

Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems Program (SUCCESS)

*A component of the Integrated Management of the
Coastal and Freshwater Systems Program
(IMCAFS)*

**Year 1 Semi-Annual Report
October 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005**



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER
University of Rhode Island



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SAVING THE LAST GREAT PLACES ON EARTH



Sea Grant
Rhode Island

Integrated Management of Coastal and Freshwater Systems
Leader with Associates Cooperative Agreement
For
Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems (SUCCESS)

Year 1 Semi-Annual Report
October 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005

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A partnership between:

Coastal Resources Center
University of Rhode Island
and

United States Agency for International Development
Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade
Office of Natural Resource Management

In association with:

University of Hawaii Hilo, Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center
Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)

EcoCostas

Universidad Centro America
Conservation International
The Nature Conservancy
World Wildlife Fund
The Sea Grant Network

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INTRODUCTION

On September 30, 2004, the University of Rhode Island (URI) was awarded a Leader with Associates (LWA) Cooperative Agreement in Coastal Management, Fisheries and Aquaculture for a five-year program with core annual funding of \$750,000. This is *the Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems* (SUCCESS) Program.

The Coastal Resources Center (CRC) at the URI is the Leader of this Agreement. The Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center at the University of Hawaii (PACRC/UHH) is the sub-recipient. The Program's strategic partners are the Sea Grant Association of Universities, through the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program; the Nature Conservancy (TNC); World Wildlife Fund (WWF); and Conservation International (CI). Regionally, the partners include the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) based in Zanzibar, Tanzania; the University of Central America (UCA) based in Nicaragua; and EcoCostas, a nongovernmental organization (NGO) based in Ecuador.

The Program's overarching goal is to help the people of a place improve both their quality of life (health, income, education) and their physical environment through good governance. The Program has four major components.

1. Achieving Tangible On-the-Ground Results
2. Increasing Capacity through Training Linked to On-the-Ground Activities
3. Establishing Regional Learning Networks Supported by Effective Knowledge Management
4. Applying Science to Management and Good Governance

In each region where the LWA Program operates, these components come together to make a coherent, mutually re-enforcing set of strategies. These strategies ensure that community-based demonstrations of successful natural resources governance are connected to supporting actions and policies at the provincial, national and regional scales. This integrating, cross-sectoral and multi-scaled approach has proven to be adaptable to a very wide range of settings.

In addition to these four primary program elements, we are working to promote US global leadership in ICM by advocating internationally for sound coastal governance and a stewardship ethic within coastal ecosystems. Further, the SUCCESS Program integrates across a number of cross-cutting themes including:

- Partnerships and alliances
- Gender mainstreaming
- Nested governance structures
- Health and HIV/AIDS
- Volunteers for Prosperity

These topics are highlighted in various USAID policies, and are topics in which CRC and its partners have developed skills and experience in recent years.

This Semi-Annual Report covers work activities implemented between October 1, 2004 and June 30, 2005. It lists by program element the progress and accomplishments achieved relative to the goals and objectives programmed in the Year 1 workplan. It also describes key management issues, challenges and constraints that were faced while implementing the Program. As well, it includes brief descriptions of Associate Awards and other USAID-supported activities that are being implemented by the Leader (CRC/URI) and which are relevant to this Program. Contacts with USAID Missions concerning Leader and Associate Program activities are summarized as well. The Draft Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) is being submitted separately from this first Semi-Annual Report but will be included as an appendix to subsequent reports.

I. PROGRESS IN MEETING PLANNED OUTCOMES OF WORKPLAN PROGRAM ELEMENTS

A. ON-THE-GROUND RESULTS

Tanzania

Task No. A.1 Equitable livelihood development through mariculture

In February of 2005, four sites were selected in Tanzania for the SUCCESS Program – all involving mariculture activities. In the village of Fumba on Zanzibar, groups of women are collecting and growing in small impoundments several types of bivalves including pearl oysters and *Anadara sp.* clams. While most of this production is used for local consumption, some is sold. At this site, the Program will assist with improving production systems and marketing. For example, a market survey is being conducted to determine the viability of selling bivalves to hotels, and a small food kiosk is being set up on the beach where tourists arrive daily for excursions to island beaches. The second site is in Bagamoyo district where a group of seaweed growers are trying to establish their own farms and market independently to seaweed buyers – thereby breaking the dependence on buyers for capital inputs for farming. The Program is working with this group to establish a pilot floating farm as an alternative to the off-bottom peg and line method that is plagued with problems of die-off and disease. Because they are growing *E. cottonii*, which is more environmentally sensitive, the floating farm in deeper water is expected to reduce disease problems and die-off. The pilot farm has been constructed and seedlings set out on lines. The last two sites are in Mkuranga district where the Program is working with farmers on a demonstration tilapia farm and pilot milkfish pond. A team of two professional volunteers recently visited the milkfish farm and assisted with a redesign of pond layout and engineering. At the tilapia site, the Program is investigating the use of a wind-driven water-pumping system to reduce production costs and make the operation more economically viable. Local teams involved in providing extension services to all these sites participated in the first regional training course on mariculture extension. In addition to the country-specific workplans that were prepared for these sites in March 2005, each site was evaluated during the training course and updated action plans were prepared for each.

SUCCESS Links to the Tanzania Mission's Strategic Objectives and Focus Areas

Natural Resource Management and Conservation Practiced

Activities at SUCCESS Tanzania sites in Bagamoyo and Mkuranga districts directly support and link to implementation of district ICM action plans. In the Fumba, Zanzibar site the SUCCESS Program is working with women within the Menai Bay Conservation Area on improved management of the wild harvest of bivalves.

Implementing National Policies

Another Mission focus is on ensuring that national policies are being implemented. Here too, SUCCESS is playing an important role – by assisting the sites/districts to make operational both the national mariculture guidelines and the national seaweed development strategy. The mariculture guidelines and seaweed strategy were developed with support of the USAID Tanzania Mission and contribute to the poverty alleviation and environmental management priorities of Tanzania.

Livelihood Development

The SUCCESS Program links directly, as well, to the Mission's emphasis on livelihood development as the Program focuses on helping the coastal field site communities develop natural resources-based enterprises that will improve quality of life. This includes providing technical and business support services to groups of mariculture farmers on culture technology and post-harvest handling as well as providing advice on micro-financing, delivering training on entrepreneurship, and offering marketing assistance. In addition, the Program is helping partners develop strategies for how to utilize pilot demonstration farms to promote adoption of finfish, seaweed farming, and bivalve culture.

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task A.1: Equitable livelihood development through mariculture</i>			
Develop extension service delivery strategy including utilization of pilot farms	February 2005	Completed <i>(as part of M. Haws TDY in February 05)</i>	There is no organized coastal mariculture extension delivery program in Tanzania. A combination of university, multiple national level agencies, and district personnel are delivering coastal extension services in targeted sites. This has implications in subsequent years for sustainability issues beyond the Life-of-Program (LoP).
Deliver training course on extension methods and governance baselines	March 2005	Completed June 27 – July 2, 2005 <i>(most participants from SUCCESS pilot site areas)</i>	Governance baselining was not included in the course content due to: 1) time limitations; 2) perceived needs of participants and their past experience <i>(most are already highly experienced and trained in ICM basics)</i> ; and 3) baselining tools were still under development.
Develop detailed workplan for the field site including specific Life-of-Program objectives, monitoring indicators and targets	March 2005	Completed	
Provide grant to a local institution to	April 2005	Completed	Extension services are being

provide extension services, and establish demonstration mariculture farms in Mkuranga, Bagamoyo and Zanzibar			provided and coordinated by WIOMSA through a sub-agreement in coordination with TCMP working groups and district staff
Develop governance baselines, and monitoring and adaptive management plans for each of the three field sites	April 2005	Delayed	Governance baselines are not yet prepared but are scheduled as part of the TDY of E. Torell in September 05. A methodology/tool for a "Level 1" governance baseline is now being prepared but requires training of local staff on-site before these can be completed.
Conduct workshop on implementation grant preparation and lessons learned from ICM action plan implementation	May 2005	Delayed	Districts are still implementing original grants provided under TCMP. The next round is planned for Fall 05. Lessons learned from SUCCESS activities in these field sites will be programmed as part of the district grant review under the new TCMP mission grant.
Completed proposal approved by District Council and SUCCESS	June 2005	Delayed	See above
Conduct training on seaweed/milkfish/pearl farming	July 2005	Completed <i>(Training in these areas was covered as in regional training course with significant inputs from the two professional volunteers)</i>	Pearl farming training (implantation of ½ round button pearls) is to be undertaken by M. Haws on her next TDY tentatively scheduled for Oct/Nov 05. At present, Fumba pearl farms do not have oysters of sufficient size for implantation – this may require movement of some farms into deeper water to avoid die-offs as are currently being experienced. Professional volunteers redesigned the milkfish ponds in Mkuranga but see these sites as marginal and are recommending a shift of emphasis to a better location in Bagamoyo
Conduct reflections and review of extension services and district grant implementation outcomes and lessons, Year 2 field site action planning	August 2005	Pending	Planned as part of the TDY of E. Torell in September 05

Nicaragua

Task No. A.2 Livelihood development through mariculture diversification and sustainable fisheries management of the blood cockle

Two estuary sites were selected in early 2005 for SUCCESS Program focus – Puerto Morazan, where the demonstration and training center is located, and Estero Padre Ramos. The former is a fishing village with heavy nearby development of shrimp ponds in the estuary. These ponds have been declining in production and profitability – leaving the community with few alternatives to increasing pressure on the already over-exploited estuarine fisheries. The second site is an estuary designated as a protected area under co-management by a USAID-supported NGO and the community – which relies heavily on fishing and cockle collection. The site has several under-exploited economic opportunities such as fruit and agricultural products, and also wishes to engage in sewing and baking businesses.

Work at these two sites focuses on 1) building capacity for coastal management among governmental, NGO and community stakeholders; 2) improving fisheries and cockle management; 3), pilot projects to diversify aquaculture to non-shrimp alternatives; and 4) introduction of new livelihoods such as honey production, sewing workshops and bakeries. There is an emphasis also on providing assistance for small business development and management, exploring options for micro-finance and accessing markets.

Governance baselining is progressing well, as is the basic and applied research to evaluate the feasibility of diversifying aquaculture – e.g. new uses for shrimp ponds (tilapia), assisting cooperatives to implement best management practices for shrimp, culturing shellfish including the blood cockle and improving marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products. This work builds on long-standing efforts of the Center for Aquatic Ecosystems Research at the University of Central America (CIDEA). Extension delivery services have been strengthened and expanded to support implementation of alternative livelihood options and resource management. One cooperative is also being assisted in evaluating and possibly developing ecotourism enterprise(s).

Planning for the first regional training course is nearing completion. The course will be held in Puerto Morazan on July 25-29, 2005. It targets extension agents, community leaders and other stakeholders with the goal of building their capacity for varied aspects of coastal management and extension. Training materials will be integrated into the SUCCESS knowledge management system, which is under joint development by the SUCCESS country teams. A specialized training event focused on bivalve culture and management will be held August 10-13, 2005 in collaboration with University of Hawaii-Hilo (UHH) mariculture specialist Dr. Maria Haws with assistance from Dr. John Supan of Louisiana State University and its Sea Grant program.

SUCCESS Links to the Nicaragua Mission's Strategic Objectives and Focus Areas

Economic Freedom/Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade. This SO is directed at providing support to enhance competitiveness of Nicaraguan businesses emphasizing market-oriented approaches for small and medium-scale producers and increasing market access to take advantage of the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). SUCCESS is providing technical assistance to aquaculture producers, working to diversify aquaculture products and evaluating possibilities for coastal communities to utilize previously under-exploited natural resources in new productive businesses. A number of products and services are either being used locally or exported – or they are being studied for the feasibility of one or both. This includes small farm-produced shrimp, shellfish, fruit, vegetables, sewing workshops and bread bakeries. In the case of aquaculture, the emphasis is on production of ecologically sustainable products and improving sanitation to allow aquaculture products to compete in the various markets. The SUCCESS Program is ensuring that skills are being built in many aspects of production, business management, marketing and financing.

Ruling Justly/Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance. This SO aims to support development of more transparent, responsive and accountable governance. SUCCESS contributes to stronger governance in the arena of natural resources management by enabling coastal communities and local governments to develop the skills and capacity to better manage

resources and to engage in public dialogue on questions of resource management conflicts and equitable use. Additionally, the SUCCESS Program is developing the means to allow local communities to access opportunities and markets otherwise inhibited by systemic disincentives, weak governance, gaps in policy and regulation and corruption. For example, at the two SUCCESS coastal sites, management of fisheries and aquaculture resources is a chronic problem due to issues of regulatory gaps, lack of enforcement, corruption, insufficient data, encroachment by non-residents, lingering impacts from Hurricane Mitch and other forces which community members must grapple with daily in order to protect, harvest, or market their products.

Investing in People/Global Health. This SO aims at maintaining and improving gains in basic education, health care, food security, reproductive health and HIV/AIDS prevention. SUCCESS contributes to these goals by working in food-insecure communities to maintain the natural resource base for food production, generating alternative livelihoods, optimizing current resources use and improving the ability of communities to manage their resources and revenues. There is an explicit emphasis on building women’s capacity, as heads of families, to generate income. Additionally, CIDEA has strong ties to the Puerto Morazan health clinic and school and is assisting them with education and health initiatives. Among these is the establishment of a water harvesting system at the CIDEA training center as a model for the community.

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task A.2: Livelihood development through mariculture diversification and sustainable fisheries management of the blood cockle</i>			
Prepare a governance baseline of the Puerto Morazan area in the context of recent governance efforts at larger scales	February 2005	~50% Completed Projected for full completion September 2005	A methodology/tool for a “Level 1” governance baseline is now being prepared but requires training of local staff on-site before this can be completed. The governance baseline is expected to be developed as part of the training course scheduled in the next quarter.
Prepare scan of existing mariculture initiatives in Central America to identify lessons learned and potential training materials	February 2005	Not undertaken	This task was eliminated from the work plan and replaced with the two tasks immediately below.
Collect biological, physiochemical and socioeconomic information on cockle and other bivalve fisheries, resource management and users	December 2005	On schedule ~25% completed; selected subcomponents completed	This was added as a distinct task in the revised work plan.
Specialized training in bivalve culture and mariculture extension	August 2005	On schedule Course under design; programmed for August 10-13, 2005 delivery	This is a new task added in the first work plan.
Develop documentation, evaluations and business plans for alternative livelihoods and diversification of aquaculture	January 2006	On schedule Documentation and evaluation phase ~75% completed	This is a task added in the revised work plan.

Develop cooperative agreements with other institutions: NGOs, governmental agencies, Peace Corps. Provide an institutional matrix to USAID.	August 31, 2005	~90% completed	Peace Corps volunteers became involved beginning in May 2005. Requests for other volunteers are in progress.
Conduct initial training course	March 2005	Delayed Rescheduled for July 25-29, 2005	Planning for the course is on schedule.
Confirm initial targets for extension services	April 2005	Completed (Extension services established)	Targeted two communities – Estero Padre Ramos and Puerto Morazan
Develop a monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework for this site	June 2005	Completed	Although PMP planning began at initiation of the Program, it could not be finalized until after the work plan was developed in early June. The PMP draft is to be submitted to USAID in July.
Make training modules available through the SUCCESS KM system	Post course delivery	On target	Planning for training modules and KM system ongoing. Training modules to be posted after course completion.
Detailed workplan for field site including specific life-of-Program objectives and monitoring indicators and targets	March 2005	Completed (<i>June 2005</i>)	USAID and URI could not complete the workplan until after the first site visit in April.
Seek Sea Grant mentors for extension teams through Fulbright Senior Expert program and volunteer programs	April 2005	Delayed	
Award small grants for pilot implementation of extension services at the two sites	April 2005	Completed	Extension services are being provided and coordinated by UCA through a sub-agreement.
Review progress and apply adaptive management practices at the second training course	Nov – Dec 2005	On schedule	
Progress report to USAID	September 2005	On schedule (<i>interim report submitted July 2005</i>)	

Ecuador

Task No. A.3 Sustainable livelihood development through improved management of the blood cockle fishery in Cojimies

The Cojimies estuary and surrounding forest reserve (Mache-Chindul), was selected in early 2005 as the SUCCESS Program site in Ecuador. This estuary is one of the more remote and least disturbed in Ecuador, but has the same negative trajectory as the rest of Ecuador's estuaries – i.e. suffering from negative impacts related to shrimp farming, drastic declines in the cockle fishery, a lack of economic alternatives, encroachment by non-residents, urbanization, and anthropogenic factors including water pollution. While the official status of the Mache-Chindul Forest reserve that surrounds the estuary may help keep this critical watershed at least partially intact, the management of the reserve is understaffed and underfunded. Hence, the SUCCESS team is working with the Mache-Chindul team and the communities surrounding the estuaries to develop better management practices to stabilize the natural resources base of production, develop

alternative livelihoods, improve local governance, and establish a trust fund for conservation and development activities. By developing more sustainable shrimp management practices, diversifying aquaculture to include native species such as the chame fish, establishing new livelihoods such as bee keeping and model gardens and farms, the Program hopes to improve the economic status and health of the SUCCESS site communities. As part of this effort, the Program is working with the communities' well-organized women's groups.

In April 2005, a team from USAID, URI, and UHH met with stakeholders in Ecuador to develop a detailed country workplan. A USAID/Quito official accompanied the team to Cojimies and other sites. SUCCESS shortly thereafter established a small office in San Juan de Chamunga and has established cooperative ties with the forest reserve management team, Peace Corps and Sea Grant for planning and implementation of Program initiatives.

Governance baselining is proceeding rapidly and should be completed as planned, with results presented at the first regional training course (August 1-6, 2005). The course is designed to build capacity among local stakeholders and extension agents to improve the delivery of extension services and provide an understanding of coastal management basics, including aspects of estuary fisheries management, aquaculture and small business development. The training provides a venue for review of the business plans for alternative livelihoods, development of action plans for implementation of new alternative livelihoods and a revision of the workplan.

At the invitation of USAID, the Directors of EcoCostas and the Coastal Resources Center (CRC) – Emilio Ochoa and Stephen Olsen respectively – are providing support to the USAID/World Wildlife Fund (WWF) management efforts in the Galapagos Islands through design and facilitation of a workshop aimed at reflecting on lessons learned, mediation of conflicts, development of agreements for future actions, and capacity building in coastal management.

SUCCESS Links to the Ecuador Mission's Strategic Objectives and Focus Areas

Rather than linking directly to any one focus area or Strategic Objective of the Ecuador Mission, the SUCCESS Program activities link to goals that cut across any number of these. This includes goals tied to democracy and governance, developing economic opportunities – especially for the poor and/or other disadvantaged groups, and increasing the capacity to produce, utilize, and market agricultural products through cost effective and environmentally sustainable practices.

At the SUCCESS Ecuador site in Cojimies, on-the-ground results will focus on an extensive wild fishery for the blood cockle that is as yet unmanaged. The strategy will be to assist small-scale harvesters of the blood cockle (usually a female-dominated activity) to sustain and enhance harvests upon which they depend for food security and income generation. This includes provision of technical and business support services for diversified mariculture, as an expression of coastal management good practices. There are also efforts underway to form a Livelihood Diversification Fund – a revolving trust fund to be established, managed and used at the proposed field sites to sustain livelihood development over the long-term and to promote self-reliance of the community.

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task A.3: Sustainable livelihood development through improved management of the blood cockle fishery in Cojimies</i>			
Prepare a governance baseline of the site in the context of recent governance efforts at larger scales	February 2005	~95% completed	Projected for full completion by August 12, 2005.
Prepare documentation and business plans for alternative livelihoods	August 2005	~95% completed	Projected completion is for August 12, 2005 – added as a distinct task in workplan revision.
Participate in an initial training course and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> confirm initial targets for extension services, and develop an M&E framework for site 	March 2005	~95% completed	Training date was revised to August 1-6, 2005 and the M&E framework will be completed during a July 17-24 visit by EcoCostas to CRC.
Develop detailed workplan for the field site including specific Life-of-Program objectives and monitoring indicators and targets	March 2005	First workplan completed	First draft was submitted after the first site visit in April 2005. The final plan was submitted to USAID in July 2005.
Seek Sea Grant mentors for extension teams through Fulbright Senior Expert program and volunteer programs	April 2005	Ongoing	
Award a small grant for implementation of extension services at the site	April 2005	Completed	Extension services are being provided and coordinated through a sub-agreement to EcoCostas
Review progress and apply adaptive management practices at the second training course	August 2005	Delayed	Progress will be reviewed at the first training course (August) and the second course held in the 1 st or 2 nd quarter of Year 2.
Establish Livelihood Diversification Fund for sustainability of local economic development	November 2005	On target	This was added as a task during work plan development. Planning for the fund has been initiated
Establish cooperative agreements with the Peace Corps	July 2005	Completed	EcoCostas and Peace Corps agreed to utilize Peace Corps Volunteers and develop a long-term collaborative site management plan.
Conduct workshop on learning and adaptive management for Galapagos Island protected area stakeholders	October 2005	On schedule	Workshop is in the design phase.

B. REGIONAL TRAINING

Task B.1 Development of a regional capacity building strategy and implementation of initial courses prioritizing on-the-ground field site participants and needs in mariculture extension

The SUCCESS regional training team accomplished most of its objectives for the period – with completion of several tasks delayed until early in Year 2. Although courses in the three countries differed somewhat in curriculum design, each was successful in the overarching goal of linking course content to the practical, on-the-ground needs of participants and projects.

Tanzania held the first course in Zanzibar from June 27 – July 2, 2005. It included presentations and practicum on the basics of extension including tools and strategies for delivering effective extension services; on mariculture opportunities in Tanzania – the what and how; on milkfish

farming and pond construction; on seaweed farming and its technical and economic aspects; on other bi-valve cultures; and on developing participant action plans that outlined what each would do to improve his/her own extension efforts/program over the next six months. The second course was held in Puerto Morazan, Nicaragua on July 25-30, 2005. The context of the Nicaragua course was quite different from that of Tanzania or Ecuador. The course sponsor – the Center for Aquaculture Research (CIDEA) at the University of Central America – has been operating in Puerto Morazan for over a decade as an aquaculture field station and as such has offered many short courses on a diversity of topics related to shrimp mariculture. CIDEA welcomed the opportunity to design and deliver a course that instead introduced the broader and more integrative concepts and practices of ICM and of governance baselining to participants representing relevant agencies of central government, local municipalities, local nature preserves and representatives of the various user groups (small scale fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture). Several members of the CIDEA core staff also attended. The Ecuador course was held from August 2-5, 2005 and focused on the foundations and the practice of extension with an emphasis on how to design and develop diversified livelihoods for the people of the coastal zone. It also touched on technical solutions in aquaculture; allowed participants to construct a model of extension services for the estuary of Cojimies; covered issues of how to calculate the viability of a small business enterprise under different scenarios; presented the opportunities and challenges of alternative livelihoods such as beekeeping and Chame cultures; and discussed the role that community banks can play in helping small business development.

Participant evaluations from the SUCCESS courses in all three countries confirm that the hands-on practicum is essential to the value they place on the training and participants requested that future training modules include even more practicum than was included in these first modules. Each country is scheduled to design and deliver the second “module” of the course in the first or second quarter of Year 2. In all cases, this second module will put a greater emphasis on field practicum, on technical tools and techniques, on the marketing and financial aspects of small business/enterprise development, and in Ecuador and Tanzania on more in-depth coverage of the techniques of governance baselining.

Areas of improvement for Year 2 include stronger marketing and recruiting – especially of appropriate participants and trainers throughout the SUCCESS Program regions. If – as was the case in the Year 1 courses – most or all course participants are country-specific and even site specific, we may want to reconsider using the term “regional” training which implies a larger number of participants coming from outside the sites and outside of Tanzania/Ecuador/Nicaragua.

The training team needs to make other non-course-specific improvements in Year 2. Most of these link to materials development and the knowledge management (KM) system. This includes establishing clearer criteria on which course materials will add value to the KM system, and a decision on whether the extension bulletin series should be designed for and disseminated in electronic format only – as input to the KM system. While this reassessment is underway, a final design of the extension bulletin series is delayed.

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task B.1: Regional Capacity Building</i>			
Identify LA co-trainers, design curriculum and develop materials for first LA course	February - March 2005	Completed	
Identify EA co-trainers, design curriculum, for first East Africa course	February – April 2005	Completed (June 2005)	
Research demand for and feasibility of ICM certification program	February – June 2005	Delayed	Research is on-going. Key input is required from participants in Year 1 courses. Hence, the timing of courses precluded a June completion.
Draft position paper with recommendation for ICM certification program	June 2005	Delayed	See above
Deliver first EA course	July 2005	Completed	
Disseminate training materials from LA and EA first courses	July 2005	Pending	Course dates delayed from dates listed in original workplan. Hence, there was a domino effect on finalizing materials and uploading to KM system. Further discussion is required on the KM design for materials.
Produce design for extension bulletin series	July 2005	Delayed	The design and medium of delivery is being rethought and the series is slated for decision/production in Year 2.
Develop action plan to fund and design certification program (if research study indicated high demand and feasibility)	July 2005	Delayed	A key source of input includes course participants. The delayed start dates of courses thus had a domino effect on the delayed delivery date of this task.
Deliver the first LA course (Nicaragua)	July 2005	Completed	
Identify co-trainers and design curriculum for second East Africa and LA courses	August 2005	Pending	Completed for two LA courses; pending for second EA course (to be held November 2005)
Deliver second EA and LA course	September 2005	Pending	Participants and trainers in 1 st EA course agreed that September 2005 is too early for a follow-on module. Rescheduled for first and second quarters of Year 2.
Disseminate training materials from LA and EA second courses	September 2005	On schedule for LA; Delayed with EA 2 nd course materials	(See previous note re EA second course materials)
Identify potential trainers and training curriculum from the LA and EA networks for inclusion in Summer Institute 2006	September 2005	Ongoing	To date, one co-trainer from the first EA course has been identified and recommended.

C. REGIONAL NETWORKS AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Latin America

Task C.1 Development of a web-based knowledge management system

The knowledge management (KM) system for the EcoCostas-CRC Network was presented at the Network of Leaders meeting, March 24 to April 4, 2005 in Argentina. Two presentations were given. One focused on the overall concepts of knowledge management as being applied in the CRC KM system (KMS). The second was a more detailed description of the KMS including detail on computer architecture and data flow diagrams. Workshop participants engaged in the discussion of overall architecture, data requirements and desires, and expressed enthusiasm for the methodology being used to develop the KMS.

An initial demonstration test site has been up and has been operational since mid April 2005 and is being further developed at CRC in collaboration with EcoCostas staff. A CRC KM specialist traveled to Ecuador to work with EcoCostas information specialist staff from May 27 – June 4, 2005 in order to further refine the data model for the governance baselining portion of the KMS. Input from that trip has been built into the KMS draft and is being further refined. Staff from EcoCostas will work in Rhode Island with CRC during July 2005 to input and refine data from the pilot sites in Latin America that are being used to test the KMS.

The beta site is currently protected and not available to web users outside of CRC and EcoCostas. A more robust system that will allow the wider network members, partners and funders to have access to the system is under development and slated for completion in the first half of Year 2. Other elements of the KMS under discussion and planned for Year 2 include:

- expansion of the system to incorporate the SUCCESS monitoring and evaluation (M&E)
- discussion and design of the architecture that will house training materials

The KMS design will incorporate elements of the wider CRC web-based KMS and allow for the management and dissemination of ‘lessons learned’ among the networks in Latin America and Eastern Africa. A technical assistance trip to Tanzania between April 7 – 25, 2005 included a presentation on the KM system at a meeting of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) Science Institute Directors. Further KM work in East Africa may expand with support from the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/Nairobi which heard the presentation at WIOMSA and is interested in contributing to development of the KMS.

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task C.1: Development of a web-based knowledge management system (in LA)</i>			
Present and discuss the demonstration at the second meeting of the network members in Argentina	March 28 – 30, 2005	Completed	
Prepare an initial demonstration beta test site of the KM system that is launched on the web and makes available to network members the governance baselining materials and initial analysis	April 2005	Completed	Available to core KM members only
Expand the KM system to include monitoring of selected on-going activities conducted by network members as a common monitoring and evaluation process	April – September, 2005	On target	Design phase being initiated August 05
Make available in a compatible, layered, web-based system the materials generated for, and developed by the initial training courses	September	Delayed	Courses were conducted at much later dates than listed in the original workplan thereby creating a ripple effect of delays for this deliverable.
		<i>(anticipated 1st quarter Year 2)</i>	

Make available to members of the LA regional network the materials generated in support of a Sea Grant-like program	April-September	Pending	Assessment of interest in building a Sea Grant-like network of linked programs will need support from leveraged activities in SUCCESS regions.
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East Africa

Task No. C.2. Preparation for development of a web-based knowledge management system

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task C.2: Preparation for development of web-based knowledge management system (EA)</i>			
Assess the existing WIOMSA and Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership (TCMP) web systems to ascertain how best to incorporate a KM system similar to the one being designed for the EcoCostas-CRC network in Latin America	April 2005	Completed	Existing capabilities at TCMP and WIOMSA have encouraged us to keep the KMS housed/hosted at CRC for the near term.
Prepare templates for assembling data and conducting an analysis of mariculture initiatives in the region	May 2005	Delayed	
Prepare for launching an English version CRC KM system in Year 2 with links to the existing WIOMSA web page	August 2005	On schedule	

D. SCIENCE FOR MANAGEMENT

Task D.1: Develop the key hypotheses concerning best practices in ICM and mariculture extension

No major deliverables were proposed in this section of the Year 1 workplan. However, the Year 1 goal is to develop key hypotheses and assumptions as outlined in the beginning of the workplan and the SUCCESS Program statement. This work is linked closely to the Knowledge Management activities and the Monitoring and Evaluation framework currently under development. The next step is to articulate more clearly the specific hypotheses that will be tested as part of the cross-portfolio learning activities.

SUCCESS on-the-ground activities are significantly different than previous ICM efforts that CRC has undertaken. Typically CRC develops ICM plans first and only then moves into issue-specific actions such as mariculture (or CRC implements early actions while the larger ICM planning is underway). In the current SUCCESS field sites, only the activities in the Mkuranga and Bagamoyo districts of Tanzania are operating within an existing local ICM framework. All other sites lack local ICM plans – and, due to the need to achieve results quickly and to the limited resources available for each field site, CRC does not propose developing such plans at this time. This, however, prompts the question of whether an incremental direct action approach – i.e. one that starts with a focus on livelihood issues and then addresses other issues over time can lead to successful and sustainable results and a coherent ICM initiative. It also raises the

question of which type of ICM plan will result in better long-term outcomes – an independent ICM plan or one that is integrated directly into the local development plan. The answers to these and other issues will be explored as part of the SUCCESS Program learning process.

E. GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

To date in Year 1 of the SUCCESS Program, the participatory and issue-driven approach to coastal governance pioneered through the CRC/USAID Cooperative Agreements has been further disseminated through the following:

- An article on the Orders of Outcomes in Coastal Management has been published in the magazine *Sea Technology*.
- UNEP has adopted The Orders of Outcomes as the framework for developing “progress markers” to trace the advance of integrated coastal and watershed management programs. Two meetings were held in Holland to develop and refine a simple set of indicators for First and Second Order outcomes and these are now being applied to selected case studies in Europe, Thailand, Australia and North America.
- The good practices that have emerged from the past two decades of international ICM have formed the basis of a set of *Principles to Guide the Tsunami Rehabilitation Process*. These were presented for discussion at an international forum assembled by the UNEP Global Plan of Action in Cairo in January 2005 and were formally adopted by those attending.
- CRC prepared and UNEP is now distributing an expanded set of guidelines that detail the steps to be taken to implement the Cairo principles.
- An article detailing the Cairo principles was accepted for publication in *Ambio* in July 05.
- The CRC Director was appointed to the Scientific Steering Committee of the Land Ocean Interactions in the Coastal Zone (LOICZ) Program sponsored by the International Human Dimensions Program and Global Environmental Change (IHDP) and the International Geosphere-Biosphere Program (IGBP). In July, he delivered a plenary address entitled “Ecosystem-based Science and Governance” at the Open Science Meeting in Holland.

These activities have been undertaken through the leadership of the CRC Director and are not supported directly with SUCCESS funds.

F. CROSS-CUTTING ELEMENTS

Gender Mainstreaming

Gender mainstreaming is a priority cross-cutting theme within SUCCESS as well as CRC’s overall program portfolio. On-the-ground activities in Tanzania, Ecuador, and Nicaragua, intentionally aim for gender equity. For example, in on-the-ground activities in Tanzania

(Zanzibar) the Program is working with a women's group to pilot oyster farming. Meanwhile, in the SUCCESS training courses in both East Africa and Latin America, over 33% of the participants were women. In a related activity, the *Women in Leadership Development* (WILD) initiative, which was partially funded by USAID, was completed in the early months of the SUCCESS Program. Its final product – a book of teaching case studies in gender and population mainstreaming – will be used in future SUCCESS training courses and the principles, tools, and techniques that emerged from the initiative will be used in SUCCESS to promote gender equity.

Health: HIV/AIDS

Health is an emerging issue within the CRC portfolio. We are currently mid-way through the *Population, Equity, AIDS, and Coastal Ecosystem* (PEACE) project, implemented in Tanzania. While the PEACE project is not part of the SUCCESS Leader Award nor an associate award, it works in the same districts and is part of the wider CRC portfolio of related USAID-supported work in Tanzania. The PEACE project recently conducted a threats-assessment, looking at the linkages between HIV/AIDS, population, equity and natural-resource management. This study will be an asset when planning SUCCESS Program on-the-ground activities in Bagamoyo and Pangani.

Partnerships and Alliances

The SUCCESS strategy has been to forge partnerships and alliances with other institutions, programs and projects in each country and region where it works. In Tanzania, this includes closer coordination with the USAID-funded Smallholder Empowerment and Economic Growth through Agribusiness and Association Development (SEEGAAD) program working on the expansion of seaweed farming. SEEGAAD sent participants to the first SUCCESS training in East Africa and provided one resource person/ guest trainer. In addition, the Aquaculture Collaborative Research Support Program (ACRSP) supported one individual to the course who also served as a guest trainer for one module. Both the SEEGAAD and the ACRSP trainers provided the course with valuable expertise on economics and marketing analysis as part of an extension delivery strategy. The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) also sponsored several participants – individuals working on related mariculture activities as part of their strategy in the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa seascape and the Mafia Marine Park to provide alternative livelihoods to fishers who are using destructive fishing methods.

In Ecuador, SUCCESS is linking to WWF activities being undertaken in the Galapagos. This includes offering to facilitate lessons learned among the current partners working on improved management of this world heritage site. In Nicaragua, many of the mariculture opportunities in this SUCCESS field site are similar to those of interest to ACRSP activities taking place in Mexico. Therefore there is great potential to develop additional linkages and synergies with this ACRSP program and in the process bring direct benefits to the Nicaragua SUCCESS field site. The SUCCESS team has also worked with ACRSP to feature articles in its newsletter (Aquanews) on SUCCESS activities. UHH in collaboration with CRC was invited to and is submitting a proposal to ACRSP for a marketing study of local bivalve species in Mexico. Once the Mexico studies have been conducted, the methodology will be transferred to the Nicaragua SUCCESS sites.

International Sea Grant is also providing funding to CRC and to the University of Central America (UCA) in Nicaragua to develop the Latin American Sea Grant Network. While these activities are not directly linked to the SUCCESS field activities, the International Sea Grant contribution helps to build the capacity of UCA to more fully undertake coastal research-extension activities and to link regional institutions in a more active learning network.

For the Latin American region, Avina-supported activities of EcoCostas are also playing a catalytic role in developing the regional network and for construction of the pilot Knowledge Management System that will also serve the SUCCESS Program, sites, and partners.

G. VOLUNTEERS FOR PROSPERITY

The first year of the international volunteer program has been a period of learning and experimenting. While CRC has used volunteers domestically for several years, this is the Center's first experiment using US professionals in its international programs.

In Year 1 of the SUCCESS Program, two volunteers were dispatched to Tanzania in June/July, 2005. One, Dr. Michael Rice is a tenured professor in the University of Rhode Island's College of Environmental and Life Sciences and Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Sciences. Dr. Rice has extensive international experience in aquaculture focussing on factors that affect the growth and reproduction of economically important bivalve mollusks. Mr. Edwin Requentina is a specialist in aquaculture with over a decade of experience managing milkfish farms. Both Rice and Requentina had a two-week assignment that included delivering training sessions on mariculture at the SUCCESS training program in East Africa and working post-training with participants to redesign a pilot milkfish pond site and to train fishpond operators at the site(s). The approximate value of the services of these two individuals – based on their own professional salaries and benefits and in line with USAID/Federal standards allowable for professionals in their category – totaled approximately \$12,600. A volunteer coordinator and volunteer supervisor were assigned in Tanzania and a volunteer orientation manual was developed. The SUCCESS Program has also coordinated with Crisis Corp Thailand to place one or two volunteers on assignments in Thailand either late in Year 1 or early in Year 2.

In May 2005, CRC joined Volunteers for Prosperity and their web site now provides a link to CRC's site. The latter has been updated to include volunteer and contact information and is developing the framework to post volunteer job advertisements, applications, policy and procedures as well as pictures, anecdotes and quotes from returned volunteers. In September 2005, the program will be evaluated to identify changes that should be made prior to the start of Year 2. The evaluation will be based on input from exit interviews being conducted with the volunteers and from discussions with the in-country volunteer coordinator(s) and supervisor(s).

CRC is continuing to use volunteers at the home office as well to support the SUCCESS Program. For example, a graduate from the URI Marine Affairs program completed research on Thailand pre- and post-Tsunami. This data is providing needed background information essential to the first SUCCESS associate award program in Thailand.

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>Task F.1: Volunteers</i>			
Complete a CRC volunteer policy and procedures manual	February 2005	Completed	
Initiate limited partnerships with two or three international volunteer organizations established	March 2005	Partially completed	Agreement with Crisis Corp Thailand in place
Conduct in-country and CRC volunteer needs assessments	April 2005	Completed Tanzania, Thailand Pending Ecuador, Nicaragua	
Develop marketing strategy	May 2005	Completed	
Identify in-country volunteer coordinators	May 2005	Completed Tanzania, Thailand Pending Ecuador, Nicaragua	
Recruit and screen volunteers	June 2005	Completed Tanzania Pending Ecuador, Nicaragua	
Orient and assign volunteers	July 2005	Ongoing	Completed assignment and orientation of two volunteers for Tanzania
Debrief volunteers	September 2005	Completed	“
Evaluate and make recommendations for Year 1 volunteer program	September 2005	On target	

H. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

The SUCCESS monitoring and evaluation (M&E) approach was refined in the first six months of the Program. This included reviewing the results frameworks and methods used by similar programs and networks to identify appropriate models – as is or as adapted – for the SUCCESS Program. The result is a SUCCESS results framework that follows a more straight forward project logic and provides the basis for the SUCCESS Program Monitoring and Reporting Plan, (PMP)¹. The PMP describes how the SUCCESS Life-of-Program results are linked to intermediate results (IRs) and to indicators, baselines, targets, and milestones. It further describes how Program objectives are connected to the USAID Strategic Objective and IRs. The PMP presents a calendar of performance management tasks, describes how data will be collected, and how the limitations and quality of data will be assessed. Finally, the PMP describes how the monitoring framework will be used for learning and adaptive management – and how results will be captured and shared through a web-based system.

¹ The PMP for Year 1 is being issued under separate cover but will be included as Annex 2 in future reports

Task and Milestones	Date Due	Status	Comments/Challenges/Constraints
<i>H. Cross-Cutting Program Elements: Monitoring and Evaluation</i>			
Submit refined Year 1 workplans and life-of-Program objectives for on-the-ground results field sites	March 2005	Completed	
Refine the SUCCESS Results Framework and orient all regional and local partners	April 2005	Ongoing	Requires feedback from field partners.
Review results frameworks of other networks (e.g. the GCP network for biodiversity conservation) to extract models and lessons	April 2005	Partially completed	Requires contacting partners to access models that are not available online.
Develop a workbook based on the CRC-EcoCostas workbook and initial lessons in its application	May 2005	Completed	
Develop 1 st order governance baselines for each field site (steps 1 - 3 in the policy cycle)	June 2005	Not completed	Planned for Tanzania in September. In Ecuador, these are ongoing and planned for completion in July. In Nicaragua these will be started as part of the regional training course to be held in July.
Determine selected targets for outcome mapping of 2 nd order outcomes and construct outcome maps	June 2005	Partially completed (as part of PMP plan)	
Choose indicators for Third Order outcomes, frequency and methods for measurement, and collect T0 baselines	July 2005	Partially completed (as part of PMP plan)	
Attend semi-annual IMCAFS meeting in Washington D.C.	July 2005	Completed	
Prepare and submit semiannual report to USAID (this will include a refined SUCCESS Program results framework)	July 1, 2005	Completed	
Start to design the electronic web-based KM system for SUCCESS results monitoring, linked to the KM system for regional networks	August 2005	Completed	The design has begun and has been discussed with the KM team.
Prepare and submit Year 2 Workplan	September 30, 2005	On target	

II. MANAGEMENT ISSUES

One of the key management issues at start-up of this Program was a transition of CRC and UHH personnel from their existing roles and responsibilities and project obligations pre-SUCCESS to their roles, responsibilities, and obligations under SUCCESS. This transition was further complicated by the maternity leave of E. Torell for a six-month period starting in December of 2004. This slowed development of a SUCCESS PMP plan and learning framework. Dr. Torell has now returned to work and is giving priority attention to making progress on these tasks.

Another issue was the request to develop an Associate Award in Thailand related to Tsunami rehabilitation and reconstruction. This required a significant amount of time of the CRC Director, SUCCESS Program Director and other SUCCESS core team members (Maria Haws, Deputy Director based at UHH, Jim Tobey who was filling in for E. Torell on the M&E activities, and Lesley Squillante, Deputy Director) to be devoted to preparation of the program

statement in coordination with the SUCCESS cognizant technical officer (CTO) Richard Volk and the USAID Regional Development Mission/Asia (RDM/A). This included two trips to Thailand by the SUCCESS Program Director and one by Jim Tobey, the Project Leader at CRC for this Associate Award. Given the emergency nature of this request and the need for a rapid response, the team delayed important travel to field sites in Ecuador and Nicaragua to develop detailed SUCCESS workplans. Trips to Ecuador and Nicaragua by the SUCCESS CTO and core SUCCESS staff had to be delayed and rescheduled as well. This created a domino effect – resulting in delays in completing country workplans, in finalizing detailed sub-agreements with local partners in Latin America (UCA and EcoCostas), and with advancing funds to these partners. As a result, work activities in these two countries only recently (in last two months) got underway at the level of effort intended to have started much earlier.

While the delayed work planning process could not be avoided in Year 1, steps have been taken internally to speed the process of getting sub-agreements approved and funds advanced more quickly so that administrative bottlenecks no longer delay on-the-ground field activities.

Communications provide another management challenge. This includes a lack of bi-lingual language capabilities amongst a number of team members at CRC, UCA and EcoCostas. Also, with SUCCESS field sites and partners located on several different continents, time zone differences make it difficult and costly to have team-wide phone communications – something which is useful periodically to foster teamwork and ensure consistency of information sharing. We have addressed the cost issue by installing free *Skype* software on all partners' computers, allowing for Internet teleconferencing. However, this is no substitute for face to face meetings. Another challenge is that one of the Program's Deputy Directors, Maria Haws, is based at UHH, halfway around the world from CRC. While she is budgeted to travel to CRC annually for program management meetings, this may need to be increased to two visits per year. As we involve more partners in the consortium, communication challenges will increase, requiring us to institute better means of keeping partners informed and consulted on program activities.

III. UPCOMING CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

At the moment, one of the greatest programmatic challenges is phasing the SUCCESS PMP procedures into ongoing program activities and reassessing projected targets and outcomes based on initial on-the-ground experience. The large number of targets and indicators included in the overall SUCCESS workplan and its three separate country workplans must be simplified. The SUCCESS M&E specialist is making good headway on this process with the drafting of the PMP, but more discussion and work is needed on this with the SUCCESS CTO and local partners. A detailed discussion on this topic will occur at the annual IMCAFS meeting scheduled for August.

Once the PMP plan is finalized, local partners must be trained on PMP reporting and record keeping requirements. This training is planned for September in East Africa and for the first quarter of Year 2 for Ecuador and Nicaragua. Individuals in East Africa and Latin America have been fully trained on the requirements of TraiNet, while only team member in East Africa have been trained and have tested the policies and procedures for the volunteer assignments. In the

case of both the TraiNet and the volunteer systems, however, procedures and systems have worked smoothly and efficiently requiring a minimal investment of in-country partners' time. The ultimate goal is to build these systems such that they become web-based – making data entry easier, information flow more rapid and report preparation simpler and faster.

IV. ASSOCIATE AWARDS

Thailand

The December 26, 2004 tsunami that struck the Indian Ocean basin affected hundreds of thousands of people in countries throughout the region. In Thailand, over 4,000 persons died and more than 58,550 people were otherwise affected by the tsunami devastation. The economic loss is estimated at several billion dollars, including some 7,446 fishing boats lost or severely damaged. Many who survived have had their livelihoods disrupted since coastal tourism, fisheries, mariculture and agricultural sectors have been seriously affected. Housing and public infrastructure were also destroyed. The U.S. government initially responded to this disaster through a massive relief and humanitarian assistance Program, while more recent efforts are now focusing on medium and long-term rehabilitation programs.

In Thailand, USAID through the RDM/A is supporting a program designed to enhance the capability of local government to coordinate and plan strategic rehabilitation efforts in coastal areas. The *Post-Tsunami Sustainable Coastal Livelihoods Program* responds to the priority needs for international assistance requested by Royal Thai Government through several task forces formed by the cabinet immediately following the disaster.

An Associate Award to implement the *Post-Tsunami Sustainable Coastal Livelihoods Program* was made to URI/CRC on March 14, 2005 under the SUCCESS Leader Award. This 36-month, US \$2 million effort is implemented by the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), URI, and UHH in cooperation with the TAO (Tambon Administrative Office) and other supporting government and non-government partners. A Program office has been established at the TAO and two field coordinators are stationed full-time at the site to manage Program activities.

The goal of the *Post-Tsunami Sustainable Coastal Livelihoods Program* is to demonstrate how participatory, issue-driven and results-oriented processes can be applied to restart livelihoods and rehabilitate coastal communities affected by the tsunami in several coastal villages along the coast of the Andaman Sea. The demonstration site will provide an example of good planning that promotes environmentally sound livelihoods and minimizes future damage from natural disasters. This can inspire similar action elsewhere in the country and region where rehabilitation and reconstruction will be underway for the next several years.

The Program encompasses five villages along the Andaman Sea coast in the Suk Samran District of Ranong Province. The villages lie within the boundaries of Laem Son National Park and are small, rural, predominantly fisheries and agriculture-dependent communities, consisting of approximately 731 households and 4,560 people. These villages were moderately or severely impacted by the tsunami and suffered from the death of over 160 residents, the loss of over 200 fishing boats, engines and gear and the destruction or damage of many homes. In the aftermath,

and because they are among the poorest coastal communities in Thailand, these communities have a strong interest in livelihood diversification and improved resource management.

The specific objectives of the Program are to:

- Establish a common vision and coordinated approach to rehabilitation
- Restart and diversify livelihoods, especially those that rely on healthy coastal resources
- Redesign damaged coastal infrastructure and reduce vulnerability to future natural hazards
- Build capacity for planning and decision-making in the coastal zone
- Promote learning and share experience in Thailand and the region

Activities are organized into four Program components:

Facilitate Consensus and Create a Unified Vision for Action: This involves implementation of participatory assessments of the impacts of the affected communities, and identification of problems and priority issues by the communities. The Program is facilitating a process whereby the community and local government can develop criteria for selecting priority beneficiaries, and create a community vision for immediate rehabilitation and future medium-term development.

Restart and Develop Sustainable Livelihoods: The Program will help restart livelihoods disrupted by the tsunami. Special attention will be given to fisher households, but other livelihoods that were affected will also be assisted. Assistance will be in the form of replacement of boats (with American Refugee Council) and provision of revolving funds for gear, engines, or restarting other types of small-scale businesses in aquaculture, tourism or others. The project also has funds for “cash for work” and will implement training and extension services in small business development.

Site, Design and Construct Coastal Public Infrastructure: The Program will assist the TAO in siting, design and construction (co-financing) of a selected number of public infrastructure projects. Priority will be given to small scale projects and infrastructure damaged or destroyed from the tsunami. This could include demonstration structures (homes or public buildings) that incorporate tsunami resistant construction standards, or evacuation routes or bridges.

Enhance Management Capacity: The program will build capacity of communities to develop sustainable livelihoods through training in business management and entrepreneurship. It will also train communities and local government in participatory planning, fisheries management, hazard mitigation, and development of early warning systems and evacuation planning.

The first workplan for the start-up period from March 15 – September 30, 2005 was prepared and approved by the RDM/A Mission CTO. This workplan includes a PMP framework including Life-of-Program targets.

Contacts with USAID Missions

Thailand

The Chief of Party provides a weekly brief on significant Program developments and achievements to Winston Bowman, the Program Cognizant Technical Officer at USAID RDM/A. Foreign travelers from URI and UHH providing technical assistance to the Program have also been in contact with the mission while in Bangkok (Crawford, Tobey, Pollnac). Currently, the implementing partners (AIT, URI, UHH) are working with the mission to secure supplemental funds of \$1 million to be added to the existing Associate Award.

Tanzania

CRC submitted an application (RFA 623-A-05-008) to the USAID Mission in Tanzania in March 2005 to continue work that has been ongoing since 1998 and supported by the USAID/Tanzania Mission. This final application is for \$300,000 per year for two years with options for extensions for an additional three years. This represents a substantial reduction in the current level of funding that CRC has been receiving from the Tanzania Mission. This will necessitate reprioritizing the work with an emphasis on implementation of action plans in three districts – Mkuranga, Bagamoyo and Pangani – with a significant component on sustainable livelihood development. This includes activities related to sustainable fisheries management in these districts and on an assessment of freshwater flows to the Wami River estuary. On this later activity, the goal is to collaborate with the Global Water for Sustainability Program (GLOWS) team. Pending final approvals of the Strategic Objective Agreement Grant (SOAG) between USAID/Tanzania and the Government of Tanzania, we anticipate receiving a Cooperative Agreement from the Mission in September 2005 with a program start date of October 1, 2005. While this Cooperative Agreement is not strictly an ‘Associate Award’ under the SUCCESS LWA Program, it is part of the “family” of USAID-supported projects, which contribute to the overall goals of the SUCCESS Program.

The SUCCESS Program is also coordinating with the PEACE Project, supported by USAID Washington/EGAT biodiversity team and implemented by CRC. This project – geographically situated in the SUCCESS priority districts of Pangani and Bagamoyo – is a two-year effort incorporating the dimensions of Population, Gender and HIV/AIDS into coastal conservation efforts in Tanzania. With three active sources of USAID funding in Tanzania for CRC’s overall portfolio of activities, CRC and its in-country team keep the Mission fully informed of the entire portfolio of USAID-supported on-going activities with regular briefings provided to the Mission’s biodiversity, and health and HIV/AIDS teams.

Ecuador

A scoping mission was conducted in March to several proposed field locations in Ecuador. This mission including Richard Volk, SUCCESS CTO; Stephen Olsen, CRC Director; Maria Haws, Deputy Director of SUCCESS; Emilio Ochoa, EcoCostas Director; and Mission representatives. During the trip, the Cojimies estuary was selected as the primary SUCCESS site in Ecuador. Following the scoping visit, the Mission invited CRC and its partners to submit two proposals.

The first is a small one-time grant that will contribute to a feasibility study on culturing the lungfish locally known as “chame” as a potential source of livelihoods in the focal area of Cojimies. The second is a larger grant that would help support a self-assessment of the USAID-sponsored project in the Galapagos and generate geographic information systems-based data on watersheds within the Cojimies region.

Nicaragua

The team comprising the SUCCESS CTO and representatives from CRC/URI and UHH visited Nicaragua between April 6 and 10, and met with USAID mission personnel Steve Olive, Environmental Officer and Alex Dickie, Acting Mission Director prior to visiting the field sites.

As discussed in more detail on page 5 of this report, the SUCCESS Program initiatives support the Nicaragua Mission strategic objectives (SOs) and activities. USAID is currently supporting three protected natural areas, including one of the SUCCESS sites, Estero Padre Ramos, an estuary system on the Pacific Coast. Additionally, the Pacific Coast is the target area for a market-led agri-business initiative supporting small and medium farmers to market to local, regional and US markets as part of the CAFTA. SUCCESS will also be influential in enabling stakeholders to take advantage of and possibly avoid negative impacts of other development projects currently underway in Nicaragua and the Central American region. For example, the InterAmerican Development Bank-sponsored improvement of the Pan American Highway in Honduras and Guatemala, which would potentially affect the entire Gulf of Fonseca by improving connections between the Pacific coasts and international ports on the Atlantic coast – thus improving access to markets, and opening up inaccessible regions to a heightening of extractive activities.

It should also be noted that impacts of Hurricane Mitch on the coast ecosystem and communities still linger seven years after the event. USAID has provided long-term support for mitigation, recovery and improvement of ecosystems and economies damaged by the hurricane. SUCCESS will continue its role in helping address these remaining impacts and in aiding coastal communities in the recovery process



Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems Program (SUCCESS)
A component of the Integrated Management of the Coastal and Freshwater Systems Program (IMCAFS)