

# **Mangrove Restoration Through Community Participation and Support for Alternative Livelihoods in the Limpopo Estuary**

***7<sup>th</sup> WIOSAP PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE  
DARES SALAAM, TANZANIA  
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# Why the Project

- **Objective:**

To improve mangrove management in Mozambique through restoration, community empowerment and production of baseline information to support decision-making

- **Where:**

Limpopo Estuary, in communities of Mahielene and Zongoene-quarter, Gaza Province, Southern Mozambique

- **Partners:**

**Lead:** AQUA, IP –Gaza Delegation and UEM-DCB;  
Oceanographic Institute of Mozambique, Community Association for Health and Development , NRMC of Zimilene and NRMC of Zongoene-quarter, Hanha M'tsey Association (CBO), UDEBA-Lab, Private sector, Limpopo and Xai-Xai Districts.



# Key Achievements

- Community-based mangrove management plan produced;
- 38 ha of mangroves restored;
- Science and research: 2 undergrad and 1 MSc student graduated; 1 scientific paper published; participation in scientific meetings;
- Community engagement, awareness and capacity building: more than 2000 people targeted in mangrove restoration training, environmental legislation, school programs, etc.;
- Outreach: 2 documentary videos produced; articles published in 3 international magazines including WIOMSA;
- Livelihood alternatives: pig breeding, beekeeping, women cooperative and multi use house;





# Some Images of the Results Achieved





## Key Lessons Learnt

- **Creativity and innovation** to overcome COVID-19 challenges;
- **Correct budgeting** and include price oscillation (still looking for additional funds to finish building the multi-use house);
- **Plan for the unexpected... and take chances!** The first group of pigs died due to swine fever. We believed we would be luckier the second time, trained the producers and provided veterinary assistance the second time. 13 families benefited up to now;
- **Our communities are ready!** They were able to make their own decisions and take leadership of most parts of the project – it was key to the success of the project;
- **Recognition is a valuable reward for the communities!**, although financial reward is also welcome!



# Project Sustainability

- Communities remain engaged despite availability of money resources: UDEBA-LAB is maintaining the mangrove nursery and promotes good mangrove management practices;
- Additional financing: 200 beehives, processing material and training funded by FAO; USAID strengthening livelihood activities and capacity building (financial management);
- Spill-over research: carbon quantification in adjacent wetlands; impact of school education programs
- Community-based mangrove management plan integrated in the Fisheries Management Plan of the Mouth of the Limpopo River (2024-2028);
- Aspiring for a carbon project;





**Thank you!**

