

# PWANI YETU

## **The Newsletter of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership**

*Issue #14 - December 2001*

### **Ntagazwa launches State of the Coast Report, urges effective use of science for management**

*By Gratian Luhikula*

The Minister of State Vice President's Office (Environment), Hon. Arcado Ntagazwa has called on scientists to apply the best information and scientific knowledge to guide the management of marine and coastal resources in an equitable and sustainable manner.

The minister made that call while officiating at the launching of the Tanzania State of the Coast Report recently published by TCMP. Commending TCMP and experts involved in the publication of the colourful report, the minister noted that the report is an invaluable addition to the effort of sustainable resource use and public awareness.

"It is my expectation and desire that this report will stimulate the urge to address the challenges associated with poverty and environment degradation. I also expect that this report will be used by all concerned government sectors to aid informed decisions, and the formulation of meaningful policies and strategies," the Minister noted.

Underscoring the need and essence of the report, the minister noted that lack of scientific information to guide management decisions is one of the key causes of management mistakes in marine and coastal development activities. "This state of the coastal environment report puts Tanzania much ahead of other coastal states in the use of scientific information to base decision making."

The report, according to the minister, is of paramount interest to the government since the scientific information it contains reflects on the condition of our coastal and marine endowment as well as the achievements of the past in conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine areas and resources. The report further highlights the importance of the coast for the Tanzania society and the natural systems it supports.

Earlier emphasizing on the urgent need to give the coast a special attention, the minister said the coast is a national asset as well as a focal point for economic growth development in Tanzania, but whose resources are under increasing pressure from rapid population growth. It is hence very clear that the present and future development of sustainable ways of using coastal and marine resources will require integrated and multidisciplinary approaches to address poverty and other environmental management issues.

"TCMP should continue playing a leading role in building linkages and partnerships between the science community, local knowledge, and other disciplines and sectors not only for effective management of coastal ecosystems and resources, but also in effective development of coastal economic opportunities," the Minister underlined.

Speaking at the occasion, the USAID Mission Director, Dr. Ray Kirkland, said that the publishing of the report was a healthy step in Tanzania's efforts towards application of ICM. Assuring continued support to Tanzania's efforts in sustainable management of its important coastal resources, he noted that USAID is encouraged by the results achieved under TCMP, through a truly participatory and transparent process that enjoys broad and deep support at national and local level.

Also speaking at the occasion, the Director General of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), Dr. Magnus Ngoile said that management of complex marine and coastal ecosystems, which, in most cases are subject to significant pressures, can not achieve tangible results if scientific knowledge is ignored in management decisions.

"Science helps to characterize the problems and establish optimal management priorities. It also provides the link between causes and specific environmental problems; provides opportunity to understand ecological systems in order to develop policy options and legitimize management decisions," underscored the NEMC chief.

Earlier introducing the concept of the State of the Coast Report, on behalf of the Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences Zanzibar, Dr. Narriman Jiddawi said the report provides a baseline and up-to-date overview of coastal status, trends and threats, and lays the groundwork for future assessments of coastal condition. It also provides an overview of the wellbeing of coastal communities which, is so critical for future social and economic development.

"We hope that the report will serve as a useful management tool in areas such as the identification of geographic areas of concern, special area management planning, setting conservation priorities and promoting sustainable coastal management approaches," Jiddawi said in her introductory note that listed a number of human based pressures facing the Tanzania coastal environment.

## **REPORTS FROM THE FIELD**

### **Indiscriminate killing of sea turtles still goes on unabated in the southern coast**

*By Gratian Luhikula*

Sea turtle killing is still an antagonizing issue in Tanzania's coastal villages as it was witnessed recently by a DTV/TCMP filming team in Mtwara. At a single village of Mkungu, the team bumped into what may be called a 'turtle butchery', where eighteen empty turtle shells, most still fresh, lay scattered under a baobab tree.

"They are left out to dry before young men may get somebody to buy them," explained Mr. Hamis Mohamed a leader of a seaweed farming group who was guiding us on a filming tour, before adding:

"Our sea waters here are endowed with green turtles. They had only disappeared due to dynamite fishing. But since dynamite fishing stopped, the turtles are now back. Hardly passes a day without a turtle catch in this village. What you see here are remains of recent catches."

Without realising our 'painful' concern, Mr. Mohamed went on to explain that sea turtle meat was a delicacy, while the shells fetch some good money. "It is only in recent days that turtle shells have lost market."

When asked if he didn't know that killing of turtles is breaking the law, Mr. Mohamed explained that village people hardly know that turtles are protected under conservation law. "Killing of turtles did not start today. It has been there since time immemorial. As a matter of fact, to most of us in villages, turtles are like any other creatures in the sea."

Commenting further on the turtle killing, after realising our concern, Mr. Mohamed urged the district authorities to organize community awareness campaigns on the issue. "I believe if people are educated and sensitized on the issue, they will certainly cooperate as they did on anti-dynamite fishing campaign."

### **Mtwara now acts tough, bans coral mining for lime production**

The Mtwara District Commissioner Mr. Gilbert Dololo has banned the notorious mining of live corals for lime production. The DC, who a few months ago promised to end coral reef mining, (Ref. Pwani Yetu Issue 12 of June 2001), has taken that bold action to save the ever pressurized coastal environment.

Coral reef mining had literary turned into a scourge defying practical solution in Mtwara. According to current reports, there are over 40 known lime-making sites in the district. What is even more alarming is that coral lime sites are said to burn an average of 180 tons of coral most of which are live corals mined and transported on shore in a month.

The DC's action will no doubt be received with great relief by marine scientists who for over three years have been shouting unheard of this unconfined man's imprint on the delicate marine environment.

Coral lime making, according to the Mtwara District Natural Resources Officer, Mr. Kinyunyu, escalated in Mtwara after the successful eradication of dynamite fishing about three years ago. With good intentions, the local government officials encouraged young men to turn to lime production, which, was seen as an alternative to dynamite fishing. However, the officials did not expect that people will embark on mining live corals from the sea, but will use dead corals found at the near shore.

Lime makers in Mtwara have been insisting on mining live corals from the sea on the claims that live corals produce higher quality lime as compared to lime produced from dead corals found on seashore.

Pwani Yetu and the members of the TCMP Working Groups, highly commend the Mtwara DC and the whole district administration for this commendable action.

### **Kilwa sets to recapture its lost glory**

Kilwa, the Quiloa of Milton's Paradise Lost now is set to recapture its lost glory. According to Andrew Hurd, a consultant of the TCMP Coastal Tourism Working Group, Kilwa is now experiencing a buzz of activity that wasn't there a few years ago.

"Due to its superb cultural and natural resources, Kilwa is attracting a lot of attention these days as a prime tourist destination - attention not only from tourists but also investors in tourism facilities, as well as donors interested in contributing to the sustainable development of the district," explains Hurd who was recently on a working tour in Kilwa.

Identified as one of the priority tourism areas along the Tanzania coast by the Coastal Tourism Working Group (CTWG), Kilwa has unlimited potential for sustainable coastal tourism.

"Kilwa's tourism potential is not questionable. With a proper tourism management plan, the sky is the limit for Kilwa," insists Hurd a technical advisor of the CTWG striving to develop a Tourism Management Plan for Kilwa.

The purpose of the Tourism Management Plan, according to Hurd, is to guide the sustainable development of tourism in areas with high tourism potential. The management plan will address issues such as land tenure, ownership of tourist attractions and resources, community involvement in sharing the benefits and costs of tourism development, and streamlining the investment process.

The management plan is being developed in close collaboration with other partners, including the National Environment Management Council (NEMC), the Tourism Division, and the National Land Use Planning Commission, Department of Antiquities, as well as other donor agencies like UNESCO and the governments of France and Japan.

Drawing on this experience of working closely with Kilwa district, the CTWG members then plan to develop a guidance document that will provide detailed assistance to other coastal districts that want to pursue tourism development as part of their overall development strategy.

## **Mkuranga make progress in ICM Action Planning**

*By Lewis Nzali*

As Bagamoyo and Pangani districts begin to implement their Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) action plans, Mkuranga is making progress in charting out its ICM actions.

The district started its ICM action planning process in November last year when district functional officers participated at two workshops to chart out their ICM action planning. The first workshop was conducted at the Tanzania Episcopal Centre (TEC) in Kurasini, Dar es Salaam. This workshop, also attended by the District Commissioner and the District Executive Director, aimed at introducing the ICM concept to the district officials. Other participants included the District Administrative Secretary, councillors and heads of departments.

Apart from acquiring knowledge and awareness on the essence of ICM, the district officials also successfully prepared an ICM task plan, formed an ICM working group and ICM committee, selected the District ICM team leader and prepared a preliminary issue assessment report.

At the second workshop conducted in Mkuranga, the ICM action planning guidelines were introduced. The district ICM team is expected to embark on the action planning process under the guidance of the TCMP Core Working Group.

## **FOCUS ON ICM ISSUES**

### **The role of ICM in coastal management enforcement**

This issue features a touching report of continued turtle killing in the southern coast. These destructive activities have persisted in Tanzania partly due to ignorance amongst village communities and partly due to lack of effective enforcement by relevant authorities. Tom Bayer and Gratian Luhikula discuss the role of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) in enhancing convenient enforcement in coastal management.

The coastal zone is typically defined as the strip of land and bordering lake/ocean space where the land ecology and its use affect the lake/ocean ecology, and vice-versa. The zone is the broad interface between land and water where production, consumption and exchange processes occur at high rates of intensity.

The scope of coastal resource management responsibilities covers protection of marine mammals and endangered species along with the conservation and preservation of essential coastal resource habitat. This includes sensitive fish spawning areas and coastal marine habitat areas both near-shore and offshore. There are many illegal human activities that harm the coastal environment. These may be described in four general categories: illegal fishing; habitat conversion; pollution, and trade of protected species.

Some, but not all, take place within coastal municipal/district waters. Others take place in the terrestrial portion of the coastal zone. Local residents undertake some activities, such as coral mining and the use of destructive fishing methods, while outside actors may be responsible for others. Outside actors may include commercial fishers and logging interests.

Some of the destructive activities within the terrestrial environment include:

- \* Discharge of industrial wastewater along rivers and waterways;
- \* Illegal conversion of mangroves to fishponds;
- \* Beach encroachment by unplanned building construction;
- \* Sale of protected species.

Destructive activities within the coastal waters include:

- \* Use of noxious and/or explosive substances for purposes of catching fish;
- \* Use of destructive fishing gear like kavogo;
- \* Dumping of oily liquid and/or solid waste into the coastal waters; and
- \* Harvesting of protected species.

The bottom line is, as the availability of coastal and marine resources declines, and the demand for them increases, there will be greater pressure exerted to illegally harvest resources. This pressure will be compounded in those areas already adversely economically impacted by a dwindling resource. Resource managers will continue to put forth measures to control foreign and domestic harvests, further increasing the local government units' workload. Wherever enforcement is perceived as lacking, illegal fishing is likely to occur. All this adds up to a much greater demand for coastal and marine enforcement services.

An important mission for local and national government agencies is to provide effective enforcement to advance the national goals for stewardship of coastal resources and their

surrounding environment. Efforts must align with national resource use policies, regulations and laws.

Enforcement is a management tool used to effect compliance with acts, regulations, permits, licenses, policies or plans with a legislative basis. Typically, enforcement is a highly visible management activity in which outcomes are generally achieved in a relatively short time when compared with other coastal management programs (such as information outreach). As a result, most people see enforcement as an "easy" or "quick" answer to compliance. Enforcement is a mechanism that environmental managers and planners may utilise to encourage compliance with legislated management provisions, but results can be temporary if community members revert back to undesirable activities once the enforcement is removed. But when enforcement is used in combination with other management tools, like integrated coastal management, there are all chances that long-term effective compliance can be realised.

The paramount task facing Tanzania is to improve the management of coastal resources in a way that will ensure sustained use and growth. This may only be achieved through the principles of Integrated Coastal Management (ICM). ICM is a process of building and adapting to good practices, whose main focus is to improve the quality of life of human communities, whose livelihood relies on coastal and marine resources.

ICM is defined as a continuous and dynamic process that unites government and community, science and management, and sectoral and public interests in preparing and implementing an integrated plan for the protection and development of coastal ecosystems and resources.

The essence of ICM implementation is that it works to motivate and catalyze action among stakeholders-those with an interest in the area or resources-to achieve that future. In an ICM process, the area's renewable and non-renewable resources are managed in an integrated, proactive way to maximize benefits from multiple sectors and reduce impacts of one sector to another.

## **CEAS 2002**

### **Dar, Rufiji, Mkuranga to participate in CEAS 2002**

This year's Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS) will cover all coastal districts on Mainland Tanzania. This follows the inclusion of the districts of Rufiji, Mkuranga and the three Dar es Salaam districts - Ilala, Temeke and Kinondoni.

According to the GreenCOM Chief of Party, Mr. Pancras Ngalason, the new districts are actively making preparations to launch the award scheme. "Progress is being made to launch the award scheme in the new districts. Rufiji has already formed its coordination committee led by the District Commissioner, Brig. General Hemed. In Mkuranga and the Dar es Salaam districts initial preparations are at hand."

Since its initiation in 1999, the CEAS has successfully promoted coastal environment conservation in Tanzania. The purpose of the scheme is to motivate coastal communities, local governments, NGOs, CBOs, institutions and every individual to take positive action that will contribute to sustainable resource management and the protection and conservation of marine and coastal delicate environment.

Specific objectives of the scheme are:

- \* Increase environmental awareness;
- \* Promote public participation in sustainable coastal management;
- \* Encourage the use of environment-friendly technologies;
- \* Demonstrate government's commitment in ICM; and
- \* Reward groups, villages, organisations and individuals who carryout appropriate sustainable resource management practices.

With the participation of Dar es Salaam and the districts of Rufiji and Mkuranga, CEAS is now expected to attract over 100,000 participants. Last year over 57,000 people participated in the scheme.

### **Bagamoyo plans CEAS fundraising campaign**

In the efforts to sustain Bagamoyo's participation in the Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS), and to extend the scheme in the whole district, the Bagamoyo CEAS Committee is planning a grand fund-raising dinner.

According to the Bagamoyo District Commissioner who is also the Bagamoyo CEAS Committee Chairperson, Mrs. Mesaki, the fund-raising dinner is one of the activities earmarked to make the award scheme sustainable. "We find the award scheme a valuable tool in awareness raising on environment conservation in the district. However, the funding we are getting is not sufficient to enable us operate the scheme in the whole district. My committee has therefore decided to initiate other sources of funds, which, I am sure will enable us operate the scheme more sustainably and in the whole district."

Elaborating on the initiatives, the DC explains that although the district administration does not have adequate funds to promote environmental education, concerted efforts still have to be made to promote environmental conservation.

"We know it is not an easy job to raise funds. But my committee has been motivated by the support of TCMP and GreenCOM and we are determined to sustain the scheme in the district. I am sure other leaders and the business community in Bagamoyo and even outside Bagamoyo will support us in this initiative.

According to initial plans, the Bagamoyo CEAS committee intends to host a fundraising dinner in either Dar es Salaam or Bagamoyo with the focus to raise money for buying equipment and to supplement travel, operational costs and prizes of the award scheme in



the whole district. Last year the award scheme was concentrated in a small coastal belt area, where 7,204 people participated. This year CEAS is expected to attract over 30,000 participants in the district.

### **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) <mailto:e-pwani\_mod@crc.uri.edu >

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