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Eastern African Marine Ecoregion

Annual Report

10/01/2004 - 09/30/2005

for

World Wildlife Fund

Date Submitted: September 30, 2005

Submitted by:

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Eastern African Marine Ecoregion

Project Overview

Description of Site

The **Eastern African Marine Ecoregion** (EAME) is considered globally outstanding for marine biodiversity, supporting diverse coral reefs, extensive mangrove forests and sea grass beds, spectacular sand dunes, and a large number of ecologically critical lagoons and estuaries. Biodiversity in the ecoregion is high, with more than 11,000 species identified in an area of more than 770,000 square kilometers along the Eastern African Coast. Of these, up to 15 percent are narrowly endemic to EAME. WWF is targeting three of the four top coral priority areas remaining, all of which are within three of EAME's seven identified globally outstanding priority areas:

Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) in the Lamu Archipelago ecoregion priority area (Kenya) lies in the very north of the Lamu Archipelago, an area of globally outstanding ecological and cultural richness. KMNR and the inland Dodori National Reserve (877 square kilometers) were together designated a UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve in 1980. KMNR extends 1–2.5 kilometers into the open sea to include 55 islands and inner reefs. In 1979 Kiunga Marine National Reserve gained protection status. In addition to a healthy coral fringing reef, the rich habitats of Kiunga support key marine species such as turtles, dugong, whales, and dolphins, and is home to one of the last principal global nesting sites for the roseate tern.

The Quirimbas Archipelago represents the centerpiece of the Mtwara-Quirimbas ecoregion priority area (Mozambique) and is a chain of 28 islands stretching along almost 400 kilometers of the coast. The southernmost 11 of these islands and a vast expanse of terrestrial woodland, coastal forest, and coral rag thicket are included in the **Quirimbas National Park** (QNP), newly established in June 2002. The total area is 750,639 hectares—of which 152,237 hectares are in marine and island habitats—making this one of the largest marine protected areas in the western Indian Ocean. The park also supports important turtle, whale, and dolphin populations.



Threats

Key direct threats to biodiversity in EAME include the following:

- *Over-harvesting of resources*: coral and pelagic fish species, marine turtles and marine mammals, invertebrates, ornamental fish and coral, and species used in traditional medicine;
- *Destructive fishing practices and overfishing*: dynamite fishing, beach and small seine-net fishing, bottom trawling, drift net and long-line fishing, and coral mining;
- *Destructive land use practices*: clear cutting and conversion of mangrove forests for fuel, building materials, salt production, sand and mineral mining, and shrimp farming;
- *Negative effects of global climate change*: change in river run-off resulting in increased sedimentation of marine systems, and change in water temperature resulting in habitat change and coral bleaching are among the most prominent effects of climate change;
- *Infrastructure development without consideration/integration of cultural, local and environmental aspects*: tourism development results in physical damage of reefs, pollution, and increased demand for high-value species and building materials such as mangrove poles and coral blocks. Road and bridge building result in unregulated open access to resources. Gas and oil extraction development destroys habitat, opens up new areas to settlement, and brings a risk of pollution.

There are many underlying causes for these threats:

- Human population increase leading to increased demand for natural resources;
- Poverty that forces people to rely on accessible natural resources, making it difficult for them to adopt alternatives;
- Unclear tenure over natural resources resulting in weak natural resource management at both the community and site levels;
- Fishing communities with little power and low level of organization as well as weak systems of internal governance;
- Weak government capacity to enforce existing legislation and quotas;
- Confusing institutional landscape resulting in ineffective planning and management at District and National level;
- Government financial pressure to approve lucrative investment projects in areas such as fishing, mining and drilling, and aquaculture.

WWF addresses these threats through five conservation strategies:

- Networks of parks and seascapes
- Conserving wide ranging species
- Enhancing the policy and legal environment
- Promoting sustainable livelihoods
- Monitoring, innovation and capacity building

The site-based threats to coral communities, on which this project focuses, link directly to specific threats to biodiversity in EAME. We will engage primarily in activities related to maintaining the ecological balance in the coral communities by mitigating the threat of disrupted trophic levels due to over harvesting, heat stress due to climate change, and physical damage caused by inappropriate fishing and tourism practices.

Strategic Goals and Objectives

The overall 50 year Vision for EAME is *a healthy marine and coastal environment that provides sustainable benefits for present and future generations of both local and international communities, who also understand and actively care for its biodiversity.*

USAID funds supported key activities across the EAME program and in particular two of the most important priority areas for biodiversity across the ecoregion. These activities are guided by a comprehensive 20 year conservation framework that was developed in a WWF-facilitated, collaborative process with multiple stakeholders. This plan was endorsed by key actors and includes five-year regional and national conservation action plans. Within this overall framework, there are five strategy components:

- Promoting planning and implementation within priority seascapes with a marine protected area network;
- Conserving wide-ranging species and addressing transnational threats;
- Enhancing the enabling policy and legal environment;
- Supporting sustainable livelihoods;
- Monitoring for adaptive management, catalyzing innovation, and strengthening capacity for long-term sustainability.



2 There are probably up to 350 species of hard corals occurring on the reefs of East Africa. This diverse "submerged tropical forest" hosts a huge variety of other species, including crustaceans, mollusks, sponges, reef fish, and marine turtles



3 Sea grass beds are important breeding, nesting and feeding grounds for hundreds of marine species that depend on it for all or part of their life cycles. Since the sea grass eating dugong has almost become extinct in East Africa, green turtles play an increasingly important role as grazers to keep the sea grass beds short and prevent algae from suffocating the beds.

This suite of strategies will be harnessed to ensure the long-term stability and diversity of the representative species, habitats and ecological processes across the ecoregion. Of these coral reefs and coral communities are a priority focus which USAID-funded activities seek to conserve. Specifically, the defined target is to halt or reverse the decline in the quality of coral reef/community areas by 2010. The anticipated overall result/output is defined: none of the 15 priority reefs in EAME have greater than 20 percent area damaged, and four medium quality¹ and three high quality² coral sites have improved by at least one status level.

¹ The medium status level of coral reef communities has been defined as: widespread and advanced degradation of habitat structure and complexity; trophic structures minimally disrupted; some sensitive species missing altogether; mortality of characteristic and key taxa exceeding replacement, with net downward trend and reduction in extent and diversity of populations and structure.

² The high status level of coral reef communities has been defined as: minimally degraded habitat structure/complexity; trophic structures unaltered; some species may be depleted; mortality balanced by replenishment over time scales of 5–10 years, with no net tendency for reduction in extents of populations in habitats.

Collaborators/Partners

EAME Program:

WWF is staffing and hosting the EAME Secretariat on behalf of a much wider group of stakeholders, including local, national and international NGOs, different government bodies from four of the five EAME countries (South Africa, Mozambique, Tanzania, and Kenya), academic institutions, etc. These institutions include CORDIO, East African Wildlife Society, KESCOM, KMFRI, KWS, IMS, MICOA, NEMC, ORI, UNEP, WIOMSA, and IUCN. The EAME Secretariat is working closely with the National EAME Committees of Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya, the EAME Focal Institutions in these three countries, and with the Regional EAME Committee.

Kiunga:

The program is jointly managed by WWF as a facilitator, and the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) as the mandated management authority. Further, the program is implemented through collaboration with other key stakeholders including the Forest Department (FoD), the Fisheries Department (FiD), the Lamu County Council (LCC), local communities in and around the reserve, Lamu District Health Management Team and the African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF).

Quirimbas:

For this past year the major collaborating agencies were the Quirimbas National Park, the Ibo District Administration, the Marine Administration of Cabo Delgado Province, the Police Commando of Ibo District, the Training School of Gorongosa National Park, the Fisheries Department of Cabo Delgado, and the Marine Corps (Marinha de Guerra) of Mozambique.

Summary: Period 10/01/04–09/30/05

Highlights

EAME Program:

- Declaration of the Zambezi Delta, the Tana River Delta and the Rufiji Delta as Ramsar sites;
- Groundwork laid for the establishment of what will be the largest MPA in the Indian Ocean and in Africa, the Primeiras and Segundas National Park in Mozambique;
- National Action Plans developed and amalgamated into an EAME Conservation Plan (2005–2009). WWF EAME Action Plan (2005–2009) developed;
- Governance structures for implementation of the EAME conservation plan established and operationalized including National Multi-stakeholder Committees and National Focal-point Institutions elected for Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique;
- An elected EAME Regional Committee established;
- Exchange program for marine and coastal practitioners in EAME initiated as an integral step towards rapid adoption of good practices and creation of support needed for implementation of the EAME strategy initiated;

Kiunga:

- Institutional and regulatory framework for effective management of KMNR established by setting up a joint management team with community participation. WWF, the Fisheries Department, KWS, and representatives from the fishing communities now have a jointly agreed workplan, and ten village-based fishing groups were established. This way we have strengthened the KMNR management operations. Community and stakeholder support for the reserve has greatly increased through this inclusive approach
- Ecological information collected, analyzed and fed back into management and communities; socioeconomic survey just completed
- Livelihoods of communities living in the park improved through a successful community health program and through the generation of alternative income and an increase in catch of certain marine resources through our gear exchange program

Quirimbas:

- Three new community managed fishing sanctuaries created.
- Seven more communities submitted requests for new sanctuaries. In addition, communities outside the park requested to be included in the park.
- A monitoring system for fish capture and diversity around the sanctuaries developed and implemented by local fishermen and is supported by rangers. Early results show that sanctuaries are effective in restoring fish populations in as little as one year: there are measurably more fish and biodiversity in QNP as compared to outside the park, with a higher concentration inside the well managed and respected no-take zones. Anecdotal results of local community fishermen indicate that fish capture has increased as well.
- Co-management structures developed. Almost 40 Community Rangers are trained and in operation, infrastructure and enforcement have greatly improved with the deployment of Navy personnel and the purchase of equipment including boats, vehicles, and communication equipment. Patrolling by community rangers resulted in a rapid drop of park violations and the intrusion of migratory fishermen, as well as by illegal industrial fishing boats.

Collaboration with USAID

Since the last reporting period much has happened in Mozambique with the USAID Tourism Promotion Project for the North. WWF was involved in the development of the new SO for the Mission, and we entered into alliances with various contractors to bid on the proposal. WWF's most favored contractor, Nathan, won the bidding process. WWF assisted Nathan on a site visit to Ibo island with USAID to begin the process of project design. Areas of collaboration could possibly be in a variety of areas and are not decided yet. They would likely include

- Tourism development and historic ruin rehabilitation plan for Ibo Island;
- Support to the development of tendering processes and actual tendering for sites in both PNQ and Primeiras and Segundas areas;
- A freshwater protected area on the Mozambican side of Lake Malawi, using fishermen and community leaders from Quirimbas as consultants and community organizers;
- Support for zoning and development of tourism plans for the northern region, to be fitted in with our elephant corridor concept around Niassa Reserve and to connect Niassa with Quirimbas.

With the help from WWF and USAID, the government of Mozambique negotiated a similar but much larger approach to be taken for support from MCC (Millennium Challenge Corporation). Sergio Chitara of CTA (Mozambican Chamber of Commerce, supported by USAID) wrote large parts of the second draft of the compact for the government after the government's first draft was rejected. The proposal focuses not only on (tourism) development in the north, but also on smallholder agriculture development in that region. This is in line with what WWF has proposed jointly with CARE for the area of Primeiras and Segundas. Mr. Chitara's writing was influenced by the ideas we developed jointly during the USAID Tourism Promotion Project development process.

USAID is also supporting our work in Kiunga through a reproductive health-environment cooperative agreement from the Office of Population and Reproductive Health (GH/PRH). Work under the two funding sources is closely related and complementary; a recently completed socio-economic survey in Kiunga with population-environment funding will assist with future planning of the Kiunga project.

As a result of the USAID GCP2 Grant project site visit trip in August 2004 with Connie Campbell and Barbara Best from USAID, Dan Balzer from the US Department of State, and Philipp Goeltenboth and Sarah Christiansen from WWFUS, we all jointly decided to shift support from the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa Seascape (former Objective II) to the EAME Secretariat (new Objective II). The results of this first year of new focus are detailed in the new Objective II below.

Objective I³: Mobilize endorsement and commitment of critical partners and ensure effective management and learning across the EAME program

The EAME Program is an ambitious large-scale Ecoregion approach for conserving marine biodiversity in Eastern Africa pioneered by WWF. A wide range of partners in Eastern Africa are involved in this program in order to ensure conservation and sustainable management of marine resources throughout the ecoregion. EAME secretariat is a regional body for coordination of the integrated, cross-sectoral and multi-institutional EAME Program. The main goal of the Secretariat is to establish a functional *enabling environment* to implement the jointly developed EAME Conservation Plan. In particular, this involves ensuring the implementation of the ecoregion strategy in which key policy and practice barriers are being removed, best practices are being learned, and incentives for conservation are present. In this *enabling environment*, key research is being done to inform management decisions, and to ensure that coastal communities/fisher-folk have the ability to steward their natural resources sustainably. By building on lessons learnt along the Eastern African coast and by bringing in experiences from other marine programs, WWF was tasked to spearhead this partnership through the establishment and supporting the EAME Secretariat. The EAME Program is focusing on conservation solutions that match the geographic scale of biological processes and not be constrained by political boundaries. Similarly, the Program has long-term commitment in order to ensure that the region

³ Please note that in FY05 workplan it was called Objective II
Global Conservation Program—WWF

is achieving lasting changes. The Ecoregion is also actively engaged in promoting and demonstrating the economic value of marine resources, so that communities themselves respect the need for their conservation for now and for future generations.

Activity 1.1: Maintain overall project management and constructive working partnerships between WWF, donor agencies, field staff, focal Institutions and communities

The EAME Program is executed by three EAME National Committees (Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique which represents the interests of the EAME part of South Africa as well); partner organizations; and the EAME Regional Committee. Work in these national chapters is driven by a focal institution in each of the three countries. These institutions can be NGOs or government bodies. The work of the EAME Program is carried out by many stakeholders of whom WWF is only one.

The EAME Program is guided by the joint EAME Vision (50 years); an overarching and almost finalized 25-year EAME Strategic Framework; a specific EAME Conservation Plan (5 years); and the country-specific national action plans (detailed in the EAME Conservation Plan).

The EAME Secretariat which acts on behalf of these chapters is staffed and hosted by the WWF Tanzania Program Office. The members of the EAME Secretariat are all WWF employees. WWF, as the key organization providing overall coordination of the EAME Program, has its own WWF EAME Action Plan based on the above documents.

EAME embarked on a partnership with IUCN and UNEP-Nairobi Convention on the development of a much closer joint regional program. As a first step, we will jointly conduct an external review of the current gaps and will develop a strategy on how to best join forces for marine conservation in EAME and the Western Indian Ocean (WIO). This will assist us in finding the best way to leverage further support and coordination, and champion the EAME Strategy and marine conservation in general at the country and regional levels, and will build strategic partnerships with global and regional institutions even further.

As part of an improved EAME partnership governance structure, the EAME National Committees have been established and are operational. Efforts are underway in EAME countries to formally endorse their National EAME Committees to gain national recognition and to enable the smooth implementation of the EAME National Conservation Plans within the framework of the EAME Strategy. Support was provided to the National Committees in Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique through the designated focal institutions, where biennial meetings were conducted. Outcomes achieved by the National Committees include the development of proposals for implementation of National Conservation Plans in Kenya, Tanzania, and Mozambique. The EAME National Committees of Kenya and Tanzania prepared eight funding proposals for submission to potential donors and Mozambique submitted a comprehensive summary and budget of actions for 2005–2009 period. In addition, Kenya and Tanzania established Bespoke web sites and E-discussion groups.

As part of the endorsement process of the EAME Program, the EAME Kenyan chapter was officially launched on July 2, 2005. The process will be repeated in Tanzania and Mozambique in the coming fiscal year. Plans are underway to move the secretariat of the Kenyan National Committee (currently located in Nairobi) to Mombasa. This will make it easier to link with communities and other implementing institutions along the Kenyan coast.

The EAME Regional Committee was actively involved in conducting biennial meetings. This year was marked by the presence of South Africa in the committee for the first time. One of the important outputs for the regional committee includes a decision to extend the EAME boundaries southwards along the South African coastline. A suggestion was also made to adopt the South African National Biodiversity Working Group as the EAME National Committee in South Africa.

There is an ongoing excellent relationship between the EAME Secretariat and the National EAME Focal Institutions. Operations are currently conducted on a contractual basis between WWF and the institutions. However, plans are under way for WWF and focal institutions to sign specific MOUs in the coming year.

An EAME Advisory Group was put in place this year to oversee the implementation of WWF-specific components of the broader EAME strategy. The group was active this reporting period with two meetings held in July 2004 and April 2005. Several important decisions were made including the decision to review the EAME Program external structure, the development of a business plan, the recommendations for the development of EAME Program Implementation Agreement, and the development of a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework for EAME. The group also produced a WWF Action Plan (2005–2009) to ensure that WWF continues to focus on the priorities defined for the Ecoregion.

A link between EAME Program and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) was established this year. The EAME Program was granted observer status in IOTC and became a member of the by-catch working group. Two position papers were presented jointly with TRAFFIC at the 9th session of the IOTC in Seychelles, where EAME Program led the WWF network delegation. The aim is to understand IOTC operations so as to support and lobby governments of the EAME countries to become involved and to work jointly to manage their stocks sustainably. A coordinated strategy is to be developed to engage governments around the region, to develop their national positions at commission meetings, to urge reductions in fishing mortality, to adhere to total allowable catches, and to work towards reducing illegal fishing.

The first **Newsletter** for the EAME Program was produced this year. Based on the feedback from various stockholders, and requests for copies and future subscription from libraries and individuals in the region, the inception issue has been well received and appreciated and the EAME program will continue to produce a newsletter on a regular basis.

A number of other publications and communication activities, including the EAME Conservation Plan, report on the status of MPAs in the EAME; an updated EAME Vision; and a dugong brochure were published this year. All documents are of high quality and are expected to be important fundraising tools for the Program. An EAME website through the WWF International

website was also established this year:

(http://www.panda.org/about_wwf/where_we_work/africa/where/eastern_africa/eame/index.cfm).

In addition to the USAID-funded activities, the EAME program initiates and/or facilitates and/or participates in a number of activities that are mobilizing change across the ecoregion. For information, a summary of highlights includes:

Policy

- Technical support was provided to the Kenyan Government for the preparation of the first Fisheries Policy in Kenya. The first draft is in place and dialogue is still ongoing to determine next steps.

Funding

- A multi-level analysis is being conducted that will provide information for influencing the coastal and marine component in the EU country strategy paper for Tanzania.

Resource use

- A draft strategy to mitigate negative impacts on the environment from oil and gas development in the ecoregion was produced.
- We conducted research to analyze the socioeconomic drivers for increased mining of live and fossilized corals for building materials in Tanzania. The study suggests environmentally friendly lime production from fossilized corals.
- Tanzania lifted the ban on permits for the export of marine finfish and four fish processing companies embarked on a one-year trial licensing for marine finfish exports. The EAME Program has conducted a review on the potential impact of finfish export out of Tanzania and will convene a consultative stakeholders meeting next year. This will inform stakeholders, including the Government, on lacking information on stocks, sustainable catch levels, and possible negative impacts on domestic and local food security and affordability of fish and fisher-trader relationships in Tanzania.
- The EAME Program tends to work - when dealing with commercial fisheries issues - on the scale of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) since many species migrate through this region and not only in EAME. A Fisheries Partnership Agreements report for WIO States was produced in collaboration with TRAFFIC South Africa. The report is an important tool and has already been used in various meetings, including the regional workshop on fishing access agreements in June 2005.
- A regional workshop for fisheries directors on Fishing Access (Partnership) Agreements for WIO States was conducted in June. The purpose of the workshop was to increase awareness of the necessity of minimum access conditions for distant water fleets, to define what these should be, and how to apply them. It also provided a forum for dialogue between different actors in fisheries to enhance regional collaboration in fisheries management.

Species

- We conducted an assessment on the status of marine turtles in Tanzania as part of Tanzania's commitment to the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtle and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia under the auspices of the Convention on

Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The status of turtles in Tanzania was last assessed in the 1970's. The new report identifies gaps in information and makes recommendations for research, conservation, and management. We are still looking for funds to publish the report.

Activity 1.2: Facilitate effective management of existing MPAs and help expand/establish marine protected area network(s) in EAME

Marine Protected Areas

The first comprehensive analysis of MPAs in EAME, gaps in habitat protection and the way forward towards an MPA network was successfully concluded, published and distributed to stakeholders. This document titled *The Eastern African Marine Ecoregion - Towards the Establishment of an Ecologically Representative Network of Marine Protected Areas in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique* builds the baseline for our MPA network design and implementation work for EAME. The report revealed that individual protected areas are unlikely to be fully successful in conserving biodiversity in a comprehensive way nor to build up reliable spawning, juvenile and feeding areas for commercially important species or to feed local communities that rely on marine resources for their livelihoods. The report therefore calls for actions to develop an ecologically representative network of MPAs in EAME that will build a chain of representative intact habitat types that are connected through spawning and migration and other ecological processes.

During the month of February/March, 2005 a needs assessment for sustainable financing of MPAs in EAME was conducted by two specialists from the WWFUS Centre for Conservation Finance. Recommendations were given on best practice approaches for developing a financial model for EAME based on models under development in other Ecoregions (e.g., Gulf of California, Meso-American Reef, Sulu-Sulawesi). Analysis was made on the types and amounts of funding currently available at the national, regional and international level for conservation and sustainable management of marine resources in EAME. The assessment identified potential financing mechanisms that could be introduced in EAME and presented information/training needs for suggested mechanisms (e.g., conservation trust funds, debt relief, resource-based fees and taxes related to tourism and fisheries, public-private financing vehicles, and new donor initiatives).

Following the analysis, the EAME secretariat organised a dinner event on June 21, 2005 in Dar es Salaam to facilitate donor roundtable discussions on MPA financing. Important recommendations were made, including the establishment of a donor's consultative forum and a trust fund to support a network of MPAs in EAME.

As part of ensuring effective MPA management, the management plan for Quirimbas National Park (2004–2009) was approved by the Minister of Tourism in Mozambique during this year. EAME Program supported the process that led to the establishment of Quirimbas National Park in 2001. The management plan marks an important step forward for effective management of this MPA.

The establishment of the Primeiras and Segundas National Park is ongoing with a negotiated timeline for the declaration by the end of this year. WWF Mozambique, with heavy support from the EAME Program, is spearheading the process. When gazetted, this will be by far the largest Marine Protected Area in the Indian Ocean and indeed in Africa, most likely with no less than 14,000 square kilometers of marine area alone under protection; the terrestrial part will be much larger.

Sustainable marine resource use

This year, the EAME Program worked closely with the National Committee in Tanzania and the government to design the Marine and Coastal Environmental Management Project (MACEMP) in alignment with the EAME strategy. In total US\$51 million in IDA Credit and \$10 million in the form of a GEF grant has been awarded to Tanzania for the project. This is the largest amount of funds directly benefiting the conservation of coastal and marine resources in the history of Tanzania and EAME, and large parts are expected to be used for MPA support. The project aims to strengthen sustainable management and use of Tanzania's 200 nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zone, territorial seas, and coastal resources, resulting in enhanced revenue collection, reduced threats to the marine environment, better livelihoods for communities living in coastal districts, and improved institutional arrangements. The global objective of the project is to develop an ecologically representative and financially sustainable network of marine protected areas and build capacity in Tanzania to monitor and manage transboundary fish stocks. The project complements and has synergy with several local, national, regional and global initiatives.

The most important mangrove deltas of Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique protected under the Ramsar Convention

Parts of the Zambezi Delta were declared a RAMSAR site in 2005. Political will of the Mozambique government led to the declaration, based on the process of EAME visioning and strategy development and aided by efforts such as the EAME side event held at the World Parks Congress. This is the largest contribution for Mozambique so far on the WSSD target of 20% of the world's coastal areas to be under protection by 2015.

The Tana River Delta in Kenya is to be declared a Ramsar Site. Kenya has ratified the Ramsar Convention and is in the process of nominating sites that will be protected under the convention. EAME is working with the National Committee in Kenya and the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) who has the mandate to declare the sites to complete the process. This would significantly advance mangrove conservation in EAME.

Rufiji Delta and adjacent habitat in Tanzania was declared a Ramsar Site in January 2005. The delta sustains the largest mangrove forests in EAME. The new site will be known as the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa Marine Ramsar site and it sports a unique and highly diverse complex of coastal and marine habitats that as recently as four years ago was planned to be converted into a giant shrimp farm. The newly protected site covers the delta of the Rufiji River; Mafia Island and surrounding smaller islands; sandbars and coral reefs; the Songo-Songo Archipelago to the south and adjacent waters including the Mafia Channel; and waters between Mafia and Songo-Songo. The area of the Ramsar Site covers exactly the same area of the WWF Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa Seascape Project, a priority site of global importance for EAME. This declaration is a result of our partnership with the Government of Tanzania.

Activity 1.3: Facilitate process of establishing a rigorous adaptive management framework from ecoregion to site scales

WWF worked jointly with TNC, IUCN and WCS in establishing a global MPA learning partnership program. The EAMEP is actively participating in this. The idea is to share lessons on how MPA networks can be effectively designed, implemented and how these networks could become representative and more resilient throughout the world's tropical marine ecosystems. Jane Mbedo, the EAME Fisheries and Policy officer participated in the first exchange visit in Mauritania in July 2005 which – among others results – highlighted some of the fisheries aspects of MPAs.

One of the roles of EAME secretariat is to raise awareness, promote exchanges and facilitate a lesson learning process in order to foster best practices and rapid implementation of EAME Strategy. With USAID support, the inception of this program will enable representatives from MPAs and key reserves invited to jointly design a learning program. Initial activities were delayed because of schedule challenges across multiple countries. A workshop combined with an exchange visit will be held in November to further develop initial ideas such as the role of CBNRM in developing MPAs.

With a commitment to the evolving best practices as reflected in the WWF Standards, the EAME program has embarked on an ambitious approach to promote more robust measures across the ecoregion as a whole as well as internally with a focus on our WWF action plan. In September, the WWF EAME Program will be audited against the WWF Standards. This will be followed by a training workshop that will focus on any weak areas highlighted from the audit to produce a more rigorous detailed and prioritized monitoring and action plan. This training will also include identifying potential points of learning as the team revisits their assumptions and clarifies how WWF will prioritize interventions and measure progress over time. During this time period, WWF is also hosting the key stakeholders across the ecoregion to establish more concrete and feasible measures in a 'State of the Ecoregion' workshop. This multistakeholder process will help establish a baseline that will aim to also inform national governments and their commitments to reporting against indicators such as the CBD2010 target.

Support was provided for partners to participate in a regional training course on MPA management for Western Indian Ocean states. The training was coordinated by WIOMSA and was held in Malindi, Kenya. Topics discussed were joint enforcement, financing options, and monitoring.

Objective II⁴: Collaborative management structures and institutional mechanisms for the management of KMNR strengthened, focusing on community-based management of key fisheries

Activity 2.1: Strengthen KMNR management frameworks, operations, personnel, and infrastructure for sustainable and adaptive reserve and resource management

We succeeded in continuing to strengthen the joint management team that was established in FY04. The team is more actively involved in all important activities pertaining to the reserve management. Representatives drawn from FiD, WWF, and the local community participated actively in a survey conducted to provide knowledge on the fisheries communities within and adjacent to the KMNR. Information was collected on types, quantity, and use of fishing gear, on the ownership of the gear and boats, and on the fishing areas and mode of fishing within the area.

Joint work planning was carried out between the Fisheries Program Manager (WWF), District Fisheries Officer (FiD) and Park Warden (KWS) to ensure coordination of monthly work plans and the necessary support for each organization in the achievement of reserve objectives.

A total of ten village-based fishing groups were established during the reporting period to jointly address issues raised by fishing communities within and adjacent to the KMNR. The fishing groups have an active role in the management of the reserve and will be the focal point in addressing fishing community issues within the comanagement team.

The Fisheries Program Manager participated in two training courses conducted at the MS-Training Center for Development Co-operation (Tanzania) and at the Marine Biological Station of Inhaca (EMBI) in Mozambique. The first training course was on participatory natural resource management and on governance for practitioners, and the second on scientific methodologies in marine ecology; a practical approach using tropical intertidal habitats. Both courses have a wide application within the management of the fisheries resources of KMNR.

WWF also jointly conducted an annual coral reef survey in March and April which included fish, benthic and coral transect and the recording of coral species and monitoring of coral health at specific locations. A total of 32 sites, 27 within and 5 outside the reserve were surveyed. A total of five members from the villages of Kiwayu, Kiunga and Mkokoni, three members from CORDIO, and six WWF-KMNR staff were involved in the survey and monitoring. The analysis report will be forwarded to USAID once finalized.

In April, we finally received purchased equipment and materials to mark the reserve boundaries with buoys. The marking will be done jointly with local fishermen in the coming year.

⁴ Please note that in FY05 workplan it was called Objective I
Global Conservation Program—WWF

Activity 2.2: Facilitate sustainable management of the fisheries resources and habitats in the KMNR and adjacent waters

Data on the fisheries resources of KMNR particularly on finfish, lobster, crabs and sea cucumber continues to be collected and analyzed to derive a clear understanding of the resources and their limits in KMNR and to support the management of the reserve. Data showed the increased consumptive use of these high-value species and the decrease in catch per effort and size of collected species – all a sign of over-exploitation. The data collected was synthesized and compiled within a database. In addition, the data on the daily catch monitoring contributes to a stock monitoring program that has been in place for four years now. The information is now fed back into statutory national bodies charged with the responsibility of managing the reserve (i.e. Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Fisheries Department (FiD)). WWF will now work with these bodies to design and implement suited policies and other measures to respond to these findings. Also, monitoring of experimental coral transplants in a total of six sites within the reserve continues to be undertaken and the fisheries monitoring program continued with fisheries scouts nominated by village fisher groups and stationed in Kiunga and Kizingitini villages. A total of seven joint (KWS and WWF) fisheries surveillance patrols were carried out within the reserve.

Our fishing gear exchange program was also received positively by the local fishing communities and individuals with an additional 290 fishermen identified as desired exchange candidates. Fishermen benefited at varying levels depending on the gear used. All pull seine nets (60 nets) and monofilament nets (16 nets) used in the park were replaced with a variety of sustainable fishing gear during the year (see table below). Excluding Kizingitini fishermen, who were not included in the gear exchange program since they use the reserve but are based outside the reserve, the total number of fishermen from villages who have received alternative fishing gear are as listed below.

Village	Jariffe (bottom 6" mesh nets)	Mask	Mask, Snorkel	Mask, Snorkel, Fins	Mshipi (fishing line)	Nyavu (2.5" mesh fishing net)	Total
Kiunga	7	1		17	4	19	49
Mkokoni	1		3	5		16	25
Ndau	2					16	18
Rasini					5	16	21
Rubu				6		5	11
Total	10	1	3	28	9	72	124

Members of the KMNR committee and WWF staff participated in KESCOM organized events, workshops and meetings. The KMNR turtle team participated in the KESCOM/WWF-funded bush meat data collection and survey workshop to later ascertain the trends in the utilization of turtle products by local communities and the wider community, as represented by dealers and traders. Results of the data collection will be used to inform a way forward on the issue. This is particularly important for KMNR since many turtles are thought to be killed for meat across the border in Somalia.

In addition, a series of sixteen community participatory meetings involving key leaders and representatives from the main resource users groups (i.e. fishermen and mangrove cutters from all the main villages within the reserve) were held to discuss conservation and sustainable use of the reserves resources. Communities are increasingly active in jointly managing the resources of the reserve now that they feel included and a sense of ownership of the reserve and its resources.



1 traditional fishing boat ("dhow") and fishing nets at Kiunga village, KMNR. These fishing nets were exchanged for other, more sustainable gear through our gear exchange program.

Activity 2.3: Improve livelihoods and conservation roles of local resource users living in and around KMNR

WWF has facilitated the revival and strengthening of school based **Environmental Health Clubs**: all schools within and adjacent to KMNR have revived their environmental health clubs with the addition of new members who were selected strictly and genuinely on their interest in environmental issues, their commitment to serve the club, ability and willingness to participate in environment related activities, and strong dedication in their work. So far there are 8 clubs with over 500 members within and adjacent to the reserve.

Our **marine turtle conservation** program component also represents an important tool to improve livelihoods and conservation roles of local people in KMNR. Some of the awareness raising program activities included a marine turtle quiz by one primary school, awareness talks to local youth and fishermen, a school holiday program for students from villages within the reserve to volunteer in the turtle program (tagging, patrolling, monitoring, nest protection, etc.) with 15 youth participating in the program. This activity is linked to the school scholarship program which enables scholars from poor families to attend secondary school.

Some other key marine turtle activities undertaken included: tagging of female turtles; our head of the marine turtle program serving as the focal point for the Kenya Sea Turtle Conservation Committee (KESCOM); and dissemination of a Turtle Monthly Report. The WWF marine turtle team also continued to conduct 24 hour beach patrols on Rubu island and on adjacent islands

jointly with members of the local youth. This program has been effective, with little or no predation on turtle nests reported at Rubu Island and the adjacent islands for some years now. Analysis of peak nesting period data gathered over the last years shows a moderate increase in nesting turtles. This could be attributed to turtle nesting remigration cycles⁵ and/or the fact that more turtles are coming to nest for the first time in the area.

KMNR was hoping to develop energy efficient and environment friendly cooking stoves as an alternative to using firewood as fuel. However, due to a lack of sufficient funds, these activities have not been carried out this year. We will evaluate the Solar Cooking project with a view to improving it or re-strategizing.

Through WWF's **Enterprise Development and Improved Business** component, women from the reserve, including the eco-friendly team, participated in the National Craft Fair in Nairobi. This was an opportunity for the women to be exposed to business skills, marketing and environmental awareness. Flip-flop art worth Ksh107,000 (US\$1,444) was sold at the fair. In addition, project staff and a women's representative participated in a four day Mombasa Exhibition event to show our Flip-flop art. The event was used for marketing our eco-friendly crafts, for establishing contacts and raising awareness about KMNR.

The KMNR Team assists the Flip flop Art/Eco-friendly groups with the collection of the flip-flops and other waste washed ashore whilst carrying out their daily turtle monitoring patrols. The inexhaustible supply of raw materials is weighed and distributed to the various women and youth groups. Local women and village communities have in the past benefited financially with up to USD 4,000 in earnings in one village with two hundred women and fifty youth in a year. Interviews with the producers suggest that the money is often responsibly invested in children's education and welfare. Large quantities of flip-flops have been removed from local beaches, improving the quality of the environment for humans, turtles and other marine life while contributing to alternative income generation. Twenty percent of the three thousand women in the KMNR area and five percent of the youth are currently engaged in this activity. Furthermore, the community group structure facilitates supplementary health and education initiatives.

The WWF KMNR Project has finalized a workplan to enhance the capacity of the local women to effectively manage this enterprise through training and facilitating the formation of a management structure. It is expected that this 2-year plan will cost US \$ 25,000 which the project hopes to raise through grants. The KMNR Ecofriendly Management Board has not yet been formed but plans have been laid, starting from the village level. Meetings were held at village level with Action Now Kenya and later with The Unique Eco Design Company. The former, as well as KGT, was identified by the project as a development and capacity building partner, whereas the latter was identified as a business partner.

To further inform natural resource management, human and socio-economic interventions in Kiunga, an independent consultant was hired to undertake a **socio-economic study** of the local

⁵ this is the fluctuation in numbers of nests in areas due to events (e.g. storms, unusually high predation) or fluctuations the season the now mature female marine turtles hatched on that beach many years ago.

population. The final report has just been presented to WWF for comments and a report summary will be provided to USAID when finalized.

WWF continued to assist local communities with their urgent **health** needs in KMNR and the two adjacent terrestrial reserves: meeting basic health needs is very often a prerequisite before communities can participate effectively in sound natural resource management activities. This is done through a partnership with the African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF) providing mobile clinics. Activities included the distribution of 1,000 insecticide treated mosquito nets, immunization coverage of more than 75% of all children in Kiunga Division (patients sometimes come from Somalia), provision of reproductive health and family planning services, HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention activities, training and follow up of practicing Traditional Birth Attendants, training workshops for the District Health Team, training workshops for health clubs and leaders from all 8 villages in the reserve, the supply of sanitation equipment to 5 villages, the ongoing construction of a government approved health facility (Dispensary) at Mkokoni village, and the construction and installation of hand-pumps at 3 wells in 2 villages. This component was supported with USAID GH/PRH funding, a grant from Johnson & Johnson, and additional funding leveraged from AMREF Monaco.

Objective III: Significantly reduce widespread unsustainable extractive use, and establish community-managed fisheries in Quirimbas National Park

Activity 3.1: To address resource exhaustion, protect vulnerable habitats, and to create a source for both fish and larval dispersal, create three new fish sanctuaries

We succeeded in the creation of three new community managed fishing sanctuaries, which have all been formally requested by local communities living inside the park: Rolas (launched during a USAID visit to QNP in August 2004), Darumbo (a pilot warm water coral sanctuary), and Quiongo (an exclusive trap zone).

We facilitated the development of community co-management structures to implement the setting up and management of the sanctuaries. Boundaries of the sanctuaries were then developed by the local communities through joint discussions that were facilitated and recorded by WWF. WWF then assisted with mapping, the official launching in the form of village celebrations, the marking of the sanctuary by buoys and GPS, and the registration. All three sanctuaries are now functioning, respected, and in full operation. A monitoring system for fish capture around the sanctuaries was developed and is now implemented by local fishermen. Data recording systems have been introduced and are working as well. The newly trained community rangers (see discussion in Activity 3.3) will assist communities with the management of these sanctuaries as well.

We have also developed a training program for fishermen to assist with a variety of management issues around the sanctuaries, including the implementation of the newly developed community fish monitoring system.

Activity 3.2: To elevate the PNQ prawn fishery to a sustainable and controlled level, the Quiongo prawn fishery (in mangroves and seagrass beds) will be zoned to resolve conflict between net fisherman and gamboa (fish trap) fishermen

Fish traps are a passive, sustainable fishing art, used increasingly by fishermen inside the park but in recent years net fishermen have taken to netting inside the catchment area of the traps. This has resulted in conflicts as well as reduced size of prawns captured in the traps, as the fine meshed nets capture prawns – and other juvenile fish – before they reach full size.

In order to resolve the conflict, a participatory process leading to the zoning of the Quiongo prawn fishery in the mangrove and seagrass habitat was completed successfully. Two zones were created, one for net fishing and one for trap fishing. The trap fishing area (“Quiongo exclusive trap zone”) will also serve as a zone for prawn reproduction, as traps capture only fully grown prawns.



5 One of the most sustainable fishing methods used by local fishermen along the coast of East Africa is the traditional fish trap made out of palm leaves. This limits the catch, is non-destructive to the habitat, is selective, locally available, and biodegrades after some time.

WWF also worked with the Fisheries Department in Pemba and Maputo to restrict the issuing of prawn fishing licenses only to local residents inside the park. Discussions on the matter with the Ministry of Fisheries continued during the first half of the reporting period, until the Director of IDPPE, the Small Scale Fisheries Development Institute finally met with Helena Motta. Open confrontation has now ceased, issuing of industrial fishing licenses for the park has stopped for now, and the Director and Assistant Director of the Ministry of Fisheries have both requested

WWF to help in patrolling Cabo Delgado Province waters to fight illegal industrial fishing. For the 2005 fishing season, the Fisheries Department has only issued licenses to local residents of the QNP. As a result, the conflict between illegal migrant artisanal fishermen and resident fishermen were significantly reduced inside the park. This has been a big success.

Activity 3.3: To improve overall compliance with park and national fisheries regulations, the capacity of park staff and park communities will be built in a variety of areas

Response to large scale, industrial fisheries infractions through collaboration and joint action with the Marinha de Guerra and the Fisheries Department has been improved: agreements have been signed at the ministerial level between QNP (and other WWF supported MPAs) and the Navy. Navy personnel have already been permanently placed inside the Park. A program of joint training courses for Navy personnel stationed inside the park, park staff, and the joint rapid reaction force has begun. Also, collaboration of these units on elephant-human conflict issues and the supply of park staff with arms and ammunition is now implemented. Regular meetings of the Park Executive Committee are being held and overall coordination has been improved significantly. WWF views this as a great success and major step forward in solving the lack of enforcement capacity in QNP and other parks.

The project made great progress in terms of staffing, equipment and administration, all due to the availability of funds from the French GEF and AFD: This includes the hiring of a project accountant and a Finance and Administration Manager and the secondment of the Chief Park Ranger. This is a relief to WWF staff, as our community liaison officers were spending a lot of time attending to tasks that rightfully are the Park Ranger's (elephant/human conflict mitigation and supervision of rangers). Now our community liaison program will begin to function as planned. We also hired a Community Development Coordinator as of September 1, and we hired support staff for the Accounting and Administration Department. A major achievement also was the completion of the training for 17 additional rangers at Gorongosa Wildlife College. This brings the total trained park rangers to an almost full complement of 40.



4 Provisional sign post at the Ibo island harbor to mark where the park headquarters will operate. The old warehouses in the back will be converted to the headquarters and a park museum.

We also completed many administrative processes and the purchasing of equipment (again, not from USAID funding). Tenders were awarded for the following: rehabilitation of the Pemba office; purchase of a third project vehicle; architectural design of the park headquarters to be built in Quissanga, as well as for the rehabilitation of the Marine Sub-headquarters on Ibo Island.

Tender processes are under way for the following: purchase of a patrol boat, contracting of a Community Ecotourism Development Coordinator, and the establishment of a radio network for the park. We have also finalized the building of two wooden local boats that can be repaired locally and that are now fitted with small outboard engines but can also sail. A 30 foot patrol boat will also be donated from Rani International. The boat is donated to the park and will be jointly staffed by Navy and park rangers for enforcement work.

Conflicts with illegal migrant artisanal fishermen has been much reduced, though some enforcement issues and conflicts remain (see above).

On commercial fishing, park administration ordered the Argentinian industrial fishing boat *Kinshu Maro*, which had a license to fish inside the park issued illegally by the Fisheries Department. Park enforcement boats finally intercepted the *Kinshu Maro* before it could reach international waters to escape conviction. The vessel was brought to Pemba harbor and it was revealed that the boat crew never paid many of the local fishermen who supplied the boat with catch and although the Marine Administration promised that the boat would not be allowed to come back to the park, it did return to QNP in December. The owners closed the old company, opened a new one, got a license from the Fisheries Ministry, hired the same boat, and came back into the Park without the knowledge of the authorities in Pemba. Once back in the Park the crew claimed that the debts are with the old company and thus they do not have to pay off the debts to local fishermen. The Park Administrator reacted immediately and summoned the manager of the boat to Pemba. The boat was ordered out of the Park by provincial fisheries officials and the Park Warden. The boat then left the park and went north to Pangane.

At least two illegal buyers of live female prawns set up camp inside the park this year. The Indian Ocean Aquaculture (IOA) Project asked for permission to do this and the park management team, although it is not permitted in the park management plan, requested the submission of a formal request, including an environmental management plan. Since the IOA committed to restocking the area with larvae, and since IOA offered a very fair price, the committee decided to let them make their case formally, and then decide if we want to authorize the activity for the benefit of local fishermen. Unfortunately, no application was ever received. Instead, two prawn buying camps were set up in the park. Both camps were discovered, all equipment was confiscated and the operators were fined. We still don't know if the operators are associated with IOA or if they are other pirate prawn buyers as there are reports of live prawns from Mozambique being smuggled to Southeast Asia for breeding stock.

Activity 3.4: Prove and make visible the fisheries and habitat conservation results of the park, monitor, evaluate, and divulge the results of PNQ ecological management activities

The QNP baseline data collection and evaluation was completed and a monitoring system to record, analyze, evaluate and communicate results was established.

Alice Costa (a newly hired marine researcher from Maputo) and Helena Motta spent three weeks in the Park to establish baseline data sets and a monitoring system. This was in close collaboration with Professor Michael Schleyer of the Oceanographic Research Institute in Durban. Draft results of the survey indicate that the abundance and variety of fish and other marine species are rising throughout the park, and that this increase is higher inside no-fishing zones. Other results included the discovery of corals in Ibo Port, an area where no one expected them due to algae growth, poor tidal flow, and higher water temperatures.

A monitoring system for coral reef degradation around two fishing sanctuaries was developed and baselines data collected. Results will eventually be used to produce recommendations and guidelines for the improvement of current ideas on a climate change impact mitigation strategy. All recording is based on the event book, a monitoring tool modeled after the successful community-based monitoring event book used in the Namibia LIFE project. Training of rangers and fishermen in monitoring activities in and around their sanctuaries was conducted at the same time and all results of the survey were divulged at village level. A monitoring system data bank was established and the results of the baseline survey were stored. One other result of the baseline data collection and first monitoring also included the discovery of agglomerations of grey reef sharks of up to 50 individuals at some locations. This raises the interesting possibility that some areas might be breeding sites. We will check back next year. An oceanic white-tip shark was also seen in front of Matemo Island in waters 30 meters deep, as well as many hammerheads in the channel between Rolas and Matemo. All this might indicate that predator populations are recovering. As for the prey populations, the new survey results at Matemo show that fish populations—both inside and outside the sanctuary—have significantly improved in the two years since the sanctuary was created. This is indicated by an increase in fishing catch per effort, an increase in species diversity of fish caught in traps, and through an increase in the mean size of fish caught.

WWF also hired a Quirimbas NP Project Research Coordinator. He launched a biodiversity assessment, contracted a technician to create a GIS map of the whole QNP, and created the event recording system based on the Namibian Event Book (which in QNP is now referred to as MOMS System). He is also leading the preparation for the aerial elephant count on the main land and the annual training of rangers which occurred with the assistance of the Navy late in August on Ibo Island.

Progress Table

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status*
1 EAME Program		
1.1	Maintain overall project management and constructive working partnerships between WWF, donor agencies, field staff, focal Institutions and communities.	initiated & mixed performance
1.2	Facilitate effective management of existing MPAs and help expand/establish marine protected area network(s) in EAME.	on track
1.3	Facilitate process of establishing a rigorous adaptive management framework from ecoregion to site scales.	initiated
2 Kiunga MNR		
2.1	Strengthen management frameworks, operations, personnel and infrastructure for sustainable and adaptive reserve and resource management.	on track
2.2	Facilitate sustainable management of the fisheries resources and habitats.	on track
2.3	Improve livelihoods and conservation roles of local resource users living in and around KMNR.	on track
3 Quirimbas NP		
3.1	Address resource exhaustion, to protect vulnerable habitats, and to create a source for both fish and larval dispersal, three new fish sanctuaries created.	completed
3.2	Elevate the PNQ prawn fishery to a sustainable and controlled level, the Quiongo prawn fishery (in mangroves and seagrass beds) will be zoned to resolve conflict between net fisherman and gamboa (fish trap) fishermen.	initiated & on track
3.3	Improve overall compliance with park and national fisheries regulations, the capacity of park staff and park communities will be built in a variety of areas.	mixed performance
3.4	Prove and make visible the fisheries and habitat conservation results of the park, monitor, evaluate, and divulge the results of PNQ ecological management activities.	on track

* Status may include activities that are completed, on-track, delayed, mixed performance, or cancelled.

Next Steps

EAME Program:

Focus will be on getting the EAME Program formally endorsed by governments and ensuring that the conservation plan is taken up by governments to inform their goals and workplans. We will start designing an MPA network in one country and follow through the sustainable financing options for MPAs.

Results and recommendations coming out of the EAME Audit/review and the RC workshop will be implemented, with a view particularly to strengthening partnerships, developing a Monitoring and Evaluation framework and implementing a learning and exchange program.

MPA management effectiveness will be promoted through dissemination of IUCN developed MPA management tool kit, and promoting joint resource management inside and outside MPAs with stronger involvement of the communities.

Engagement and exchange will be promoted between EAME countries and regional fisheries management organisations (IOTC and SWIOFC in this case), and a process facilitated for enhancing regional cooperation on sustainable fisheries management focusing on negotiation for access agreements and MCS.

Kiunga:

The marking of Kiunga MNR boundaries and sanctuaries, the publishing of the management plan and formalizing of the Joint Management team will take place next year. We will also continue and monitor the effect of the fishing-gear exchange program. Health work will continue with the fight against malaria intensified, immunizations, family planning and health education continuing. All other program components will be continued and the focus on the sustainable use of resources by community will be expanded to include first steps to develop no-fishing sanctuaries.

Quirimbas:

As the resources and capacities for a fully functioning park grow, team-building will remain a priority, as the building of the kind of team that is needed will most likely take years.

Orientation/control/stimulation of tourism development and the development of self-financing mechanisms based on tourist revenue will become more important over the next years. Here, an area of particular interest and potential conflict will be Ibo Island. A forthcoming seminar will seek to clarify the way forward, based on the new national tourism strategy which seeks the development of a high end - low impact tourism industry particularly in the north.

The use of low-impact fishing arts and the functioning of existing fishing sanctuaries will be promoted, as well as the continued establishment of a community ranger force.

Further improvement of enforcement capacity will be promoted as an urgent need to stem the increasing pressure from migratory fishermen from Tanzania and industrial fishing operation, specifically on the Sofala Bank.

Success Stories**EAME Program:**

The publication of the first MPA analysis for Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique provides the program and stakeholders with the necessary baseline data to move forward with an MPA network in EAME. This builds on the government commitments in EAME for MPAs. Our parallel process of slowly getting donor engagement in this major undertaking, and providing the baseline with our sustainable financing analysis, creates a platform on which we will operate next year to move this important conservation goal forward.

The decision by the governments of Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique to protect their most important mangrove forests – the Tana River Delta in Kenya, the Rufiji Delta in Tanzania, and the Zambezi Delta in Mozambique – using the Ramsar Convention is another sign of the commitment by the governments to conservation. It also is a result of our long-term engagement and good working relationship with key governmental institutions. Note that we have long

promoted the designation of these areas under Ramsar and all three areas are identified as areas of priority in the EAME vision and conservation plan. The access we have as a long-standing conservation organization with jointly developed long-term goals has greatly helped, and the concept of ecoregion conservation has been essential in moving this forward. Peer pressure and setting examples between countries may also have helped here.

Kiunga:

The turtle conservation and monitoring program continues to be a success with many nests moved to higher ground and/or protected with cages against porcupines and monitor lizards if necessary, hundreds of marine turtles being hatched successfully, essential feeding habitat being protected, and adult marine turtles being protected from accidental netting by local communities instead of being killed for meat.

WWF initiated and facilitated collaborative park management between KWS, WWF, FiD, FoD, and communities is already working well, is a precedent for any MPA in Kenya and will hopefully serve as a model for other MPAs in the country and the region. The fact that the key government authorities have embraced the idea of the protected area is significant.

The project expanded to focus on new innovative and crosscutting approaches to conservation and livelihood improvement, including our new community fisheries program, our reproductive health program, our health and biodiversity program, and our fishing gear exchange program. We will work towards applying lessons learnt on the fisheries and resource governance work to influence policy reforms for the whole of Kenya.

The completion of the first ever comprehensive socio-economic survey for Kiunga and adjacent areas will inform management and other interventions for the area.

Quirimbas:

One interesting story is the creation of the sanctuary at Quiongo. Since 1995 there had been fights between the net fishermen and trap fishermen in the Montepuez River estuary. Net fishermen were casting their nets in front of the traps and thus reducing prawn capture in the traps. Also the net fishermen were invading the whole estuary including traditional sanctuary areas, resulting in reduction of the average size of prawns captured. Fights were common as was the bashing in and burning of boats. Five villages were involved in the conflict. However, Aida and Omar, our project executives for the marine and terrestrial parts of the park visited the village on a regular basis for the last two years. They tried to mitigate and to negotiate a deal that would be acceptable for all. Eventually the sanctuary and zoning scheme mentioned above was accepted by all involved and buoys were launched in July 05. All five villages participated in the opening, a cow was slaughtered, and everyone danced and ate their fill. Everyone made speeches about how good it was to resolve the conflict and the Shee (local religious leader) blessed both sides and the park staff.

The high level, highly successful community involvement in park management continues and is growing stronger each year.

Challenges and Lessons Learned

EAME Program:

Funding the EAME Secretariat's new policy and fisheries community development programs and enabling environment support program sufficiently remains a challenge. Likewise, the soon to be developed new M&E Program will need to be funded with no funds identified so far. Collection of baseline data alone for all EAME countries could be a major effort requiring full-time consultants to be engaged for a considerable period of time.

Funding the EAME National Action Plans in Kenya and Mozambique is also a challenge. In Tanzania, funding will most likely be provided through the World Bank supported MACEMP project.

Endorsement of the EAME agenda and Conservation Plan, and greater incorporation into national government strategies will need to be pursued. This is even more important in the light of WWF (with IUCN to some degree) being the only large NGO implementing marine conservation throughout the region.

Kiunga:

The fact that fishermen in Kiunga are selling catch for cash to other fishermen that are connected further down the coast (e.g. Kiunga is the last reliable source for full size lobster and crab for the long chain of hotels along the coast of Kenya) makes CBNRM work in the reserve challenging. Also the proximity to Somalia where for example there are open turtle meat markets calls for even more innovative strategies for Kiunga. One first step is taken with the retrieval of turtle tags from Somalia through connections there. The way forward on the catch issue inside the reserve will be the community certification of lobster possibly through the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), the development of no-take zones, and the continuation and expansion on our sustainable fishing program work with local communities.

Kiunga is a very isolated place. One challenge we were faced with this year was the fluctuation of staff in the project and the challenge to find highly qualified and dedicated people willing to stay out there for long periods of time.

Funding and logistics in Kiunga remains a challenge. As detailed in last year's report, the cost of running the project is very high and a lot of time is spend on logistics. This brings up the need for a long-term financing solution for KMNR. Since not many visitors come to KMNR, income from park fees remains below its potential.

One lesson learned is the need for open dialogue and full inclusion of communities in the management of all aspects of the reserve.

Quirimbas:

All community activities need to be undertaken on the basis of written contracts. We had been doing this with sanctuaries, but for smaller interventions like the Quirambo school we had been making contracts only with the builders. So for example, the village president's son had



borrowed money from the Aga Khan Foundation project and did not repay it. He then approached WWF, demanding payment for his ‘work’ in building the school – which he was not contracted for and which we had no means of verification that he actually did any work on – so that he could repay his loan. When we refused to give him the cash he became angry and the Park lost a friend.

National elections were held the first week of December, with a preceding 45 day period of campaign activity. During this period government officials were reluctant to take any decisions and orders were given that rangers should avoid provocations that might impact negatively on public order. Enforcing of park laws was therefore lax as sometimes direct orders were given not to pursue/prosecute violators for fear of civil strife. The police force recalled all weapons including those that had been issued to our rangers during this period. Politicians also tried to take advantage of the park and its sanctuaries. One politician went so far as to declare the Ibo sanctuary open for fishing, which resulted in a lot of conflict between fishermen and rangers. Fortunately the government stepped in and restored order and that potential candidate was not allowed to stand for office in the Frelimo party. Aside from the problems on Ibo island, invasions of industrial fishing boats inside the PNQ increased greatly during that time. At one point, as many as 12 industrial long-liners were fishing within a couple of kilometers of Ibo Island inside the park. While this might be a sign that fish populations have indeed increased inside the PNQ, it is also a warning that the better the park conserves stocks, the more intrusions the park will have to fight off. Two years ago the main conflict was with local fishermen in sailboats; now the park is confronted by 200 ton factory ships.

Subgrantees

EAME had no GCP-funded subgrantees in FY05.