

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: KEY LESSONS AND RESULTS

1. ECO-TOURISM THEMATIC AREA

- Involvement and engagement of communities in the management of recreation activities to encourage biodiversity protection in the area;
- Small grants distributed to foster alternative livelihoods and reduce pressure on marine resources;
- Creation of qualified labour at community level in different areas of specialization through vocational trainings.

3. EMS THEMATIC AREA

- Reinforcement of public/private partnership for the environmental management of the destination;
- Improved resource efficiency in kitchen and laundry areas achieved in Bay View Lodge;
- Enhancement of information dissemination on the promotion of green practices among hotel owners and staff;
- Creation of additional livelihood activities for local people through recycling of the waste from the hotels (glass-cutting).

2. RMRM THEMATIC AREA

- Involving different stakeholders, including communities, to obtain necessary information related to the sustainable management of reef recreation;
- Use of video-format codes-of-conduct for scuba diving with manta rays and snorkelling with whale sharks (produced by AMAR, a local partner, prior to RMRM activities).



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE COAST PROJECT AND OTHER RELATED ACTIVITIES IN INHAMBANE, MOZAMBIQUE, PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

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SUSTAINABLE COASTAL TOURISM IN MOZAMBIQUE

LESSONS FROM INHAMBANE



ABOUT THE INHAMBANE DEMO SITE

The Tofo, Barra and Tofinho (TBT) area in the Inhambane Municipality is in the south of Mozambique, a country that boasts a rich coastal and marine biodiversity. The TBT area has a population of approximately 12 425 and a population density of 7.8 Ha/km2 (Mozambique Census 2007). The area lies between 15 to 21 km from Inhambane town and comprises of 27 km of large and wide beaches, coral reefs, lagoons and mangroves.

Agriculture and fishing are important economic activities for communities living in the area, but tourism is the predominant

one. Most tourists in Inhambane are attracted by diving and the allure of the varied marine wildlife that includes key species like whale sharks, manta rays, dolphins, and humpback whales.

The high-density tourism development in the area is leading to an increasingly restricted access to recreational beaches by the local communities. Marine recreation activities in the area are also threatened by over-exploitation of corals and coral damage caused by diving activities, boat anchorage, pollution and climate change.

“...The COAST Project was developed with an aim of reducing the harmful impacts of tourism practices to the coastal ecosystem.”

THE COAST PROJECT IN MOZAMBIQUE

The COAST Project implemented activities at the Inhambane Demo Site under the Eco-tourism, Environmental Management Systems (EMS) and Reef and Marine Recreation Management (RMRM) thematic areas. Eco-tourism was spearheaded by UNWTO, while EMS was executed by UNIDO. Eco Africa, an African firm contracted by UNIDO, executed the RMRM thematic area with broad oversight from the UNIDO COAST Project Management Team.

The project activities were supported by a Demo Site Management Committee comprising of the private sector, civil society organizations and government representatives to ensure effective implementation of activities. A Government of Mozambique contracted employee was seconded to act as the Demo Project Coordinator.

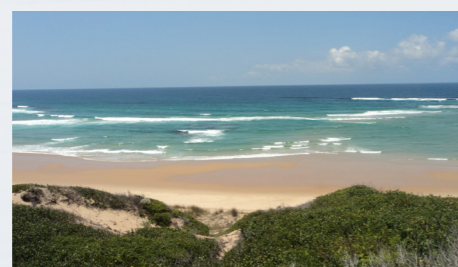
OVERVIEW OF THE COAST PROJECT

The Collaborative Actions for Sustainable Tourism (COAST) Project was implemented over a five year period (January 2009 - June 2014) in nine sub-Saharan African countries (Cameroon, The Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles and Tanzania). The project was developed with an aim of reducing the harmful impacts of tourism practices to the coastal ecosystems.

It was a Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as the implementing agency and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) as executing agency in partnership with the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO).

DSMC STAKEHOLDER MEMBERS IN INHAMBANE

Organization	Type of organization
Provincial Directorate for the Coordination of Environmental Actions-Inhambane	Government
Provincial Directorate of Tourism-Inhambane	Government
Provincial Directorate of Fisheries-Inhambane	Government
Municipal council of Inhambane	Government
Maritime Administration	Government
Institute of Fisheries Investigation-Inhambane	Government
Higher Institute of Hotel and Tourism studies, Inhambane	Government
Hotel and Tourism Association-Inhambane	NGO
Bitonga Divers	CBO
Eco tourism and Environment Development Association	CBO
Association of Divers	NGO
Natural resource Co-Management committee	CBO
Cleaning and Environment association	NGO



ECO-TOURISM THEMATIC AREA - SUSTAINABLE TOURISM - ELIMINATION OF POVERTY (ST-EP)

A ‘Sustainable Tourism-Elimination of Poverty’ (ST-EP) project was undertaken in Inhambane Province in Mozambique with funds that UNWTO mobilized from the ST-EP Foundation, the Netherlands Development Organization (SNV), the Flemish Government and the Government of Macau S.A.R, in two phases. The first phase was executed between 2009 and 2011, in close collaboration with SNV who provided capacity building support to the local project team. Since mid-2011, the second phase of the ST-EP project has been ongoing. The project received a boost when it received some co-funding from an EU funded project on tourism vocational training that is executed by SNV with UNWTO as an associated agency. The project has also created synergies with a larger tourism development program implemented by the World Bank.

Key Activities implemented under the Eco-Tourism Thematic Area include:

- Skills development training through modular courses where a total of 512 youth (280 men and 232 women) were trained in different areas including tour guiding, cooking, micro and small entrepreneurship management and housekeeping;
- Micro enterprise development in the tourism supply chains, including arts & crafts, food & beverages and tourism attractions;
- Consolidation of local Multi Stakeholder Platforms (MSP) in Inhambane with participation of provincial and district governments, private sector, NGOs and communities for joint action.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (EMS/TEST)

UNIDO applied the ‘Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology’ (EMS/TEST) Methodology as a tool for introducing green practices in the local hotel sector. The TEST Methodology was implemented in two small scale tourism establishments at the Inhambane Demo site (Bay View Lodge, in Barra, and Dino’s Bar, in Tofo) in partnership with the Mozambique National Cleaner Production Centre (MNCPC).

Key Activities implemented under the EMS/TEST Thematic Area include:

- Training of private sector managers and staff on good environmental management practices;
- Implementation of an EMS system in two small tourism establishments (Bay View Lodge and Dino’s Bar);
- Production of a Cleaner Production Assessment report (CPA) with no cost, low cost and high cost recommendations to improve the environmental and economic performance of the hotels;
- Establishment of linkages between the tourism sector and the communities through the implementation of a glass cutting project as a way of recycling used bottles;
- An exchange visit to Vilankulos Municipality for the DSMC members on solid waste management;
- Organization of beach clean up events on a monthly basis.

REEF AND MARINE RECREATION MANAGEMENT (RMRM)

Eco-Africa was sub-contracted by UNIDO to lead the work at the Inhambane Demo Site to improve the management of reef and marine recreation activities.

Key Activities implemented under the RMRM Thematic Area include:

- GIS mapping of the TBT area;
- Participatory drafting of a sustainable management plan involving different stakeholders, including community members;
- Awareness campaigns in schools and communities on marine biodiversity conservation;
- Reef monitoring to determine the actual status of reef conservation.

ENVIRONMENT

KEY FACTS

- Demo site coastline length: 27 km;
- Protected areas around the demo site: Tofinho dunes (5 ha); Pomene (200 km²), Bazaruto Islands (1 430 km²);
- Flagship species under threat include: manta rays, whale sharks.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- Marine and reef destruction;
- Pollution and poor waste management practices;
- Over-utilization of mangrove forest products;
- Pervasive use of illegal and destructive fishing gear;
- Increasing tourist investments on the fragile coastline area;
- Policy overlaps and general enforcement failures;
- Low awareness of policies among key actors;
- Poverty as a key driver for harmful livelihood practices;
- Conflicts of interests in governance of the marine resources;
- Water pollution from fishing and diving boats.

TOURISM

KEY FACTS

- National GDP contribution: 7.1%; (Mozambique-Travel and Tourism);
- Tourism arrivals: 256 156 tourists/year in Inhambane province.

MAJOR TOURISM FEATURES

- Clean sandy beaches;
- Wide variety of marine life forms;
- More than 10 international hotels and restaurants;
- Thriving water sport tourism activities, such as snorkeling or diving;
- Unplanned and unregulated tourism;
- Fast increase of sport fishing.