

## PHE Integration in Coastal Kenya: Lessons From the WWF Kiunga Marine National Reserve Conservation and Development Project, Lamu District, Kenya.

Sam Weru October 2008





# Location





#### **Biological Characteristics**

Kiunga - National & Biosphere Reserve
Marine Turtle Haven

Hosts the largest breeding colony of roseate terns

67% mangrove biomass in Kenya

Pristine coral reefs

 Feeding grounds for dugong
 Breeding ground for bill fish – the Northern Kenyan Banks







#### Socio-Economic Characteristics

Lamu – World Heritage Site Insecurity - proximity to Somalia Logistical difficulties – no roads, high cost of operations Inadequate access to basic health care serv Inadequate access to clean water High level poverty High Level illiteracy High dependence on natural resources









# **Threats**

- Increasing demand for fish
- Unsustainable mangrove harvesting
- Use of illegal fishing nets
- By-catch of endangered species
- Oil & Gas exploration
- Poverty and poor food security



High dependence on natural resources





Mobile clinics/outreach - generates goodwill and healthier community to manage resources





#### Improve health infrastructure





#### Provide Safe Drinking Water







Train midwives in better delivery of reproductive health care



Safer delivery Nutrition Mother to child care Family planning options Benefits of smaller well cared for families



















# Fishing gear exchange program

- improving quality of catch and income
- Reduce incidence of illegal gear
- Increase ecological health





#### **Beach Clean-ups**

Maintain beach integrity & aesthetic appeal, save marine turtles, Provide income







## Integrated Approaches Flip Flop Art – Trash to Ca\$h









#### Malaria Control

- Prevent mosquito breeding
- Provide tools for village clean up
- Provide bed-nets to expectant mothers & children <5yrs</li>
- Household pest control















#### HIV/AIDS Awareness

- Sensitize youth on implications of HIV infection
- Safe sex campaign
- Encourage dialogue on prevention of HIV infection
- Engage youth in fun conservation activities





#### Achievements/Successes

#### **Increased Achievements of Conservation Goals**

Community more receptive to conservation message
More than 10,000 turtle Hatchlings per year =
67% of nests reported by Community
Higher number of youth volunteers







#### Achievements/Successes

#### Improved Health Care & Family Planning

- Increased Immunization coverage
- Increased up-take of FP services in a predominantly Islamic community
- Reduced incidence of Disease: Diarrhoea, malaria, Skin infections,







Improved Livelihoods

- Flip-flop Art sales increased domestic income by US \$130 per month per participating household
- This money pays school fees, buys food, clothing and improves domestic life styles
- Increased active community Participation & advocacy in NRM
- Reduced disease incidence = More productive time & money Available for other needs





Achievements/Successes

- Increased partnership base
- Increased project profile = donor base, funds
- Increased community support & good-will for the project
- Increased political support by local/civic leaders
- Project addresses all MDGs

Main message: Conservation is for and about you, the people.







- Integrate PHE during project planning
- Ensure partners understand their responsibility in the partnership – resources, activities
- Joint planning for field activities with partners is essential
- Need to integrate social skills in NRM/PHE (use of a sociologist to supplement ecological/project management skills)
- Integration of PHE work can help leverage more funds/resources for conservation
- Need to effectively communicate PHE linkages to policy makers and top-level management



