



WIOMSA *Newsbrief*

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Fishery co-management in Eastern and Southern Africa

Fishing contributes to employment, food security and foreign exchange in many African countries. That is now threatened by falling fish productivity. Co-management could be one arrangement to reconcile conservation of fisheries resources with the livelihood interests of fishing communities.

Between the 14th and 17th of March 2006 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, a workshop on "Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA): The Role of Small-scale Fisheries" was held. It was organized by the International Collective in Support of Fish workers (ICSF) in collaboration with WIOMSA, the Masifundise Development Trust and the Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA).

Participatory approach

The co-management approach in fishery resources management is recognized as an effective mechanism for addressing overexploitation of fishery resources as well as degradation of the coastal and marine environment. It also provides a forum for active involvement of fisher communities in the management of their resources.

In Mozambique, co-management programmes were introduced by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as parts of the Structural Adjustment Programmes (SAP). They stressed the importance of resource management based upon participatory approaches, devolution of authority and decentralization of power. Co-management soon became



In many places in the Eastern and Southern Africa, conflicting interests between conservation and socio-economic development have challenged the co-management concept. The photo shows the harbour in Boulders Bay in South Africa.

a requirement by many development partners. In 1994, the government of Mozambique approved a Fisheries Master Plan. The plan emphasized the involvement of fishermen in setting and enforcing management regimes.

Also in Lake Malawi, co-management was brought in by international agencies in the 1990s in response to declining fishery resources and intensified conflicts between small-scale and commercial

fisheries. Mr. Friday Njaya from the Fisheries Department of Malawi informed the workshop participants that from way back, there have been traditional structures to manage fisheries resources in Lake Malawi and Lake Chiuta. Now, user committees and associations called beach village committees (BVC) have been formed to establish Participatory Fishery Management (PFM).

Lake Malawi is a large water body supporting small-scale, semi-industrial and commercial fisheries, including trawling. There have been doubts whether PFM could work in such an area, but despite difficulties it has been possible to set up "broad based co-management" in Lake Malawi with the participation of stakeholders such as the police, magistrates, chiefs, government departments and the district assembly. There is now a move to introduce a closed season for trawlers. In smaller lakes such as Lake Chiuta PFM structures have shown to be useful mechanisms to resolve transboundary conflicts between Malawi and Mozambique.

Legal and capacity constraints

Mr. Simeao Lopes from the Institute for the Development of Small-scale

Fisheries (IDPPE) in Mozambique presented examples of constraints that affect an effective implementation of co-management in his country. One of the constraints is that the coastal communities have the right to use fisheries resources but not the right to participate in planning for the use or to act legally in respect of management of the same resources.

According to Mr. Lopes, the government has neither been able to empower fishing communities (legally, through economic incentives or through capacity building) to cope with resource management responsibilities, nor has there been an effort to use local knowledge in decision-making processes.

On the other hand, the government is encouraging tourism as a way to rapidly develop the country's economy, and has delegated the responsibility of some areas of the coastal zone to private tourism developers who not necessarily have the knowledge about, or the interest in, co-management of fisheries.

In Mr. Lopes' opinion, there are also restrictions associated with the concept of participation. In many fishing communities, participation does not apply to all the members, only to the local elite and the traditional and religious leaders. There could thus be conflicts between participa-

tory democracy as demanded by funding agencies and governments, and effective fisheries management as it happens on the ground.

Conflicts conservation - development

Mr. Lopes emphasized the importance of integrating local authorities as well as local knowledge into co-management. For the fishing community, it could be a way to reach full control of their marine resources through the devolution of power and responsibilities. He also said it is necessary to determine the different approaches of different players in co-management and their understanding of "sustainable development".

Also Mr. Njaya spoke about co-management having to be based on local conditions and developed in a contextual manner. He said it is important to make a policy distinction between the rural poor and the village elite in co-management programmes.

Mr. Mafaniso Hara from the University of Western Cape, South Africa explained that generally in ESA conflicting objectives between conservation of fishery resources and socioeconomic development of fishing communities have been critical aspects to a well-functioning co-management. He reiterated that centralized co-management systems are still favored and that the local communities are usually not legally empowered to negotiate with the government.

Agitating communities

Consequently, Mr. Hara advocated that the community should be better informed about the fishery resources and alternative sources of livelihoods possible to combine with fishing. He also highlighted the significance of the ability of communities to agitate. They should challenge formal science (including international conventions) using their local knowledge, agitate for enabling legislation, better information and better organization of co-management structures with improved human and financial resources.

Source: SAMUDRA, Report No. 43, March 2006

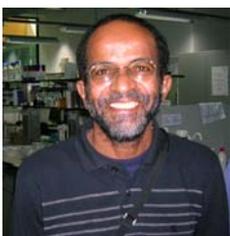


Group photo of the participants of the workshop "Fishing Communities and Sustainable Development in Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA): The Role of Small-scale Fisheries" that was held during 14-17 March, 2006 at Kurasini Training and Conference Centre in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. A total of 53 participants attended the workshop.

WIOMSA's newly elected Country Coordinators

WIOMSA's Country Coordinators are very important as they are part of the WIOMSA Secretariat. Members of each country elect their own Coordinator who acts as a link between the country and the WIOMSA Secretariat. The new Country Coordinators for the next three years were elected early this year.

Comoros - Hachime Abdérémane



Mr. Hachime Abdérémane has been the Comoros Country Coordinator for WIOMSA for the last three years and was re-elected for another term in

2006. He works for an NGO called Ulanga-Ngazidja, which addresses issues of environmental concern in Comoros. He also writes for a magazine known as "Habari za Ulanga" that deals with the environment.

It is now almost 14 years since Mr. Abdérémane started working in environment conservation. He worked for a biodiversity project as community motivator between 2001 and 2004. In late December 2004 he became the focal point for enabling capacity development on biodiversity national strategy.

He has assisted in organizing WIOMSA meetings and training and has regularly dispersed WIOMSA news and experience to the WIOMSA members of his country as well as maintained regular communication with the WIOMSA Secretariat.

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Kenya - Jacqueline Uku



Working in the seagrass beds has been Dr. Uku's passion. As a research scientist based at the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) in Mombasa,

Kenya, the focus of her research has been the effects of nutrient enrichment on seagrass and epiphytic productivity. Currently, she is working in collaboration

with Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO) where they have partnership with fishermen to assess changes in seagrass communities due to sea urchin herbivory. Dr. Uku's interest in seagrass research has also enabled her to serve as a member of the World Seagrass Association Management Committee.

Having been a member of WIOMSA since its inception, she has witnessed tremendous growth in membership over the years.

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Madagascar - ManWai Rabenevanana



Dr. Rabenevanana has a doctorate in Marine Ecology from the University of Montpellier II in France, specializing in Fisheries. Since 2001, he has been the Director of Marine Sciences and Fisheries

Institute (IH.SM). Dr. Rabenevanana has also been the Head of Research Department and the Director of Research in the University of Toliara (1994-2001) as

well as the Project Manager for the Development of capacity building of Fisheries Administration, funded by UNDP/FAO (1989 – 1993).

He has been involved in a number of projects covering different topics including spiny lobster fisheries, deep-sea shrimp fishery and aquaculture: Rural development projects (sea cucumber, fish, shrimp, shells culture etc.). Furthermore, Dr. Rabenevanana has worked in pollution and coastal zone management projects dealing with remediation of marine pollution in the coastal zone of Toliara, and ecotourism.

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Mauritius - Chandani Appadoo

Ms. Appadoo is currently Senior Lecturer at the Department of Biosciences University of Mauritius. She has been teaching undergraduate students for

12 years in marine biology, ecology and behaviour, invertebrate and vertebrate zoology and animal diversity.

Ms. Appadoo has been involved in marine-related student research projects especially on mangrove ecosy-

stems. Her main area of research is on biodiversity and taxonomy of marine invertebrates, namely amphipods (crustaceans) of the Mascarenes and to date she has described 17 new species from Mauritius.

Ms. Appadoo has also attended several short training programs on zooplanktons (Seychelles), biodiversity (Rodrigues) and mangrove ecosystems (CASMB, India). Her first contact with WIOMSA dates back to 1994 when she attended a training workshop on zooplankton at IMS, Zanzibar.

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Mocambique - Adriano Macia

Dr. Macia holds a PhD degree in Systems Ecology from the University of Stockholm, Sweden. He is a senior lecturer at the University Eduardo Mondlane lecturing in

marine biology and ecology as well as supervising undergraduate and graduate students. Dr. Macia's research interest is the nursery function of coastal habitats for commercial penaeid shrimps with emphasis on mangrove shrimps relationship for management purposes. He has participated in the conception

and implementation of a number of regional research projects such as "Interlinkages between Coastal Ecosystems" (mangroves, seagrasses, coral reefs and sandy beaches); the INCO-DC "Macrobenthos of the Eastern African mangroves: life cycle and reproductive biology of exploited species".

Dr. Macia is currently involved in the following initiatives: Catchment 2 Coast project, the Transboundary networks of marine protected areas for integrated conservation and sustainable development (TRANSMAP) project and the Peri-urban mangrove forests as filters and potential phytoremediators for domestic sewage in East Africa (PUMPSEA) all funded by European Union (EU). He has

carried out several environmental impact assessments of developing projects in coastal areas of Mozambique.

Dr. Macia is a member of WIOMSA as well as of the International Association for Impact Assessment (South African Chapter).

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Reunion - Matthieu Le Corre

Dr. Le Corre is currently a lecturer and a researcher at the laboratory of marine ecology (ECOMAR) of the University of La Réunion.

His main research interest is on ecology and conservation of tropical seabirds as marine top predators of the western Indian Ocean.

Dr. Le Corre is the principal investigator of a MASMA project that began in

early 2005 researching on seabirds as bio-indicators of natural or man-induced changes in the marine environment, with a special focus on tuna industrial fisheries. To conduct this multi-disciplinary research at the regional scale, he has developed collaborations with the Seychelles, Madagascar as well as various research institutions in France.

Dr. Le Corre has been the Country Coordinator of WIOMSA in Réunion since 2003 and was re-elected during the 2006 election.

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Seychelles - Colleen Morel

Ms. Morel is a Social Scientist (Geographer) by training, with long experience in education at both secondary and tertiary levels.

She has also, during that time, been involved in Environmental Education, and awareness and advocacy programmes, which has given exposure to diverse media campaigns and production of publications.

Ms. Morel has for the past year and a half been working for the Seychelles

Fishing Authority (SFA) as Principal Liaison Officer, a position recently created to help raise the profile of the organization. She is responsible for all communications within and outside SFA, as well as promoting good working relations with both governmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with fisheries. Ms. Morel's job also entails an international cooperation component, with the aim of enhancing collaboration in the region and beyond. She forms part of the Senior Management Team.

Good communication and interpersonal skills are Ms. Morel's strengths.

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South Africa - Michael Schleyer

Prof. Schleyer is Deputy Director of the Oceanographic Research Institute in Durban. He is primarily involved in marine invertebrate ecology but has experience in other fields

including microbial ecology.

Since 1990, Prof. Schleyer has specialized in coral reef research, conduc-

ting multi-disciplinary studies on Kwa-Zulu-Natal and Mozambican coral reefs. This includes regional involvement in ICRI, CORDIO, GCRMN and WIOMSA activities. He has also been involved in studies in Eritrea, Somaliland, Kenya, Mozambique and Madagascar. He has visited reefs in a number of countries and conducted collaborative research with scientists from Eritrea, Mozambique, Canada and several European countries.

Prof. Schleyer is committed to improving research capacity within the WIO

region and has invited a number of post-graduate students to work with him.

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Tanzania - Charles Lugomela

Dr. Lugomela is a lecturer at the Faculty of Aquatic Sciences and Technology (FAST), University of Dar es Salaam.

He obtained his PhD in Plant Physiology at Stockholm University in Sweden, during 2002.

Dr. Lugomela has published articles in International Journals. His area of specialization is plankton physiology and ecology.

Dr. Lugomela is currently the Associate Dean (Academic) and Board member of FAST. He is also an active member of WIOMSA.

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Zanzibar - Narriman Jiddawi

Dr. Jiddawi is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Marine Sciences, UDSM in Zanzibar. She obtained her PhD

at the University of Dar es Salaam in the year 2000.

Dr. Jiddawi has previously been the Associate Director of the Institute of Marine Sciences until July 2003. Her research activities include Fisheries management and mariculture.

Dr. Jiddawi has a particular interest in community involvement in fisheries and coastal management activities. She

is also involved in marine mammal research in Tanzania and has assisted in the formulation of the first Community managed marine mammal Association in East Africa.

Dr. Jiddawi cooperates a lot with local and outside institutions and has co-facilitated regional courses on fisheries and coastal management issues. She has also supervised several foreign and local students doing research in Zanzibar.

Dr. Jiddawi is an active member of WIOMSA and has served as a member of the Board of Trustees. She has represented WIOMSA in various meetings and mobilised several members to join the Association and to make it known worldwide.

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The Fifth WIOMSA Scientific Symposium

WIOMSA and the Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI) have the pleasure to announce the Fifth WIOMSA Scientific Symposium, with the theme "Science, Policy and Management: pressures and responses in the Western Indian Ocean region". The Symposium will be held from the 22nd to the 26th of October 2007, in Durban, South Africa.

Every second year, WIOMSA organizes a regional symposium that aims at promoting communication between policy makers, scientists and stakeholders. These symposiums are becoming premier regional events for scientists, coastal and marine managers and practitioners, representatives from non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations and funding agencies. Next year, the Symposium will be held in Durban and hosted by the Oceanographic Research Institute (ORI). The Symposium theme will be: "Science, Policy and Management: pressures and responses in the Western Indian Ocean region".

For more information and enquiries, visit WIOMSA's website, www.wiomsa.org, or use the contact details below:

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Call for Proposals.

Deadline 1 November 2006.

Biodiversity History

The Census of Marine Life projects Natural Geography in Shore Areas and Historical Marine Animal Populations are uniting their efforts to look at species richness and abundance in intertidal and subtidal seagrass and rocky shore communities.

The goal of this collaborative project 'History of the Near Shore' is to identify specific local sites on which historical (pre1980) records of nearshore biodiversity are available and to resample them under the auspices of the NaGISA project, thus including them in NaGISA's global nearshore database and ongoing monitoring efforts while assessing that specific regions trends in biodiversity.

For more information, visit WIOMSA's website, www.wiomsa.org, or use the contact details below:

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TRANSMAP biodiversity workshop

Work protocol developed for TRANSMAP biodiversity studies.

The regional European Union funded project on transboundary networks of marine protected areas - TRANSMAP - organized a standardization and work protocol development workshop at Inhaca Island Marine Biological Station, Mozambique, from 8 to 16 May 2006. The workshop was attended by participants from Mozambique (University Eduardo Mondlane), Tanzania (Institute of Marine Sciences), South Africa (Oceanographic Research Institute), Portugal (University of Lisbon), United Kingdom (The Natural History Museum) and Sweden (World Maritime University). The focus was on biodiversity studies being undertaken by TRANSMAP with the

overall objective of establishing transboundary networks of marine protected areas. The workshop focused on standardization of research methods for studies on seagrasses, mangroves, coral reefs and rocky and sandy shores.

Furthermore, the workshop functioned as a platform for sharing and learning from one another. Students were involved to build their capacity in working with the common work protocols that were developed.

Despite the bad weather that characterised most of the working week, the coral reef group could still conduct some diving sessions during the last two days. In general the workshop objectives were fulfilled and a standard work protocol, which will be



Workshop participants leaving the Inhaca Island Marine Biodiversity Station, heading for the rocky shore to conduct biodiversity exercises.

employed during the sampling period scheduled to begin in June has now been established.

The workshop participants are grateful to the Inhaca Marine Biological Station (MBSI) authorities for allowing the TRANSMAP group to stay and use the station's facilities during the workshop.

Farewell letter from the Communication and Extension Coordinator



WIOMSA's Communication and Extension Coordinator, Anna Blomberg is here seen getting the feel of the cooler waters of the Atlantic Ocean when she recently visited the western coast of South Africa.

"My contract at WIOMSA is coming to an end I want to say farewell and thank you to my colleagues and the members of WIOMSA who made my time here so pleasant. My two years as the Communication and Extension Coordinator at WIOMSA have been a splendid learning experience and I am very thankful for the opportunity to work with marine and coastal issues in the western Indian Ocean region and the people of the region.

It has been exciting to work with WIOMSA in its various outreach activities, such as the new website, the 4th Scientific Symposium in Mauritius and the first printed popular version of WIOMSA's annual report. It has also been thrilling to see how WIOMSA continues going from strength to strength growing into something even more significant every year. However, the wide road ahead beckons the feet to move on and it's time to let a new Communication and Extension Coordinator take the helm here at this regional hub of marine science.

As I move on at the end of August, I hope to remain available for WIOMSA and its members even in the future and I look forward to keeping in touch with the large network WIOMSA has introduced me to."

Anna Blomberg

Terence Vel thrilled over nature conservation award.

WIOMSA member wins award

"Terence Vel, a conservationist working with Nature Seychelles has won a BP Conservation Program (BPCP) Award for 2006 to conserve the Seychelles sheath tailed bat (*Coleura seychellensis*) or sou-souri banan in Creole. The award is a cash prize of US Dollars 25,000.00, which is to be used for a team building conservation project. Terence says he is thrilled with this prize which is further international recognition of the excellent work being done by Nature Seychelles, the government and others.

The BPCP is an international scheme started in 1985 by the oil company bp with four international conservation organisations as partners. The Program aims to contribute to long-term environmental conservation and sustainable development in priority areas by encouraging and engaging potential leaders in conservation, and providing opportunities for them to gain practical skills and experience."

Source: Seychelles Nation, 20th of March, 2006.

New nomination of Fellow and Honorary members

Nominate someone you think has contributed to the marine science or improved management of coastal and marine resources in the region to become Fellow or Honorary member of WIOMSA! Deadline is 31st of August 2006.

According to the constitution of WIOMSA, Fellow and Honorary memberships are awards and are granted to individuals in recognition of their exemplary, outstanding or distinguished contribution with respect to the development of marine science research in the region and/or problem-solving and actions geared towards improving management of coastal and marine environment in the WIO region.

WIOMSA hereby wishes to invite nominations for these two awards. Nominations should include candidates from a broad range of backgrounds, disciplines, and institutional settings. These include individuals from the physical and social sciences, including fields such as oceanography, economics, environmental law and policy, as well as engineering, natural resource management, advocacy and conservation education, and communications.

Fellow membership

Fellow members will be selected based on their contribution to marine science (with respect to research and education) in one or more of the following ways:

- Recognized exceptional scholarly activity and/or exceptional service to the scientific community at the national, regional and international levels;
- Significant leadership in the individual's field of specialization.

The Fellow should have wide recognition in the WIO region and internationally.

Eligibility for Fellow membership

To be eligible for Fellow membership, the nominee must fulfill the following:

- Be an author in a peer reviewed paper published in the past five years that makes the greatest contribution to advancement in marine sciences;
- Played a key role in the initiation of a number of research projects;

- Satisfy at least one of the following:

- Citizen or Resident in the WIO region;
- Have spent at least 5 years in the WIO region actively engaged on research related to marine sciences or in directing, teaching or training of persons in the field of marine sciences in the region.

Honorary membership

Honorary Membership is conferred to individuals who have rendered a notable service and significant contribution to the development of marine science in the WIO region including improving management of coastal and marine resources.

Eligibility for Honorary membership

To be eligible for an Honorary membership, the nominee must fulfill the following:

- Played a key role in the initiation of important programmes/projects that have made a significant impact towards poverty alleviation in the coastal communities and towards conservation of coastal and marine environment;
- Provided leadership that has contributed to significant improvement of management of coastal and marine environment;
- Contributed significantly in the management process as well as policy formulation at the local, national, regional, and global levels;
- Raised significant funding to support research and conservation efforts in the region.

The Honorary membership is open to individuals from within and outside the region.

Nomination

Anyone can nominate up to two individuals for each of the awards. All nominations shall be made using the form which can be downloaded from www.wiomsa.org.

Please note that individuals may be nominated in more than one award.

The nomination form is very simple and requires you to provide your reasons for nominating the candidates for the awards. The information in the form serves as a recommendation for the candidate.

Self nominations as well as nominations of the serving WIOMSA Board members are not accepted.

Nominees will be contacted directly by the WIOMSA Secretariat and requested to provide additional information about themselves and their activities.

Selection

Awardees are chosen by the WIOMSA Board of Trustees. The Board will determine, based on information submitted by the nominee, whether they show exceptional contribution in research and/or management of coastal and marine environment. Nominees will be evaluated using a wide range of criteria developed by the Board.

For more information, contact the WIOMSA Secretariat, see details below.

