

Project Update: August 2014



The project intends to contribute significantly to conserve the coastal marine through an effective model for participatory community involvement. The ultimate goal is to ensure that marine resources are used and managed appropriately, to improve livelihoods for people while also delivering important environmental services in protection of globally important biodiversity in perpetuity. The initiative will assist the government of Kenya [GoK] in building local conservation capacity. It will help implement GoK's forest policy and

legislation and the environmental management and co-ordination act, which underscore the importance of community-based natural resources management. It will also demonstrate how investment can make environmentally-sound land management economically viable.

The project will help the government meet its obligation of conservation and sustainable use as set out in the convention on biological diversity. It will also contribute to poverty reduction strategy process. Most important this project will be major contribution to the implementation of the sea turtle strategic management plan recently produced with support from the USAID through the Kenya Wildlife Service.

The rationale behind this project is that, by working together, people will able to achieve more than individuals or organisations working on their own, and involving those affected is likely to result in a better and more acceptable long-term solution. These desired outcomes will thus led to increased acknowledgement of participatory activities as a means of achieving environmental and sustainability goals.

Implemented Activities

Consultative meetings and developing and registration of CFA and Management plan and guidelines

A series of fishermen's meetings were held in the different landing sites together with the area fisheries officer. The project in this component as attracted the county government which has expressed its plans to empower the local fishermen by building for proper fishing landing site with equipments and purchase for them a fishing boat. This will enable them to fish in deep waters and reduce destruction in destruction of the marine environment. The project is thus aligning selected activities such as fishing with the county government for sustainability strategies.

Environmental education and awareness including cross-cutting national issues (HIV/AIDS) & gender through schools, youth groups and women groups

Daily school visits were made to five schools where students were engaged in presentations and lectures about good environmental stewardship. The project involved three university interns from Pwani University who were in their academic learning attachments.



Establishment of tree nurseries and on-farm woodlots and mangrove planting

During this year's world environmental day, we managed to mobilise the local community, schools and stakeholders to mark the day by planting 6000 mangrove seedlings in Ngomeni. The project also distributed seedlings to five local schools that were planted in their school compounds. In community farms, a total of 30,000 *Casuarina* seedlings were planted. The event was attended by senior government officers from the national and county government.

Introduction and adoption of income generating activities (fishing, beekeeping and poultry)



There has been a great change in women involvement in conservation activities following the introduction of livelihood activities. The initiated activities of poultry and beekeeping has been well received and enabled the project be called for advice in forums organised by the local leadership in the project area on how other groups can benefit. Most beehives are colonised and honey harvesting is expected to be done by end of September 2014 where beneficiaries will realise their first sale. Birds provide have been well attended to with full participation of the

area livestock officer from the county government. The income activities have been received positively by the government and technical support and capacity building will be provided by the livestock department.

Monitoring patrolling, and by-catch release

Beach patrols have been conducted and two nests identified, marked and protected. Fishermen have been active in information dissemination especially for caught turtles. The project has



released seven green turtles back to the sea. As the sea was very rough as it was windy season, there were less fishing activities thus pressure was minimal in destructive activities.