

IUCN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA REGIONAL (ESARO) COMMITTEE REPORT

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1.0 Introduction

The first meeting of the IUCN Members' for Eastern and Southern Africa convened in Nairobi, Kenya on October 22nd to 23rd 2009. The meeting was attended by members from the two regions, representatives from the IUCN Commission, 2 (two) IUCN Councilors for Africa and technical staff from IUCN ESARO Secretariat attended the meeting and were instrumental in providing information to members.

The main objective was a) to improve the understanding of the 2009 – 2012 ESARO Programme and ensure members' buy-in into the "One Programme Approach" of IUCN; b) to improve the understanding of the ESARO Constituency Engagement plans and the role of members and Committees; c) to explore the potential of collaboration amongst members on priority thematic areas; d) to review and adopt the Draft Constitution of the IUCN Regional Committee for Eastern and Southern Africa and elect office bearers; and e) to agree on the approach and strategy for the preparations for the 2012 IUCN World Conservation Congress. There have been re-launching and formation of national committees in the last four years and notably Kenya, Uganda and Malawi. The recent regional committee meeting was held in May 2012, South Africa where a road-map was drafted for participating in the 2012 IUCN congress in Jeju, South Korea and also revitalized activities of the ESARO regional committee.

The following are the activities of the national committees in the region in accordance with the IUCN global programme:

2.0 Malawi National Committee.

The Malawi National Committee for IUCN has just been established in 2011 from the membership of the Wildlife & Environmental Society of Malawi, the Malawi Environmental Endowment Trust, the Coordination Union for the Rehabilitation of the Environment, the Centre for Environmental Policy & Advocacy, and the Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust. With the recent approval given to the latter two to join the network, there were now sufficient members to start-up a national committee.

As there are only NGO members to IUCN in Malawi, a positive meeting has been held recently with the Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Climate Change & the Environment to initiate the process of state and governmental department agency membership.

The national committee has met regularly and despite the trying economic circumstances in the country, has enthusiasm to work together to motivate change through this small forum. The committee's primary objective in this formative period is to discuss the priority issues facing the nation and publicise a communiqué on these to influence decision-makers. The committee looks forward to developing cooperation with others in order to develop a more active profile on conservation issues within Malawi.

A major focus of the national committee's work this first year has been to successfully nominate the candidature of Mr Mafa Chipeta for potential election at Jeju as a Councillor for Africa to the IUCN Council and now to campaign the international membership for his election. This active campaign is ongoing involving meetings in the region by the candidate, email information circulations and website promotion.

The national chairperson has been committed to regional undertakings and the entire membership shall attend the Assembly meeting in Korea, with gratitude to the kind assistance of the regional office.



Selection of IUCN members with Secretariat's Mr Chikoko at the 2011 inauguration.

3.0 Kenya National Committee

The most notable achievement is the formation and formal recognition of Kenya IUCN National Committee. At its 75th meeting, the IUCN Council, meeting held in Gland 18-20th November 2011 granted formal recognition to Kenya IUCN National Committee of IUCN members.

This followed the first IUCN regional members meeting for Eastern and Southern Africa Office (ESARO) in Nairobi, Kenya on October 22nd to 23rd 2009. After this meeting Kenya elected its office bearers and developed its National Committee Constitution. The committee was established as a non-profit association of IUCN Members as forum of Members, as of 16 October 2009. With this the committee was formally recognized and also engaged in "One Programme Approach"

Global result 1.1: Biodiversity-related policies and governance systems enable action towards the achievement of biodiversity conservation.

Global result 1.2: IUCN standards, tools and knowledge for sustainable natural resource management are available and actions are taken for biodiversity conservation including effective management of global and regional common natural resources.

WCK together with a partner from Uganda (Nature Uganda) and WWF Tanzania responded to the core programme area of Conserving Biodiversity. With support from WWF Sweden through WWF Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Programme Office (ESARPO), the Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK), during the reporting period implemented the Lake Victoria

Catchment Environmental Education Programme (LVCEEP). LVCEEP covers Homabay and Transmara Districts and, Nandi South area in Kenya, in Tanzania the project is based in Musoma and Tarime Districts within the Mara river basin while in Uganda the areas of coverage are Kyejongo and Masaka regions in the Katonga river basin. The programme seeks to address the continued decline of the biodiversity of the lake and its catchment basin through influencing change in attitudes and behaviour of communities and schools.

The socio-economic importance of Lake Victoria to the Eastern Africa region is associated with the fact that it is the largest inland water fishing sanctuary; a major inland water transport linkage for the East African countries; a source of water for domestic, industrial and commercial purposes; a major reservoir for hydroelectric power generation; a major climate modulator in the region; and rich in biodiversity. The lake has experienced the greatest mass extinction of vertebrates in modern times. 30 years ago, the lake boasted about 500 fish species, more than half are now extinct (e.g. native cichlids, native tilapia, labeo, etc.) in general, the lake has suffered massive loss of native species. The entire lake has been placed in jeopardy by the huge changes in the structure and dynamics of the ecosystem as a result of overfishing, exotic species introductions, deleterious land use practices and pollution from various sources.

Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI)¹

Project Title	Overall Objectives	Activities	Achievements
1. Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems (ASCLME) Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake an environmental baseline assessment of the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems to fill information gaps needed to improve management decision-making, and to ascertain the role of external forcing functions (such as the Mascarene Plateau and the Southern 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kenya data capture to deliver national Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analyses (MEDAs) that feed into a TDAs, and a SAP. Undertaking capacity building and training (CB&T) analysis in relation to the long-term LME monitoring and management process. Undertake a few cruises to address data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National MEDA data sets ASCLME TDA draft reports Trainings undertaken National training plan in place

¹ Patrick Gwada, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute. IUCN Institutional Focal Point Contact

	<p>Equatorial Current).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This information and data will be used to develop a Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and a Strategic Action Programs (SAP) for the ASCLME 	<p>and information gaps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	
<p>2. South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP)</p>	<p>Kenyan Objective: Gain knowledge in stock sizes and types of Kenya's near-shore and off-shore fishery resources. The rest below are regional objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Gap Analysis, Data Archiving and Information Technology • Assessment and Sustainable Utilization of Crustaceans • Assessment and Sustainable Utilization of Demersal Fishes (Excluding Crustaceans) • Assessment and Sustainable Utilization of Pelagic Fishes • Mainstreaming Biodiversity in National and Regional Fisheries Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building and training initiatives • Survey cruises for deep water fisheries • Repatriation of historical datasets initiated • National Nansis data conversions working group meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MSc trainings accomplished • 3 new prawn species discovered • Data to support development of fishery management plan
<p>3. Fishery Management and Sustainable Coastal Environment Development Project (KCDP)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support development of coastal communities in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner 	<p>The project has 4 components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 1: Sustainable Management of Fisheries Resources • Component 2: Sound Management of Natural Resources • Component 3: Support for Alternative 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PROJECT LAUNCHED • Project management units established • component activities initiated

		<p>Livelihoods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Component 4: Capacity building, Monitoring & Evaluation System, Project Management and Communication 	
<p>4. Resilience and adaptation of mangroves and dependent communities in the WIO region to the impacts of climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess impact of climate change on mangroves and dependent communities; • Conduct vulnerability assessments of study sites to sea level rise; • Assess land use changes in the study sites and their real or perceived indirect impacts on mangroves; • Conduct ecosystem restoration using 'smart' species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning workshop • Mapping of mangroves • Mangrove restoration • Vulnerability assessment of Western Indian Ocean mangroves to climate change • Capacity building at MSc. and community level. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mangrove cover change maps • mangrove data and information • Nurseries established
<p>5. Africa Monitoring of Environment for Sustainable Development (AMESD)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote capabilities in marine & coastal resource management (and in physical oceanography) • Using satellite technology e.g. MSG products 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of AMESD-Mombasa Station • Training Courses related to AMESD-Project • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • trainings • National AMESD Proposal submitted to EU for funding accepted
<p>6. Global markets and the livelihoods of coastal communities in the WIO Region: Implications for coastal management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To examine the demands that the global markets exerts on the coastal resources, users and managers of the resources and the implications on sustainable coastal management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social surveys undertaken 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social data and information on consumption patterns and emerging conservation and management policies, regulations and legislative frameworks

4.0 Zimbabwe National Committee

During the quadrennial period 2008-2012 the IUCN members in Zimbabwe in collaboration with the IUCN Secretariat who provided the funding developed a Programme for IUCN Zimbabwe entitled Ecosystems and Sustainable Livelihoods. The programme is in line with IUCN's objectives for the quadrennial period and it identifies the challenges facing Zimbabwe and assesses the operational environment. Through this programme and action plan IUCN will achieve multipurpose objectives of safeguarding the environment , ensuring benefits for local communities and contributing towards national and global efforts on biodiversity conservation.

The IUCN Zimbabwe Programme document covers issues that are relevant for the coming quadrennial period and the members are hoping to develop projects and fundraise for their implementation. Noting the efforts being made by the civil society complement of members in Zimbabwe, the Zimbabwe National Committee realized that IUCN will have impact if Government institutions such as the Ministry of Environment and the Environmental Management Authority are involved as IUCN members and as such the members have started to engage the two institutions with the hope of having them join IUCN membership again. The two were members but their membership was lost through rescission.

5.0 Botswana National Committee

Conserving the diversity of life Ensuring sustainable and equitable management of biodiversity from local to global levels	
	Community Based Natural Resources Management programme (CBNRM) Forum activities sponsored by WWF (2008-2012)
	Launch of the Kavango-Zambezi Trans-frontier Conservation Area (KAZA TFCA) (March 2012) Gov. of Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Angola and Zambia
	Strategic partnerships to improve the financial and operational sustainability of protected areas in Botswana – BirdLife Botswana and Gov. of Botswana
	Solar powered 35 boreholes for water provision in protected areas in Botswana, funded by the Gov. of Botswana and Tiffany Foundation &Co. – Kalahari Conservation Society 2008-2013
Changing the climate forecast Integrating biodiversity considerations and opportunities into climate change policy and practice	
	Development of the climate change policy - Gov. of Botswana 2012-14
	Indigenous Knowledge Systems policy development project sponsored by Gov. of Botswana - University of Botswana 2009-2011
Naturally energizing the future Implementing ecologically sustainable, equitable and efficient energy systems	
	Renewable Energy – Rural Electrification Programme for

	Botswana – Gov of Botswana, UNDP and GEF
	100 MW Concentrating Solar Power Project, Botswana Power Corporation – Gov.of Botswana
	Solar Photo Voltaic 1 MW Power Station at Sebele, JICA – Gov. of Botswana
Managing ecosystems for human well-being Improving livelihoods, reducing poverty and vulnerability, and enhancing environmental and human security through sustainable ecosystem management	
	Development of the Integrated Water Resources management and Water Efficiency Plans (IWRM/WE) Project for Botswana - Kalahari Conservation Society and the Government of Botswana (2009-2012) Website: www.iwrmbotswana.com
	Makgadikgadi Framework Management Plan – Gov. of Botswana, Department of Environmental Affairs (2009 – 2011)
	Okavango Delta Management Plan – Gov. of Botswana, Department of Environmental Affairs (Completed in 2008- reviewed 2012)
	Poverty Environment Initiative – Government of Botswana, UNDP and UNEP
	Enhancing Decision Making Through Interactive Environmental Learning – An Action in the Molopo – Nossob Region – GEF Funded implemented by IUCN – ESARO (2010 – 2014)
	The DESIRE research project (2007-2012) funded by the European Commission, VI Framework Program, ‘Global Change and Ecosystems’ and the governments of France, the Netherlands, Italy and Spain. coordinated by ALTERRA – Research Institute for the Green Living Environment, the Netherlands – University of Botswana (<i>see DESIRE project pictures (plate 1a and 1b) below</i>) Website: www.desire-project.eu
	Defragmenting African Resources Management (DARMA). The aim of the project was to increase national capacity in five African countries for the integrated management of resources that are held as commons, in particular, involving communities or resources users in management. The project was conducted in Tubu village, Ngamiland, where it implemented the management oriented monitoring system (MOMS).-University of Botswana/ Okavango Research Institute

Greening the world economy Integrating ecosystem conservation values in economic policy, finance and markets

The Summit for Sustainability in Africa (May 2012) - Botswana Gov. and Conservation International

DESIRE project:

Overstocking resulting in overgrazing of the poor herbaceous cover is a result partly of low rainfall and droughts, but also of loss of communal land to game sanctuaries to the west and northeast and leasehold ranches to the south. Although one of the key reasons for promoting private ranches was to avert the “tragedy of the commons”, unfenced ranches (Plate 1a) are as severely degraded as traditional cattleposts (Plate 1b).

Plate 1: Overgrazed (a) private ranch and (b) traditional cattle post. Photos: Chanda, May 2009



6.0 South African National Committee

See separate report online at iucn.org