

# PWANI YETU

## **The Newsletter of the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership** *Issue #4 - March/April 1999*

### **Directors to review ICM policy elements**

Directors and Commissioners of key government departments and heads of institutions with stake in coastal management will meet in May to review proposed vision, goals and objectives of a national coastal management policy and program.

The Vice President's Office will host this important meeting which is a follow up of the October 1998 policy meeting that approved and endorsed the Integrated Coastal Management policy process. The meeting is expected to review and approve initial elements of a coastal policy and provide further direction to guide the drafting of the policy.

Directors who attended the ICM Policy meeting in October made specific recommendations to the TCMP Policy Working Group as it moved from issue identification to drafting elements of a national ICM Policy. Since then, the Policy Working Group has been working on the policy elements and has successfully produced an 'Initial Elements of a Coastal Policy' document.

The document is based on a series of background documents, which describe and characterize the coast and coastal management issues. It was further supplemented by input from other key coastal management stakeholders, including district and regional government leaders, extension technical officials and district based NGOs as well as local field based coastal management programs and projects in Tanga, Mtwara, Lindi and the Coast Region. The document proposes:

- \* A shared vision that describe how the coast should benefit and provide for future generations;
- \* Overall goals that define what a coastal program should seek to achieve;
- \* An initial set of principles for how coastal management should be carried out; and
- \* Goals and objectives (policy statement) for the coastal management issue areas approved at the Directors Policy Meeting of October 1998.

The seven issue areas addressed in the proposed goals and objectives of the coastal policy are:

- \* The improvement of the wellbeing and livelihoods of all beneficiaries of coastal resources;
- \* Planning and management of related economic opportunities within the coastal area including tourism, agriculture, mariculture, industry and mining;
- \* Extraction of resources leading to coastal erosion;

- \* Managing geographical areas of concern including critical habitats;
- \* Supporting local initiatives, decision making for inter-sectoral developments, and the balancing of local and national interests;
- \* Information availability for and use in decision making; and
- \* Inadequacy of human and institutional capacity.

## **Local coastal programs and projects enhance partnership in coastal management**

A new chapter in coastal management has been opened, following an agreement by local coastal management programs and projects to work more closely in developing effective coastal governance at national and local levels.

The agreement was made at a two-day workshop held at the TCMP offices from 18-19, March. Organized by TCMP, the workshop was part of the TCMP initiatives to break the barrier that existed between ongoing local ICM implementation activities and national policy.

Although there are several coastal management projects at both regional and district levels working with considerable success to address coastal management issues within specific sites, there are no formal mechanisms that link these local initiatives with national policy formulation and implementation. Nor are there adequate opportunities for the local experience to inform national policy or to be shared across the local pilot sites.

The two-day workshop, was an initial step to bridge this gap and enhance the partnership for addressing coastal management issues. The meeting objectives were to:

- \* Provide an opportunity for participants to present information about their program and exchange ideas and information with each other;
- \* Understand the status of the national coastal management policy development process;
- \* Describe mechanisms that can be used by a national coastal management program to support coastal management activities and programs being implemented at the regional, district and local levels; and
- \* Identify early implementation actions that can be taken by TCMP to test how a national coastal management program can support coastal management activities and programs being implemented at the regional, district and local levels.

Attended by senior management and technical officers of key local programs and projects, the workshop underlined the need for closer cooperation and focused collaboration in addressing coastal management issues. To build on this theme, participants resolved to hold similar workshops at least once in six months.

In order to enhance effective coastal governance, it was further recommended to advise donor institutions supporting coastal management projects that they should

establish collaborative mechanisms that will guide a more purposeful approach in promoting inter-linkages between coastal management initiatives.

Participants also reviewed TCMP's proposed strategies for a national ICM program and made valuable inputs. They further proposed actions that need be taken by TCMP to enhance supportive linkages between the national coastal management program and local initiatives.

Programs and projects that were represented include zonal mangrove management project offices, Tanga Coastal Zone Conservation and Development Programme (TCZCDP), Rural Integrated Project Support (RIPS) and Rufiji Environment Management Project (REMP). Others are the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF), the Mangrove Management Project Head Office, the Mafia Island Marine Park (MIMP) and Saadani Mkwaja Game Reserve.

### **Tanzania benefits from Regional coastal management training course in Mombasa**

Fifteen Tanzanian coastal management officers attended a two-week training course held in Mombasa from 1-12 March, this year.

The course, conducted by the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) in partnership with the University of Rhode Island's Coastal Resources Center (URI/CRC), attracted 28 participants from Kenya (6), Madagascar (3), and Mozambique (3), South Africa. (1) and Tanzania.

Tanzanians who benefited from the Mombasa training course, are Baraka Kalangahe of Prawntan, Ally Rashid Mgeni and Hisluck Mambosho of Mafia Island Marine Park, Zuberi Lugazo, George Uronu, John Kahabuka and Hassan Kalombo all of Tanga Coastal Zone Conservation and Development Programme. Others were Salim Amar Saad, Mohamed Haji Ali, Mlinge Hassan Juma and Suleiman Mohammed Nasser from various institutions of Zanzibar. Other participants include Lewis Nzali (NEMC), Fatma Sobo (Fisheries Division), Rose Mwaipopo Ako (UDSM) and Simeon Masaki (UDSM).

The course was built around the United Nations Group of Experts on Scientific Analysis on Marine Pollution (GESAMP) Policy Process and provided specific skills for successful coastal management. It drew heavily on East Africa's experience in moving coastal management principles into practice.

## **Cool breeze of peace sweeps Mtwara coast as local community takes charge to eradicate dynamite fishing**

Dynamite fishing, despite being illegal, had turned into a scourge that seemed to evade all practical solutions in Tanzania. It was not until mid 1998, when the government decided to use not only a sizable budget but also the country's strongest muscle—the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF)—that a breeze of peace returned to the coast.

Though the TPDF crackdown is over, TPDF officers are still monitoring the situation. In Mtwara, however, the local community is now taking charge with a strong commitment to ditch dynamite fishing.

“Here in Mtwara, we no longer require the TPDF officers, not even the marine police to check out dynamite fishing. The people are taking full command of the sea and the coast to make sure that the critical resources that form the main part of their livelihood are sustainably utilized,” says the Mtwara District Commissioner (D.C.), Mrs. Fatuma Mikidadi. She adds with pride that it is a unique and inspiring development happening in an area that was once a hub of dynamite fishing on the mainland coast.

Speaking to a team of coastal management experts currently working with the Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP), Mrs. Mikidadi noted that the Mtwara coastal community has vowed to protect the sea to make sure that dynamite fishing is not practiced again in the waters of Mtwara.

Mrs. Mikidadi who sees dynamite fishing as a complex issue, intertwined with poverty concerns, corruption and ignorance, says it requires a more focused community participatory approach to root it out. Though she commends the TPDF intervention, she strongly believes that the local community has the final answer to the eradication of dynamite fishing, as it has been proved in Mtwara.

According to the D.C, dynamite fishing in Mtwara and Lindi was exacerbated by foreign organised gangs from Dar es Salaam, Tanga and even Zanzibar, which traveled to the southern coast with powered boats and storage facilities. The gangs not only carried out the dynamiting, but also distributed dynamite at exceptionally low prices to the local fishermen who in turn sold their catch to the resourceful foreigners. According to Mrs. Mikidadi not a single hour passed without hearing a series of blasts from the sea.

Though the situation cooled down after the army's intervention, according to the D.C, dynamite fishing did not stop completely. It simply went underground with local fishermen taking advantage of the weak law enforcement capability to raid the sea.

“It is then we decided to emphasize community awareness and education. Our main concern was to put in place a long lasting or sustainable solution to the problem since the TPDF intervention was only a temporary measure,” she underscored.

As a result of the campaign, core dynamite fishers surrendered and are now taking a leading role in monitoring fishing activities to make sure dynamite fishing does not resurface,” Mrs. Mikidadi proudly revealed to the TCMP team.

A total of 230 fishermen in Mtwara district surrendered along with 112 kg. of TNT, 202kg. of Ammonium Nitrate, 100 detonators, and 26 fuses. Other substantial material was found abandoned at various places, including the District Commissioner's office.

Describing it as a unique exercise, the District Commissioner reflectively said that to some people, especially women, the seminars were platforms for them to demonstrate their resentment of dynamite fishing, not particularly for environmental degradation reasons but mainly for the danger explosives caused to human health. "Mothers and wives who had witnessed men in agony after being maimed by explosives, or those who see their neighbors, reduced to beggars after ugly accidents caused by explosives, found the seminars as right opportunities to demonstrate their 'silent fears' when their beloved ones went out in the sea," the D.C elaborated.

That motherly sentimental concern can not be illustrated better than several people who are now rendered disabled after ugly dynamite fishing accidents. Mzee Juma Mussa whose foot and finger were maimed by a mishandled dynamite, and Issa Salum who lost an eye and both arms, as well as several other victims of dynamite blasts, are now leaders of village based anti-dynamite groups.

"The seminars were essentially reconciliatory, aimed at burying the hatchet and to pave the way for a new life. They were a learning process targeting at empowering the people to own solutions and desirable action," emphasizes the District Commissioner.

## **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 (PACSICOM) 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.

### **Mangroves must live in Tanzania- Ngunyali Tanga's community involvement successful story**

The late Henry Ngunyali, former Northern Zone Mangrove Officer, who died untimely in Dar es Salaam recently, will long be remembered for his contribution in mangrove conservation and management.

Ngunyali met his death only a few months in his new employment with the Cross Borders Biodiversity Project based in Arusha. He was the Field Project Officer.

For the TCMP Working Group members, Ngunyali's paper, '*Mangroves must live in Tanzania*', will remain an important learning tool in community integration in mangroves and other coastal resources management.

The paper that was presented at an international forum in UK in May 1998, apart from underscoring the importance of mangroves and the need to conserve them, details the local community involvement in the management that has brought up tangible success in Tanga.

Initiated in 1988 through partnership between the ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, and the Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD), the Mangrove Management Project'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 the coastal eco-system for their livelihood.

“Drawing on the motto *Mangroves must live in Tanzania*, the northern zone mangrove office works in close co-operation with other regional and district sectoral authorities and the local community to ensure the local community at village level takes ownership of the mangroves,” Ngunyali noted in his paper. This, according to Ngunyali, has brought about a successful grassroot- integrated management. He says that through a partnership between the coastal villages, the Tanga Coastal Zone Conservation and Development Programme and the Pangani district the two villages of Kipumbwi and Sange (KISA) are managing government, some 422 hectares of mangrove.

In the KISA partnership, all individuals in the two villages are taking responsibility for the forest's management, and participate in day-to-day management of the place.

Emulating the KISA example, fifteen other villages on the Tanga coastline have formed natural resources committees, which are monitoring the sustainable development of mangrove forests in their areas.

The successful story of Tanga, according to Ngunyali has been due to extensive community awareness campaign and capacity building 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.

### ***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 February this year. Efforts are being made to cover all 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.

## **District Committees assess activities, select winners of the Coastal Environmental Award Scheme**

*By Anna Kashaija of GreenCOM*

The Coastal Environmental Award Scheme (CEAS) that started in September last year expects to wind up in May and June this year with colorful award giving ceremonies in all participating districts.

According to reports from Tanga, Mtwara, Lindi and Mafia, CEAS District Committees are currently assessing activities undertaken by various groups and individuals in order to choose best performers who will be rewarded with tools, equipment and other relevant material.

The Coastal Environmental Award Scheme is an initiative by TCMP and GreenCOM with the objective to stimulate community participation in coastal environment protection and sustainable resource use. The scheme is being practiced in the districts of Tanga, Mheza, Pangani, Mafia, Lindi and Mtwara under the guidance of committees formed by district technical officers and other experts.

In all participating districts, various community based groups including villages, schools, commercial organisations and individuals undertook particular activities that are environmentally friendly or focus on protecting the coastal environment and sustainable resource use.

The Coastal Environmental Award Scheme was initiated to commemorate the International Year of the Ocean (IYO 98) which, as was proclaimed by the United Nations, calls on the global community, governments, NGOs, CBOs and every individual to take positive action that will contribute to the protection and conservation of marine and coastal resources and the associated delicate environment.

Specific objectives of the scheme were:

- \* 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 carry out appropriate sustainable resource management practices.

## **Wedding Bells for Daffa**

The TCMP Support Unit leader, Jeremiah Daffa and his wife Pauline smile to a prosperous future after their colorful wedding ceremony at the Roman Catholic church of Kipawa in Dar es Salaam recently.

## **SEACAM Course**

A training course on Environmental Assessment of Coastal Aquaculture by SEACAM will be held in Dar es Salaam from June 13-19, 1999. Designed for aquaculturists and environmental assessment managers in government institutions, NGOs, the private sector and other interested coastal management practitioners, aims to improve the environmental assessment capacity.

Applications are invited ( before May 15, 1999 ) through the following address:

SEACAM

874 Av. Amilcar Cabral

Caixa Postal 4220

Maputo, Mozambique

Fax: 258 1 300638

Email: [seacam@virconn.com](mailto:seacam@virconn.com) <<mailto:seacaam@virconn.com>>

## **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 formulation 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 a few months ago, 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)>

**Pwani Yetu Published by TCMP Editorial Team**

Gratian Luhikula

Jeremiah Daffa

Mark Amaral

Mary Mbelwa

Saada Juma

**Pwani Yetu**

P.O.Box 71886, Dar es Salaam

Tel:+255+51 667589/666190

Fax: 668611

Email:gluhikula@epiq.or.tz