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Organization/Institution: Kesho Trust
Study Site: Saadani National Park area of coastal Tanzania

Overall Program of Research

Progress since April 01, 2015

Over the past year some progress has been made in each of the three areas of focus in my research:

- a) the interface of local livelihoods, tourism and conservation
 - I defended my doctoral thesis in June, 2015 which focused on the influence of conservation on livelihood decision-making
 - the findings show a strong connection between livelihood choices and diminishing resource productivity resulting from the immediate subsistence needs and no real connection to long term conservation values
 - results also indicated unrealized expectations from alternative livelihood opportunities resulting from park establishment

- b) the influence of poverty on conservation
 - data gathering was conducted in 6 local communities earlier in 2014 in a collaboration with Lorraine Wapling [PhD cand.] on the influences of assets of individual well-being
 - analysis of that data has continued during the past year and we have developed a concept for the presentation of results has been

- c) the relationships between local villages and protected areas management.
 - data gathering from village representatives and park staff was conducted in 2015
 - two papers are being prepared currently based on this work: one is a case study analysis and the other a more theoretical view of the influence of relationships in such contexts

Future Plans for April 2016 to March 2017

Plans for the coming year are dominated by the finalization and submission of papers for publication. Two papers from my doctoral thesis work have been prepared and are in the submission stage. The case study paper on village-park relationships has also been prepared and is at the revision stage currently while the theoretical paper related to the same topic is in draft

form only. The poverty research needs considerable work and will be a focus of some significant effort this coming year.

One of the issues that has emerged through past work has been the role of tourism as a livelihood option for local communities. Capacity for engagement in tourism in the communities is low but expectations of benefits from the park are high. This presents a great challenge and would benefit from specific research attention. Efforts to link with the villages on this topic and to formulate some relevant research directions and questions will be undertaken. Efforts on this are beginning currently in collaboration with Dr Agnes Sirima.

Study Site Activities

Activities

The Kesho Trust has been active in the Saadani area for some time. We initiated a project called Promoting Environmental Conservation and Cooperation [PECC] in the area in 2013. The purpose was to help improve relationships between villagers and the Saadani Park management through understanding and discussion. In September, 2015 a series of meetings and workshops were held to document this project as a case study for application to the Panorama platform created by IUCN following the World Parks Congress. Meetings were held in three out of the six PECC communities and then a workshop was convened with representatives from all communities to review the progress of PECC. Participants were asked to explain what was working effectively and why and how they felt the project was affecting their relationships with the park. The outcomes were positive and people were keen to continue the work of the committees in each village. Documentation from the review was submitted and accepted. It is now posted on the Panorama site at: <http://www.solutionexplorer.org/solutions/improving-relationships-between-local-communities-and-saadani-np-management>. The Kesho Trust also produced a video of the review process which is available at: <https://youtu.be/FX4rR9OQPKM>

A local Tanzanian volunteer with the Kesho Trust, Beatrice Simon, has been undertaking her Master's program in Norway. She participated previously in our PECC activities and is focusing her research on the topic of impacts of protected areas on local livelihoods. She conducted her field work and data collection and is in the process of writing the thesis. Dr Downie has been assisting in the review of her work.

As a result of the PECC initiative being recognized within the Panorama program, IUCN connected the Kesho Trust with an organization called Linking Tourism & Conservation [LTC]. Members of the group will be attending a regional Blue Solutions forum in Zanzibar in May, 2016 and will be hosted by the Kesho Trust on a study tour in Saadani. The visitors will meet

with the PECC committees to hear about their local experiences of community based tourism and to share international experience from elsewhere.

Outputs

Knowledge Mobilization

Knowledge mobilization mechanisms used related to research and project activities.

Dissemination mechanisms	# Developed	# Planned	Audience	Release date
Online (website, blogs, forums, etc.)	3	4	all audiences	regular
Journal Articles (academic)	2	3	academic	?
Audio-visual material (e.g. video, film, sound recording, etc.)	1	1	all audiences	fall 2016
Newspaper/Magazine article(s)		1	professional	fall 2016
New course(s)		1	academic	
Workshop	3	3	community	
Congress		1	all audiences	Sept. 2016
Meeting	6	24	community	

Details:

Online (website, blogs, forums, etc.)

- we regularly update our website with specific activities and progress in the projects undertaken. A number of entries during the past year relate to the work of the CCRN and the PECC project which is a major activity in the Saadani area - Kesho Trust website: <http://www.thekeshotrust.org/>
- the IUCN staff member that came to review our PECC project posted a blog of her experience on the IUCN website: IUCN Blog by Marie Fischborn: <https://portals.iucn.org/blog/2015/10/21/conservation-and-development-finding-community-led-solutions-in-tanzanias-saadani-national-park/>

- the case study documentation of the PECC project has also been posted on the web on the Panorama solutions website:
<http://www.solutionexplorer.org/solutions/improving-relationships-between-local-communities-and-saadani-np-management>

Journal Articles (academic)

- two articles have been submitted but publication details are unknown

Audio-visual material (e.g. video, film, sound recording, etc.)

- a volunteer in Tanzania produced a video of the PECC project review which has now been completed and posted on You Tube: PECC review process video:
<https://youtu.be/FX4rR9OQPKM>

Newspaper/Magazine article(s)

- one magazine article is in the planning stages. No details are yet available.

New course(s)

- an undergraduate field course has been proposed that includes the study area and the issues relevant to the CCRN. Decisions have not been made as to whether the concept will be pursued or not.

Workshop

- we have regular workshops as part of the PECC project because with 10 committee members in each of six communities, getting all participants together is logistically challenging. We typically have representatives from each committee come together to a workshop on a specific topic and then report back to their committees. One is actively being undertaken and others are in the planning stages

Congress

- the case study documentation of the PECC project on the Panorama platform was used to also submit a poster presentation at the World Conservation Congress. This proposal was accepted and we are in the process of developing the final poster for presentation. The Congress is being held in Hawaii in September. IUCN World Conservation Congress: <http://www.iucnworldconservationcongress.org/>

Meeting

- we meet regularly with our PECC committees. There is one committee of 10 individuals in each of six communities adjacent to Saadani National Park. Seventeen communities in all border the park but due to resource limitations we have only been able to work with six. These meetings also include park staff on a regular basis.