community to expose people, whose actions were destructive to the environment, particularly those who continue with the illegal dynamite fishing.

TCMP set for ICM Strategy implementation

As the government, through the Vice President's Office is making progress in finalising the process of official adoption of the proposed Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) Strategy, TCMP has set enabling conditions for its effective implementation through local action planning and planning for special area management.

According to the TCMP Support Unit Leader, Mr. Jeremiah Daffa, all preparations have been made to present the strategy to key constituencies and to support its effective implementation.

"Very fortunately the process of preparing the ICM strategy has been a participatory process where all stakeholders have been participating fully in all stages of the process. As today, Tanzania has a strong and effective coastal management experts at both local and national level who have all the capabilities to put ICM in effective practice," says Daffa.

He explains further that this has been due to the fact that the ICM process in Tanzania has been based on intersectoral and multi-sectoral co-operation from the initial start up phase of the process whereby all stakeholders including district officers and local communities have participated effectively.

"Involvement of coastal communities and stakeholders in planning and management of coastal resources is the only answer in ensuring sustainable development of the natural resources, the delicate coastal environment and the people who heavily rely on the same resources," Daffa explains adding that local action planning is thus the best approach of implementation that provides measurable results.

Expressing his confidence for improved management of coastal resources through ICM he elaborates that the advantage of ICM is that it often considers a coastal geographic

unit or ecosystem with the people of the place to create a 'vision for its future', then motivate and catalyse action among stakeholders - those with an interest in the area or resources, to achieve that future.

According to Daffa, ICM is issue oriented and based on a stakeholder participatory approach. The focus is on interfaced and inter-linked performance and monitoring of environmental health of available resources.

Initiatives underway to protect Mafia turtles and dugongs

The Mafia Island sea turtles and dugongs which, are critically threatened by human pressure, may get a new lease of life if initiatives currently in progress will successfully put in place a sustainable management and conservation program.

According to Catharine Muir of the Mafia Island Sea Turtle & Dugong Conservation Programme, initial discussions involving key stakeholders are in progress which, may result in a joint management and integrated conservation efforts of the Mafia turtles and dugongs.

"The need for effective conservation and management of marine turtles and dugongs and their associated habitat has long been realised and recognized by the parties of the Nairobi Convention and key issues at national and regional levels have already been outlined in the Marine Turtle Strategy and Action Plan for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO Strategy). The plight of dugong has already been highlighted in the Dugong Status Report and Action Plans for Countries and Territories in its Range (UNEP/IUCN, 2002). Initiatives being taken now need to be supported and encouraged," notes Muir in a brief report on initial discussions to establish a conservation program of the threatened marine creatures.

Initially, a committee or task force has been proposed to stewardship conservation mechanisms. The key activities of the committee that will be under the Fisheries Division will include components relevant to policy and international co-operation; research and monitoring; awareness raising and monitoring; and law enforcement and legislation matters.

"The overall objective of the committee will be to formulate and implement a national action plan and co-ordinating national conservation activities based on the integrated management approach that involves a number stakeholders including local communities," Muir says expressing her hope that the initiatives will get needed support at both national and international level.

Call for contributions

In order that *Pwani Yetu* achieves its goal of sharing across information, experiences and ideas on coastal management, it requires for a wider participation of the coastal stakeholders including coastal managers, practitioners of different sectors, leaders, natural resource users and coastal communities.

This is even more important at the present time when Tanzania is in the ICM development process, which relies on a collaborative and stakeholder participatory approach. Please don't hesitate to offer your contribution to Pwani Yetu.

Join E-Pwani

Since its introduction, the email discussion group (E- Pwani), has proved to be a very effective tool in information sharing amongst coastal managers and practitioners. For those who wish to join E- Pwani, Discussion Group just forward your application to: e-pwani_mod@crc.uri.edu

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Editorial Team

Gratian Luhikula

Jeremiah Daffa

Tom Bayer

Mary Mbelwa

Saada Juma

Pwani Yetu

P.O.Box 71886, Dar es Salaam

Tel:+255+22+2666088/2666190

Fax: 2668611

Email:gluhikula@epiq.or.tz