

PWANI YETU

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ICM Policy Process Progresses

After the October 1998 Directors meeting that endorsed major ICM issues that a national policy should address, the TCMP Policy Working Groups and Special Teams are now busy working on initial elements of a coastal policy. Through consultative meetings, field trips and collaboration with relevant institutions, the working groups expect to make final description of coastal issues; establish coastal policy goals, objectives and principles between February and March this year.

The accomplishment of this important step will lead the working groups into the preparation of the Coastal Policy Green Paper. A green paper presents alternative institutional structures to implement a national ICM policy.

Similar to the issue identification process last year, the TCMP working group members will rely on the cooperation of coastal stakeholders, including local coastal programs, relevant government and private institutions, local district governments and the general coastal community to achieve targeted results.

Appealing to all coastal management stakeholders to provide their important contribution in the ongoing ICM policy formulation process through their cooperation and assistance to the Policy Working Groups, the TCMP Support Unit Leader, Jeremiah Daffa noted that successful coastal management policies and programs have to provide for meaningful involvement of those who are affected by the coastal development process and the implementation of coastal management policies.

ICM Capacity Building Program Established

A framework for building capacity for Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) has been put in place following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding for the Western Indian Ocean Regional Capacity Building Program.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam; the President of the University of Rhode Island (USA) and the Chairman of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).

The move follows the recommendations of a workshop on Integrated Coastal Area Management for Eastern Africa and the Indian Ocean Island States that was held in

Tanga, in August 1996. The workshop, attended by practitioners and coastal management stakeholders in the region, noted that there was a need for training on the practical aspects of planning and implementing ICM programs in the region.

According to the memorandum, there will be a national training program for Tanzania, and a regional training program for Western Indian Ocean States. Both programs aim at boosting the capacity for coastal management by building on the existing base of sectoral and scientific experts.

The national training program is being designed with the assistance of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP) in cooperation with the Institute of Marine Sciences (IMS) of the University of Dar es Salaam. It targets technical experts at both the national and district levels and will focus on sharing ideas, approaches and information as well as creating a network of local coastal management practitioners.

Preparations for the first national training program are already underway, with a needs assessment at an advanced stage. The needs assessment focuses on existing training facilities and provides guidance for broader training. The training courses in ICM are being planned to commence in July this year.

The first regional training activity under the memorandum will be a two weeks ICM course to be held in Mombasa, Kenya, in March this year. It will draw participants from the Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Reunion, the Seychelles, South Africa and Tanzania. The course will be run by WIOMSA, in cooperation with the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center.

The memorandum, also allows the regional and national training programs to work together to establish a regional center for ICM training. It is hoped that a certificate course will be offered for regional practitioners and, eventually, undergraduate and graduate training.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) will fund both programs through its mission in Tanzania, the Regional Economic Development Service office in Nairobi and the Global Environmental Bureau in the USA.

Directors Endorse action strategy for Mariculture Management in Tanzania.

Directors and heads of key government institutions involved in coastal management reviewed and endorsed an Action Strategy for mariculture development in Tanzania.

The endorsement, made at a half day meeting hosted by the Director of Fisheries in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism at White Sands Hotel on 15 January, 1999, is considered as an important step towards Integrated Coastal Management in Tanzania.

Government departments that were represented at the meeting include Fisheries Division, Water Resources Department, Transport, Industries, Environment, NEMC and Lands. Others were Planning Commission, Human Settlement, Tourism and Agriculture.

Mariculture holds great promise in Tanzania. If properly developed and managed it can contribute handsomely in economic development and poverty alleviation. But weakness in intersectoral coordination and the absence of cross-sectoral policy development hinder the growth of this industry.

According to the Action Strategy for Mariculture Management in Tanzania, prepared by the TCMP's Mariculture Working Group, mariculture development can be promoted by strengthening the ability of institutions to work together to produce mariculture and guidelines and procedures.

Mariculture encompasses the cultivation of a wide variety of plants and animal species in wide range of habitats that form Tanzania's rich natural heritage. The scale of mariculture can range from small-scale, family-run operations to large-scale or industrial projects.

The management challenge, as defined by the intersectoral working goal, is how to develop mariculture without reducing the ecological or economic value of critical habitat.

"As Tanzania confronts the growing number of opportunities and challenges presented by mariculture development, care must be taken that development proceeds in a manner that safeguards the nation's vital natural resources and maximizes social benefits," explains Dr. Yunus Mgaya of the University of Dar es Salaam and facilitator of the Mariculture Working Group.

Noting that the ability of developing mariculture activities that can be sustained along the coast will depend on establishing the necessary institutional and technical preconditions, the Action Strategy objectives are:

- * To make immediate and positive progress on addressing a number of critical management and governance issues associated with mariculture development in Tanzania;
- * Develop and test inter-sectoral mechanisms for managing mariculture over the short term;
- * Draw lessons from the experience and apply those lessons to the overall ICM policy process.

The meeting recommended that the Mariculture Working Group be expanded and aim to initiate activities to implement the Action Strategy. Actions to be undertaken by the expanded Mariculture Working Group will target to produce the following products:

- * Draft guidelines for the approval process, including supporting technical components;
- * Mariculture policy statement within ICM policy and proposed enhancements for harmonization of sectoral policies;
- * Learning report.

"Seaweed markets are assured" - developer

Seaweed farming in Tanzania has great potential to contribute to the national economy and to improve the quality of lives of coastal human communities whose livelihood depend on coastal and marine resources.

Fazal Murtaza, the Director of Kingsway International made this statement at a workshop organized by the Tanga Coastal Zone Conservation and Development Programme.

Murtaza whose organization is aggressively promoting and developing seaweed farming in Tanzania, brushed away allegations made in local press that seaweed farmers on mainland Tanzania were disappointed by lack of seaweed markets.

"Markets for seaweed products are assured and every means should be taken to encourage coastal people to benefit from the country's potential and opportunity that almost guarantees better and sustainable earnings to the local community," emphasized Murtaza who has been in the seaweed business since 1990.

Explaining that the world market demand for *Cottonni* species is 120,000 tones per year, while the world production capacity is 100,000 tones, Murtaza said Tanzania's 800km coastal strip could produce over 20,000 tones.

So far, Zanzibar earns up to 1.4 bn/- out of the 4500 tones it produces per year. The mainland production is still low though the potential is high. However, Murtaza observed that most areas on the mainland coast are producing small quantities of seaweed that are not of economic value.

"You see farmers in Lindi for instance, have dried seaweed stock not amounting to even half a ton. With the poor transport infrastructure, it is absolutely not economically viable for any investor to travel all the way to buy seaweed that is not able to fill a three ton lorry" explained Murtaza who insisted that the rate of production is a major determining factor of the market.

The developer who is now working closely with the Tanga Coastal Zone Conservation and Development Programme in promoting community-based seaweed farming projects believes that Tanzania could excel in the seaweed production if the infrastructure is improved.

Join E-Pwani Discussion Group

In its ongoing effort to strengthen the existing network of coastal managers, the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP) has established an email discussion group for Tanzania known as E-Pwani. The idea for this discussion group was spawned during the TCMP's design phase when local programs indicated that mechanisms that facilitate communication between and among local programs and the national level were not in place.

An email discussion group allows many users to send a message to one location and, from that location, the message is distributed to all the users. This allows the users to have 'virtual' discussions about issues that concern their activities. It also allows the users to "post" important messages about meetings, workshops and reports quickly and easily to coastal management practitioners in Tanzania.

E-Pwani is open to any interested expert or practitioner working in the Tanzania coastal management field. Several regional organizations, such as WIOMSA, IUCN, SEACM and other guests have also been invited to participate.

As Tanzania strives towards Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) policy, the E-Pwani will provide a venue for more participation in the ICM policy formulation, adoption and implementation as well as fostering the exchange of ideas and information related to managing the coast. It is thus TCMP's anticipation that many coastal managers will join the group.

To join the E- Pwani Discussion Group just forward your application to: <e-pwani_mod@crc.uri.edu>. Please include in the message your name and affiliation.

***Shirikisho* get new members**

The Shirikisho la Kuhifadhi Mazingira ya Bahari Kanda ya Kusini, is making good progress in enrolling new members in the Mtwara and Lindi regions.

Popularly known as *Shirikisho*, the community initiated organization which seeks to enhance community participation in marine environment protection and sustainable use of marine resources in the Southern Coast, began enrolling new members after it acquired registration as an NGO.

With a grateful support from the Rural Integrated Project Support (RIPS), Shirikisho officials are visiting coastal villages to register new members.

According to the Shirikisho Chairman, Mzee Ghasia, in both Lindi and Mtwara urban areas about 100 new members have been registered as at December last year. Efforts are being made to cover rural villages in the districts of Mtwara, Lindi and Kilwa.

Shirikisho is a unique community based organization that is expected to contribute greatly in the conservation and protection of marine environment as it grows. Formed after a historical Sudi Village meeting (1994) that brought together representatives of all coastal villages in Mtwara and Lindi regions, it operates through mutual cooperation and community participatory approach in all its activities.

Africa pushes more for national coastal policies

As oceans and coastal areas edge towards depletion, African states are obliged to act quickly to put in place national coastal policies and measures that can protect the coastal and marine environments.

That was the theme that dominated the second session of the Technical Segment of the Conference on Cooperation for the Development and Protection of the Coastal and Marine Environment in Sub-Sahara Africa organized by the Advisory Committee on Protection of the Sea (ACOPS) in Cape Town recently.

"There is no doubt that the formulation and implementation of coastal policies by African states is becoming an urgent obligation. The ACOPS meeting, like the Pan African Conference on Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management (PACSIKOM) in July, 1998, made it clear that without effective coastal policies African countries will not overcome the overwhelming issues and complexities in coastal management," explains Jeremiah Daffa of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP), who attended the conference.

Presentations by Dr. Isabelle Niang Diop (Senegal), Dr.Larry Awosika (Nigeria) and Dr. Magnus Ngoile (Tanzania), appealed to African states to make concerted efforts to put in place policy systems and mechanisms that will lead to the balanced development with the health of marine and coastal environments.

The presentations, apart from calling on African states to act quickly and efficiently in adapting coastal policies, made special note on the gaps that need to be quickly addressed in national coastal policy formulation process. These include:

- * National policies should be designed to respond to national needs. This may be achieved by associating all stakeholders in the marine and coastal zones with the formulation and implementation policies relevant to these zones. Local communities and particularly NGOs should be also involved in this process since

- they worked closely with local communities and were able to attract funds. Efforts to raise awareness should be actively involved in all stages leading to the formulation and implementation of national policies.
- * The situation relative to national structures involved in the development and protection of the marine and coastal environment had been characterized as an institutional crisis revealed by the numerous responsibilities involved. The need for a better level of funding of research institutes was emphasized to cover their needs for equipment, training and communication.
 - * Governments should give higher priority to these matters in their strategic plans, together with significant financial resources, preferably through sustainable funding mechanisms. The private sector should play an important role in funding, allowing countries to become less donor dependant.
 - * Improved input from scientists is needed. It would be desirable for scientific research to shift increasingly towards practical issues. Also the barriers between scientists and political decision-makers should be removed.
 - * The institutional capacity of most African countries is frequently too weak to fulfil the requirements of projects funded by donors. Strengthening of institutional capacities was essential to address this problem.
 - * There was an insufficient integration and internalization of international and regional agreements and conventions in national policies and practices. The agendas of regional convention and action plans should be driven by well-defined priorities and reinforced by capacity building.
 - * The potential benefits stemming from cooperative research projects were recognized particularly for the development of common methodologies for data collection. International organizations dealing with standard setting should be asked to assist in elaborating of standards appropriate for African countries.

Mafia Marine Park Wins Community Support

"When the Mafia Marine Park (MIMP) was established in June, 1995, we faced challenging opposition and accusations. Even district officials and local government leaders were opposed to the park establishment. The situation is now completely the opposite as the project is increasingly becoming a darling to everyone" explains Anthony Melele, the MIMP assistant warden.

Melele who was responding to a question by Anna Kashaija of GreenCOM, a USAID supported international environmental education program about how the local community is responding to the marine park activities continued by saying that even villages that are not within the park area are now complaining that they have been left out the project.

GreenCOM and the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP) officials recently visited Mafia Island to plan out the implementation of the Coastal Environmental Award Scheme in the villages within the marine park. The award scheme's goal is to enhance local community participation in environment protection activities and raise awareness about coastal and marine activities.

"There are already official complaints lodged to the District Director: people now want all villages in the district to be part of the marine park".

According to Melele, the Mafia community misunderstood the concept of the marine park as a government's maneuver to deprive the villagers their free access to the land and sea. To them, the marine park was similar to the wildlife national parks in which the community is restricted from using the land.

To the contrary, the Mafia Island Marine Park is based entirely on a community approach that aims to manage the marine and coastal resource conservation for the socio-economic needs of the people.

"Its success relies on the participatory approach involving all interested parties and users, especially the local communities," elaborates Melele adding that the main goal is to create a model park, which is managed by the people and for the people.

Mafia Island Marine Park aims at maintaining the essential ecological process and life support system upon which both human survival and national development depend. This, according to Melele is clearly stipulated in the legislative framework of the Marine Parks and Reserves Act of 1994 which calls for multi use of resource - managed areas in order to provide for human activities compatible with the overall conservation objectives.

"Whatever we are doing, we have to make sure it is closely tied to the traditional resource use patterns of the people who live within the areas. Thus, different from what the people feared, ecological knowledge of species and their habitat, is no more important than a complete perspective of humans and their use of the local environment both in the traditional and modern senses," the assistant warden said.

Mangrove Conservation: Tanga's successful story

Listening to H R Ngunyali, the Northern Zone Mangrove Officer, you may think he is only bragging. But if you go out into the Tanga coastal villages and talk to the local people, you will no doubt appreciate the efforts and resources of the Mangrove Management Project (MMP).

Initiated in 1988 through partnership between the ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, and the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD), MMP's objective is to develop Tanzania's 110,500 hectares of mangroves with a focus on enhancing the contribution of the mangrove ecosystem to the local and national economy by rational utilization on a sustainable basis.

In its own perspective, the project aims to directly benefit the coastal people who depend on its eco-system for their livelihood.

Drawing on the motto *Mangroves must live in Tanzania*, the northern zone mangrove officers are working in close co-operation with other regional and district sectoral authorities and the local community.

This, according to Ngunyali, has brought about a successful grassroots- integrated management. Speaking to members of the TCMP Working Group, Ngunyali explained that, through collaborative partnership between the coastal villages, the Tanga Coastal Zone Conservation and Development Programme and the local district government, some 422 hectares of mangrove forests are being managed by the two villages of Kipumbwi and Sange (KISA).

"All individuals in the two villages which were, incidentally, picked out as pilot villages, are taking responsibility, and participate in day-to-day management activities", elaborated Ngunyali.

He further explained that, so far, fifteen other villages have formed natural resources committees which organize field patrols to prevent the illegal cutting of mangroves, and supervise sustainable harvesting activities in collaboration with mangrove forest officers.

Members of the Working Group had the opportunity of sampling out integrated mangrove management at the villages of Mwambani and Kigombe. Critically threatened by beach erosion caused by decades of unchecked destructive activities, including dynamite fishing and mangrove clearing, both villages are now replanting mangroves even as they protect the survived forests from further destruction.

Demonstrating a clear sense of ownership of the mangroves, the Mwambani village chairman explained that the village community on sound regulations and bylaws manages harvesting of mangroves.

According to Ngunyali, about 180 ha of mangroves have already been planted and an additional forty hectares will be planted along Pangani River basin to reduce riverbank erosion.

Apart from involving local communities, the successful story of Tanga has also been due to intensive community awareness campaigns, and training of stakeholders at all levels.

To enhance this, some primary schools have, as from mid last year included in their syllabus mangrove and other coastal eco-system conservation lessons. Seven coastal primary schools are benefiting from the program during the pilot period.

CEAS REPORTS

Tanga to award winners of the Coastal Environment Award Scheme on World Environmental Day

The districts of Tanga Muheza and Pangani have decided to mark the World Environment Day (5 June, 1999), with a colorful award presentation ceremony to the winners of the ongoing Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS).

According to Mussa Dengo, the Secretary of the Tanga District Award Committee and also District Natural Resources Officer, the World Environment Day has been found to be the most ideal moment for awarding CEAS winners since it is dedicated to environment protection and aims to raise public awareness on environment management concerns.

“We hope the World Environment Day and the award scheme not only to supplement each other, but take maximum advantage of the timing to draw the attention of the Tanga community and the nation at large to coastal environment issues and needs for public participation in environment protection, ”explains Dengo.

The Coastal Environment Award Scheme introduced by TCMP and GreenCOM in September last year has attracted an impressive number of participants in Tanga, Muheza and Pangani. Reports from the District Award Scheme Committees show that villages, schools and even individuals have registered to participate in the scheme.

As at December, 1998, the award committees in the three districts had received entries for 22 schools, 19 community groups and several individuals. The number of entries is expected to increase as the sensitization campaign continues.

One remarkable individual participant is Mr. Tongolani who is promoting the inter-cropping of coconuts and citrus fruit trees as a way to prevent the ‘Cory bug’. The man, who also has established a tree nursery, is currently experimenting the use of plant oil as pesticide.

More entries in the Award Scheme expected in Mtwara, Lindi

The Mtwara District Commissioner, Mrs.Fatuma Mikidadi who is also the chair person of the Mtwara District Coastal Environment Award Scheme (CEAS) Committee has said more people are expected to participate in the award scheme in the Mtwara district, following an awareness campaign to be extended to schools, villages and the business community.

The district commissioner, who in the past year took a leading role in the anti- dynamite fishing campaign in the southern coast, said that while discussing with the TCMP/ GreenCOM team that was on the award scheme promotion tour in Mtwara recently.

Noting that the CEAS was expected to supplement efforts by the district technical officers in community awareness raising, she assured the TCMP and GreenCOM officials that her committee will strive to make sure that the implementation of the scheme will achieve its goal- the promotion of public participation in environmental safeguarding.

“Every opportunity to enhance environmental education should be appreciated and in my district we will make every effort to make sure the community benefits from the scheme,” she said.

Earlier updating the district commissioner, the CEAS Committee secretary, Kinyunyu, said 14 entry forms have been returned from five villages and three schools. Kinyunyu, who is also Acting District Natural Resources Officer, further explained that more entries are expected from villages, schools and the business community through the Mtwara Chamber of Commerce.

Meanwhile, the Lindi CEAS Committee, targets to enroll over 20 groups/villages and 12 schools to participate in the competition. The Acting District Natural Resources Officer, Mr. Mahimbo said that although his committee was late in starting public sensitization, he was hopeful that villages, which are engaged in various coastal and marine resources projects will respond.

Happy New Year

On behalf of the partners of the TCMP and members of staff of the TCMP Support Unit, *Pwani Yetu* wishes to wish all the readers, subscribers, members of TCMP Working Groups and Special Teams, field programs, coastal managers and coastal and marine stakeholders a happy and prosperous 1999.

As we all keep united in striving for good governance of the coastal resources, it is our hope that more of our readers will contribute more for *Pwani Yetu* so that we are able to share news, information, comments, observations and experiences on pertinent issues and developments of our coast.

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