

Project Update: October 2007

The project that was envisioned to provide the community groups with techniques of how to improve their livelihoods through silvofisheries activities while empowering them to conserve the mangrove wetlands has to date made some progress in the two community sites which include:

- A total of 40 community members and 5 forests and fisheries officers have been trained on mud crab culture using drive-in cages
- Each of the communities has 100 drive-in cages with a capacity to hold 100 crabs at ago. The crab training initiatives are going on and only hindered by lack of seed and mortalities which are being addressed to ensure profitability.
- A total of 2000 mangrove seedlings have been planted by the two community groups in the last 8 months and nursery developments to hold 250 seedlings each have been developed per site.
- In one of the sites (majaoni), down ponds are being tried for mud crab culture to test their productivity compared to drive-in cages.
- Arrangements are in place to have bamboos planted by each member which wallboards are planned for construction as from 10th November 2007.

The two community groups have been motivated and joined the coast silvofisheries forum that was formed under the Umbrella of Kwetu Training Centre under funding from WWF at the start of this year. The forum will be working hand in hand with the local community based organizations in fighting for better prices for their silvofisheries products.

