

# Scoping on best practice gaps in mangrove conservation

Diani Beach, Kenya

4-6 April, 2018

**Workshop report**

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Participants from the best practice scoping workshop, Diani Beach Kenya April 4-6 2018. Photo ©Julika Tribukait/WWF

## Organized by



## Partner organisations



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## About the Save Our Mangroves Now! initiative

[Save Our Mangroves Now!](#) (SOMN) is a joint initiative by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), WWF Germany and IUCN. SOMN seeks to contribute to existing global efforts to halt the on-going decrease of mangroves. Up-scaling of successful protection, restoration measures and initiatives is at the core of our ambitions.

### Fields of Action:

- 1) Embed a global goal for mangrove protection in political agendas
- 2) Pool leading expertise and enhance knowledge-sharing
- 3) Apply and disseminate best practices in the Western Indian Ocean

## Background and overview

To gain an understanding from relevant experts on the current gaps in mangrove conservation best practice, focusing on the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region, a scoping workshop was held in Diani Beach, Kenya between 4-6<sup>th</sup> of April. IUCN and WWF Germany co-organised the event within the context of the Save Our Mangroves Now! (SOMN!) Initiative. The workshop was made possible with funding from the German Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) as part of SOMN! and brought together participants from government ministries and agencies as well as scientific experts and project implementation officers from the Western Indian Ocean (WIO). To foster cross-regional learning additional experts from Asia participated as well (see Annex 2 for full participants list). The workshop (see Annex 1 for the agenda) covered a wide range of topics and presentations.

All presentations held during the workshop are available [here](#).

## Workshop goals

- Identify gaps and needs in mangrove conservation and
- Discuss best practice and lessons learned towards identifying priorities for action.

## Workshop outcomes

The **identified priorities** include the development and dissemination of:

1. Overarching mangrove conservation and restoration principles
2. Specific guidance documents for specific groups on:
  - Community engagement
  - Alternative livelihoods
  - Restoration
  - Data collection
  - Law enforcement
  - Policy coordination
  - Mangrove management
  - Sustainable financing and blue carbon

**Communication gaps** need to be filled in terms of:

1. Globally: donor education and advocacy
2. Regionally:
  - Training of field officers/forestry staff
  - Training of trainers at community or district level
  - Facilitate access to information via regional platform(s) and regional exchange(s) via the existing WIO Mangrove Network
  - Continue interregional exchange with Asia/Latin America

**A matrix synthesizing the results around priorities is being produced and will be made available in due course.**

## Workshop Day 1 - Field Visit Mikoko Pamoja

Day 1 of the workshop was spent on a field visit with the community and managers of the Mikoko Pamoja project located around Gazi bay. Ideas and key take home messages relating to best practice inspired by the field visit (especially around community engagement) were noted and collected for discussion the next day.

## Workshop Day 2

A welcome address was provided by Dr. Mohamed Omar, Head of Ecological Monitoring, Bio-Propecting and Data Management at the Kenyan Wildlife Service as well as Mr. George Wara, Ecosystem conservator from the Kenyan Forest Service. Ambassador Peter Thompson, UN Special Envoy for the Oceans, provided a few introductory remarks on global mangrove efforts in his [video message](#).

### Reflections from Asia

Research by Mr Wodehouse indicates that there is a significant discrepancy between mangrove planting attempts and actual survival rates. His results suggest that approximately 60% of the attempts had a survival rate of less than 20% (case studies from the Philippines and Thailand). Main causes for this low survival rate are poor site/species matching, poor understanding of sites, hydrology issues, unnecessary planting, low ecological knowledge in government agencies and among locals. Additionally, in specific cases there is a perverse incentive to keep success rates low, because villagers are paid to plant mangrove propogules. In fact, it's been estimated that only 15% of these projects needed planting in their design.

Despite the increasing understanding of the importance of mangroves, there are still large-scale government sponsored projects to convert healthy mangroves to aquaculture (e.g. currently in Malaysia). The main take home message was that the current focus on planting targets should be altered to survivorship targets through natural regeneration (where possible) restoration and protection of existing mangroves.

### *Main aspects and findings of related group discussion:*

- In some areas locals themselves know that the labor of planting is not going to work but cultural conditioning is such that the authorities are obeyed.
- Successful projects require community ownership.

- Cultural norms and expectations contribute an important difference in motivation for mangrove planting e.g. in Thailand (follow the lead of authorities) vs. Philippines (paid labour).
- Need to link to local knowledge and reflect on how we can use the good practices and thus encourage ownership and cultural values.

### Legal considerations

The input presentation by Joe Munga from IUCN centered on a description of the legal framework review around mangrove conservation that SOMN! is currently conducting. The case study used for the presentation was on the laws and legislative structure found in Kenya.

#### *Main aspects and findings of related group discussion:*

- Evident overlap between institutions managing the mangroves and how a best practice improvement would include mechanisms to work across these agencies.
- Mangrove advisory management committee, or other coordination mechanisms, as remedy.
- Need for a better understanding on how legislation is enacted on the ground.
- Environmental impact assessments as a useful tool for implementation.
- According to CIFOR research, community management is more effective for mangrove conservation than government managed efforts and management as ownership is so important for locals over enforcement.
- The provision and education of forestry staff is highly relevant to enact any change and this educational culture should be embedded within the ministries.
- There is a lack of human resources and mandate given the scale and enforcement needs. A solution already in place and likely to grow is (in the case of Kenya) for government and communities to share a greater burden of duties. In the current situation the burden of proof by communities is too heavy - communities need to receive training in needs and procedure.
- Lack of knowledge of field officers: need to train civil servants on legalities and technical knowledge.
- Awareness creation for implementers and public.
- Education on funding mechanisms for mangrove activities and the branding of indigenous knowledge would be another avenue to bring financial security for communities.
- Mangrove approaches are too top down i.e. community forestry associations and the like should to be given more power especially as enforcement is expensive and the potential for corruption high.

### Mangrove restoration

The thematic input from Swati Hingorani (IUCN) focused on current work towards a global map of mangrove restoration potential.

#### *Main aspects and findings of related group discussion:*

- Issue with globally/nationally set top-down restoration targets.
- Need for credible barometer of restoration success, which also addresses and monitors other factors, such as biodiversity, and includes the whole “value chain”: guidelines, theory, field work, and monitoring.

## Mangrove conservation-restoration

Lalao Aigrette from Blue Ventures shared reflections on the changes and current state of mangrove protection and enforcement in Madagascar. Major findings of her input included the relevance of project size and strong, participatory management tools.

### *Main aspects and findings of related group discussion::*

- Root causes already identified- over population, education (esp. girls) and poverty, economic development, urbanization.
- Drivers- economic opportunity cost (profit making) and non-economic cost (poverty use).
- Key challenges- overharvesting, governance, conversion, climate change, pollution. Small scale but unrelenting community use is more of a threat to mangroves in Madagascar than large infrastructure projects. Additionally, in some cases where compensation planning is a topic of interest (e.g Lamu bay), there are controversies regarding sincere motivation and potential for corruption. In such cases participants felt that there should rather be requirements to protect other mangrove areas.
- Definition of protection- there wasn't time to go into this in detail as one need to consider who/what should benefit from the protection and how protection should be enacted- ie. Discussion on scope and definition of protection is still needed.
- Solutions/what is needed- (underlined issues are of particular importance)
  - protection should be for 'the greater good'
  - approaches to governance should differ according to which sector (fisheries, land tenure, biodiversity, direct use etc.) is involved,
  - take a holistic approach to marine resource management,
  - diversify renewable energy sources e.g. woodlots, stoves,
  - education and awareness raising,
  - multi-institutional multi-sectorial forum to coordinate mangrove efforts,
  - greater attention on effective enforcement,
  - empowering communities through forest management agreements,
  - promote multi/use approach with no-take zones,
  - integrate mangrove management with marine special planning.

## Financing mangrove projects/programmes

Within this session, Raphaëlle Flint from IUCN gave a brief input on short-comings of current financing models and the potential of private sector involvement in financing of mangrove conservation.

### *Main aspects and findings of related group discussion::*

- Among the key challenges to financing mangrove projects are the high startup costs, intrinsic weaknesses from relying on donor funding, long-term sustainability, short time frame of most projects scale, community motivation etc.
- Need to make donor funded projects more efficient and scalable starting with more stringent monitoring and evaluation standards.
- Increased interest from the private sector to contribute to conservation via impact investment, carbon credits and blended finance.

## Workshop Day 3

### What are the priorities in terms of best practices for the WIO region?

The session revolved around the 6 breakup groups from Day 2, looking at the gaps in best practice using headings collected over the previous two days of discussions. The results from these discussions will be reflected in the best practices matrix.

During the quick fire-round, selected ongoing national and regional organisations, projects and initiatives on mangrove conservation as well as global programmes and initiatives were presented. This was meant to provide an overview of potential partners and instruments in the work on closing best practice gaps. The last session of the workshop tried to identify priorities for action and also addressed the questions of how and with whom to achieve those priority action items in terms of best practices. A separate document on this topic will be prepared and disseminated as well.

## Annex 1. Workshop Agenda

### Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

Arrival of participants to Amani Tiwi Beach Resort

Workshop registration desk open at the hotel lobby: 1600-1800

Dinner: At leisure

### Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018

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**8:30** Assemble in the hotel lobby.

Brief welcome by IUCN and WWF and introduction to key staff

**9:00** Departure to Mikoko Pamoja Mangrove project with group bus (around 30 mins)

Time	Activity	LEAD
0930-1015	<p>Welcoming remarks at KMFRI's Gazi Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction by Mikoko Pamoja team and village council</li> <li>• Introduction by the Save Our Mangroves Now! team               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Save Our Mangroves Now! Initiative, (Julika Tribukait WWF Germany)</li> <li>• Objectives of the workshop (Dorothee Herr, IUCN)</li> <li>• What do we mean by best practices? (Raphaëlle Flint, IUCN)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Introduction of workshop participants</li> </ul>	<p><b>James Kairo, Amina Juma, Ann Wanjiru</b></p> <p><b>IUCN team</b></p>
1015-1230	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit of the project site 1:</li> </ul> <p>Community Mangrove plantation in Kinondo including <i>procedures for measurements of blue carbon</i></p>	<p><b>Josphat Mwamba, James Kairo, Mark Huxham</b></p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit of the project site 2:</li> </ul> <p>Avoided mangrove deforestation – <i>plus community monitoring tools</i></p>	<p><b>Josphat Mwamba</b></p>



1230-1300	Social Impacts of Mikoko Pamoja – <i>Visits to community water, education and environment projects</i>	Anne Wanjiru
1300-1400	<b>Lunch at the boardwalk and group photo</b>	<b>Gazi women tour guides</b>
1400-1500	Governance of Mikoko Pamoja - <i>presentation</i>	Josphat Mwamba,
1500-1600	Summary of the visit 1. Up scaling of Mikoko Pamoja to Vanga	James Kairo, Mark Huxham
	<b>Session 01:</b> First reflections on project site visit from participants - what impressed you most? Can you relate to the success and challenges identified?	IUCN team
<b>Departure</b>		

**Dinner:** Restaurant *Leopard Beach and SPA Resort*, on the road back to Amani Tiwi Beach Resort (paid by organisers)

Breakfast at Amani Tiwi Beach Resort

**9:00** Start of the workshop and welcome

- Review of agenda and objectives
- Housekeeping and remaining logistics

Official opening by guests of honour

### **Session 02: Stock taking**

Moderator: Dorothee Herr (IUCN)

#### **Success and challenges with mangrove conservation in the WIO region: An introduction**

Presentation by James Kairo, (KMFRI)

#### **Success and challenges with mangrove conservation in Asia: An introduction**

Presentation by Jim Enright/Dominic Wodehouse (MAP)

*Goal: Identify the basket of challenges/ needs, which can benefit from best practices (efforts), for WIO in particular, see if differences to Asia and pool these with the thoughts from the field visit.*

**Coffee break** 1030-1045

### **Session 03: The legal perspective**

Moderator: Julika Tribukait (WWF Germany)

#### **Success and challenges with legal regimes available for mangrove conservation: An overview**

Presentation by Joe Munga, IUCN Legal officer (IUCN)

Reflections from workshop participants

*Goal: Refine the key challenges and needs in terms of legal consideration for mangrove conservation*

**Lunch** 1300-1400

### **Session 04a: Mangrove restoration**

Moderator: Ali Kaka (IUCN)

**Voluntary Commitments driving global mangrove restoration potential:** Mangroves in VC towards SDG 14 and Bonn Challenge: Swati Hingorani (IUCN)

Reflections from workshop participants

*Goal: Refine the key challenges and needs in terms of mangrove restoration, primarily in the WIO using lessons learned from Asia*

## **Session 04b: Mangrove protection**

Moderator: James Kairo (KMFRI)

### **Reflections on the changes and current state of mangrove protection and enforcement**

Presentation by Lalao Aigrette (Blue Ventures)

Reflections from workshop participants

*Goal: Refine the key challenges and needs in terms of protected area and sustainably managed mangrove areas, primarily in the WIO, using lessons learned from Asia*

**Coffee break** 1530- 1545

## **Session 05: Financing mangrove projects/programmes**

Moderator: Dorothee Herr (IUCN)

### **Current challenges in funding mangrove projects and reflections on why**

Presentation by Raphaëlle Flint (IUCN)

Reflections from workshop participants

*Goal: Refine the key challenges and needs in terms of challenges and reasons for funding of mangrove projects*

**End:** Around 1700

**Dinner:** At leisure

## **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

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Breakfast at Amani Tiwi Beach Resort

**9:00** Workshop start

- Recap from Day 1 Julika Tribukait (WWF Germany) and James Kairo (KMFRI)

## **Session 06: What priority needs in terms of best practices for the WIO region**

Moderators: Julika Tribukait (WWF Germany), James Kairo (KMFRI)

*Goal: Identify/ agree on the priority needs for the restoration as well as conservation/sustainable use/management of mangroves in the WIO using information from days 1&2 and how they could be addressed by best practice efforts. Focus on the “what” rather than the “how”.*

**Coffee** 1030-1045

Continuation of Session 06.

**Lunch** 1230-1330

## Session 07: Quick-fire round – 5 mins presentations

Moderator: Raphaëlle Flint (IUCN)

### Overview of regional networks and initiatives

- WIO mangrove network, by Amina Juma and Lilian Mwihaki, (WIOMN)
- Kenyan Forestry Service, by Simon Wahome, (KFS)
- MAP Asia, by Jim Enright, (MAP)
- Community networks Jaime Utui (AMA) and John Sospeter (YVK)

### Overview of international networks and initiatives: Presentations

- Global Mangrove Alliance by Karen Douthwaite, (WWF US)
- Blue Carbon Initiative and International Partnership on Blue Carbon by Dorothée Herr, (IUCN)
- Mangrove Capital Africa and Global Mangrove Watch, by Julie Mulonga, (Wetlands International)
- IUCN Mangrove Specialists Group, by James Kairo, (KMFRI)

**Coffee:** 1430-1500

## Session 08: How do we get there?

Moderators: Julika Tribukait (WWF Germany)

*Goal: Match the “what” with the “how” and specifically what SOMN can help with realistically.*

## Session 09: Summary and Closing

Moderators: Julika Tribukait (WWF Germany)

- Next steps
- Workshop evaluation

**End around 1600**

## Annex 2 Participants list

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Sector and region</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Country</b>
1	(Mapande Sospeter) John Sosy	Project manager	Youth Vision of Kigamboni	Tanzania
2	Ali Kaka	Protected areas and wildlife conservationist, IUCN Councillor	IUCN, private consultant	Kenya
3	Amina Juma	Scientist and WIO Mangrove Network	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, WIO Mangrove Network	Kenya
4	Anne Wanjiru	Social impacts officer	Mikoko Pamoja Project, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute	Kenya
5	Celestine Chemorkok	Administrative Assistant	IUCN East and South Africa Regional Office	Kenya
6	Christina Ender	Senior technical manager, Payments for Ecosystem Services	Conservation International	East Africa Division
7	Dannick Randriamanantena	WWF Madagascar	WWF Madagascar	Madagascar
8	Diary Rahombanjanahary	WWF Madagascar	WWF Madagascar	Madagascar
9	Dominic Wodehouse	Scientist – Community mangrove management and restoration	Mangrove Action Project	Thailand/UK
10	Dorothee Herr	Manager, Oceans and Climate Change	IUCN Marine Programme	Germany
11	Dr Esther Mwangi	Principal Scientist with Forests and Governance	Center for International Forestry Research	Kenya
12	Dr James Kairo	Mangrove silviculture and management	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute	Kenya
13	Dr Mohamed Said/Omar	Head - Ecological Monitoring, Bio-Prospecting and Data Management	Kenya Wildlife Service	Kenya
14	Dr Nina Wambiji	WIOMSA's Country Coordinator for Kenya	WIOMSA	Kenya
15	George Wara	Ecosystem Conservator, Forestry	Kenya Forestry Service	Kenya
16	George Waweru Maina	Marine Projects Coordinator	The Nature Conservancy	Kenya
17	Jaime Manuel Utui	Project manager	AMA- associação do meio ambiente	Mozambique
18	January Ndagala	Senior Marine Conservation Warden	Marine Park Unit	Tanzania
19	Jim Enright	Regional coordinator	Mangrove Action Project	Thailand

20	Joe Munga	Legal Officer	IUCN- ELC	Kenya/Germany
21	Josphat Mwamba	Project manager	Mikoko Pamoja	Kenya
22	Judith Nyunja	Coastal Kenya Programme Manager	WWF Kenya	Kenya
23	Julie Mulonga	Programme Manager, East Africa	Wetlands International	Kenya
24	Julien Noel Rakotoarisoa	National Focal Point on Forest Landscape Restoration	Ministry of Environment and Forests	Madagascar
25	Julika Tribukait	Project Coordinator, Save Our Mangroves Now!	WWF Germany	Germany
26	Karen Douthwaite	Senior Program Officer, Oceans	WWF US	US
27	Lalao Aigrette	Deputy National Blue Forests Programme Lead	Blue Ventures	Madagascar
28	Lilian Mwhaki Mungi	WIO Mangrove Network	Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, WIO Mangrove Network	Kenya
29	Mwangi Nganga	Mikoko Pamoja	KFRI	
30	ObadiahK. Kadenge		Kenya Forest Services	
31	Per-Martin (Pelle) Bågesund	Junior Professional Officer - Climate Change	IUCN	Eastern and Southern Africa
32	Prof Mark Huxham	University Professor	Napier University, Edinbrough	Kenya
33	Raphaelle Flint	Marine programme officer, Marine programme	IUCN Marine Programme	Switzerland
34	Salomao Bandeira	Scientist in marine Botany and Ecology	Universidade Eduardo Mondlane	Mozambique
35	Sarah Wolring	Intern Mikoko Pamoja	Mikoko Pamoja/ KMFRI	
36	Simon Wahome	Chief Forester, coastal region	Kenya Forestry Service	Kenya
37	Sonia Ricardo Muando	Officer, Ministry of Fisheries	Mozambique Government	Mozambique
38	Swati Hingorani	Project knowledge and Impact officer	IUCN	International