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The Status And Function Of The National Data Center Of Mozambique (28 May 2019)

Mozambique is within the south-western Indian ocean region, in south-east of African continent, occupying an extension of 2700km. Most of the population lives in the coastal zone, living off the resources provided by the sea.

Mozambique took part in the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems (ASCLME) project for marine and coastal diagnostic analysis- a project financed by UNDP-GEF.

As a coastal country, Mozambique (Moz) have been done oceanographic research mostly in biological, physical and chemical fields. Many Institutions, governmental and non-governmental own those (and other's) marine data. The governmental, such as: Fishery institute, Biology department of UEM, Physics department of UEM, Geology department of UEM, School of Marine Sciences of UEM and National Directorate of Water, share the data/information with the National Oceanographic Data Centre (NODC) as a collaborate partners institutions.

Moz-NODC benefits also from a cruiser data obtained from international projects such as R/V Dr. Fridtjof of Nansen and IIOE2.

The oceanographic research most of the time is done by each marine Institution individually. However, in other moments the national institutions join in a partnership to develop a short research that needs a sharing of knowledge and/or of instruments. That is a case of INAHINA- School of Marine Science in sharing instruments and, INAHINA- Fishery Institute in sharing knowledge in physical conditions for shrimp abundance, for instance.

There are also partners supporting research, such as the UK project named C-RISe funded by the UK space agency. This project provides satellite data and, the national institutions provide in-situ data. Products are created, such as graduation thesis and articles that uses the satellite data to validate the in-situ data.

During the ASCLME, coastal and marine data and information was collected by the consultants. This data/information was about the: stage of coastal environment; major issues of concerning and; gaps in information. That information was compiled in a National Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analysis, with the following composition:

1. Biophysical environment
2. Human environment
3. Coastal livelihoods
4. Police and governance
5. Planning and management
6. Cost-benefit analysis

There are challenges on maintain a continuing data base:

- a) Instruments fails/break down;
- b) Hardware space to keep copies of data;
- c) a focal point in a partner change job;

d) data manager which must dedicate to other activities

A way to have more efficient operationalization data centers may pass by having more than 2 data managers in a center and, care about data collection by doing a periodic instruments maintenance.

Bio Details For Clousa Francisco Sarmiento Maueua

Clousa Francisco Sarmiento Maueua, is a marine scientist with 14 years of experience in oceanography and marine hydrography in Mozambique and the wider Indian Ocean.

She is a researcher at the National Institute of Hydrography and Navigation (INAHINA) since 2005 and has worked on modelling of tides and currents and on tidal prediction in the framework of annual tide tables for navigators/clients. Clousa is also a Member of the Expert Team on Data Management Practices (ETDMP) of the Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology & International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (JCOMM/IODE) Of UNESCO, where she has participated in the review of the proposed data standard.

From 2009 to 2012 Clousa was national coordinator for the Marine Environment Diagnostic Analysis on Large Marine Ecosystem of Agulhas and Somali Currents (ASCLME), a project of UNDP/GEF. This project was a desktop and field study to document the environmental treats faced by the countries within the ASCLME region (Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania) in the framework of a transboundary diagnostic analysis of the region. This served to develop a strategic action programme for the nine countries to deal with the transboundary threats and to manage the living marine resources more sustainably. Clousa compiled the diagnostic made by 5 specialists (Biophysical environment; human environment; coastal livelihoods; police and governance; cost-benefit analysis) for submission to the Project manager.