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*Eastern African Marine Ecoregion  
Annual Report  
10/01/2007 - 09/30/2008*

*for*

## **World Wildlife Fund**

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**Acronyms:**

AMREF	African Medical Research Foundation
AU	African Union
BANP	Bazaruto Archipelago National Park
BMU	Beach Management Unit
CBC	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
CDS-CZ-MICOA	Centre of Development and Sustainable Coastal Zone
CI	Conservation International
CMS COP-8	Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species
COMESA	The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CORDIO	Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean
CSPs	Coastal Strategy Plans
DANIDA	Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
EAC	East African Community
EAME	The Eastern African Marine Ecoregion
EAWLS	East African Wild Life Society
EWT	Endangered Wildlife Trust (Mozambique)
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FiD	The Fisheries Department
FoD	Forest Department
FPAs	Fisheries Policy Agreements
GCLME	Guinea Current Large Marine Ecosystem (Ghana)
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
ICM	Integrated Coastal Management
ICSF	International Collective in Support of Fish workers
IMS	Institute of Marine Sciences
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IOSEA	Indian Ocean and South-East Asian Marine Turtle MOU
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
JMT	Joint Management Team
KESCOM	Kenya Sea Turtle Conservation Committee
KMFRI	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute
KMNR	Kiunga Marine National Reserve
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service
LCC	The Lamu County Council
MACEMP	Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project
MBREMP	The Mnazi Bay Ruvuma Estuary Marine Park
MICOA	Ministry for the Coordination of Acção Ambiental (Mozambique)
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
NEMC	National Environment Management Council (Tanzania)
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development

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NOAA	National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration
NORAD	Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation
NP	National Park
QNP	Quirimbas National Park
PHE	Population, Health, and Environment
RAC	Regional Advisory Committee
RFMOs	Regional Fisheries Management Organizations
SCCaFCOM	Strengthening Community Capacity in Fisheries Co-management
Sea Sense	Formally known as Tanzania Turtle and Dugong Conservation program
SFF	Sustainable Fisheries Fund
SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SocMon	Socioeconomic Monitoring for Coastal Management
SSA	Sub-Saharan African
SWIOFC	The Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
TCMP	Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership
TED	Turtle Excluder Devices
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
UEM	University Eduardo Mondlane
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
VOA	Voice of America
WCK	Wildlife Clubs of Kenya
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WIO	Western Indian Ocean
WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
YoT	Year of the Turtle Events (Kenya)



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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 key areas for coral conservation, where there is currently a lack of sufficient support from government. WWF, through this grant, has identified two of these globally outstanding priority areas for biodiversity conservation.

**Kiunga Marine National Reserve** (KMNR) in Kenya lies in the very north of the Lamu Archipelago seascape on the Kenya-Somalia border, an area of globally outstanding ecological and cultural richness. KMNR and the inland Dodori and Boni National Reserves (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 provide one of the last principle global nesting sites for the roseate tern. It also has the last major stands of mangroves, and provides lobster and crabs for the tourism industry of the whole country.

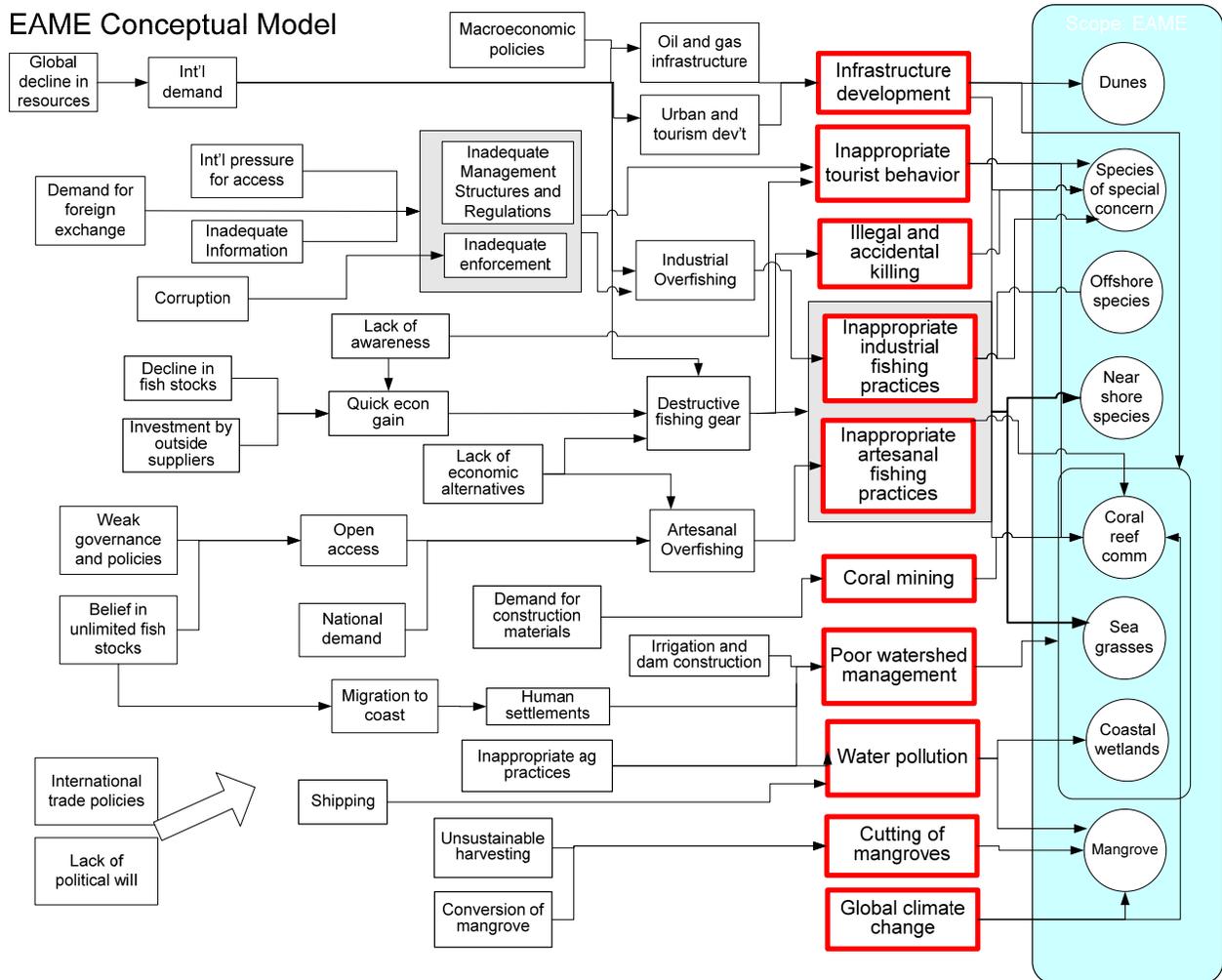
**The Quirimbas Archipelago** represents the centerpiece of the Mtwara-Quirimbas seascape in Mozambique which is a chain of 28 islands stretching along almost 400 kilometers of the coast. The southernmost 11 of these islands and a vast expanse of terrestrial woodland, coastal forest, and coral rag thicket are included in the **Quirimbas National Park** (QNP), newly established in 2002. The total area of the park is 750,639 hectares—of which 152,237 hectares are in marine and island habitats—making this the largest marine protected area in the Indian Ocean and in Africa. The park also supports important turtle, whale, and dolphin populations, and provides the livelihood of 40,000 rural people.

The goal of the **EAME Secretariat** is to establish and maintain a functional enabling environment for the implementation of the jointly developed *EAME Conservation Plan: 2005-2009*, completed in 2004. The implementation of the EAME conservation plan takes place through the strategic regional and national action plans. The Secretariat works to ensure the implementation of the ecoregion strategy so that key policy and practice barriers are being removed, best practices are being learned, incentives for conservation are present, key research is conducted to inform management decisions, and coastal communities/fishermen have the ability

to act as stewards of their natural resources, assuring sustainability.

**Threats**

As part of the detailed analysis to develop WWF’s EAME Action Plan and strategy we revisited our analysis of key direct threats to biodiversity in EAME. The detailed conceptual model for the WWF Action Plan is below.



Flowing from this, the detailed direct threats are as follows:

Threat	Criteria			Total	Rank	
	Areas	Intensity	Urgency			
Artisanal fishing	8	6	9	23	1	HIGH
Infrastructure development	9	4	10	23	1	HIGH
Global climate change	10	10	1	21	3	MED
Cutting of mangrove	6	8	6	20	4	MED
Illegal/incidental killing	5	7	8	20	4	MED
Industrial fishing	7	5	7	19	6	MED
Poor watershed management	2	9	5	16	7	MED
Coral mining	3	2	4	9	8	LOW
Inappropriate tourism practices	4	1	3	8	9	LOW
Water pollution	1	3	2	6	10	LOW

**Areas:** areas where this threat is relevant. Areas are the 21 priority areas identified in EAME

**Intensity:** the value reflects a ranking of the threat intensity, 10 being the highest intensity of all threats.

**Urgency:** ranking amongst the 10 threats according to which one is the most urgent to deal with, 10 being the most urgent.

#### Threats include more specifically:

**Artisanal fishing:** over-harvesting of coral and pelagic fish species, marine turtles and marine mammals, invertebrates, ornamental fish and coral, and species used in traditional medicine;

**Infrastructure development:** development resulting in physical damage of reefs; pollution; 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;

**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 - among the most prominent effects of climate change;

**Cutting of mangroves:** clear cutting and conversion of mangrove forests for fuel, building materials, salt production, sand and mineral mining, and shrimp farming;

**Illegal/incidental killing:** marine turtles, sooty terns, dugong, cetaceans, etc;

**Industrial fishing:** long-distance access agreements, illegal long distance fishing fleets,

destructive industrial fishing practices, bottom trawling, drift net and long-line fishing, over-harvest and over capacity, etc;

**Poor watershed management:** deforestation, agricultural runoff, pollution, sedimentation, pollution, water flow management;

**Coral mining:** live coral extraction for lime production, poor fossilized coral extraction, mangrove cutting for lime production;

**Inappropriate tourism development:** coastal development planning, water use, sewage, pollution, beach erosion, coral reef destruction, etc;

**Water pollution:** agricultural run-off, inappropriate or absent water sewage treatment, pesticide pollution, etc.

The table below shows WWF's ranking assessment of its capacity to tackle these threats, undertaken at a strategic planning workshop in Pemba, Mozambique in December 2005:

Threat	Criteria				Total	Capacity Rank	Threat Rank
	WWF Comparative Advantage	Window of Opportunity	WWF Network Support / TA	Local WWF Capacity			
Artisanal fishing (includes by-catch and poaching turtles)	5	4	1	5	15	#2	#1
Infrastructure development	2	3	4	2	11	#3	#1
Global climate change adaptation	1	2	3	1	7	#5	#3
Cutting of mangrove	3	1	2	3	9	#4	#4
Industrial fishing (includes by-catch)	4	5	5	4	18	#1	#6

**WWF Comparative Advantage:** WWF holds a comparative advantage where it is better suited to deal with a given threat than other entities working in the region. A "high" level of comparative advantage exists where WWF has strong convening power or influence, experience working on policy, global reach, and access to economic and political powers.

**Window of Opportunity:** A window of opportunity exists if the threat can be effectively addressed in the next 5 years.

**WWF Capacity:** WWF's capacity to address the threat is based on available skills and knowledge.

The ranking provides WWF with an opportunity to make strategic decisions for activities based on tangible assessments of ecological need/importance, and to strategically scale up capacity where threats are high and capacity is low. Unsustainable artisanal fishing practices have been ranked as the greatest threat to the ecosystem, thereby confirming our focused efforts on mitigating this threat. USAID investments are already sponsoring a gear exchange for artisanal fishermen to trade in their harmful fishing nets for alternatives in Kiunga MNR that will not decimate fish stocks. In Quirimbas NP, the threat of artisanal fishermen is being mitigated through the establishment of fishing replenishment zones that prohibit fishing activities in certain breeding areas.

### **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.*

WWF's activities in the ecoregion are guided by *The Eastern African Marine Ecoregion Strategic Framework: 2004-2024*, a comprehensive 20-year conservation framework that was completed in 2005 through a WWF-facilitated, collaborative process with multiple stakeholders. This plan was endorsed by key actors and includes five-year National Action Plans complimented by a Regional Action Plan, *The Eastern African Marine Ecoregion Conservation Plan: 2005-2009*. Within the 20-year framework, there are five strategy components:

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

This suite of strategies is harnessed to ensure the long-term stability and diversity of the representative species, habitats and ecological processes across the ecoregion. Of these, the **priority focus of USAID-funded activities is the conservation of coral reefs and coral communities. 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 as: none of the 15 priority reefs in EAME have greater than 20 percent of their total area damaged, and four medium quality<sup>1</sup> and three high quality<sup>2</sup> coral sites have improved by at**

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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

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least one status level.

### 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 Kenya Sea Turtle Conservation Committee (KESCOM), Sea Sense (formally known as Tanzania Turtle and Dugong Conservation program) and Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO), East African Wildlife Society, FAO, KESCOM, KMFRI, KWS, IMS, MICOA, NEMC, TCMP, , UNEP, MACEMP, ICM, WIOMSA, World Bank, 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, Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK), Lamu District Health Management Team, the Ministry of Health (MoH) and Family Health International (FHI).

#### **Quirimbas:**

During this past year, the major collaborating agencies were the Quirimbas National Park, the Quirimbas Development Committee (COMDEQ), the Ibo District Administration, the Marine Administration of Cabo Delgado Province, the Police Commando of Ibo District, Gorongosa Wildlife College, the Fisheries Department of Cabo Delgado, the Marine Corps (Marinha de Guerra) of Mozambique, the Ministry of Defense, and the Ministry of Tourism (MITUR).

### Summary: Period 10/01/07–09/30/08

#### Highlights

#### **EAME program:**

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replenishment over time scales of 5–10 years, with no net tendency for reduction in extents of populations in habitats.

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- EAME was very successful during the Nairobi Convention COP-5 in November 2007 at ensuring that countries make key decisions on issues related to sustainable fisheries and adopt a regional approach to Fisheries Partnership Agreements.
  - The Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers signed an historic declaration on Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing for SADC coastal countries in July 2008. The SADC Statement of Commitment pledges that the coastal states will work together and with other regional fisheries management organizations to deter and eliminate IUU fishing in the region.
  - Fisheries managers and decision makers from Western Indian Ocean (WIO) countries agreed in principle to the need to develop and sign a WIO Fisheries Accord to address fisheries trans-boundary issues related to IUU, By-catch and Fisheries Access Agreements (FAAs).
  - After years of lobbying, Tanzania started to address the issues of Sustainable and Fair Fisheries Access Agreements and IUU, with significant increase in monitoring and surveillance following the decision to revoke licenses of all boats fishing in Tanzania's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) .
  - COP adopted a recommendation by all Nairobi and Abidjan Convention countries to develop National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) systems for addressing potential marine environmental threats related to oil and gas development.
  - Kenya's Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) MPA is currently being scaled up to the broader Lamu Seascape Program, the Lamu Archipelago Coastal Community Conservation Program.
  - KMNR MPA hosted a third MPA Learning Program exchange visit for managers and conservationists from EAME countries to share experiences of reducing illegal fishing gear, participatory research and monitoring, turtle conservation, alternative livelihoods, and linking Population, Health and Environment.

**Kiunga:**

- Seven pilot Beach Management Units (BMUs) in Lamu district are over one year old and are now fully functional. They have been assisted through capacity building, by-law formulation, networking for compliance and enforcement of national fisheries policy and regulations. The Joint Management Team representatives are working together with BMUs to reduce by-catch and preserve fish landing sites and nesting beaches.
- Kipini turtle conservation groups visited the WWF turtle team for a learning and exchange visit to enhance the skills of its members, share challenges and develop an information sharing mechanism.
- The fishery data collection component expanded from collecting fish and lobster catch/landing data only, to more species in more villages. Data from across the villages show a declining lobster catch and an increase in undersize lobster harvesting. Prices of lobster show an increase, as well as a corresponding increase in the number of fishermen engaged in lobster fishing.
- KMNR has the most extensive database and information of the Lamu Archipelago fishery exploitation and the most comprehensive turtle database along the Kenyan coast. In

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recognition of this, the Kenyan government has appointed WWF to various national government task forces including research, coral reef, marine turtles and MPA management.

- The coral disease monitoring, initially a pilot study in KMNR, is now an integral component of coral reef monitoring and has been extended to other MPAs along the Kenyan coast. This has been necessitated by the need to understand and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

#### **Quirimbas:**

- QNP worked to reduce the threats from artisanal fishing by establishing new community managed fish-replenishment zones, enforcing and strengthening park rules and regulations, and strengthening co-management of park activities.
- Expanded program of rotating fish and oyster sanctuaries to three additional sanctuaries. These sanctuaries are located near the Zala Bank fishing community villages of Guludo, Naude, Muchojo, and Rolas and the islands of Ibo and Mussemuco for implementation of oyster collection rotating zones.
- Final preparations for the opening of the Zala Bank Sanctuary were completed this reporting year, with the official opening actually taking place on July 27<sup>th</sup> 2008
- WWF and QNP held several trainings of CCPs (Community Fishing Councils), in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries. These fisheries' co-management bodies are essential to managing local resources effectively and there are presently 13 CCPs in the park.
- In this reporting period, considerable efforts have been put on the Development of Park Management Bodies and Fisheries Co-Management, where 14 park staff have been trained to promote CCPs, in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries.
- Based on a survey of nesting sites and feeding sites conducted during FY07 in QNP, community guards were placed on key nesting beaches as part of the Park's Turtle defense program during FY08 and observed more than 400 turtles hatching.

### **Objective 1: Promote measurable results across the ecoregion by facilitating multi-stakeholder actions from field to policy levels**

With GCP2 funding in FY08, the EAME Secretariat worked to effectively implement the five-year EAME Conservation Plan by improving partnerships between WWF, donor agencies, field staff, focal institutions and communities; facilitating the effective management of MPAs; and facilitating the process of establishing an adaptive management framework for the ecoregion. In an ecoregion such as EAME that is highly connected by ocean currents, tides, monsoon winds and human activity, efforts focused on promoting connectivity in strategies and learning. We seek to compare and learn across interventions and contexts to promote a steady process of learning and improvement of marine conservation.

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Below are specifics of the results achieved with USAID/GCP2 funding in FY08.

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

**Co-coordinate and champion the EAME Strategy at country and regional levels with national and regional committees**

During FY08, the EAME Secretariat continued to support the national governments to meet their national and international marine conservation obligations in signed international treaties and goals, through national committees. National EAME Committee meetings were held at least twice a year, providing guidance and key decisions relevant to the implementation of the EAME ecoregion action plans. These all were supported through the granting system with mainly USAID funds to EAME National focal institutions that include EAWLS (Kenya), NEMC (Tanzania) and MICOA (Mozambique).

EAME prepared an abstract of the Tanzania Fisheries Act 2003 in both English and Kiswahili for wider circulation targeting local fishers. The Fisheries Act is a statutory law enacted by the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania to govern the development and management of fisheries resources in the country. It provides for sustainable development, protection, conservation, aquaculture development, regulation and control of fish, fish products, aquatic flora and its products, and for related matters.

This awareness raising work was facilitated in collaboration with the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa (RUMAKI) program. Previously, it was determined that many local communities and even some local government officials knew very little about the Fisheries Act, which was creating misunderstandings particularly in the ongoing initiative to establish local fisheries management bodies in Tanzania. At the same time, the Tanzanian government is currently engaged in reviewing the Fisheries Regulations of 2005. This is in line with the requirements for implementation of the Fisheries Policy (1997) and the Fisheries Act 2003. WWF took advantage of this process to advise the Government on areas that need to be revised. For example, although sea turtles, dugongs, cetaceans and whale sharks are some of the threatened and endangered marine animals, the regulations are not specific enough on their conservation. There are many other species listed as either threatened or endangered under the various treaties/conventions, including CITES, CMS, IUCN Red list. Although Tanzania is party to these multilateral regional and international agreements, the 2005 Fisheries Regulations do not comprehensively provide for the conservation of the species and their habitats. Recognizing the existence of this gap and taking advantage of the review process, WWF, EAME, TRAFFIC and Sea Sense NGO formulated new proposed regulations concerning the protection and conservation of species of special concern (including their products, parts and derivatives) and their habitats. The proposals were submitted to the chairman of the task force. These were positively considered by the government through the Fisheries Division. The draft revised fisheries legislation and regulations

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have been finalized and submitted to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development for review and adoption, expected to occur in the next fiscal year.

During the fiscal year under review, EAME went beyond just providing technical input to the national fisheries policy by pressuring the Government of Kenya to finalize and adopt the policy. As part of this process, the Government constituted a task force to prepare a Cabinet memo, which has been prepared and submitted to the Fisheries Minister for submission to the Cabinet. It is expected that the Cabinet, and subsequently the Kenya Parliament, will approve and adopt the national fisheries policy which has remained a draft for some time. The Government of Kenya has been developing a national fisheries policy since 2003 with the support of key stakeholders and development partners including WWF, GTZ, DFID and FAO. Lack of a comprehensive national fisheries policy has been seen as a hindrance to sustainable development and management of the fisheries resources in Kenya. The lack of such a policy is a cause of the decline in fish and thus threatens the livelihood of local communities dependent on fisheries for food and income. The decline in fish also jeopardizes the contribution of fisheries as foreign exchange and its contribution to the national economy. The policy recommends the creation of Kenya Fisheries Development Authority (KFDA) to coordinate the fisheries investments in research, development and management. The draft policy further proposes legal and institutional reforms to improve governance and promote sustainable growth in the fisheries sector.

### **Maintain and build strategic partnerships with global and regional institutions, agreements, and initiatives**

During FY08, the EAME Secretariat facilitated the collaboration of partners to implement conservation programs through the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C) under the Nairobi Convention, UNEP's Convention on the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region. The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the Nairobi Convention took place on November 5-8, 2007 in South Africa where WWF facilitated the launching of the Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the WIO-C. The launch took place on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2007 as one of the side events of the Conference, resulting in the recognition of the importance of adopting a regional approach to Fisheries Partnership Agreements. The objective of WIO-C is to rationalize the contributions of various conservation NGOs and develop synergistic partnerships that will advance the interests of marine research, conservation and management in the WIO region anchored within the framework of the Nairobi Convention. Membership is open to all NGOs working within the WIO region on coastal and marine issues. The nine founding members are IUCN, WWF, WIOMSA, CORDIO, WCS, UNEP-Nairobi Convention, Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), NEPAD and IOC-UNESCO, most of them attended the official launch. The event was successful and attended by all the participants from both the Nairobi Convention and Abidjan Convention.

A meeting of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) and the World Bank was held in May 2008, in Ghana. During this meeting, Project Concept Notes for Kenya and Ghana were

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discussed and approved. The process of developing the Kenyan proposal has started and is being spearheaded by the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KEMFRI). The proposal considers all the coastal areas of Kenya, including the Lamu Seascape, with focus on coastal management. EAME is providing technical support and relevant information as part of its contribution to this process. EAME is also working closely with the Ministry of Fisheries in Mozambique in developing a Project Concept Note. A technical ministerial working group to oversee this process has been established. It is expected that the Project Concept Notes will be submitted to the RAC for consideration in the next fiscal year.

### **Build capacity of staff in the Ministry of Fisheries in EAME countries to negotiate fair and equitable Fishing Access Agreements (FAAs)**

With the support from EAME, the Kenya Government organized a national stakeholder workshop to discuss and provide feedback to the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and FAAs negotiation processes with the purpose of advising the government on the way forward. The issue of fair and equitable FAAs remains critical for ensuring sustainable fisheries management for all WIO range states. While Mozambique has signed a renewal for its FPA with the European Union, there is still a need to find better alternatives for WIO range states to engage with distant water fishing countries. The recently proposed EAME “Big Win” for EAME/WIO range states on signing a Fisheries Accord to mitigate the FPAs issue will be a step forward in finding a lasting solution to this problem. Most countries have already supported the initiative, and Tanzania, for example, has agreed to include it on the agenda for further discussion in upcoming regional meetings.

The plan to facilitate a help-desk to assist EAME countries in developing long-distance FAAs that lead to increased sustainability and benefits was scaled down to simply providing information to the countries, engaging with the EU and European Parliament, and advocacy and awareness with the general public through the media. This reduction in scale was due to the fact that the EAME Secretariat was unable to fundraise successfully for this activity. About \$100,000 was needed to work with existing higher education institutions to develop this initiative. WTRAFFIC was interested in collaboration, but only if EAME could pay for it. EAME was not able to do this with the level of funding from USAID and other traditional EAME funding sources.

During FY08, the EAME Secretariat worked to make the issue of by-catch a priority for EAME countries. In recent years, under the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), which addresses conservation of endangered species and the minimization of non-target species catch in fisheries, attention has turned to the issue of marine turtle and fisheries interactions. Several meetings have been convened to address the issue. At the FAO turtle by-catch meeting held in Zanzibar in 2006, recommendations were made encouraging the Fisheries Administrations to develop and adopt Turtle Excluder Devices (TEDs) in prawn trawlers, and to adopt time/area closures in the vicinity of turtle nesting beaches. The use of TEDs is compulsory in Kenya, Mozambique and Madagascar and has proved effective.

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Discussions are ongoing between WWF and Tanzania Fisheries Department and the Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project (MACEMP) on piloting the voluntary testing of TEDs in trawlers in an effort to gain support of both the government and fishers for legislation and use of TEDs in all trawlers. EAME engaged with Tanzania's Fisheries Department in reviewing the national Fisheries Act and Regulations. EAME submitted for task force consideration several proposals for amendments concerning by-catch of turtles and other endangered marine species in prawn trawlers; this review process has now been finalized.

**Facilitate a process for EAME range states to sign a Fisheries Accord that will address trans-boundary fisheries issues related to Fisheries Access Agreements (FAA), by-catch, and Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing**

After EAME's years of lobbying and advocacy for sustainable fisheries management, WIO states, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers, finally signed an historic declaration on Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing for SADC coastal countries in July 2008. This is a major step forward and a major precedent for more agreements on regional protocols and standards for management of trans-boundary natural resources in Sub-Saharan African countries. EAME will continue to engage with the governments and other regional (Nairobi Convention, EAC, COMESA) and international blocks (FAO, WB, and Commonwealth Secretariat) to ensure the signing of a more comprehensive Fisheries Accord to address fisheries issues related to FAAs, by-catch, MPAs, Stock Assessment etc. Such an accord will ensure that African countries benefit more from their fisheries resources through better negotiation of FAAs and also ensure sustainable management through an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

EAME lobbied successfully for the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to include for discussion during the Nairobi Convention COP-5 a draft decision (CP5/5.4) on a regional approach for negotiation of Fisheries Access Agreements and the role of WWF in promoting training in negotiation skills. However, this was not well received by some members, especially France and Mauritius, when it was brought to the floor for discussions at the Experts and Heads of Delegations meetings. The debate was whether or not the issue of Fisheries Partnership Agreements is a mandate of the Nairobi Convention. EAME presented a brave and spirited argument, but never managed to get this to a decision level. As a compromise, it was agreed that the decision be removed and instead, the COP to the Convention made a specific note of an offer by WWF to provide to member countries the much-needed training in negotiation skills on Fisheries Access Agreements. EAME will conduct a Fisheries Policy Agreements (FPAs) negotiation skills workshop for government officials and training for senior fisheries officials on contracts management and negotiation. No funding is available for this, and like the issue of help desk, this activity will require significant mobilization of funds to hire competent consultants and organize national meetings involving senior fisheries officers. This idea has been removed from the workplan until such funding is guaranteed.

EAME has been working closely with the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations

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(RFMO), namely the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC). This fiscal year, EAME put particular emphasis on increasing the effectiveness of IOTC in making valuable contributions to sustainable management of fisheries resources in the Indian Ocean region. As a follow up to the first Tuna RFMOs meeting held in Kobe, Japan from January 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007, EAME is working closely with WWF- International on the implementation of some of the recommendations from the meeting. Some of the actions include harmonizing and improvement of trade tracking programs, harmonizing positive lists of tuna fishing vessels (and creating a global negative list), harmonizing trans-shipment and port state control measures, and standardizing presentation of stock assessment results.

In September 2007, EAME initiated discussions with WWF International and the IOTC Secretariat to allow for NGO representation in the IOTC performance review panel. This was in line with the recommendations of the Kobe Action Plan, which called for the performance review of the respective RFMOs globally while observing some form of independence in specific regional seas. EAME supported the proposal to have TRAFFIC sit on the review panel, which was accepted. The performance review commenced in early 2008 with WWF and TRAFFIC pushing the agenda for improved IOTC performance, implementation and enforcement of IOTC resolutions by member states, addressing ecosystem concerns and curbing IUU fishing in the Indian Ocean region. The preliminary report of the review was shared at the IOTC meeting held in June, 2008 in Oman.

EAME also continued to encourage the IOTC to make Mozambique and South Africa members. This has been part of the strategy to strengthen participation of EAME states in IOTC. Tanzania joined IOTC in April 2007, while Kenya joined as a member in September 2004. In August 2007, EAME held discussions with Mozambique with a view to lobbying them to join IOTC. South Africa applied for the renewal of its none-contracting cooperating member status on the IOTC, for consideration by the IOTC regular Commission meeting that was held in June 2008.

EAME is also supporting and working to implement the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAF). EAME was involved in a regional workshop held on the subject in collaboration with FAO in Durban from 22-27 June 2008. The workshop provided an opportunity to discuss, at a regional level, the concept and practice of EAF and to consider the way forward for members of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) to implement EAF. The workshop targeted decision-makers, fisheries managers, senior scientists and industry. EAME lobbied hard for the workshop to reach a conclusion that countries should consider the development of a regional process for signing joint agreements and standardized protocols (Fisheries Accords) for addressing trans-boundary issues related to access agreements, IUU fishing and by-catch.

After years of lobbying by EAME, Tanzania has become the first country in the region to send a very strong message on its intention to begin seriously addressing the issues of Sustainable and Fair Fisheries Access Agreements and IUU by stepping up monitoring, control and surveillance operations. This follows a decision announced in July 2008 by the Minister of Fisheries and

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Livestock development, to revoke licenses of all boats fishing in Tanzania's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) until key issues have been sorted out.

**Promote fish stock assessment with World Bank (WB), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), SWIOFC, IOTC, and national governments**

In FY08, EAME conducted a small-scale fisheries assessment in collaboration with the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the Sea Around Us Project who are conducting a study of marine fisheries data in Mozambique and Tanzania. The specific objective of the collaborative project was to develop communication products based on the UBC study, document experiences, learning, information, and solutions and promote uptake of the lessons and information across fisheries management organizations, fishers, local communities, RFMOs, governments, NGOs and the private sector. This effort is mainly to advocate for the development of conservation and management measures that are supportive of equitable and sustainable marine fisheries management regimes, in particular artisanal fisheries.

The information and materials generated by the project have been shared with key stakeholders in the fisheries sector in the respective countries and in the entire Western Indian Ocean region through various fora partly organized and supported by EAME. In Mozambique and Tanzania, a meeting was organized and held at the Mozambique Institute of Fisheries Research and Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2007 respectively. The results were also shared at the Scientific Symposium organized by Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) held in Durban in September 2007, and at the second Session of the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) held in Mauritius in August 2007. The results of the study indicated general underestimation and or misreporting of landed catches reported in the FAO Database. Therefore, data and information held by various fisheries management organizations, and subsequently shared with other agencies such as IOTC, SWIOFC and FAO may be misleading. There was a general acceptance of the report by most of the stakeholders, and many confirmed that this was a true reflection of the situation on the ground. Relevant players in the fisheries sector, including the fisheries management and research organizations, RFMOs, and the fishing industry, were called upon to support the development of and capacity building for the collection of accurate and reliable fisheries statistical data. The report has now been published as one of the WWF-EAME Fisheries Policy Briefs for the purpose of advocating for policy practice, cultural change and sustainable management of fisheries resources in the EAME states.

**Accelerate the process for designing an ecologically representative network of MPAs in at least one EAME country (Kenya)**

Kenya's Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) MPA is currently being scaled up to the broader Lamu Seascape Program. WWF has been actively involved in marine and coastal management in Kenya's Lamu District for ten years through its collaboration with the Kenya

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Wildlife Service, the Fisheries Department, the Lamu District Council, and the local communities in the Kiunga Marine National Reserve. WWF's approach is to work closely with local communities and government to facilitate joint partnerships for the sustainable management of natural resources.

WWF's Lamu Archipelago Coastal Community Conservation Program (LACCCoP) proposal was developed in FY08, while the Raising Community Capacity for Fisheries/Coastal Management (RaCCCoM) fisheries project, integrated within LACCCoP, has been funded by NORAD since early 2007. Through this new program with the Lamu District as a main partner, WWF will forge ever-stronger local partnerships at District levels in an area south of the KMNR.

The RaCCCoM project is working to build the capacity of local structures on collaborative management of coastal and marine resources in the Lamu Archipelago. During this past fiscal year, meetings were held with stakeholders to introduce the project to fishers and sensitize the district government agencies. The capacity and functionality of Beach Management Units (BMUs) and co-operative societies were enhanced through workshops and technical meetings. Fisher groups were also incorporated in the training in view of future formation of BMUs in their respective areas. Five fisher community training workshops were held specifically on the BMU concept, roles and responsibilities.

Legal and sustainable fishing gears were also procured for scaling up the fishing gear exchange program from KMNR to support the fishing gear exchange program throughout the Lamu Seascape. The establishment of the revolving fund is underway and will be finalized after the gear exchange process has been conducted. An exchange/learning visit for key community leaders, BMUs elected officials, co-operative societies and other relevant stakeholders occurred in the Lake Victoria region.

During this fiscal year, EAME also promoted sustainable financing of MPAs in Mozambique by supporting a major conference on Sustainable Financing of Mozambique's Protected Areas from 21-22 November 2007 in Maputo. The conference was hosted by Mozambique's Ministry of Tourism and Ministry for the Coordination of Environmental Affairs in collaboration with other sponsors including the French Development Agency (AFD), the German Development Bank (KfW), USAID, and WWF. The conference contributed to the process for the development of a sustainable financing strategy for Mozambique's protected areas based on consideration of Mozambique's current financing needs and opportunities. Leading international experts in the field of sustainable financing were invited to share their experience with long-term financial planning, payments for ecosystem services (PES), including carbon markets and tourism-based revenues, private investment and conservation trust funds. Proceedings of the conference will be published and will provide useful lessons and experience for other countries in EAME.

### **Support MPA manager training programs in collaboration with partners like WIOMSA**

Since the start of the GCP program in 2007, EAME has supported a number of initiatives to

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build the capacity of MPA managers. During this reporting period, EAME identified a new initiative to certify MPA managers as a catalyst for building their capacity. The initiative was pioneered by the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and the Coastal Resources Center (CRC), University of Rhode Island (URI) in collaboration with national and regional partners including WWF-EAME. The basic idea is to initiate a Professional Certification Program for Marine Protected Area (MPA) Managers in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region, with the purpose of bringing the knowledge and skills of coastal managers to three levels of professional standards, Professional Level I, II and III. A training program is embedded at all levels to raise the capacity of the managers that fail to reach the standards. This has potential for becoming a major catalyst for managers to raise their standards, thus ensuring that the MPAs are managed by professional staff and improving management of existing MPAs in the Ecoregion. EAME is currently inviting applications from MPA managers for support to go through the program.

### **Nairobi Convention COP decisions made on oil and gas and WIO-C for EAME range states**

The COP adopted recommendations by all Nairobi and Abidjan Convention countries to develop National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) systems for addressing potential marine environmental threats related to oil and gas development.

EAME actively participated in the first ever joint Conference of Parties of the Nairobi Convention and Abidjan Convention which was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2007, in Johannesburg, South Africa. EAME gave a presentation on oil and gas developments and their potential environmental impact in the WIO region. The presentation highlighted environmental and socio-economic impacts of oil and gas developments with classical cases studies and the tools available to balance between environment and economic development, including the role of strategic environmental assessments (SEAs). The presentation attracted a lot of interest and the delegates from both Nairobi Convention and the Abidjan Convention used the opportunity in their respective Heads of Delegations meetings to push for a decision on oil and gas.

The next day, EAME pushed hard for Nairobi Convention Heads of Delegation to be cognizant of the threats to coastal and marine environment posed by oil and gas developments. EAME had begun this lobbying earlier during and immediately following the national oil and gas meetings held in Nairobi and Dar Es Salaam during this reporting period. Working closely behind the scenes with the UNEP-Nairobi Convention Secretariat, the decision on oil and gas was incorporated in the draft decisions which were to be presented to the 5<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties for discussion, approval, and adoption. Initially, WWF had successfully lobbied for: i) a decision to adopt a regional approach to negotiating for Fisheries Access Agreements as well as capacity building in negotiation skills by WWF; ii) a decision to adopt oil and gas as one of the components of the program of work for the Nairobi Convention.

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When the draft decisions were brought to the stakeholders' meeting for the first time for discussions, WWF vehemently supported a draft decision on oil and gas which called for Conference of Parties to consider oil and gas development as a high profile issue that threatens environmental conservation efforts and destruction of valuable sources of livelihood for the local communities. Much opposition came from the Heads of Delegation from France and Mauritius, but in the end a decision on oil and gas was supported by most delegates.

The Conference of Parties made a commitment to undertake strategic environmental assessments (SEAs) of activities that may have adverse impacts on coastal and marine environments, particularly those related to exploration, exploitation and transportation of oil, gas and minerals taking into consideration the role of International Maritime Organization (IMO).

Other declarations adopted by the joint delegates of the Nairobi Convention and Abidjan Convention as a commitment to conserve and develop sustainably the coastal and marine environment, include: raise awareness of the importance of implementing Article 76 of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which calls upon states to extend the Continental Shelf beyond the 200 nautical miles; develop programs anchored in the large marine ecosystems; strengthen collaboration with Civil Society Organizations in the implementation of the Convention programs of work; sharing and conserve transboundary freshwater resources, including rivers and river basins.

### ***Activity 1.2: Implementation of an adaptive management framework from ecoregion to site scales.***

#### **Capacity building of MPA managers through the MPA Learning Program; capacity of MPA managers built through sharing cross-site successes and challenges in EAME during a site-visit to KMNR**

In November 2007, EAME supported a large group of MPA managers and conservationists from EAME countries to visit Kiunga and share various experiences including reduction of illegal fishing gear through the gear exchange program, participatory research and monitoring, turtle conservation program, involvement of local communities in conservation, alternative livelihoods, links between Population, Health and Environment (PHE), environmental education, and fisheries co-management. This was a follow-up MPA Learning Activity after the Quirimbas MPA (Mozambique) and Mafia Island MPA (Tanzania) visits held in 2005 and 2006 respectively.

Outstanding observations were made on research and monitoring activities that are conducted jointly between the MPA and CORDIO, KWS and community members. Studies are currently ongoing in Kiunga to monitor fisheries biology and biodiversity, coral reefs and other related monitoring work. Concerns were raised, however, on the sustainability of this activity and its linkage with resource management and decision making institutions (e.g. Fisheries Department, Kenya Wildlife Services) due to the fact that the initiatives come from individual scientists and

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conservation organizations with less support and commitments from government institutions. Continued use of illegal gear in Kiunga was reported to be one of the biggest challenges. Fishers openly claimed that the use of spears for the octopus fishery and other illegal gear is for their personal protection from dangerous marine creatures while fishing and not for use in actual fishing. This raised a lot of discussions based on the fact that the possession of such gear while fishing octopus is one of the probable explanations for its use in that fishery.

The PHE program was also an interesting aspect of the KMNR program for the MPA managers to discuss and learn. One of the main challenges the program faces is linking PHE at the local level within the cultural practices, norms and religion of the region, which often undermine women's reproductive roles and decision making ability. Monitoring environmental success in relation to population and health was also discussed.

For a full report of the FY08 Learning Report, see Annex 1, Proceedings of the Third Eastern African Marine Ecoregion Learning and Exchange Programme Held in Kiunga National Reserve in Kenya 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2007.

#### **Advocate tailor-made MPA/Reserve capacity-building training programs through collaboration with WWF-SA**

This did not occur during FY08. The idea was for the EAME states to be given an opportunity to review the effectiveness of South African initiatives in order to help EAME decide which direction it should go with MPA capacity building initiatives. Other capacity building activities were pursued as outlined in other sections of this report.

### **Objective 2: Promote effective management of Kiunga Marine National Reserve (KMNR) through collaborative management structures**

Threats to fisheries, such as unsustainable artisanal fishing practices, have been identified as the key threat to long-term conservation in KMNR. Actions have been taken to strengthen collaborative management structures and institutional mechanisms at the local level. In the past year, there have been several key achievements in the move to establish sustainable fisheries management in KMNR. A community focused approach to developing local fishing zones and fish breeding zones (no-take zones) was introduced to ensure participation and acceptance by all sectors of the Lamu District, including local fisher groups, politicians and traders. Beach Management Units (BMUs) have been established as fully functional community fisheries management units and were instrumental in highlighting areas of infringement, sanctioning offenders and curbing use of illegal and destructive fish gear.

In FY08, KMNR focused its efforts on enhancing community capacity for fisheries management

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and protection, working with BMUs as the village-based fisheries management authorities, to conserve the fisheries through community-managed no-take zones, sustainable gear exchange, fisheries data collection, and participatory research on fish spawning aggregations. Below are specifics of the results achieved with USAID/GCP2 funding in FY08.

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

**Joint (KWS, FiD, FoD, LCC, Community, WWF) KMNR Management Team functional and supported with capacity built through exchange visits; BMUs and fisher groups functional and BMU leaders trained in resource management**

The seven pilot Beach Management Units (BMUs) in Lamu District are over one year old and are now fully functional. Each BMU has an executive committee comprised of 9 to 15 members out of which 1/3 are women. Initially there were 5 pilot BMUs, from which 50 males and approximately 25 women were trained. This does not reflect the number of people who participate in BMUs. As per the BMU legislation all fishers are members of BMUs; hence capacity building targets not only the office holders but the non office holders referred to as the BMU Assembly. Each BMU, on average, has approximately 300 fully registered members (1/5 are women) though the number is rising as fishers comply with new laws. Currently there are 7 BMUs and 5 fisher groups set to become fully fledged BMUs after fulfilling the set of criteria stipulated by BMU regulations. In essence, this means the number of fishers (male and female) participating in BMU activities will double or triple in the course of the year.

The Joint Management Team representatives are working together with BMUs to reduce by-catch and preserve fish landing sites and nesting beaches. They have been assisted through capacity building, by-law formulation, networking for compliance, and enforcement of national fisheries policy and regulations. The project has worked closely with the Fisheries Department to ensure smooth operations of these community-based fisheries management entities.

BMU leaders from Kiunga participated in an exchange and exposure workshop to Lake Victoria. This trip emphasized the importance of accountability within the community based fisheries management bodies. Fishermen are now ready to implement the “transparency boards” learned from the visit to Kisumu. Transparency boards are meant to increase financial accountability and transparency within BMUs by posting monthly revenue and expenditure of a BMU. This makes all BMU members (“the assembly”) privy to financial information at their own convenience. Transparency boards will be situated/constructed at the beach where anyone will be able to access/read. The responsible BMU official (treasurer) will ensure it is constantly updated.

**Improved understanding, participation, and sustainable/adaptive management of the**

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**reserve by local communities; Enhance information, knowledge, and skill sharing with CBOs and local conservation groups in the wider Lamu Archipelago (Kipini Pilot study)**

Kipini turtle conservation groups visited the WWF turtle team for a learning and exchange visit to enhance the skills of its members, share challenges, and develop an information sharing mechanism. Skills shared included: turtle nest verification; nest monitoring and understanding of the hatching process; beach patrols (in relation to potential nestings); beach patrol best practices; turtle nest protection; turtle data collection; data base management; combating poaching through co-operation with enforcement agencies; community education strategies for attitudinal change; and harnessing turtle eco-tourism opportunities.

**Data collection on KMNR fish no-take zones and joint marine scientific surveys**

Fisheries data collection has widened its scope from collecting fish and lobster catch/landing data only. The fishery data collection component now includes crab, sea cucumber, sport fishing catches, dry fish and cowrie shells in Kiunga, Mkokoni, Kiwaiyu, Kizingitini and Faza/Rasini villages. Data gleaned from lobster landings across the villages show a declining catch and increase in undersize lobster harvesting. Prices of lobster show an increase as well as a corresponding increase in the number of fishermen engaged in lobster fishing. The above findings have been communicated to fishermen with many of them concurring. BMUs are looking into possible management interventions.

The project was able to call for a special District Environment Committee meeting to share information gathered over the years by the project. Seven different types of maps were shared with departmental heads to assist them in making important decisions on proposed development projects.

KMNR has the most extensive database and information of the Lamu Archipelago fishery exploitation and the most comprehensive turtle database along the Kenyan coast. In recognition of this, the Kenyan government through the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) has appointed WWF to various national government task forces including research, coral reef, marine turtles and MPA management.

Kiunga MPA has also been recognized as an ideal MPA for other MPA managers and practitioners to learn from. It is imperative to note that the monitoring and research exercise in Kiunga is a joint initiative with the local community fishermen.

**Ecological monitoring capacity of the coral reef and fish monitoring team enhanced**

This activity was developed in response to the need for ensuring sustainability of some of GCP2 activities after the end of funding. Habitat/ecological monitoring is a core activity in the management of any MPA; as such it is critically important that key staff as well as selected

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resource users possess requisite skills to undertake such an activity. Under GCP2 WWF has been conducting participatory ecological monitoring of KMNR resources. It is important that this activity be integrated into the MPA activity and management through training of key staff and selected fishermen in scuba diving, GCRMN methods, data collection, data archiving and analysis feeding in to MPA management.

### **GIS maps produced to support resource management, survey and management planning**

GIS is increasingly being used in the management of natural resources globally. Key staff in KMNR possess requisite skills to develop thematic maps and interpret GIS information for management purposes. Partners are now able to compile existing GIS maps and information, further enhancing the information available to resource managers for decision making.

NRM staff attended two training courses on GIS and remote sensing for coastal resources. Software used during the training are BILKO and Arc GIS 9.2. The courses are expected to improve capacity in preparation for the turtle satellite tagging and mapping exercise. One project staff member also attended the WWF standards training and UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) training workshops on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM).

### **KMNR camp infrastructure, transport and communications maintained to enable more effective management**

In FY08, KMNR camp infrastructure, transport and communication tools received regular maintenance with support from the GCP2 grant. This enabled more effective use of equipment in natural resource management. GCP2 funds allowed boats and vehicles to receive regular maintenance, as well as radio operations (fisheries data collectors) and communication tools such as VSat (email & internet) and radio communications.

### ***Activity 2.2: Strengthen capacity of the local community to undertake and participate in conservation management programs in the reserve.***

#### **Community resource use groups, women's health and small business groups established in all villages and equipped with the means to operate and to develop work plans, communication strategies and goals.**

As earlier indicated in resource management, the GCP2 funds are focused on strengthening the capacity of BMUs. Foremost to make them functional (local BMU institutional frameworks are functional), is that they be able to independently develop work plans, development, and management plans. BMUs are now able to develop their own work plans linked to the general strategies of WWF/Fisheries Department engagement with them (BMUs).

The Mkokoni youth group is being piloted as an eco-tourism business group. The group owns a dhow (a type of boat) and currently has Kshs.50,000 emanating from its eco-tourism activities. In FY09, there are plans to develop publicity materials and focused training in response to the group's more urgent needs such as tour guiding, fiscal management, and leadership training.

**Publications and reports translated and summarized for onward distribution to local communities. BMU guidelines translated into the local language. Brochures on aspects of sustainable management and on aspects of the reserve produced and distributed to the community.**

As GCP2 funding nears its end it is important for the accumulated knowledge and information, various success achieved, challenges encountered, and status of activities implemented be communicated to the general public, partners, as well as donors. BMU guidelines have been translated to Kiswahili. Unfortunately the BMU regulations were revised before gazettelement in January 2008. It is important that changes in the regulations also be translated to Kiswahili to enable wide spread understanding by fishers.

**Communication and information exchange conducted on strategies for changing fishing practices towards a sustainable community resource use system, and awareness and understanding built in the community.**

The BMUs established as fully functional community fisheries management units within KMNR have become instrumental in highlighting areas of infringement, sanctioning offenders and curbing use of illegal and destructive fish gear. WWF KMNR focused its efforts during FY08 on enhancing community capacity for fisheries management and protection, working with BMUs as to conserve the fisheries through community-managed no-take zones, sustainable gear exchange, fisheries data collection, and participatory research on fish spawning aggregations. Periodic meetings convened by WWF with BMUs and local fisher groups aided in the exchange of information on strategies for changing fishing practices towards a sustainable resource use system within the KMNR.

As BMUs take center stage in the management of resources locally it is important that they have access to information and awareness material to improve the resource users' understanding of resource management. This would greatly assist in effecting sustainable resource use practices and attitudinal change.

**Coral reefs, fisheries, and invertebrate data jointly generated and analyzed to show the state of the resource.**

WWF KMNR has been conducting coral reef monitoring, fish census and benthic monitoring in  
*Global Conservation Program—World Wildlife Fund*

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collaboration with key partners for the past ten years with partners/stakeholders. The coral disease monitoring, initially a pilot study in KMNR, is now an integral component of coral reef monitoring and has been extended to other MPAs along the Kenyan coast. This has been necessitated by the need to understand and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

WWF KMNR is now part of the IUCN/CORDIO global coral reef resilience monitoring network. The new coral reef resilience monitoring methodology developed by the CORDIO/IUCN climate change working group was first tested in KMNR among the other sites/MPAs in Kenya. The research has been carried out jointly with KWS, Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute (KEMFRI), and Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO) as key partners, among others.

### **Objective 3: Promote effective management of Quirimbas National Park through collaborative management structures**

During the past year, there have been several noteworthy accomplishments towards the promotion of effective fisheries management and conservation, one of the key objectives of the QNP management strategy. With GCP2 support, WWF worked to reduce the threats from artisanal fishing by establishing new community managed fish-replenishment zones, enforcing and strengthening park rules and regulations, and strengthening co-management of park activities.

There has been a significant increase in cooperation between the Ministry of Fisheries and the QNP and WWF. These institutions continued to work with Fisheries Co-management Committees (CCP's) throughout the QNP. These committees, created using fisheries legislation, are the government of Mozambique (GoM)-approved mechanism for fishing communities to exercise management rights over their home waters.

The Ministry of Defense has taken a strong position on the environment and MPAs in general, and has been WWF's informal partner for some time now. WWF further strengthened this collaboration in the past year.

Below are specifics of the results achieved with USAID/GCP2 funding in FY08.

***Activity 3.1: To address resource exhaustion, to protect vulnerable habitats, and to create a source for both fish and larval dispersal, the QNP will expand its program of rotating fish and oyster sanctuaries to include at least three new sanctuaries, including at least one for fish and at least one for pearl oyster beds.***

**Boundaries of the three sanctuaries mapped, and zones marked with buoys and by GPS;**

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**management plans agreed upon, written down, and signed by community leaders; develop co-management structures (CCP's) to implement the zones.**

WWF used GCP2 funding to expand its program of rotating fish and oyster sanctuaries, to include three additional sanctuaries in FY08. These sanctuaries are located near the Zala Bank fishing community villages of Guludo, Naude, Mucojo, and Rolas and the islands of Ibo and Mussemuco for implementation of oyster collection rotating zones.

The final preparations for the opening of the Zala Bank fish sanctuary were completed this reporting year, with the official opening actually taking place on July 27<sup>th</sup> 2008. During this reporting period we achieved COMDEQ approval for Zala and together with the Ministry of Fisheries and the communities, mapped it.

The oyster capture area around Ibo Island has been marked and is being used in a rotating manner. There are 10 members in the oyster processing group, collecting and processing the product. They are doing very well. As an example, the chief of the group went to Pemba and sold 30 jars of processed oyster to the restaurants and others, at a fixed price of 250,00 MTn each. With the money made he bought all the raw materials to continue their production, as well as save the rest for the future.

Rotation of areas for pearl oyster (*Pinctada capensis*) fishing is now a consolidated management measure implemented in Mussemuco. A large area of oysters in Mussemuco was divided in two sections, and they are exploited alternatively, over a period of six months in each section.

WWF and QNP held several trainings of CCPs (Community Fishing Councils), in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries. These fishery co-management bodies are essential to effectively manage local resources, and there are presently 13 CCPs in the park.

An unexpected effect during FY08 was the acceptance of the fish sanctuaries in QNP by the Cabo Delgado provincial Fisheries Department, and their request to extend the sanctuaries to other areas outside of the park's boundaries.

### ***Activity 3.2: Improve overall compliance with park and national fisheries regulations.***

#### **Improve the skill levels and competence of QNP rangers in various aspects of marine patrolling**

Marine patrols take place now on a regular basis from Ibo, in cooperation with the Park and the Ministry of Defense. These larger patrols make and adhere to regular plans and carry out extra missions as necessary. Ground patrols of the edges of the sanctuaries are done on a daily basis.

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In this reporting period, considerable efforts focused on the development of Park Management Bodies and Fisheries Co-Management. Fourteen park staff have been trained to promote CCPs (Community Fishing Councils), in cooperation with the Ministry of Fisheries.

One of the key goals for 2008 was to place the rangers and support staff on the state payroll, originally paid for by the project through AfD funding. This is a complicated process, as most of the rangers began working for the park before the approval (in 2006) of a new state regulation on park rangers. This regulation sets out certain criteria, especially educational level and age limits, which these older rangers do not meet. WWF is requesting an exception for this group of rangers in an effort to keep them on staff. The rangers WWF has hired in the past who have had higher qualifications often leave after a short period, because they do not want to live and work in the remote, harsh conditions that the park offers. As a result, WWF secured the verbal assent of the state administration, and is now completing the necessary procedures to keep the veteran staff on board. If this process is successfully completed by the end of the year, it will be a huge step towards park sustainability.

WWF and QNP's cooperation with the Ministry of Defense continues, with a supervisor and 20 soldiers deployed in the park. Most of these are based on Ibo at the naval base there, but 8 have also been placed in the park to strengthen law enforcement on the terrestrial side.

**Increase the number of fisheries co-management committees to ten within QNP; Increased number of community fisheries committees made operational, thus reducing the number of small-scale infractions in the park.**

The total number of fisheries co-management committees in the Park is now 13. Further training of these committees is needed and ongoing.

**Create a collaborative, mutually supportive patrolling scheme with QNP tour operators and sport fishing safari operators that will allow park boats to operate safely (with backup) out to the Banco São Lazaro, a seamount in front of Ibo Island that within the QNP management plan, is zoned as a sport fishing only zone**

This activity has still not been established, as Sao Lazaro is still beyond the reach of the park boats. Some operators are going there, but on an irregular basis, as they too have only relatively small boats.

### **Conduct marine turtle monitoring**

Based on a survey of nesting sites and feeding sites conducted during FY07 in QNP, community guards were placed on key nesting beaches as part of the Park's Turtle Defense Program during FY08. The community guards observed more than 400 turtles hatching.

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It has been confirmed that the Hawksbill, the Olive and the Green Turtles all nest in QNP, where about 78 young turtles have been saved by rangers in Sencar and Quilalea. About 16 turtles have been tagged in QNP, among these was one that had been tagged in the island of Reunião in 1995. About 132 Turtles were tagged in Primeiras and Segundas Archipelago.

WWF in coordination with MMTWG - a part of Peace Park Foundation, UEM, tourism operators, , , local authorities, local communities, government (MICOA and Fisheries), and NGOs is carrying out turtle nesting monitoring and tagging in the coastal extension from Ponta de Ouro, BANP, Primeiras and Segundas to QNP.

**Economic losses due to illegal fishing documented and communicated to government agencies, leading to increased financial support for protected area management.**

SOCMON (Socio-Economic Monitoring) is a great effort towards the promotion of responsible fisheries. This is a regional project aiming at establishing a regional database about catch information and status of the marine resources, their exploitation and migration. The main objective is to assess the socio-economic impact of the marine resources management on the Ibo, Matemo Quirimba and Quirambo islands.

The results from the QNP pilot project, conducted during the first half of FY08, show that all respondents affirmed that there are positive results of the marine protection areas: some fish species, such as Parrotfish (*Sparisoma abilgaardi*) and Mulletts (*Mugil Liza*), that had disappeared for about 20 years, are now coming back.

Socio-economic surveys conducted during the second half of FY08 consisted of interviews based on questionnaires which were adapted from “Socioeconomic Monitoring Guidelines for Coastal Managers of The Indian Ocean (SocMon Wio)” (Melleret et al., 2006). Nearly 500 fishermen responded to the interviews conducted in the period of May 28 to June 18. The data were entered in the database for statistical analysis, and the report is being produced. The results will then be fed back into management decisions for the sanctuaries.

In addition, progress has been made on the finalization of Artisanal Fisheries Database, a regional data base for socio-economic information aiming at: (1) providing viable data on the catch and effort of the artisanal fishery in order ensure the sustainable use of marine resources; (2) Providing information on the marine resources species, their exploitation and migration; (3) Combined with other monitoring programs (SOCMON, MOMS), to analyze the human population activities in park fishery exploitation. The project was piloted in QNP, where data has been collected and entered since 2007, and is now being implemented in other marine parks.

**Progress Table**

Benchmark Number	Benchmark/Output	Status*
<b>1 EAME Program</b>		
1.1	Maintain overall project management and constructive working partnerships between WWF, donor agencies, field staff, focal Institutions and communities.	on track
	Facilitate effective management of existing MPAs and help expand/establish marine protected area network(s) in EAME	on track in Kenya
1.2	Implementation of an adaptive management framework from ecoregion to site scales.	on track
<b>2 Kiunga MNR</b>		
2.1	Strengthen management frameworks, operations, personnel and infrastructure for sustainable and adaptive reserve and resource management.	on track
2.2	Strengthen capacity of the local community to undertake and participate in conservation management programs in the reserve	on track
2.3	Improve livelihoods and conservation roles of local resource users living in and around KMNR.	on track
<b>3 Quirimbas NP</b>		
3.1	Address resource exhaustion, to protect vulnerable habitats, and to create a source for both fish and larval dispersal.	on track and completed
3.2	Improve overall compliance with park and national fisheries regulations.	on track
3.3	Prove and make visible the fisheries and habitat conservation results of the park; and monitor, evaluate, and communicate the results of QNP ecological management activities.	on track

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

**Next Steps****EAME program:**

- Collaborate with national and regional committees to incorporate elements of the EAME Strategy into government strategies and action plans at country and regional levels. The national and regional committees will continue to be used as a key framework for the implementation of the EAME Strategy and Conservation Action Plan through government partners, the private sector, and within their institutions for adoption of the priority actions in existing and future project development.
- Influence the establishment of new MPAs and Trans Frontier Conservation programs in the Tanzania-Mozambique and Tanzania-Kenya borders. During FY09, the EAME Secretariat will continue to support national governments to meet their national and international marine conservation obligations in signed international treaties and goals through the national committees, and to scale up the collaborative fisheries management framework from Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa (RUMAKI) to the Lamu seascape and beyond.

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- Maintain and build strategic partnerships with global and regional institutions, agreements, and initiatives.
  - Continue lobbying for the development and adoption of a regional protocol for management of transboundary fisheries resources and issues related to IUU, by-catch and FAAs.
  - Continue discussions with donors and institutions to support efforts to address by-catch, IUU and stock assessment for WIO countries, including the WB, GAAs, and FAO through SWIOFC and IOTC.
  - Facilitate the process for establishment of Mtwara-Quirimbas Trans Frontier Conservation Area. In collaboration with relevant Tanzania and Mozambique authorities.
  - Build the capacity of CSOs to engage in oil and gas related environmental issues.
  - Support national marine turtle working groups in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique. Support implementation of TED legislation in Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique.
  - Consolidate and analyze available information, and document conservation impacts and lessons in the EAME ecoregion between 2005 and 2009 achieved through interventions funded by GCP2 and other leveraged resources.

**Kiunga:**

- Train key Joint Management Team (JMT) members (KWS, KFS, Tourism Department, LCC, Provincial Administration, the community and WWF) in proposal formulation and leadership training to build their capacity to make key decisions and become a functional and autonomous unit.
- Assist key village based management structures in KMNR, including all BMUs within KMNR and its catchment area, with sustainable fishing methods and gear exchange, community enforced and managed fishing sanctuaries, sustainable utilization of mangroves, and enhanced community policing.
- Conduct joint coral reef monitoring between community fishermen, KWS Research department, KEMFRI, FID, Cordio and WWF.
- Continue data collection on community-identified fish no-take zones to allow for regeneration and demarcation. Joint marine scientific surveys with fishers and WWF will be conducted in six areas adjacent to the reserve, during the onset of the North East Monsoon winds for a comparative analysis of the results from last year's surveys.
- Monitor fishery resources (catch landings, effort, gear & species targeted) jointly with FiD and BMUs with WWF providing facilitation and a supportive and transitory role.
- Improve the scuba diving skills of the coral reef and fish monitoring team, including KWS, WWF, and community members from local villages and their catchments to enable closer involvement of local communities in resource monitoring.
- Conduct censuses to monitor fish and invertebrates, coral species diversity, benthic health, coral disease prevalence and drivers, sea grass cover and species diversity, sea cucumber census and species diversity, and sea urchin census and spatial distribution in KMNR fishing grounds.
- Produce GIS and thematic maps to support KMNR resource management, survey, and

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management planning.

- Work with local partners and BMUs to manage the gear exchange revolving fund by establishing a functional micro credit/finance system to assist fishermen acquire legal and sustainable gear.
- Strengthen the operational capacity of the KMNR management team.
- Conduct a series of feedback workshops for communities within the reserve and its catchment area jointly with research and implementing partners to disseminate research findings on fisheries resource utilization trends, coral reef monitoring results, and community based turtle conservation nesting and hatchling trends.
- Publish the findings of the coral reef recovery ten years after the major coral bleaching event in 1998. This will be done in partnership with CORDIO, KWS, KEMFRI, Fisheries department and various BMUs in Lamu.
- Hold regular community interactive meetings to establish a two - way communication platform and improved information sharing with the local community and ensure community goodwill and co-operation.
- Facilitate the establishment of small business groups to develop sustainable alternative income activities, such as youth-driven community ecotourism projects in turtle conservation and eco-friendly handicraft production.
- Assist women's health groups to promote environmental health and awareness at the household level.
- Work with existing groups that lack capacity and may need to be reconstituted, including Resource use groups comprised of community members that discuss and establish strategies to ensure sustainable natural resource use.
- Improve its monthly catch monitoring by extending data collection to the villages of Rubu and Kiwaiyu in addition to the monitoring locations, i.e. Mkokoni, Kiunga and Kizingitini.
- Co-ordinate, conduct and facilitate ecological monitoring in KMNR while empowering relevant government agencies' ability to undertake ecological monitoring independently, not singly but as a team.
- Enhance the capacity of Beach Management Units so that they may develop and implement financial and development plans, practice fiscal management and transparency for the long-term management of fishery resources.
- Hold workshops and meetings, and create documents, mapping, and joint management to create an open dialogue and provide feedback to communities to improve their understanding of the marine ecosystem and its status and promote sustainable fishing methods.
- Translate and summarize publications and reports for community viewing, including brochures on sustainable management and the reserve.
- Communication and information exchange on strategies of promoting sustainable community resource use.

### **Quirimbas:**

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- Provide technical assistance to the Zala Bank marine sanctuary and rotating oyster harvest zones in Ibo and Mussemuco and the closed zone in Quirimba. Management and monitoring, as well as documenting the results, will be the focus.
  - Training in processing of the new resources will also be carried out so that the bivalves now being sustainably harvested can be sold at a higher market value.
  - Monitoring the catches in the oyster harvest zones, including catches and the financial implications of these catches for the fishing groups.
  - Train QNP rangers in various aspects of marine patrolling, with particular emphasis on small boat seamanship and, due to several incidents of turtle poaching, marine turtle monitoring and protection.
  - Conduct marine turtle monitoring and protection of nesting sites and feeding sites that have been identified during the last two years.
  - Train the fisheries co-management committees to know and apply the fisheries legislation and park management plan in their communities.
  - Continue to engage in training activities and joint patrols begun in FY05 with the park, Navy and local communities, to build capacity and to coach the participants through pilot patrols and practical implementation.

### Success Stories

#### **EAME program:**

##### **Regional approach recognized for Fisheries Partnership Agreements during Nairobi Convention**

EAME was very successful during the Nairobi Convention COP-5 in November 2007 in ensuring that countries make key decisions on issues related to sustainable fisheries and oil and gas developments in the region. EAME succeeded in helping delegates recognize the importance of adopting a regional approach to Fisheries Partnership Agreements as the best hope for WIO states to negotiate fair, equitable and sustainable FAAs. The COP-5 also adopted a recommendation for all Nairobi and Abidjan Convention countries to develop National Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) systems for addressing potential marine environmental threats related to oil and gas development.

##### **Signing of IUU Fishing Declaration by SADC Ministers**

After years of lobbying and advocacy for sustainable fisheries management, in July 2008, WIO states, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Ministers, finally signed an historic declaration on Illegal Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing for SADC coastal countries.. This is a major step forward and a major precedent for more agreements on regional protocols and standards for management of trans-boundary natural resource in Sub-Saharan African countries. EAME will continue to engage with the governments and other regional (Nairobi Convention, EAC, COMESA) and international blocks (FAO, WB, and Commonwealth Secretariat) to ensure that a more comprehensive Fisheries Accord is signed to address fisheries

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issues related to FAAs, by-catch, MPAs, Stock Assessment etc. Such an accord will ensure that African countries benefit more from their fisheries resources through better negotiation of Fisheries Access Agreements and also ensure sustainable management through an ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

### **Third MPA Learning Program held in Kiunga**

WWF KMNR project hosted the final phase of the MPA learning exchange visits. MPA managers from Mozambique, Tanzania and Kenya were able to share experiences, visit and interact with communities and fishers. The key themes featured in their discussions were: environmental education, illegal fishing gear, gear exchange program, fisheries co-management success and challenges, participatory turtle conservation and incentives, and population health and environment linkages in marine conservation practice. The MPA learning & exchange has created a stronger network between MPA managers in East Africa. This was demonstrated recently in the WIO-Compas MPA managers assessment and certification. There is a greater understanding of cross-cutting management issues in MPA management such as the use of illegal fishing gear. A comparative paper on the gear exchange program is being developed by MPA managers & practitioners from Mafia Marine Park, Menai Bay Marine Park, Mombasa Marine Park and Reserve and Kiunga Marine National Reserve.

### **The President of United Republic of Tanzania Praises WWF**

In November 2007, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, praised WWF for supporting conservation and livelihoods in Tanzania. The president handed over fishing equipment worth \$73,600 donated by WWF's Tanzania Program Office to 26 fisher groups in Rufiji, Kilwa and Mafia Districts. The equipment included outboard engines, gill nets, cool boxes, deep freezers and refrigerators, fish frying pans, and fish processing tables.

### **First meeting of the Indian Ocean and South East Asia -Marine Turtle Task Force**

In order to address the threats to marine turtles, the countries of the Western Indian Ocean including 27 states of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia (IOSEA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats for the IOSEA region. The MoU was adopted in 2001 under the auspices of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS). The Western Indian Ocean Marine Turtle Task Force (WIO-MTTF) was established to facilitate the implementation of the Conservation and Management Plan (CMP) of the IOSEA MoU. During FY08, EAME in collaboration with the IOSEA Marine Turtle MoU Secretariat and the Nairobi Convention, convened the first meeting of MTTF to promote the implementation of the IOSEA Marine Turtle Conservation and Management Plan. The workshop was held in Dar es Salaam from 27–29 February 2008 and supported by EAME. Participants included task force members from all IOSEA member countries.

### **Fisheries managers and decision makers from Western Indian Ocean (WIO) countries agree to develop and sign a WIO Fisheries Accord**

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EAME actively participated in the FAO-organized Ecosystem Approach for Fisheries management meeting where a resolution was reached for the WIO states to develop and sign a comprehensive Fisheries Accord, to address trans-boundary fisheries issues related to IUU, by-catch, and Fisheries Access Agreements.

### **Tanzania addressing FAAs and IUU fishing by revoking boat licenses**

After years of lobbying, Tanzania has started to address the issues of Sustainable and Fair Fisheries Access Agreements and IUU with significant increase in Monitoring and Surveillance following the decision to revoke licenses of all boats fishing in Tanzania's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). For the first time the Director of Fisheries in Tanzania announced that he will bring the issue up during the Ministerial Conference on IUU and other regional fisheries meetings.

### **Kiunga:**

#### **Coral Reefs Monitored to Understand Impacts of Climate Change**

For the past ten years WWF has been conducting coral reef monitoring, fish census and benthic monitoring in collaboration with key partners and stakeholders. The coral disease monitoring, initially a pilot study in KMNR, is now an integral component of coral reef monitoring and has been extended to other MPAs along the Kenyan coast. This has been necessitated by the need to understand and mitigate the impacts of climate change.

WWF KMNR is now part of the IUCN/CORDIO global coral reef resilience monitoring network. The new coral reef resilience monitoring methodology developed by the CORDIO/IUCN climate change working group was first tested in KMNR among the other sites/MPAs in Kenya. The research has been carried out jointly with KWS, Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute (KEMFRI), and Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO) as key partners among others.

#### **Positive Results for Turtle Conservation Program:**

Turtle team members patrolled all KMNR turtle nesting beaches. Night patrols teams managed to tag eleven nesting females over the six month reporting period. Volunteers also conducted day patrols to monitor, verify and protect nests. One hundred and seventy four (174) nests were reported with 57% of the total reported by community members. Over eight thousand (8000) hatchlings emerged and successfully swam to the sea during this period. Seven (7) sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) tagged in previous years ranging from 2001 to 2005 returned to nest in 2008. A GIS map of turtle nesting beaches and foraging grounds was developed.

In August, five satellite transmitters were launched onto the backs of green turtles with the help of the US Ambassador to Kenya. This is the outcome of the USAID-funded Kenya Integrated Sea Turtle Conservation (KIST-Con) Program, that is working to strengthen on-going efforts in community based protection of turtle nests and their habitats by providing relevant ecological information on turtles in the area.

Hotel and tour operators in the area are tapping into the marine turtle conservation outputs produced by WWF. Visitors are able to experience turtle nesting and emerging turtle hatchlings through a guided tour by community youth volunteers in the conservation project. The turtle nesting database has been key in providing information on the location, nesting and hatching dates for turtles.

The participatory turtle conservation program primarily depends on the local youth. The Mkokoni community ecotourism initiatives are a direct result of the youth involvement in the turtle program. Due to the success of the program, tour operators and local hoteliers are increasingly dependent on the turtle youth volunteers as tour guides. A direct benefit of WWF's turtle training ensures that the visits cause no stress to the habitat and nesting turtles. Communities are thus increasingly appreciative of their direct involvement in marine conservation.

### **Quirimbas:**

#### **Distribution of park revenues to communities**

During FY08 QNP started distributing 20% of park receipts to communities through community consultative bodies that have been created at the Administrative Post level to assist in the process of decentralization. The first PAs selected are Mahate in Quissanga District and Quirimba in the District of Ibo. Two other committees are being formed in Muagide, District of Meluco, and Mucojo, District of Macomia, to distribute the funds that were collected in 2007.

#### **Creation of Community Fishing Councils:**

In addition, the creation of Community Fishing Councils has enhanced WWF's relationship with the Fisheries sector, which has this as a key goal. Partnering with the fisheries personnel in the region has led to joint fisheries discussions in the area and has brought more first-hand information about the park's activities to the fisheries personnel. These aspects have helped to make a once tumultuous relationship much smoother.

#### **Higher Yields**

According to fishermen and project staff, both the fish and oyster sanctuaries created a few years ago now reflect higher seasonal yields, in size, biomass, and in biodiversity, in the fish sanctuary at Quirimba island. Thus, the local communities have a good understanding of the benefits of the sanctuaries.

#### **Development of Park Management:**

In terms of Park infrastructure, the Ibo marine headquarters has been completed, and will be formally inaugurated during FY09. The construction of the secondary park house on Ibo has been put on hold until the Ibo Marine HQ is completed.

A major delay has been the installation of radios for the park, a process that is now nearly three

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years old. However, the contractors arrived in the park in mid July 2008 and the system was finally mounted and functional by the end of August.

The experience of our Quirimbas Development Committee (COMDEQ) committee, which involves the government institutions, communities, and the private sector, is an excellent example of inter-organizational coordination. This body, with representatives of NGOs, Communities, and government institutions (Police, Agriculture, Fisheries, etc.) considers and approves all major management decisions of the Park, greatly increasing the transparency and legitimacy of the QNP. COMDEQ provides a forum for discussion of various issues and allows us to diffuse many tensions and misunderstandings before they become a serious problem.

As part of the WWF Marine program, a full-time marine biologist has been contracted for the QNP, and he will be the lead person on both the expansion of the marine studies as well as supervising the remaining key studies to be carried out on the terrestrial side. In most areas of this component, progress has been made. Marine studies so far completed include

- Identification of Water points,
- Coral Monitoring,
- Sanctuary monitoring and research,
- Establishment of a database and collection system for monitoring fish captures,
- Elaboration of a macro level zoning plan,
- Introduction of Fisheries Co-management bodies in most of the coastal villages of the park.

### **Challenges and Lessons Learned**

#### **EAME program:**

The EAME Secretariat requires additional capacity to address global drivers including market-related issues and global demand of fisheries resources. There is need to continue engaging in establishment of new MPAs in Mozambique (P&S process) and Tanzania (Tanga process) and to promote MPA management effectiveness. The EAME Secretariat needs to engage in supporting a process for EAME states to sign a Fisheries Accord and make the EAME Monitoring Plan operational.

Overall the EAME Program performed quite well in FY08. All the previously initiated projects were maintained and new ones took off during this period including the collaborative fisheries management project at LAMU seascape in Kenya. The EAME activities during this period have brought the region even closer to providing solutions to some of challenging marine environmental issues that have direct impact on livelihoods of local communities, for example signing of the SADC IUU fishing declaration and adoption of SEA system for Nairobi Convention states. There has been tremendous momentum building within the WWF Network in implementing a wide range of projects in EAME. The EAME Secretariat is optimistic about the future of the WWF regional marine

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program since a strong foundation has been laid for implementation of large scale and transformational conservation interventions for the region.

**Kiunga:**

Incidental catch is still the highest cause of turtle mortality in KMNR. The WWF By-catch Network Initiative needs to design interventions such as the smart gear competition with components that specifically target artisanal fisheries for long term solutions to by-catch concerns.

The funding for alternative livelihood initiatives as a remedy to reduce over dependency on direct harvests from the environment needs to be explored, especially in such marginalized and poor communities. There is need to address sustainable livelihoods within conservation programs; the youth eco-tourism options will be a significant stride in this direction.

Increasing concerns over the effects of climate change introduce a new challenge to marine habitat resilience monitoring. Training fishermen to apply new monitoring methodologies will be a challenging task for WWF and its partners.

Fishers have to be economically empowered through the creation of micro-credit and other financial and saving schemes. There is enormous potential but the “non saving” culture among fishers will have to change. The largely Muslim fishing communities also have religious inclinations that have to be adopted to establish acceptable financial institutions that do not violate their cultural and religious beliefs.

Escalating combat in neighboring Somalia has the Kenyan government to deploy large troop numbers within KMNR catchments to populate the border. These troops have no background knowledge in marine conservation and end up fueling poaching through their consumption of turtle meat. The turtle conservation program has to address this problem in collaboration with KWS by educating armed forces personnel on the endangered status and legal protection of marine species such as turtles.

Children and youth are the most vital target groups in KMNR community. They are leaders of tomorrow and have to safeguard their future which is threatened by consumerism. Engaging children and youth in the actual conservation initiatives prepares them for the role that they will one day play as adults to support sustainable development.

**Quirimbas:**

According to fishers and project staff, both the fish and oyster sanctuaries now reflect higher seasonal yields, both in size and biomass, and in biodiversity in the fish species. Thus, the local communities have a good understanding of the benefits of the sanctuaries. However, immigrant

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fishermen violate the sanctuaries resulting in conflicts with the local communities.

QNP suffers from a severe lack of senior management staff, which leads to delays and the accumulation of essential strategic and analytical tasks. Furthermore, staffing in general in the QNP is too low. We have a total of 129 people in the QNP, including the rangers, to take care of an area of 7,500 km<sup>2</sup>.

The risk of oil and gas exploration continues. During FY08, Norsk Hydro performed seismic surveys inside the buffer zone of the park and Anadarko, located in the area just north of the park on the marine side, has so far agreed to WWF's requests not to conduct any seismic surveys in the buffer zone of the QNP in the first phase. While this may change in the second phase, WWF hopes that we will manage to keep the surveys away from the park. On the terrestrial side the original proposal by the company Artumas was to cut seismic lines in the park buffer zone as well. WWF made strong protests and Artumas too will now not enter into the buffer zone.

While QNP has been promised and allotted a reasonable amount of government financing for 2008, the park must now develop the mechanisms for the money to automatically be given to the park for the indefinite future. This is a massive challenge but essential for the long term future of the park. The second issue is the need to ensure that park revenues from entrance and concession fees are returned to the park immediately. This is a continual challenge that WWF and QNP are working on together.

Finally, during FY08, operational costs have continued to climb, particularly due to the aging of QNP's fleet of vehicles and the rapid increase in fuel costs. Both diesel and petrol increased significantly during 2007 and 2008, which has obviously impacted our budgets. At the same time the entry into service of the second speed boat "Gai vota" has also meant larger fuel costs for operations.

### **Subgrantees**

EAME Secretariat had no GCP-funded sub-grantees in FY08.

### **Annexes**

Annex 1. Proceedings of the Third Eastern African Marine Ecoregion Learning and Exchange Programme Held in Kiunga National Reserve in Kenya 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2007.