

Launch of WIOMN and Restoration Book Project

Date: 24th June 2021

Venue: Microsoft Teams

Meeting Minutes

Min 01/21: Opening

- The meeting was called to order by Rajkaran and she welcomed every attendee present. She mentioned the network was registered on 18th March 2021 under the Laws of Zanzibar - The Societies Act No. 6 of 1995 and Business Entities and Registration Act No. 12 of 2012. She mentioned the meeting was for the official launch the WIO Mangrove Network and WIO Mangrove Restoration Book Project
She highlighted that there would be an authors meeting for briefing and setting the road map for the production of the WIO Mangrove Restoration Book.
She recognized the presence of the presiding guest: Ms. Sinikinesh Beyene Jimma who was the portfolio manager -International Water Unit at UNEP.
She gave a summary of the agenda of the day then welcomed Dr. Jared to give his remarks.

Min 02/21: Remarks from the Founding Regional Coordinator

Dr.Jared presented on the process of the formation of WIOMN.

- The presentation mentioned that the network dates back to 2011 during the Regional Workshop on Mangrove Vulnerability to Climate Change. It highlighted that colleagues in the workshop proposed the formation of the network.
- It mentioned that in 2012 a First regional Mangrove Carbon action was organized in Maputo and it is at that time that the momentum for undertaking research on Mangrove carbon assessment go elevated across the region. It highlighted that through the network there had been a number of capacity building programs organized on mangrove ecosystems across the Western Indian Ocean region.
- The presentation mentioned the regional publications on mangrove of the Western Indian Ocean status and management that was done by the network.
- It mentioned that the meeting of the launch formed a very important transition since the network had be registered in Zanzibar as a legal entity.
- The presentation mentioned that the Mangrove Ecosystem Case Studies Book in the Western Indian Ocean Region would be a collaboration between Nairobi Convention, WIOMSA and the Network.

Min 03/21: Presentation of the WIOMN

Dr. Mangora presented on the Western Indian Ocean Mangrove Network

The presentation;

Highlighted the vision and mission of the network with objective including;

- Expertise sharing and capacity development in mangrove research and management across the region

- Standardization of methodologies in conducting assessments and management practices
- Production of regional publications and policy briefs on mangrove research and management and ensuring dissemination of such outputs
- Raising the profile of mangroves as a critically important ecosystem supporting many livelihoods in the region
- Development and delivery of community-based training programs on sustainable mangrove management and conservation

It mentioned the strategic Focus to be on advocacy for inclusion of mangrove forests specifically when conducting reviews of Forest/Sector legislations and ensure provision of comprehensive community involvement and participation in mangrove management, engaging with governments to develop regional and national programs and projects to address mangrove degradation and support sustainable mangrove conservation and management and supporting project level carbon assessment and financing (REDD+ and PES) as response options to climate change whose proceeds can provide much needed resources to enhance mangrove conservation.

The presentation highlighted the progress and achievements of the Network as;

- First regional mangrove carbon assessment workshop in 2012 in Maputo, Mozambique
- 1st Regional Mangrove Training Workshop in December 2013 in Diani and Gazi Bay, Kenya
- 2st Regional Mangrove Training Workshop in May 2016 in Diani and Gazi Bay, Kenya
- The WIO Mangrove status and management book in 2016 (ISBN: 978-9987-9559-4-7)
- WIO Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration Guidelines in 2020 (ISSN: 2714-1942)
- Journal paper on “Drivers of Change in Mangrove Cover and their Implications for Management”, recently accepted by the Global Ecology and Biogeography – A Journal of Macroecology
- Special Sessions at all WIOMSA Scientific Symposiums since its establishment
- Formal Registration on 18th March 2021 under the Laws of Zanzibar - The Societies Act No. 6 of 1995 and Business Entities and Registration Act No. 12 of 2012

It mentioned the future plans of the network as:

- Placement of Secretariat – staff and operational procedures
- Development of the first Strategic Plan
- Establishment of Country Chapters
- Establishment of Regional Policy Dialogue
- Contribution to global initiatives, e.g. the WIO Restoration Book
- Monitoring of regional demonstration projects

Min 04/21: Remarks from Partners and Sponsors

WWF- Mr. Simon mentioned that WWF was proud to have been part of the process that led to the registration of the network. He added that WWF would continue working with the network to enhance the vision and mission of the network. He added that they were happy to also see the launch of the Mangrove restoration book that would help in conservation.

WIOMSA- Dr.Tuda mentioned that WIOMSA was delighted to be part of the network and was happy for the network on their registration. He also thanked the work that is planned for the book project. He added this was timely since the Decade of Ecosystem restoration only had 10 years to ensure restoration of vital ecosystems in the planet and mangrove is one of them.

USAID- Dr Chole mentioned that USAID was happy to be part of the network since its inception in 2011. He echoed the progress that had been made to attaining registration and that USAID will be happy to continue working with the network.

Min 05/21: Presentation of the Restoration Book Project

Dr. Mangrora made a presentation on the Restoration Book Project.

The presentation;

Mentioned the idea behind the book project as;

- Mangrove restoration was inevitable
- How to achieve was debatable: to plant or not to plant, pause before you plant...
- Understanding what has/works and its impact was necessary
- The book was about field lessons and experiences demonstrating best practices in restoration.
- Regional contribution to the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030.

It mentioned the objective as;

- Evaluate past and present mangrove restoration initiatives
- Evaluate the present state of mangrove forests that have been altered to due various pressures.
- Evaluate the role and impact of climate variability and change on mangroves
- Inform regional/country targets for mangrove restoration to match with UN Decade
- Determine and promote feasible and best mangrove restoration actions

It highlighted the outline of the book as;

Part I: General introduction

- General account of the mangroves of the WIO
 - Coverage
 - Values and Threats
 - Management (governance)

Mangrove rehabilitation and restoration

- Definitions and concepts

The UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration

- Global to regional/national interests and priorities
- Partnerships, coordination and support

Part II: Mangrove restoration in the WIO – needs and priorities

- Country chapters on mangroves and where restoration initiatives are practiced]
- Country case studies – lessons and experiences; opportunities and challenges

Part III: Policy Implications

- Institutional and governance arrangements that are necessary to drive the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration to successful outcomes.
- Mangrove restoration in the context of changing climate and other anthropogenic pressures such as marine sourced pollution, taking an example of the recent case in Mauritius

The targeted audience was mentioned to be;

Practitioners of mangrove conservation and management in the region and beyond

- Resource managers
- Scientists
- Students
- Communities

The publication plan of the book was highlighted as follows;

Lead Editor:

- Mwitia M. Mangora (Tanzania)

Editors:

- James G. Kairo (Kenya)
- Celia Macamo (Mozambique)
- Dannick Randriamanantena (Madagascar)
- Chandani Appadoo (Small Islands),
- Anusha Rajkaran (South Africa)

Co-authors:

- Two for each country

Quality control

- WIOSAP Critical Habitats Task Force

It mentioned that in April 2022 the book was planned to be launched.

Min 06/21: Remarks from Host Institution and Welcome Chief Guest

Dr. Maggareth thanked the region for trusted the IMS for hosting the network. She mentioned that the institute of Marine Sciences promised to provide the required support to the network.

She mentioned that the WIOMSA was started in IMS and the association is not a lead in the western Indian ocean region.

Ms. Sinikinesh Beyene Jimma

She mentioned that the network started way back in 2011 where a team of expert from the region in a meeting in Mombasa. It was started by the common problems faced by the mangroves in the region and the need to address them to ensure sustainable mangrove management.

In the conference of parties held in 2012 in Maputo, the parties agreed for the network to be anchored under the Nairobi Convention in UNEP. She mentioned the production of publications that had been produced by the network. She mentioned that the task force formed under the convention was growing and are becoming independent institutions. She added that there would be an increase in partnerships and resource mobilization in the region beyond what was initially foreseen.

She recalled the launch of WIOMPAN on the World Ocean Day and mentioned that WIOMN would that she was delighted to see yet another network established under the Convention being launched. She highlighted that it was a registered as a legal entity and had received WIOMSA MASMA grant to produce a book on Mangrove Ecosystems Restoration in the Western Indian Ocean Region: Lessons and experiences towards the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration 2021-2030. That followed the support of UNEP and Nairobi Convention through the WIOSAP project in proposal development and task forces that will ensure quality control. She thanked the Institute of Marine Science on behave of United Nations Environment Programme for hosting the network.

She mentioned that she was pleased to announce that the Western Indian Ocean Mangrove Network was officially launched. Added that the book production on mangrove ecosystem restoration in the Western Indian Ocean Region: Lessons and experiences towards the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration officially launched. He congratulated all who played a role contributing to the launch.

Min 7/21: Vote of Thanks

- Prof. Chandani thanked and appreciated UNEP, Nairobi Convention, WWF, IUCN, USAID, Wetlands International, University of Dar es Salaam and WIOMSA for the various roles they played in facilitate the formation and registration of the network.
- She mentions that the conception of WIOMN lye in the regional workshops and capacity building events held by WIOMSA.
- She thanked Nairobi Convention for anchoring the network and that were glad that the NC would continue to support the network through its WIOSAP project.
- She thanked the IMS for hosting the registered network in the Zanzibar.
- She thanked the speakers and regional stakeholders who put mangrove has a priority ecosystem.

Annex: List of Attendees

Launch of WIOMN and Restoration Book Project Date: 24 June 2021 Venue: Microsoft Teams		
	Name	Gender
1.	Mwita Mangora	M
2.	Chandani Appadoo	F
3.	Mohamed Muse	M
4.	Oocheetsing Sadasing	F
5.	Anusha Rajkaran	F
6.	January Ndagala	M
7.	Mwanahija Shalli	F
8.	David Ouma	M
9.	Ntibona Loyce	F
10.	Kipkorir Sigi Lang'At	M
11.	Salomao Bandeira	M
12.	Nathan Ouma Majwa	M
13.	Jared Bosire	M
14.	Maggie Kyewalyanga	F
15.	Nadjim	F
16.	Evans Muthoka	M
17.	Trettin, Carl -Fs	F
18.	Melisa Wandia Mureithi	F
19.	Kathy Young	F
20.	Janine Adams	F
21.	Theuri Mwangi	M
22.	Shawlet Cherono	F
23.	Amina Hamza	F
24.	Odin, Gabriel	M
25.	Lilian Nyaega	F
26.	Jean Hugé	F
27.	Shashi	F
28.	Timothy Andrew	M
29.	Mathias Igulu	M
30.	Sachooda Ragoonaden	F
31.	Puk, Laura	F
32.	Emmanuel	M
33.	Simon Lugandu	F
34.	Diana Di Nitto	F

35.	Randriamanantena Dannick	M
36.	Tribukait, Julika	F
37.	Bonface Mutisya	M
38.	Mohamud Hassan Ali	M
39.	Jacqueline	F
40.	Kiprono	M
41.	Arthur Tuda	M
42.	Sinikesh Beyene Jimma	F
43.	Francois Baguette	M
44.	Olivia Freeman	M
45.	Angela Joann Patnode	F
46.	Ann-Katrien Lescrauwaet (Vliz)	F
47.	Amina Soud	F
48.	Kelvin Kamnde	M
49.	Nabiihah Roomaldawo	F
50.	Modesta Medard	F
51.	Abdi Aden Ahmed, Southern Somalia	M
52.	Lilian Mugi	F
53.	Anna Lawuo	F
54.	Edward Senkondo	M
55.	Bernard Kirui	M
56.	Anne Wanjiru	F
57.	James G Kairo	M
58.	Saleh Yahya	M
59.	Henriques Balidy	M
60.	Kinya Gladys	F
61.	Maina Mbui	M