



Institutional strengthening of the legal framework of Kilifi County fishers network for the sustainable management and governance of a 1600 km² joint co-management area.

Type of priority area

Marine Protected Area

Marine Managed Areas

Transboundary Areas

Primary objective

Governance

Management Effectiveness

Livelihoods

Target groups

Local Communities

Farmers/Fishermen

Subnational Government

Main activity focus

Legal framework/Regulation

Co-management

Capacity building



Duration
01.01.2023 – 31-12-2023



Type of grant & budget
Small Technical Grant | 46,962€



Location
Kenya, Eastern Africa



Protected & Conserved Areas
Community Conservation Areas (Co-Management Areas) under Kilifi County Beach Management Unit (BMU) Network



WDPA ID



BIOPAMA RRS Link

Project Lead

Oceans Alive Trust

Project Partners

Kilifi County Beach Management Unit (BMU) Network

Description of the project :

The project goal is to assist the fledgling KBMU-NW to be registered with County Authorities, to be legally constituted as per the BMU Regulations, and recognised as a legal entity, a representative body of its 17 BMU Members.





Diagnostic Tools Used:
Site-level assessment of governance and equity (SAGE)



The BIOPAMA Action Component Objectives Addressed

- Enhance the management and governance of priority protected areas by addressing existing limitations
- Enforce the legal framework required to achieve effective biodiversity conservation in PAs



Priority Need Addressed

The current review of the Kenya 2020 Beach Management Unit (BMU) Regulations lays down the devolution of responsibility from State to County Level. In so doing, it establishes the process of the registration and operation of County BMU NWs. A recent assessment by Oceans Alive, established that the guidelines for implementing the legal framework of BMUs are still in draft. Consequently, apart from Kuruwitu-BMU, all 16 members of the Kilifi BMU-Network (KBMU-NW) have:

- 1) An uncertain legal status
- 2) Lack official property rights to the CMA and Fish Landing Sites
- 3) Actors have unclear roles
- 4) Lack representation and participation in county decision making
- 5) Have no formal legal backing in enforcement
- 6) Do not draw equitable benefits from the County budgets



The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

Through the implementation of the project the fledgling KBMU-NW will be registered with County Authorities, to be legally constituted as per the BMU Regulations, and recognised as a legal entity, representative of its 17 BMU Members.

1. With the KBMU-NW constitution officially registered democratically representing 17 BMU members. This will create an advocacy platform to protect the user rights and tenure of its fishers, and associated value chains.
2. With the KBMU-NW MSP plan supported, it will guide decisions during preparations on establishing critical ecological zones that are in need of protection, highlighting additional scope for no-take zones.
3. With statistical information from county records and local research organisations made available to KBMU-NW for decision making, this will strengthen their MSP and support the development of their JCMA plan.
4. With KBMU-NW and DoF supported to incorporate the MSP, Resource Assessment, by-laws and other requirements needed in development of the JCMA. This will strengthen the effectiveness and focus of the JCMA plan developed.
5. With the KBMU-NW legal bylaws included in the Constitutional by laws this will form a basis for KBMU-NW to establish their MCS to ensure protection of their resources.

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The project Addressing governance and equity challenges of Lumo conservancy for effective biodiversity conservation and improved livelihoods outcomes is financed by the European Union and the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States through the Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management (BIOPAMA) Programme.

BIOPAMA assists the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries to address their priorities for improved management and governance of biodiversity and natural resources. BIOPAMA provides a variety of tools, services and funding to conservation actors in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. The BIOPAMA grant-making facility is managed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and supports projects on the ground to strengthen the management and governance of protected and conserved areas, with a total budget of 21 million Euros.

