

**Project Title: Enhancing stakeholder capacity on use of ICZM as a tool for conservation of the coastal and marine environment through a demo ICZM Project in Malindi –Sabaki Estuary Area, Kenya**



**7<sup>th</sup> WIOSAP PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE  
DARES SALAAM, TANZANIA  
29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2025**

**Name of IP: Nature Kenya**



# Sabaki River Estuary





# Why the Project

**Objective:** The project demonstrated that ICZM tools can be used to conserve ecologically sensitive areas by

- i. Promoting sustainable mangrove and fisheries management in Sabaki estuary
- ii. Community empowerment and alternative livelihoods in Sabaki estuary.
- iii. Enhancing governance and management of Sabaki estuary.
- iv. Improving solid waste management in Malindi town.

**Where:** The project was implemented at Sabaki River estuary. This is the lowest point of the Athi-Galana-Sabaki River basin covering 66,559 km<sup>2</sup> in Kenya and Tanzania. The estuary is 5km north of Malindi town

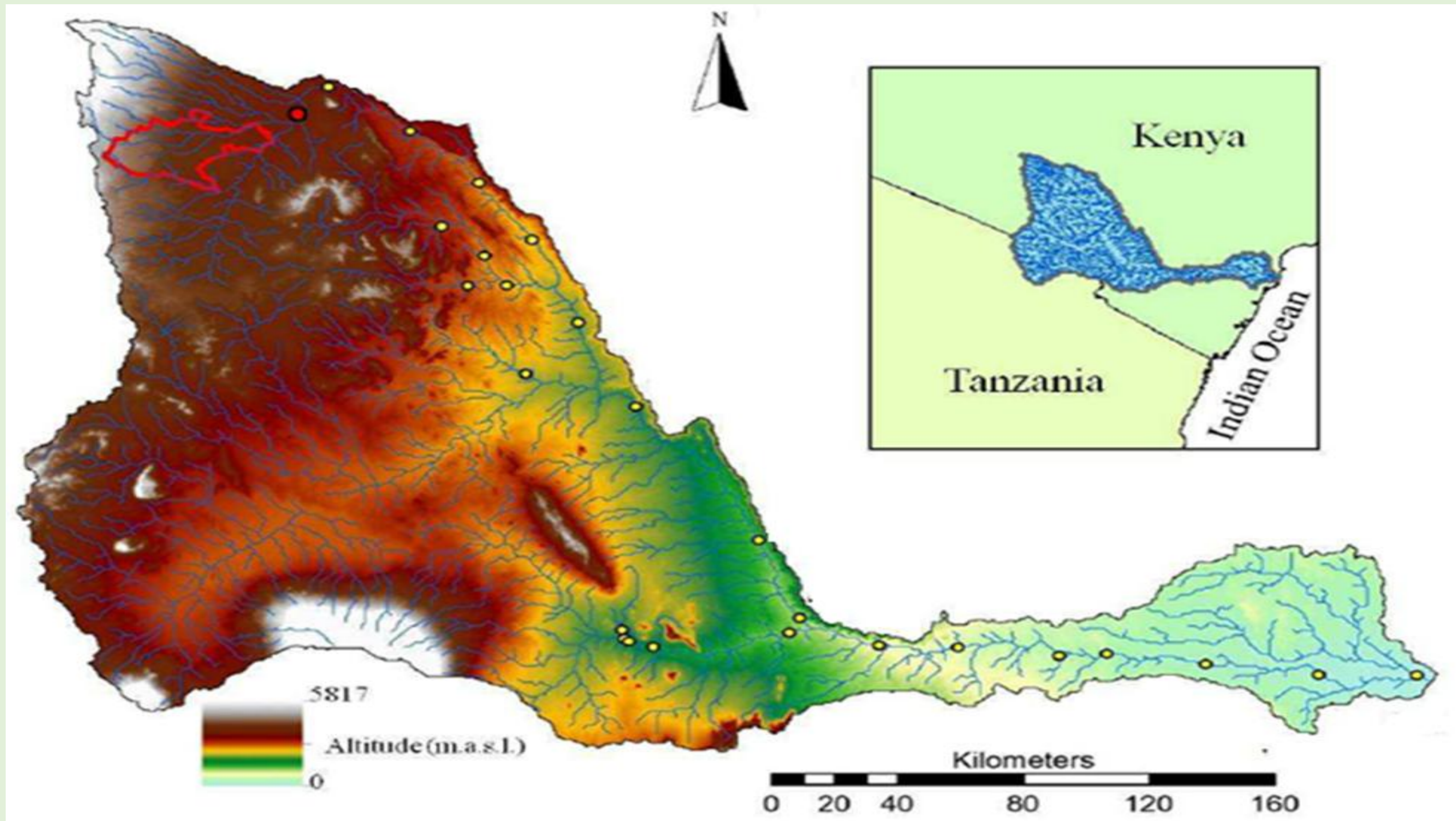
## Partners:

- Nature Kenya
- Sabaki River Community Development Organization (SARICODO)
- Kenya Forest Service
- Kenya Wildlife Service
- Fisheries department
- County Government of Kilifi





# Athi-Galana-Sabaki River Basin





# Key Achievements

- 100,000 mangroves planted Survival rate of about 80%
- Mangrove nursery established with 5 species currently has 370,000 seedlings
- BMU and SARICODO Training on Organization development, leadership, governance, conflict management, Fundraising, Advocacy and communication
- Awareness creation including World Wetlands Day celebration graced by Env't Minister
- Estuary clean ups involving local schools
- Management plan developed for the estuary
- 12 community scouts trained and equipped for protection
- Ecotourism development- Picnic Banda and Mangrove boardwalk (400m)
- BMU trained on sustainable fishing and supplied with fishing and fish-handling equipment (Freezer, cooler boxes and nets)



# Key Lessons Learnt

- Conservation projects require a longer period of time to mature
- Committed partnerships are essential to succeed
- Government, partnering with NGO and community makes the best combination for working for environment
- Protection of ecosystems is much easier, has better environmental returns than restoration of degraded ecosystems
- Most of the projects are developed using intrinsic instead of comprehensive knowledge. Proposed activities sometimes are more complex and expensive than projected
- The potential for livelihoods generated from coastal zone is much more than currently realized. Needs to be explored and exploited
- Where there is movement, organizations are attracted to the action and makes the activity more sustainable
- Traditional methods of building local huts is the greatest threat to mangroves. Alternative construction technologies are required



# Project Sustainability

- NK partnering with WWF\_K has developed a follow-up project to continue with the work
- Supported nursery expansion
- Improved ecotourism facilities has started to generate regular income to sustain community work, involvement and interest
- Incorporated Sabaki Mangrove with All Magarini Mangrove to form Magarini Mangrove CFA giving legal access to mangroves
- Working to include Sabaki River Estuary in Malindi-Watamu Marine Protected area
- More restoration work going on after the project to plant over 500,000
- New conservation partners coming onboard especially private sector (Equity and Stanchart Bank)



# THANK YOU

