

PWANI YETU

The Newsletter of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership *Issue #13 July - September 2001*

Directors, District Authorities endorse actions for sustainable coastal tourism development

Tanzania has taken another important step towards effective coastal management on the principles of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM). This follows the endorsement of actions to guide the development of sustainable coastal tourism.

The endorsement was made by sectoral directors, District Executive Directors and Town Directors of coastal districts at a two day meeting hosted by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in collaboration with the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) and TCMP at Peacock Hotel in Dar es Salaam from 17 -18 September.

Opened by the Principle Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Mr. Philemon Luhanjo and chaired by the Director of Tourism, Mr. Saleh Pamba, the meeting endorsed the actions after reviewing the 'Coastal Tourism Situation Analysis' that provides a broad assessment of the current status of coastal tourism in Tanzania.

Prepared by the TCMP Coastal Tourism Working Group that is comprised of local experts drawn from different sectors including representatives from key government, public and private institutions, the analysis captures issues relevant to coastal tourism. It also identifies priority actions that need to be taken in order to develop a sustainable coastal tourism industry.

Priority actions endorsed by the meeting include:

- * The development of streamlined investment procedures for coastal hotel development;
- * The identification of priority areas for coastal tourism and the development of comprehensive tourism management plans for those areas;
- * The improvement of accessibility to coastal tourism areas;
- * The promotion of local investment to coastal tourism areas; and
- * To conduct economic analysis on the costs and benefits of different types of coastal accommodation and to develop right mix of investment incentives.

Tanzania's coastal natural and cultural endowments if developed, as was noted by Mr. Luhanjo in his opening remarks of the meeting, have great potential to serve as world-class tourist attractions and ultimately contribute to the national economy and the livelihoods of the poor coastal communities.

Underlining the government's commitment in developing sustainable coastal tourism, the Permanent Secretary said: "It is the intention of the government to take necessary steps with a strategic focus to tap the coastal tourism potential in a sustainable manner. This will not only help us to diversify away from wildlife tourism, but will complement and supplement the already popular wildlife safaris, as well as contributing more to the national economy and livelihoods of coastal communities."

The development of sustainable coastal tourism has been commended not only by district authorities and sectors with stake in coastal management, but also by the USAID Tanzania Mission, which is the key partner of TCMP in its endeavor to guide Tanzania in achieving effective coastal management.

Commending the government and the public at large, the USAID Environment Team Leader, Mr. Daniel Moore, who participated at the meeting, pledged for the US government continued support of the ICM development and implementation processes, which is the nucleus for sustainable management of coastal resources and associated delicate environment.

"USAID is encouraged by the speed and intensity at which Tanzania is moving towards effective coastal management. The dedication, commitment and vision demonstrated by the Government and the people of Tanzania in the wise management of coastal areas are commendable," Mr. Moore said in his statement.

Kilwa: tracking its way to sustainable development

"For a long time, the southern coastal districts, including Kilwa have remained on the list of poor, unproductive areas in the country. This is despite of the abounding natural resources in the districts. Talking of Kilwa, it is a paradise lost that has all the potential to become an economical giant in Tanzania," observed Captain Ukiwaona Mzuzuri itopile, the Lindi Regional Commissioner while opening the Kilwa District Stakeholders Workshop to set out direction and strategies for Kilwa's implementation of the Local Government Reform Programme.

The regional commissioner's optimism for Kilwa's fruitful future is with good reason. According to the Kilwa District Executive Director, Mr. Muhando Senyagwa, Kilwa has a wealthy of land and marine natural resources. Fringed by the Indian Ocean, Kilwa's 13, 920 sq. km of land area supports diverse natural resources, including rivers, forests and wildlife. The potential arable land is about 8,863 sq. km.

"There is no doubt that Kilwa provides one of the most prolific fishing grounds along the Tanzania coast. Just go to Kilwa Pwani, Kilwa Kivinje and Somanga and the many visiting fishing boats, which come all the way from Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Zanzibar and even Pemba, will surprise you. They all go back loaded with Kilwa's magnificent fish catches," Mr. Senyagwa said.

Apart from the rich fishing grounds, the seawaters of Kilwa have gas deposits at Songosongo. The gas will soon be extracted and used to produce electricity in five turbines of 112mW at Ubungo center in Dar es Salaam.

Mr. Senyagwa named Kilwa's other resources as mangrove stands covering 267.4 sq. km and forest products. The district has about 2,194 ha of gazzeted forest reserves containing some of the most economically important types of trees.

But perhaps what is literally untapped, according the Executive Director, is Kilwa's tourism potential. "The Kilwa 150 km long coastline cannot fail to entice any visitor. Our coast is not only replete with fascinating beaches and reefs, but also with the most enchanting historical remnants."

The historical ruins include ornate mosques, forts and palaces of early traders and settlers at Kilwa Kisiwani, Songo Mnara and Kilwa Kivinje. The historical sites, which were declared world heritage sites by UNESCO in 1981, are considered to be the most compelling historical relics in East Africa.

The Kilwa ruins aside, there are even more natural attractions still unknown to the outside world. There is River Nyange with its fascinating hippo pool and a magnificent catchment forest; Nangoma cave system which, is not only considered to be the largest and longest in the Eastern Africa region, but it contains innumerable bats of all kinds and species, including two bat species suspected not to be found anywhere else in the world.

"Our task at hand is to ensure we plan well, particularly in land use planning, choosing our priorities with vision of sustainable development. It is my anticipation that we will make good use of the Local Government Reform Programme and the ongoing initiatives, which include UTUMI - the Village Based Forest and Wood Management; the Mangrove Management Project; the Community Based Integrated Coastal Resources Management Program under the Pew Fellowship Award of Dr. Ngoile; and the Franco-Japanese-UNESCO partnership in restoration of the Kilwa Ruins to place Kilwa on the right track for development," underscores Mr. Senyagwa.

Rufiji commemorates World Environment Day, stimulates action to save threatened resources

By Rose Hogan

More than 3000 Ikwiriri residents and guests from the national and regional levels gathered at Ikwiriri town centre to celebrate World Environment Day on June 5, in a unique style. Led by the Coast Regional Commissioner Mr. Nicodemus Banduka, people of all ages including children, women and men participated enthusiastically in a multi-faceted event, laced by a procession, songs, drama, exhibitions and speeches, all aimed at raising awareness and stimulating action to save Rufiji's threatened natural resources.

That was the first time for the Rufiji district to celebrate the World Environment Day whose agenda is to give a human face to environmental issues. The main focus of the celebrations was to empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development; to promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues; and to advocate for partnership, which will ensure all people enjoy a safe and more prosperous future.

The Rufiji district is not only rich in wild animals and plant resources, on which the livelihoods of its population depend, but it is home to some of Africa's great natural features. These include the Rufiji Delta, East Africa's largest, and the Selous Game Reserve, the world's second largest game reserve. It is also the home to the largest mangrove forests on the eastern coast of Africa.

The challenge facing the Rufiji district authorities and the community is to ensure this rich biodiversity is managed and used sustainably. To this effect, the Rufiji District Council in collaboration with other stakeholders including the Rufiji Environment Management Project (REMP), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Mangrove Management Project (MMP), Selous Game Reserve and village communities is piloting many methods of creating environmental awareness among the public at large.

Activities undertaken to commemorate the World Environment Day were hence a showcase for environment awareness methodologies. Apart from the celebrations held at Ikwiriri, the district council in collaboration with REMP, which is supported by the Dutch government and The World Conservation Union (IUCN), and other stakeholders, organised a week long program of community based activities initiated and implemented on a learning by doing approach. The activities included urban litter management, visiting community forest management sites, planting mangrove seedlings and engaging in the creation of art and dramas about the environmental issues which effect their lives.

But perhaps what was so remarkable was the launching of new environment educational material. Officially launched by Mr. Banduka, the Regional Commissioner, the publications include "Mwongozo Kwa Wachomaji Mkaa"- a guideline for charcoal burners, published by Tanzania Traditional Energy Development and Environmental Organisation (TaTEDO).

"This booklet could help charcoal burners to be seven times more efficient in making the product, thus putting less pressure on the forests" observed Mr. Banduka.

Most of the charcoal, which enters the Dar es Salaam market mainly comes from Rufiji. Inefficiency in use of the forest for charcoal production is leading to irreparable damage to the environment.

Other educational material launched were leaflets and a brochure by REMP. Titled "Keeping Rufiji Special", the brochure provides a very colourful description of Rufiji's fabulous natural resources, the threats to those resources and what is being done to curb management problems.

The leaflets titled "Our Forest Resource", "Our Wildlife Resource" and "Our Fisheries Resource" focus on improved fishery industry and management and rational use of the forests and wild animals of Rufiji.

Messages by artists capture hearts at CEAS celebrations

Once again, communities in coastal districts had a memorable moment as they turned out in huge numbers to witness colourful ceremonies to award participants in the Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS). In all participating districts the ceremonies were highlighted by scintillating drama, poems and cultural dance performances.

The performances were not only presented in thrilling mastery, but they were all laced with strong environmental conservation advocacy messages. To be precise, in some districts, the messages even completely overshadowed speeches by officials and political leaders.

At the village of Somanga in Kilwa district, the taarab group of Al-Musiba and the cultural dance of Mbanano literally captured everyone's heart with their mazingira hits. It was not surprising that the event turned into a cultural frenzy as every body stormed the grounds to dance and to reward the artists.

In Bagamoyo, where school children and community groups excelled in drama and floor shows, Dr. Magnus Ngoile, the Director General of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), found himself unable to read his prepared speech when he officiated at the ceremonies.

"I find myself with nothing more to say. I am literally knocked out. Whatever I had prepared in my speech has all been said and in a better and precise way by the artists. Sincerely, I am more than fascinated and impressed by the level of visionary understanding and awareness on environmental issues demonstrated by school children and community cultural groups in their performances," observed Dr. Ngoile after he was requested by the Bagamoyo District Commissioner to address the public.

The NEMC chief, who is a wonderful public speaker and experienced environmentalist, was quite right. The messages sent across through songs and drama were not only so touching, but they presented localized issues pertinent to environmental management of critical concern to government authorities at both national and local level.

The songs and poems lamented (with an artistic touch) of bush fires, rampant tree cutting, dynamite fishing, other destructive practices and other environmental abuses, which cause human health hazards and poverty among communities. These, apparently were the main points in Dr. Ngoile's speech.

"As a matter of fact, I have learned much more from the songs and poems, than what I learn from books and experts' researched work and papers. The groups have even taught

me some new environmental terms and descriptions," explained the NEMC chief referring to some fascinating descriptions and terms used by the groups to send the message of environment conservation issues.

Terms like 'Mazingira ni kama mchumba wako mzuri, ukimtendea maovu akakukataa, utajuta milele', meaning 'Environment is like your beautiful bride, if you mistreat her and she rejects you, you will painfully regret for ever; 'Mazingira ni kuishi' - 'Environment is living', and 'Mazingira ni ustaarabu, ni utamaduni usio na mipaka' - 'Environment is civilization, it is culture without boundaries', had such an effective impact to the public.

53,000 people participate in CEAS 2001 competitions

The Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS) completed its third successful year of implementation in Tanzania with participants raising to 53,000 people. In the previous year, the scheme attracted 26,000 people in seven districts, while 14,000 people participated in its maiden year (1999) in six districts.

According to reports by CEAS District Committee Secretaries delivered on the occasions of presenting prizes and awards to winners and participants, the scheme is not only becoming a popular event among coastal communities, but also an important tool in promoting community participation in coastal resource management and associated environment conservation.

The district of Lindi where all primary schools participated enrolled the biggest number of participants (12,942). Lindi was followed by Muheza (10,143), with Pangani where 8,696 people participated ranking third. Also highly impressive was Bagamoyo which, despite of participating in the scheme for the first time enrolled 7,204 people.

In all districts schools featured impressively in the scheme with 158 schools participating compared to 103 schools last year. Individual participants also increased from 142 last year to 360 people, while community groups shot to 148 groups compared to 73 last year.

Institutions rose to 17 in all districts against 10 in the previous year. But like last year, Mafia and Lindi were not able to attract any institution.

| Districts | Categories | | | | Participants # |
|------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | Schools | Groups | Individuals | Institutions | |
| TANGA | 10 | 8 | 34 | 4 | 3,480 |
| PANGANI | 29 | 11 | 20 | 2 | 8,696 |
| MUHEZA | 21 | 21 | 16 | 2 | 10,143 |
| MTWARA | 8 | 10 | 23 | 4 | 5,058 |
| LINDI | 54 | 33 | 30 | 0 | 12,942 |
| KILWA | 11 | 38 | 37 | 2 | 3,941 |
| MAFIA | 10 | 7 | 46 | 0 | 1,606 |
| B'MOYO | 15 | 20 | 6 | 3 | 7,204 |
| TOTAL | 158 | 148 | 360 | 17 | 53,070 |

Dr. Omar Ali Juma's environment management legacy

Hardly two years since Tanzania was bereaved of Mwalimu Nyerere - father of the nation and number one nature conservationist, the nation again mourned the death of a great man, Dr. Omar Ali Juma, the Vice President, who reduced himself to a humble steward of environment conservation and poverty eradication.

Most people who worked with the late Dr. Omar Juma, describe him as a natural, humble leader who guided the nation in addressing complex environmental and poverty issues not with an iron hand, but with great wisdom and integrity.

"The late Dr. Omar was a unique leader. He was a focused person who believed that addressing the complex issues in the environment and poverty sectors, required an integrated approach that works to build partnerships between the government and all stakeholders rather than giving directives and commands from his high level office. Community participation, transparency and consultations were his main tools which helped him to achieve tangible results in tackling conflicting issues between conservation and development," says one officer in the National Environment Management Council (NEMC).

The officer explains further that environment and poverty eradication sectors are of great complexity since they are crosscutting in almost all other economic and community development sectors. He notes that the late Vice President made it clear to his functionary officers and in his public addresses, that sustainable development of the environment and associated natural resources cannot be realised without everyone's participation.

"In his principle of stakeholder participation Dr. Omar insisted that communities whose all human-life needs, including food, security and livelihoods rely on natural resources, have to be fully involved in decision making and implementation of environmental management. This he underlined was the most appropriate approach that can guide Tanzania as it grapples for sustainable environment and natural resources management to be able to improve the quality of life of the communities most of who are literally wallowing in poverty," the NEMC officer says adding:

"We have lost Dr. Omar, our humble steward of environment management, but we can steadily move on if we uphold and effectively use his integrated management approach, which is a valuable legacy whose attributes are transparency, stakeholder participation and involvement at all levels."

GreenCOM 11, Wildlife and Environmental Policy Reform programs in action

GreenCOM 11, the USAID's Global Environmental Education and Communication Project has started its services in Tanzania with the focus to complement and reinforce the USAID Tanzania Strategic Objective Two (SO2) Program that works to establish the foundation for adoption of environmentally sustainable natural resources management in Tanzania.

According to the GreenCOM Tanzania Chief of Party, Mr. Pancras Ngalason, all GreenCOM/Tanzania initiatives will be implemented in coordination with other SO2 programs in coastal and terrestrial wildlife areas, as well as in policy and legal frameworks. The program's main focus will be:

- * Assist in the application of key natural resource policies by providing communication tools and training to policy implementers for building constituency and support for policy
- * Assist in increasing the effectiveness of institutions that support natural resources conservation by training and providing Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials to different stakeholders
- * Assist Community-Based Conservation (CBC) initiatives in target areas by building a constituency of CBC stakeholders and implementers to function and accomplish work related to Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Coastal policy and guidelines
- * Assist in improving management of targeted protected areas by training officers and guides and developing interpretive exhibits, publications, and outreach materials

Among GreenCOM's strategic actions in enhancing IEC, will be the implementation of environmental awards schemes. Apart from the ongoing Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS) under TCMP, the program will introduce Community Environmental Awards Scheme in targeted areas.

In the meanwhile, the program for Wildlife and Environmental Policy Reform and Implementation that is implemented by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) has also started its activities. The program takes over the activities of the former Environmental Policy and Institutional Strengthening Indefinite Quantity (EPIQ) and works to support Tanzania's efforts in improving conservation of biodiversity in targeted areas with special focus on the effective application of key natural resources management policies.

MPAs Management Regional Workshop

The Group of Experts in Marine Protected Areas (GEMPA-EA) and IUCN-EARO, in collaboration with other relevant national and regional organisations in Eastern Africa have organised a workshop on Evaluating Management Effectiveness of MPAs in Eastern Africa to take place in Zanzibar Tanzania in November 2001.

The workshop is part of the global initiative to improve management of MPAs by assisting managers, planners and other decisions-makers to develop methods for assessing management effectiveness of MPA sites. The workshop targeted at managers and technical experts, will aim to:

- * Clarify the concept of management effectiveness;
- * Show how the concept can be applied in MPAs; and
- * Demonstrate that relevant information is often being collected in MPAs but not used to assess effectiveness or improve management.

Those interested in participating may contact Dr. Wahida Shah at IUCN-EARO, e-mail: wps@iucnearo.org <<mailto:wps@iucnearo.org>>, Fax (254) 2 -890615 Nairobi, Kenya

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 <mailto:e-pwani_mod@crc.uri.edu>

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