

COASTAL MANAGEMENT
IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION

A CAPACITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT



COASTAL RESOURCES CENTER

University of Rhode Island

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Report of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association Coastal Management
Capacity Building Needs Assessment
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Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	iv	VII. FINDINGS OF THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT	29
GLOSSARY	v	Existing Capacity	29
PREFACE	vi	Areas to Enhance	32
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	viii	Priority Training Areas	32
I. INTRODUCTION	1	Current Sources of Training for Practitioners	34
II. BACKGROUND	4	Options for Delivering Training in the Region	34
The Coast and Its People	5	Non-Training Methods for Capacity Building	36
III. CAPACITY BUILDING IS ESSENTIAL TO MEETING THE ICM CHALLENGE	7	Challenges In Course Implementation	36
IV. STATUS OF THE INSTITUTIONS DEALING WITH ICM-RELATED ASPECTS	12	VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS	39
Governance Structures	12	Cross-cutting Need Areas and Recommended Training Approaches	40
Training Delivery Mechanisms in the Region	14	Learning and Performing: Developing Skills for Coastal Management Practitioners in the Western Indian Ocean Region	43
Funding Mechanisms for ICM Capacity Building and Training	17	IX. CONCLUSION	44
V. WHAT THE REGION HAS DONE TO ADDRESS CAPACITY-BUILDING ISSUES	19	BIBLIOGRAPHY	45
Political Processes	19	APPENDIX 1: LIST OF INSTITUTIONS AND DONORS VISITED IN EACH OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES	49
Assessment of Training Needs	22	APPENDIX 2: DONOR SURVEY	52
Limitations of the Training	25	APPENDIX 3: INSTITUTION SURVEY	53
VI. ASSESSING THE NEED FOR CAPACITY IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION	26	APPENDIX 4: INDIVIDUAL SURVEY	55
Methodology	26	APPENDIX 5: COURSE ANNOUNCEMENT AND APPLICATION FORM	60
The Limitations of the Survey/ Methodology	28		

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Regional vs. National Perspectives of Integrated Coastal Management

Table 2. Types of Capabilities that Each Governance Level Contributes to Implementation of ICM

Table 3. Illustrative List of Workshops, Seminars, and Conferences Related to Coastal and Marine Issues Undertaken in the Western Indian Ocean Region 1993-2000

Table 4. Integrated Coastal Management Short-course Training Available Outside the Western Indian Ocean Region

Table 5. Illustrative List of Agencies Funding Integrated Coastal Management Initiatives in the Western Indian Ocean Region

Table 6. Notable Regional ICM Advances

Table 7. Training Needs Identified in Regional Reports

Table 8. Illustrative List of Marine and Coastal Projects in the Western Indian Ocean Region

Table 9. Regional Training Needs by Country

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. Map of the Western Indian Ocean Region

Figure 2. Core Competencies that Make The Ideal Coastal Manager

Figure 3. Number of Participants that Attended Workshops

Figure 4. The Training Backgrounds of Individual Survey Respondents

Figure 5. The Different Levels of Expertise of Coastal Managers in Project and Program Management

Figure 6. The Different Levels of Expertise of Coastal Managers in Professional Skills

Figure 7. The Different Levels of Expertise of Coastal Managers in ICM Practice

Figure 8. The Different Levels of Expertise of Coastal Managers in Technical Background

Figure 9. Summary Chart of Core Competencies

Figure 10. The Areas Identified by Survey Respondents as Needing Strengthening

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GLOSSARY

AusAid	Australian Aid Agency	MZ	Mozambique
CBO	Community-based Organizations	NEAP	National Environmental Action Plan
CDA	Coast Development Authority (Kenya)	NEMP	National Environmental Management Program
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency	NGO	Non-governmental Organization
CO	Comoros	NORAD	Norway Development Agency
CORDIO	Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean	PACSICOM	Pan African Conference on Sustainable Integrated Coastal Management
CRC	Coastal Resources Center	RE	Reunion
CRCP	Coral Reef Conservation Project	REDSO	Regional Economic Development and Service Office
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency	RSA	Republic of South Africa
EENESA	Environmental Economics Network of Eastern and Southern Africa	SAREC	Swedish Agency for Research Cooperation with Developing Countries (defunct)
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone	SEACAM	Secretariat for East Africa Coastal Area Management
EMPS	Environmental Management Plan of Seychelles	SEY	Seychelles
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization	SIDA	Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
G/ENR	USAID Global Bureau Environmental and Natural Resources Office	SOM	Somalia
GEF	Global Environmental Facility	TCMP	Tanzania Coastal Management Partnership
GESAMP	The Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection	TZ	Tanzania
GNP	Gross National Product	UDSM	University of Dar es Salaam
GTZ	German Technical Cooperation Agency	UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
ICM	Integrated Coastal Management	UNDOLALOS	United Nations Division of Law of the Sea
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management	UNDP	United Nations Development Program
IMS	Institute of Marine Sciences	UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission	URI	University of Rhode Island
IUCN	World Conservation Union	USAID	United States Agency for International Development
JICA	Japanese International Cooperation Agency	WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
KWS	Kenya Wildlife Service	WIO	Western Indian Ocean
KY	Kenya	WIOMSA	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association
MAUR	Mauritius	WWF	World Wildlife Fund
MG	Madagascar		
MICOA	Ministry for Coordination of the Environment		
MPA	Marine Protected Area		

PREFACE

The goal of integrated coastal management (ICM)... “to improve the quality of life of human communities who depend on coastal resources while maintaining the biological diversity and productivity of coastal ecosystems”... is widely shared by the world’s coastal nations. Over the last decade, there has been much effort and some progress in moving towards that goal. Yet the effective management of coastal areas and resources remains the exception, rather than the rule.

Perhaps nothing is more central to achieving the goals of ICM than developing skilled coastal management practitioners who are able to catalyze, lead and manage coastal programs. The need to build human capacity, especially in tropical developing nations, is widely recognized. The challenging question is how to develop this capacity. What skills do coastal managers need? How are such skills best developed? Once skills are developed, how can favorable enabling conditions be created so that they can be effectively applied? These are among the questions that the Coastal Resources Center and its partners have been attempting to answer.

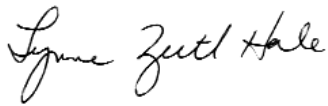
While commitment and capacity in ICM are needed in all sectors of society – from the political decisionmakers to fisherfolk – it is current and future coastal practitioners who must be the engine for progress. In this report, the capacity-building needs of coastal management practitioners in the Western Indian Ocean were identified by the Coastal Resources Center (CRC) and the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA). The report first postulates the knowledge and skills required by the “ideal coastal manager.” This profile was built from CRC and WIOMSA’s almost 30 years of ICM experience, and refined through interviews with practitioners, government institutions and donors in the Western Indian Ocean region.

We postulate that the ideal coastal manager needs competence in four areas: a sound technical background in any one of the natural or social sciences, professional skills, project management skills, and a broad and deep ICM repertoire. Specific skills within these broad areas are discussed in the report.

CRC and WIOMSA developed a survey tool to measure the perceived competencies of coastal management practitioners in the Western Indian Ocean region. We then used the results to tailor a capacity-building program to the needs of emerging ICM practitioners. In the Western Indian Ocean, the need for professional and managerial

skills, as well as for ICM repertoire was greater than for specific technical skills. Hence, a program was designed, with generous support from USAID/REDSO-ESA, to build the skills of ICM practitioners through a linked series of modules held at different locations in the Western Indian Ocean region.

We believe that this assessment report will be of interest not only to individuals and institutions concerned about ICM in the Western Indian Ocean, but also to a broader audience concerned about building capacity for ICM. CRC and WIOMSA intend to further develop the ICM Practitioner Assessment Survey. We welcome dialogue and feedback both on what constitutes the ideal coastal management practitioner, how to measure existing capacity, and, most importantly, how to then expand human capacity for ICM.



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