

## **Coastal Resources Center awarded grant for integrating coastal and watershed governance in Tanzania**

On February 15, 2007 the Coastal Resources Center (CRC) at the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography launched the TCCC -USAID Water and Development Alliance (WADA) at a lively ceremony in Pangani, a village on the northern Tanzanian coast. The initiative is a partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Coca-Cola Company (TCCC). USAID's Global Development Alliances promote private-public partnerships throughout the developing world. The Watershed and Development Alliance has a four year time horizon and is initially funded at \$800,000.

The initiative touches the core of Tanzania's National Water Policy whose major focus is forming a multi-partner, collaborative approach to sustainable governance of water and watershed resources. The Wami/Ruvu and Pangani Rivers, which flow into the Indian Ocean, are the focus of the new program. The Wami/Ruvu and Pangani Rivers are the most populated of Tanzania's nine water basins and have an important role to play in supporting livelihood activities for local communities. These rivers are also critical to maintaining biodiversity and managing wildlife in reserves, parks and marine ecosystems. The Wami River flows through the only combined terrestrial and marine national park in Tanzania – Saadani National Park.

The Community Watershed Partnership Program has the goal of strengthening government efforts to promote sustainable management of water and watershed resources in the Wami-Ruvu and Pangani river basins, improve community access to sustainable safe water, and provide sanitation services and hygiene education to local communities in need. The objective of empowering communities to manage water resources and improve sanitation and local hygiene aims at insuring that approximately 20,000 people will benefit from the program.

The program builds on the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP), a collaboration with the Coastal Resources Center, USAID-Tanzania, and the Tanzania National Environment Management Council. This 10 year partnership is supported by a cooperative agreement between the University of Rhode Island and USAID. The WADA builds on the Landscape to Seascape program element of the TCMP initiative.

The program will 1) delineate the drainage basins and characterize the surface catchments in the Wami River; 2) conduct an environmental flow assessment of the Wami River Basin; 3) increase the capacity of communities in water supply and sanitation through training and education, appropriate technologies, and strengthened community organizations; 4) improve community access to safe water and sanitation services; 5) promote environmental management systems to reduce wastewater discharges from the agro-industrial sector; and 6) strengthen database management systems.

The program is supervised by Donald Robadue and Dr. James Tobey at the CRC. Cathy McNally, an IGERT fellow, is assisting with the program. Other key implementing partners in the program are two Coca Cola bottlers in Tanzania, World Vision Tanzania, the Tanzania Health, Environment and Sanitation Association, Florida International University, USAID-Tanzania, and the Wami-Ruvu River Basin Office.

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Photo show dignitaries at the launch of the TCCC-USAID Water and Development Alliance held in Pangani village, Tanzania on February 15th.

Dignitaries at Pangani Launching Ceremony, (left to right) Pam White, USAID Tanzania Mission Director, Hon. Mohamed Abdulaziz, Tanga Regional Commissioner; Ms. Zipora, Pangani District; Commissioner Maina Muriuki, Coca-Cola February 15, 2007

