

Securing the critical Inhamambane Estuary & mouth in the Vilanculos Coastal Wildlife Sanctuary, with direct benefits to the Chingonguene fishing community

Type of priority area

Key Biodiversity Area

Privately Protected Area

Marine Protected Area

Primary objective

Livelihoods

Target groups

Local Communities

National or local PA agency

Farmers/Fishermen

Main activity focus

Livelihoods/ Alternative economic activities

Enforcement

Threatened Species



Duration
01.01.2023 – 30.06.2024



Type of grant & budget
Medium Grant | 199,598 €



Location
Mozambique, Southern Africa



Protected & Conserved Areas
Santuário Bravio de Vilanculos / Vilanculos Coastal Wildlife Sanctuary



WDP ID
555698172



BIOPAMA RRS Link
<https://rrs.biopama.org/ct/pa/555698172>

Project Lead

Santuário Bravio de Vilanculos Limitada

Project Partners

Chingonguene CCP

Description of the project :

The overarching goal of this project is to secure the Inhamambane Estuary mouth to conserve fish stocks and protect sharks and rays of global conservation significance, for the benefit of the Chingonguene fishing community. The Chingonguene CCP will be empowered as custodians of the mouth and their community will benefit from improved infrastructure, greater support from the PA and direct economic benefits because of better access to more sustainable fishing grounds and improved fishing practices:





Diagnostic Tools Used

METT assessment 2022



The BIOPAMA Action Component Objectives Addressed

- ✓ Support local communities' initiatives aiming to enhance the livelihoods of local people whilst effectively contributing to protected areas' management.
- ✓ Secure the Inhamambane Estuary mouth as a no-netting zone with adequate monitoring and enforcement
- ✓ Improve corporate governance and functioning of Chingonguene CCP by holding a legal election and constructing a CCP headquarters with solar power and adequate freezer facilities
- ✓ Improve education opportunities for Chingonguene children by making additions and improvements to the Chingonguene Primary School



Priority Need Addressed

The Inhamambane Estuary plays a critical role as a breeding ground and nursery for numerous reef and pelagic fish and the estuary mouth is an incredibly important aggregation site for sharks and rays, including the critically endangered rhino ray/wedgefish. This estuary and mouth are also vital fishing areas for the Chingonguene community which resides alongside the estuary, providing both nutritional and economic resources to its people. The project aims to declare the Inhamambane estuary mouth a restricted use zone enforced with a new patrol boat with no netting permitted for the protection of sharks and rays, and to provide economic benefits to the Chingonguene community through the provision of facilities and equipment to improve governance and education opportunities, introduce more sustainable fishing practices, and access economic benefits from existing ecotourism markets.



The change the project implementation will bring for the protected areas

By establishing sound governance and headquarters for the Chingonguene CCP the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of the CBO will be significantly enhanced. The creation of a viable income stream through establishment of a marketplace with fish storage facilities and an end-user market already in place will ensure the continuous flow of economic benefits to the CCP and all members of the community, enabling ongoing maintenance of buildings and equipment, including the community primary school. The project improves future prospects for alternative livelihoods and careers, unlocks conservation education lessons in the school by ensuring adequate infrastructure, and creates employment opportunities for women and youth through construction projects centered in the Chingonguene village. In ecological terms, the numbers of sharks and rays observed in the estuary mouth and on surrounding reefs are expected to increase due to more effective patrols by boat, less indiscriminate netting due to enforcement of restrictions, and the implementation of effective catch monitoring.

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