TEAM NAME: SQUAD GOALS

NAME OF TEAM MEMBERS:

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TITLE: COMPEITING TO COASTAL RESOURCES AND UNSUSTAINABLE USES.

BACKGROUND:

In fact, scientists estimate that half of the world’s coral reefs have already disappeared thereby impacting marine ecosystems and coastal communities at large. In case of Zanzibar context particularly in Paje, Jambiani and Tumbatu Island as our potential areas of study, researches show that every year coral reefs face direct threats due to increasing competition between many various coastal activities and un- sustainable uses which has led into disappearing of a huge percentage of coral reefs especially those which are located in the shallow water where a lot of other coastal activities are conducted.

In the previous time over 10 to 15 years back, in Paje and Tumbatu coastal areas shallow water regions used to consist of health coral reefs but due to different factors, coral reefs have disappeared especially in areas like Chakungu, Makecheni, and Mwamba wa wanawake found at Paje coastal area. Also, areas like Bwechano, Ongoni, Mayale, Makutani and Amiachini found at Tumbatu island are now more degraded compared to other neighboring coral containing areas like Surutani, Kidomo Shubari, Pengeleni, Kiomoni, Bikoni and Kifungu mchele.

PROBLEM: CORAL REEF DESTRUCTION

Causes of coral reef destruction

Despite other coastal areas where sewage and industrial spills are one of the major contributors toward coastal pollution, unfortunately that’s not an issue in Paje and Tumbatu Island. The degradation of coral reefs in these islands occurs as a result of three (3) major factors;

1. Illegal fishing methods
2. Overfishing and
3. Due to marine transport vessels.

**Illegal fishing practices;** these include using small fishing nets, spears, guns, hammers, small hoes, wire ropes *“madema ya waya”* and the use of organic poisons namely *”ugovi and utupa”*.

**Overfishing;** due to the use of small fishing nets, the very small aquatic species with the coral reefs as their habitats are all destroyed.

**Marine transport vessels;** fibers and boats when parking their anchors directly reaches the shallow water corals and break them through.

Effects of coral reef destruction

Decline of tourism sector

Extinction of marine ecosystem

Decline of fishing sector

Declination of national economy

Decrease in per capital income

Hindrances toward solving the problem

Poverty

Low awareness

Improper implementation of policies and laws

Lack of reasonable researches (mapping) and follow up

SOLUTION: COASTAL WEB MAP

This is a web-map that shows the hotspot of coral reefs by depicting their location and identifying the most vulnerable areas within the same hotspots. Also, it depicts the health condition of coral reefs by identifying their zone of existence whereby the zone of deep sea consists of healthier corals compared to the shallow water zone which mostly consists of un-healthier corals. Thus, it reveals the protected areas where restoration of coral reef is to be established whereby these areas are those which are highly degraded and in those areas where corals are still in the pioneer stage.

The restoration of coral reefs will succeed by establishing the campaign which comes with the message that is carried in a Swahili accent, ***“kwa pamoja tuyatunze matumbawe kwa maendeleo ya baadae” or “together let’s protect the corals for future development”*** in English language.

MODE OF FUNCTIONING:

It will work with a system of underwater sensors that will help in detecting the sea level fall and rising, degree of sea surface temperature, degree of heating per month, level of coral degradation per month. Also, it will include a comment segment (feedback box) where different stakeholders will be capable of sending their suggestions and reporting on different issues. Thus, it is an important tool that will help in providing the real time data as well as promoting reasonable decision making that will be useful in monitoring the protection and conservation coral reefs.

TARGETED STAKEHOLDERS:

* Government i.e. ministry of blue economy, ministry of fisheries, and Zanzibar Fisheries and Research Institute (ZAFIRI) and Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA).
* Non-government institutions such as Mwambao Coastal Community Network (MCCC).
* Local community.

POSITIVE IMPACTS OF THE SOLUTION

Protection and conservation of marine ecosystem

Increase in the production and flourishing of marine species

Increase of employment opportunities

Growth of national income

Reduction of poverty

Influences trading, fishing and tourism activities

GROUP PHOTOS

 

 

