

Western Indian Ocean Mangrove Network

Special Session at the 10th WIOMSA Scientific Symposium

ADVANCING THE WIO MANGROVE NETWORK



2nd November 2017



1. Setting the Stage

The session started at 11:15 am with welcoming remarks from the Chair of the session, Dr. Anusha Rajkaran. She invited the participants to introduce themselves. Scientists, managers and various persons with interests in mangrove conservation attended the session (Annex 1). The chair took members through the programme of the session (Annex 2).

2. Network Progress

2.1 Network Constitution - Dr. Anusha Rajkaran

Participants were taken through the draft Constitution of the Network with emphasis on major areas such as membership, leadership, roles and responsibilities and were then welcomed to share input. There was a consensus on the contents of the constitution.



2.2 Network and Mangrove Research and Training Forests (MRTF) Websites – Dr. Mwita Mangora

It was reported that there was need for a timely and proper information sharing platform and thus the idea of a website. Two websites were under development with the technical assistance of the University of North Carolina, US Forest Service and financial support from USAID SWAMP and were already accessible. The participants were taken through the Network site which included contents such as: a descriptor page, member countries, output and contacts for the Network, among others. It was pointed out that the sites would be used to share information from field missions such as the Rufiji Delta mission which was funded by USAID. It was reported that there were three MRTFs already established: Rufiji Delta, Maputo Bay and Gazi Bay. These would be used for long-term data collection and studies. As administrator of the sites, the Network's Secretary welcomed all to visit them even as the sites were still under development. He further pointed out that the sites would be free to members and would provide space for links to sites of the relevant partners in mangrove conservation. He encouraged all members to use it and share it.



2.3 WIO Mangrove assessment and Restoration Manual/Guide – Dr. Mwita Mangora

It was explained that pitfalls had been noted by the Network on assessment and restoration of mangroves where there were huge variations on the approach on assessment and reporting; there was need for uniform datasets. The commonalities, differences and needs were further assessed during the 2013 regional workshop in Maputo; a need for region-specific protocols was noted. It was pointed out that a draft protocol featuring field observations and sampling techniques as well as a framework for a restoration guide had been drafted. These would be circulated through the country leads for input from members. A discussion ensued with the following being raised:

Issues	Input
The ownership of the guide	The Network is not a profit-making organisation and has largely depended on donor support. The guide would be freely available on the website
Mangrove damage through oil spills	Captured in the mangrove book
Submission of information to the Websites	This would be through the country leads to avoid overlaps
Main target for restoration guide	Guide cuts across states, civil society and all involved in restoration
Translation of information on Network websites (including constitution) to local languages	Translations to key languages would be considered in the future and when resources would allow To start with the assessment guide had a Portuguese translation
Has the restoration guide considered adoption in country level	In process of gathering information

3. Country Updates

The presenters gave general descriptions of their countries' mangrove coverage, uses and threats as follows:

3.1 Kenya – Amina Juma

Mangrove coverage is about 62,000 ha with 60% in Lamu. The forests are threatened by both anthropogenic and natural factors. 40% loss has been recorded between 1989 to 2009. Root causes of degradation and deforestation include: population pressure, low education level and inequality, poor governance. Kenya now has a mangrove management plan developed in accordance to the Forest Conservation & Management Act 2016 that requires development of management plans for all gazetted forests. The plan provides a roadmap to sustainable management of mangroves for enhanced livelihood. Efforts to map and document restoration activities are underway.



3.2 Tanzania – Mwita Mangora

Mangroves are managed by two jurisdictions, the Union government for mainland and Zanzibar government for islands. Total coverage is about 135,000 ha. Rufiji Delta have nearly 50% but rice farming is a major challenge. There is focus on Rufiji Delta because of the different dynamics in the mangroves and it has thus been made a research site. There are 2 conflicting legal frameworks within the delta and researchers and scientists are working with government to find modalities resolve the conflicts.

3.3 South Africa – Anusha Rajkaran

All mangroves are situated along estuaries. There has been a survey to update the Mcneiz study on coverage. There are efforts to have long term monitoring programme of the mangroves. The emerging issues include large storms in Durban, which may affect the mangroves. There is also loss of mangroves in St Lucia though they were not there originally. Emerging research focuses on analyses and quantification of ecosystem services.

3.4 Madagascar – Dannick Randriamanantena

There are efforts to revive the National commission for integrated mangrove management. There are also discussions on amendment of the law on use of mangroves. There have been efforts on capacity building, which has involved participation from community representatives involved in mangrove management. Three mangrove sites have been recognized as RAMSAR sites with several ongoing national, regional and local initiative projects on mangrove conservation. Support was deemed necessary in a number of issues such as: mapping of mangroves and integration of mangroves to NDCs. A number of new collaborations and funding towards mangrove conservation were also noted: USAID Environmental Program, Swedish government, UK government and WWF.

3.5 Small Islands (Mayotte) - Claire Golley

There are 600 ha of mangroves, largest block is about 100 ha. Mangroves have been acknowledged as priority as they are being faced with a lot of pollution from land and sea and encroachment for development. A national mangrove management plan is being developed and is expected to be completed by end of the year. There are data gaps on biodiversity and efforts are geared towards getting this. Mangrove management is relatively recent as they are still in political reorganisation, thus a lot is yet to be done.

4. Regional and International Partnerships

4.1 Scaling up initiatives to protect and restore a life-saving ecosystem - Julika Tribukait (WWF-Germany)

The presenter started by giving an overview of the achievement and struggles of current mangrove protection efforts, as well as the growing awareness in the political dimensions. She then proceeded to introduce the initiatives aimed at scaling mangrove protection named: “Save our Mangroves Now!” and the Global Mangrove Alliance as well as their objectives, fields of action and research and cooperation needs in the WIO region. From this presentation, discussions emanated as follows:

Issue	Reaction
Strengthening the national and regional collaboration	The Global mangrove knowledge hub could be linked to the Network website
The basis for coming up with the value (20%) as targeted mangrove increment	The assessment for the same had been done by TNC. It was recommended that communication to the relevant scientific community ought to be right from the start
The need for root cause analyses of mangrove destruction	There is need to work with actors in the region, as well as the local communities so as to understand this
The approach of implementation of the initiatives. Is it through networks?	The Alliance gathers all actors involved in the field. Discussions are on-going with some possible partners The initiative be made as participatory as possible

4.2 Mangrove Capital Africa - Julie Mulonga (Wetland International)

The presenter described the Mangrove Capital Africa as a project aimed at safeguarding and restoring mangrove ecosystems in East and West Africa. The project was currently piloting in Rufiji Delta (Tanzania) and Saloum Delta (Senegal). Mr Ibrahima Thiam, the Africa Region Director gave a brief overview of Wetlands International. Mr. Ismail Said, Rufiji Delta Project Manager also gave an overview of the WI initiative and its implementing partners in the Mangrove Capital Africa in Tanzania, including government, research and training institutions, NGOs and CSOs. The presentation was concluded by the official launch of the project, symbolized by cutting of a ribbon. One of the participants requested to know whether the project initiatives were also being considered in West Africa. In response, all were informed that there was interest in the West Africa and the WIOMSA model had already been borrowed.

4.3 TransCoast - Prof. Nico Koedam

The presenter described the TransCoast project as transboundary research project aiming at gathering data to inform development of the proposed Transboundary Conservation Area (TBCA) between Kenya and Tanzania.

5. Concluding Remarks

- In conclusion, the chair of the session, Dr. Anusha, appreciated all participants' presence and input. She gave encouragement to the team handling the restoration guide and emphasizing its importance.
- The next meeting would be held at the next WIOMSA Symposium.
- There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

Annex 1. List of Participants

SN	NAME	INSTITUTION	COUNTRY	EMAIL
1.	Amina Juma	KMFRI	Kenya	Amina_j2002@yahoo.com
2.	Anne Kairu	University of Embu	Kenya	Kairuanne1@gmail.com
3.	Bonface Mutisya	KMFRI	Kenya	Mutisya03@gmail.com
4.	Charles Kihia	Egerton University	Kenya	Charles.kihia@gmail.com
5.	Dannick Randriamanantena	WWF Madagascar	Madagascar	drandriawanantenk@wwf.mg
6.	Donald Maringa	KMFRI	Kenya	dmmwasaru@gmail.com
7.	Dresy Lovasoa	WWF Madagascar	Madagascar	ldresy@wwf.mg
8.	Elikana John	Tanzania Forest Service	Tanzania	emjohny@yahoo.co.uk
9.	Elizabeth Mueni	KMFRI	Kenya	emuenibf@yahoo.com
10.	F. Vorhies	Earthmind	Switzerland	vorhies@earthmind.org
11.	Fiona Mackay	Oceanographic Res. Institute	South Africa	Fmackay@on.orgza
12.	Florian M. Mkeya	Tanzania Forest Service	Tanzania	floriamkeya@gmail.com
13.	Fredrick Tamoooh	Kenyatta University	Kenya	fltamoooh@yahoo.com
14.	Gabriel Griasditch	UNEP	Kenya	Gabriel.grimdtch@unep.org
15.	Claire Golley	University of Mayotte (France)	Mayotte (France)	Claire.golley@univ.mayotte.fr
16.	Hamisi Kirauni	KMFRI	Kenya	hamisikirauni@yahoo.com
17.	Hieromin Lamtane	SUA	Tanzania	wamtan@suanet.ac.tz
18.	Ibrahima Thian	Wetlands International	Senegal	ithiam@wetlands-africa.org
19.	Janet Ntabo	KMFRI	Kenya	ntaboj@yahoo.com
20.	January Ndagala	MPRU	Tanzania	January.Ndagala@gmail.com
21.	Jean Huge	VUB	Belgium	Jean.huge@vub.ac.be
22.	Jerome Harlay	University of Seychelles	Seychelles	Jerome.harlay@unisey.ac.sc
23.	Jose Paula	University of Lisbon (Portugal)	Portugal	Jpaula@fc.ul.pt
24.	Judicail Rakotondrazafy	WWF Madagascar	Madagascar	jiakotondrazafy@wwf.mg
25.	Julie Mulonga	Wetlands International	Kenya	jmulonga@wetlands-africa.org
26.	Julika Tribukait	WWF-Germany	Germany	Julika.tribukait@wwf.de
27.	Nico Koedam	Vrije Universiteit Brussel	Belgium	nikoedam@vub.be
28.	Lammert Hilaridus	Wetland International	The Netherlands	Lammert.hilaridus@wetlands.org
29.	Lein Vivier	University of Zululand	South Africa	vivien@unizulu.ac.za
30.	Lilian Mwihaki	Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute	Kenya	mwihakimugi@yahoo.com
31.	Liliett Francisco	Lurtio University	Mozambique	liliettjt@gmail.com
32.	Loic Gillerot	VUB	Belgium	Loic.gillerot@hotmail.com
33.	Longepee Esmeraldo	University of Mayotte (France)	Mayotte (France)	Esmervaldo.longepee@uni.mayotte.fr
34.	Maria Asplund	Stockholm Uni/ Gothenburg	Sweden	Maria.asplund@su.se
35.	Martin Dahl	Stockholm Univ	Sweden	Martin.dahl@su.se
36.	Martin Gullstroum	Stockholm Univ	Sweden	Martin.gullstroum@su.se
37.	Mathew Richmond	COWI Tanzania	Tanzania	matt@samaki.net
38.	Mburu Fredrick	KMFRI	Kenya	mburufredrickm@gmail.com

SN	NAME	INSTITUTION	COUNTRY	EMAIL
39.	Michael Githaiga	University of Embu	Kenya	Njoroge.michael04@gmail.com
40.	Mwanahija Shalli	IMS	Tanzania	Mshalli2012@yahoo.com
41.	N.S. Jiddawi	IMS	Tanzania	N_jiddawi@yahoo.com
42.	Nasreen Peer	Nelson Mandela University	RSA	Peer.nasreen@gmail.com
43.	Niel Saintlan	Macquarie University	Australia	Neil.saintlan@mq.edu.ar
44.	Olof Linden	World Maritime University	Sweden	ol@wmu.se
45.	Omar Suleiman	IMS	Tanzania	Omarsule75.5b@gmail.com
46.	Papa Nawede Wade	Wetlands International Africa	Senegal	pnwade@wetlands-africa.org
47.	Rahombanjanahary Diazy	WWF Madagascar	Madagascar	Drakonit.anjunakary@wwf.mg
48.	Rakotondrananana Fenohasina Fanilo	University of Antananarivo	Madagascar	fenohasinafanilo@gmail.com
49.	Ramanamandinby	University of Antananarivo	Madagascar	rmdpierot@yahoo.fr
50.	Raphaelle Flint	IUCN	Switzerland	Raphaelle.Flint@IUCN.org
51.	Ratovoson Simian Aina Navalı	University of Antananarivo	Madagascar	mainanavalı@yahoo.fr
52.	Richard Lucas	Alophum University	UK	Richard.lucas@unsw.edu.au
53.	Salomao Bandeira	VEM	Mozambique	salomoabendeira@gmail.com
54.	Shawlet Cherono	KU/KMFRI	Kenya	shawletcherono@gmail.com
55.	Sinegugu Mbense	Nelson Mandela University	South Africa	S210235438@mamu.ac.zd
56.	Steven Weerts	Lockcifor Scientific & Industrial Research	South Africa	sweerts@csir.co.za
57.	Sucré Elliott	University of Mayotte	Mayotte (France)	Elliott.sucré@univ.mayotte.fr
58.	Trettin Carl	USDA Forest service	USA	etrettin@ts.fed.us
59.	Van Puyvelde Karolien	VUB, Oceans and Lakes	Belgium	Karolien.van.puyvelde@vub.be
60.	Anusha Rajkarani	University of Western Cape	South Africa	arajkarani@uwz.ac.za
61.	Mwita Mangora	Institute of Marine Sciences	Tanzania	mmangora@yahoo.com

APOLOGIES

	NAME	INSTITUTION	COUNTRY
1.	Jared Bosire	WWF - Kenya	Kenya
2.	James Kairo	KMFRI	Kenya

Annex 2. Programme

TIME	ACTIVITY/AGENDA
11:00 – 11:20	Registration, Welcome note and introductions
	Network progress
11:20 – 11:30	Network Constitution
11:30 – 11:40	Network and MRTF websites
11:40 – 12:00	WIO Mangrove Assessment and Restoration Manual/ guide
	Country updates (major issues on mangroves)
12:00 – 12:05	Kenya
12:05 – 12:10	Tanzania
12:10 – 12:15	Mozambique
12:15 – 12:20	South Africa
12:20 – 12:25	Madagascar
12:25 – 12:30	Small Islands
	Regional and International Partnerships
12:30 –13:00	The Global Mangrove Alliance (CI, IUCN, TNC, WI, WWF)
13:00 –14:00	LUNCH
	Regional and International Partnerships
14:00 –14:30	Mangrove Capital Africa, Global/Africa Mangrove Watch (WI)
14:30 –15:00	Save Our Mangroves Now Initiative (WWF Germany)
15:00 –15:20	TransCoast (VUB, KMFRI, IMS)
15:20 –15:30	Concluding Remarks and Way forward