

PWANI YETU

The Newsletter of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership *Issue #11 - March 2001*

Prof. Semesi's death, great loss to the nation and marine conservation

The death of Professor Adelaida Semesi (49) who was laid to rest at her home in Dar es Salaam in February this year, has been mourned not only by Tanzanians who new her dynamic contribution in the stewardship of marine conservation, but by marine scientists world wide. The Pew Fellowship Program in Marine Conservation based in the United States of America to which Prof. Semesi was a member has expressed shock to her untimely death, which it describes as a great misfortune for marine conservation.

In honour of the late Dr. Semesi, there are efforts to establish an Adelaida Semesi Memorial Fund, which will work to support researchers and students in marine sciences and conservation. More details will be given later.

A note of condolences to Prof. Semesi's family by Cynthia Robinson, the Associate Director of the Pew Follows Program in Marine Conservation says: "It was with great shock and sadness that the staff of the Pew Fellows Program and members of our international network learned of the death of Professor Adelaida Semesi. We had recently enjoyed Adelaida's company at our annual meeting in November in Mexico, and we were already looking forward to seeing her again at the next Pew Fellows gathering in May.

"The loss of Professor Semesi is heartbreaking for those close to her and is also a great misfortune for marine conservation. She was a steadfast champion and a true force for preserving ocean life and habitats as well as the livelihoods of those who depended on them. Dr. Semesi had applied her excellent scientific skills to conduct a project with her Pew Fellowship to understand the rich biodiversity of mangrove ecosystems in Tanzania. Her achievements were significant.

"Dr. Semesi's fellowship was directed specifically to study and evaluate the mangrove and estuary system in the Bagamoyo coastal district of Tanzania in order to guide development of scientifically sound management policies and practices. She conducted extensive field surveys and analysis with many students, researchers, government officials, and villagers whose skills in research and understanding of estuarine ecosystems were developed and enhanced throughout the project. This not only enhanced local capacity and fostered enthusiasm and a conservation ethic; it also expanded advanced education and career opportunities for many involved.

"In addition to outreach and raising awareness through publications, Dr. Semesi gave numerous presentations at conferences throughout Africa and Europe. These efforts

attracted additional research projects and funding to Tanzania. Most important, the valuable lessons learned from her initiatives are now being applied in other coastal areas throughout the region and will inform and improve efforts in other countries as well.

"I regret that I could not deliver our condolences in person at Professor Semesi's memorial service and share with you our pride that she was a Pew Marine Conservation Fellow. Please accept from our staff and Advisory Committee our sincere sympathies offered to you and to all of Dr. Semesi's colleagues and friends.

"Adelaida will be much missed in the Pew Fellows family. Her lively and positive attitude and her sincere dedication to science and sound policy for the oceans, along with her important accomplishments serve as inspiration to our on-going efforts."

The late Prof. Semesi who was a member of the NEMC Board of Directors and Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences of the University of Dar es Salaam, was a great inspiration to the ICM process in Tanzania. Apart from her guiding advise she was the chairperson of the TCMP Science and Technical Working Group (STWG). May God rest soul in eternal peace.

Experts work on mechanisms to guide sustainable coastal tourism development in Tanzania

In the continued efforts to improve and demonstrate intersectoral mechanisms for addressing emerging coastal economic opportunities, the TCMP in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT) - Tourism Department, has formed a multisectoral Coastal Tourism Working Group (CTWG) to develop effective mechanisms to guide the development of coastal tourism in a sustainable fashion.

Coastal Tourism is the second emerging economic opportunity to be addressed in the ongoing process by the TCMP to develop a coastal management policy and program based on the principles of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM). Mariculture was the first economic opportunity to be addressed, whereby experts successfully developed Mariculture Development Guidelines. The guidelines have been endorsed and approved by various sectors with stake in coastal and marine management ready for use in mariculture projects approval and review processes that are consultative, multi-sectoral and inter-disciplinary.

The goal of the CTWG is to identify the key constraints to coastal tourism development and work with relevant institutions and stakeholders to minimise those constraints and establish an integrated approach that will guide sustainable coastal tourism development on the Tanzania mainland coast.

The CTWG, guided by Andrew Hurd, an American expert and Ildefons Masekesa of the Tourism Division is made up of representatives from various sectors including the private sector with stake in the sustainable development of coastal tourism. The intersectoral

nature of the CTWG will enable the Group to address coastal tourism issues from a holistic perspective. This is particularly important since tourism activities affect many different sectors, including land, private sector development, transport, natural resource management, antiquities, and employment, among others.

The CTWG will seek to clarify the roles and responsibilities of relevant institutions and streamline the coastal tourism development process. Special consideration will be given to the roles of district and village level governments and people in the development of tourism along the coast in conjunction with the recent trend of shifting responsibility from the national to the local levels.

The CTWG will work to identify mechanisms whereby the people living in coastal areas are encouraged to be active participants in the development of tourism, from the pre-investment stage to full operation. Coastal tourism has the potential to provide numerous benefits to local populations, including investment opportunities; direct employment; indirect employment through the creation of secondary services like restaurants, shops and other services; and improvements in infrastructure services.

The work of the CTWG will provide valuable input to the ICM process currently being promoted in Tanzania. The development of major economic activities like coastal tourism, mariculture and several others can both reduce the pressure on the fragile coastal environment and associated resources and contribute to the national economy and livelihoods of coastal communities.

Kwaheri EPIQ

The Environmental Policy and Institutional Strengthening Indefinite Quality (EPIQ) one of the key partners of TCMP and the USAID/Tanzania Strategic Objective Two has wended up its program in Tanzania.

EPIQ which used to share the offices with TCMP and GreenCOM, the USAID's Environmental Education and Communication Project, worked to support the Tanzania Governments efforts in improving conservation of biodiversity in targeted areas with special focus on the effective application of key natural resources management policies.

In its three year program, EPIQ collaborated with government agencies and other donors (particularly GTZ) to prepare enabling legislation and regulations and guidelines to support implementation of the wildlife policy elements, which deal with community based wildlife management activities.

Working closely with the Wildlife Division in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, TANAPA and other related NGOs, EPIQ contributed greatly in the initiatives of establishing community based Wildlife Management Areas outside protected areas and the development of community based conservation programs. EPIQ further assisted the

Division of Environment (DoE) in the implementation of the National Environment Policy. EPIQ's activities have now been transferred to WWF.

Apart from its important role in supporting the national natural resources management policy matters, EPIQ further supported TCMP in the office management and administration. Both EPIQ and TCMP shared not only the offices, but also all management support services including telephones, computers, vehicles and other services under the efficient supervision of the EPIQ management team.

Kilwa may soon recapture lost glory

Kilwa, one of the world's heritage sites with the most compelling historical relics in East Africa, may soon recapture its lost glory. This follows the commitments by UNESCO, the governments of France, Japan and Tanzania to restore and develop the great but sadly crumbling ruins of Kilwa Kisiwani, Songo Mnara and Kilwa Kivinje.

At a stakeholders three-day meeting held at Kilwa Kisiwani from 4 - 6 February 2001, UNESCO, the Franco-Japanese partnership and the Kilwa Local government and community made firm commitments to undertake a cultural development project of the Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara with the focus to enhance the historical, physical and economical qualities of the islands which were declared world heritage sites by UNESCO in 1981.

Attended by representatives of UNESCO, French Embassy, Japanese Embassy, Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, as well as the Lindi Regional Administrative Secretary, Kilwa District Executive Director, Kilwa District Council Chairman, Kilwa Kisiwani village government and officials from the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and the Tourism Confederation of Tanzania, the meeting reached concusses to finalise the project management plan so that the project implementation starts in October this year.

The project, according to the Director of antiquities, Mr. Kamamba, will work to restore and conserve the historical ruins on a community participatory approach. Apart from enhancing conservation of the historical relics, the project's main concern will be to improve the quality of life of the communities and to contribute to the local and national economy through tourism and sustainable management and use of Kilwa's abounding natural resources.

To this effect the project development plan will focus on: proper management of cultural and historical sites so that their values are preserved; development of a tourism master plan so that Kilwa attractions contribute to the local and national economy; and the alleviation of poverty among Kilwa communities through promoting income generating activities and improvement of social services.

Declaring his government's commitment, Mr. Hoarau of the French Embassy said the government of France was eager to see the project on ground since the project will not only help to restore the world heritage site, but will also benefit the people of Kilwa and Tanzania in general.

Also affirming the Japanese government commitment, Mr. Mitsuya of the Japanese Embassy said that his government realises the significance of the project in enhancing social development of the people of Kilwa. He commended UNESCO for its initiatives and assured the Kilwa district people of Japan government participation in the stewardship of the project.

On the part of UNESCO, the Regional Cultural Advisor, Mr. Mbuyamba who came all the way from Angola to attend the meeting said: "We in the UNESCO consider Kilwa as a unique site not only for Tanzania, but also for the global community. That is why we have all our hearts out to ensure the historical buildings in Kilwa Kisiwani, Songo Mnara and even Kilwa Kivinje are restored and conserved earnestly. Hence our commitment to the proposed Kilwa Cultural Development Project is guaranteed,"

Thanking the French and Japanese governments and UNESCO, the Lindi Regional Commissioner, Mr. Ditopile Mzuzuri said the project would cement already existing relations of the people of France and Japan. He assured UNESCO and all partners in the project of the national, regional and district governments commitment to ensure the project benefits the people of Kilwa and Tanzania while the historical monuments and other natural resources will remain a source of wonder and inspiration to the global community.

Local coastal communities worry on the resurfacing of dynamite fishing

"There is no doubt about it, fishing by use of explosives is back. Unless the government acts quickly, this illegal practice is going to turn into a rampage as it was in the 1980s and 1990s," the Somanga Mbuyuni village chairman Mr. Omar Bakari Nguyu told a team of scientists who were making a survey of the state of the coast.

The chairman who earlier explained that fish catches by local artisanal fishermen had highly improved after the 1998 national crackdown on dynamite fishing, further noted that a new approach to combat dynamite fishing is needed. Though he had no immediate solutions, he was of the opinion that the national and local governments need not to rest after the successful crackdown that was spearheaded by the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF). They were supposed to work out sustainable strategies for monitoring and enforcement, which would ensure fishing by explosives is completely checked out.

"The people who are now detonating dynamites know quite well that the government cannot undertake another crackdown, which is not only expensive, but highly complicated to organise. Without a long term monitoring and enforcement plan, it will

not be easy to find a lasting solution to the illegal dynamite fishing," Mr. Nguyu elaborated and added:

"Dynamite fishing is a complex issue that is intertwined with poverty concerns, corruption, greed and ignorance that requires a more focused and integrated approach to root it out."

Dynamite fishing had turned into a scourge evading practical solution in Tanzania. All the way from Tanga to Mtwara, explosives literally zapped the coast. It was not until the ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in cooperation with the Navy and marine police embarked on a special operation in 1998 to crack down dynamite fishers, that a breeze of peace returned to the coast. The crackdown however, cost the government over 24m/-.

Effects of dynamite fishing need not be emphasised. Fishing by use of dynamite explosives is unquestionably the most destructive of the delicate marine environment. This is because dynamites are usually detonated on coral reefs which are highly productive ecosystems supporting a great diversity of plant and animal life including fish.

According to marine experts, dynamite fishers usually scout reefs with high concentration of fish before detonating their explosives. The explosion, however, do not only kill fish but cause total destruction of corals and other associated plant and animal life found in the vicinity of the blast.

It is estimated that a single dynamite blast instantly kills all fish, big and small, all invertebrates and plankton as well as eggs and larvae of a variety of marine lives within a 15-20 meter radius.

As far the coral reefs are concerned, the effects of dynamite blasts are long lasting and it takes many years for the affected ecosystem to recover. It may take 25-50 years for a destroyed reef to regenerate. But even if it regenerates, it may never return to its original state.

Move to upgrade Saadani to a National Park

The Saadani Game Reserve may soon become Tanzania's 13th National Park following initiatives by the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), other government authorities, Bagamoyo local government and the Bagamoyo community to upgrade the game reserve to a National Park status.

The move, according to conservationists will step up conservation and development of the area's unique ecosystem. Saadani, where the bush meets the beach, has a unique ecosystem that supports a diverse fauna and flora. The ecosystem comprise the Saadani Game Reserve which includes the southern Mkwaja, a former ranch and which was incorporated into the reserve in 1996, the Wami River estuary and the Zaragoza Forest

Reserve. Within the coastal belt, there are important mangrove stands and a green turtle breeding beach at Madete. The districts of Bagamoyo and Pangani share the ecosystem.

At a meeting held in February this year in Bagamoyo and attended by various stakeholders including the local community, the Director General of TANAPA, Mr. Lota Melamari explained that the proposed National Park will be operated not only with the intention to conserve and protect the abounding natural resources, but also with the focus to enhance development of the surrounding community.

This, he explained will entail the introduction and implementation of community based conservation programs in wildlife management areas outside the Park.

KICAMP operations take off

The Kinondoni Coastal Area Management Programme (KICAMP) has officially started its operations following the appointment of the project key management staff.

KICAMP, which is under the stewardship of the Kinondoni Municipality and supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) is being headed by Mr. Godfrey L. Kamukala a former Director General of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC).

Mr. Kamukala who in 1996 was presented an Eastern Africa Environment Management Award and who served an UNDP/UNOPS three year consultancy term in Lesetho, will be assisted by Mr. Daniel Sabai an expert in information, education and communication as well as several functionary district officers from the sectors of natural resources, education, planning and community development. This team of experts is expected to guide the program in achieving its goal.

KICAMP focuses on improved understanding and management of marine and coastal resources in the Kinondoni district. In its three years pilot phase, it will implement its activities in an integrated fashion based on the following key components:

- * Coastal land and water planning;
- * Coastal community development;
- * Coastal surveys and assessments; and
- * Education, information and communication.

Kinondoni communities will be the main implementors and beneficiaries of the programme while a number of local institutions will be involved in the programme's implementation. The University of Dar es Salaam and the Institute of Marine Sciences will be directly involved in research and other scientific related needs.

The second phase of KICAMP will aim to provide support to several development sectors in the district.

CEAS 2001 attracts many entries in all districts: Tanga proposes for special prize to outstanding district

The Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS), which is in its third year of implementation, is attracting many entries in all participating districts. According to reports by District CEAS Committee Secretaries, many coastal community groups, schools and individuals have so far returned their entry forms.

From Mtwara, the CEAS District Committee Secretary, Mr. Kinyunyu has said that the secretariat has finalised distribution of the entry forms, some of which have already been returned. Expressing his anticipation for a bigger participation this year, Mr. Kinyunyu says the scheme is now very popular not only in the urban center, but even in coastal villages far from Mtwara town.

Similar reports have been received from Tanga, Muheza, Lindi, Kilwa, Mafia and Pangani. Even Bagamoyo, which is participating in the award scheme for the first time, has reported of an enthusiastic response from communities. Bagamoyo started rather late to promote the scheme but it has made tangible progress in enrolling participants.

Tanga Municipality, which has been performing outstandingly since the CEAS was introduced in 1999, looks ahead to maintain its good record. "Here in Tanga the response is amazing. Many individuals and primary schools have returned their entry forms and many more are expected this month (February). There is no doubt that this year we will get more participants than last year, and remain on top of the list" reported Mr. Mussa Dengo, the Tanga Municipal CEAS Committee Secretary.

Last year Tanga Municipality recorded the highest number of participants - 6810, which according to Mr. Dengo will be over passed this year. Mr. Dengo attributes Tanga's outstanding participation in CEAS competitions to the great inspiration by the municipal leadership and commitment by members of the CEAS District Committee most of who are district functionary officers.

In the meanwhile, Mr. Dengo has suggested for the introduction of a special prize to be competed for by districts. The special prize, according to Mr. Dengo should be awarded to the district that records the highest number of participants. This he says will motivate district committees to work harder in the promotion of the scheme that is contributing handsomely in wise and sustainable management and use of resources at village level.

Kenya initiates ICM Policy process development

The Kenya government in partnership with coastal management stakeholders has started the process to develop the National Policy to guide coastal management based on the principles of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM).

The process was initiated at a Kenya Coastal Management Initiative meeting held at Whitesands Hotel in Mombasa recently. The meeting attended by government institutions with stake in coastal management, the private sector, other relevant stakeholders and invited experts from regional states making progress in ICM policy development including Tanzania, was with the aim to learn from experiences and make progress in the establishment of the National ICM Policy process and the formulation of the Marine Forum.

Since 1994, Kenya has been striving to put in place an ICM program with the financial support of the USAID and technical support of the Coastal Resources Center of the University of Rhode Island (CRC/URI). A pilot project, coordinated by the Coastal Development Authority (CDA), was initiated to profile the environmental issues of the Nyali-Bambui-Shanzu area of Mombasa. This resulted in a strategy document and succeeded in raising awareness, especially among stakeholders in Mombasa. The project, however, never grew beyond pilot level, mainly due to lack of national involvement.

After the Mombasa meeting at which important national decisions were made, Kenya is now expected to make a significant step in the policy development process. Kenya's action is a further inspiration to the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional efforts in the promotion of ICM. Apart from the Republic of South Africa, which has successfully adopted the ICM policy, other regional states including Tanzania are still striving to process the policy development.

Second WIOMSA Scientific Symposium 22 -26 October 2001 - Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

First Announcement and Call for Abstracts

The Second WIOMSA Scientific Symposium will be held from 22 -26 October in Dar es Salaam. WIOMSA cordially invites participants of all persons interested in the coastal and marine environment of the West Indian Ocean at this Symposium, whose main emphasis will be the presentation of results from original research conducted in the region. The theme of the Symposium is *Advances in Marine Science in Eastern Africa: Setting the Research Agenda*.

The Symposium will provide a forum for scientists and other stakeholders to:

- * Exchange knowledge and experiences on issues of concern to coastal communities;
- * Revisit the ideas and understanding on different aspects of current practices;
- * Review and evaluate the current situation so as to define the future research agenda to specifically address areas in which gaps in knowledge exist.

Invitation is extended for the submission of abstracts of oral or poster presentations at the Symposium. Abstracts must be written in English not exceeding 300 words. Abstract

submission deadline is June 30, 2001. Other important dates are: Application for travel grant - August 30, 2001; Deadline for receiving full papers - September 30, 2001.

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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 policy 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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