

# JGI's Environmental Education Program, Partnering with the Islamic Community, Tanzania





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#### JGI Background

"Now we must redefine tool, redefine man, or accept chimpanzees as humans." - Louis Leakey



# JGI Background: JGI's Africa Programs

#### <u>Goal</u>

To Preserve Great Apes and their Habitats, with an Emphasis on Chimpanzees

#### Strategic Objectives

- 1. Integration of Community-Centered Conservation and Socio-Economic Development
- 2. Great Apes Research
- 3. Sanctuaries and Care for Orphan Chimpanzees
- 4. Public Awareness & Education





# **Environmental Education Program**



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• Project duration: 2006 – February, 2011.

- Geographical coverage: 22 Coastal districts.
- Target beneficiaries: 101,000 pupils.



# **Stakeholders**

- Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT), mainland and Zanzibar
- Vice President's Office, Environment
- Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA) and Office of the Mufti Zanzibar
- **District** Councils •
- NGOs WWF, TCMP

- Implemented through the R&S Program
  - Knowledge = Compassion = Action
  - •Inspire young people to make a positive difference for animals, people and the environment
  - Enhancing understanding between young people across cultures, religion,



# **Program Area**

<u>Tanzania mainland</u>	
1. Kinondoni,	

- 2. Temeke,
- 3. Bagamoyo,
- 4. Mkuranga,
- 5. Muheza,
- 6. Tanga,
- 7. Pangani,
- 8. Kilwa,
- 9. Lindi,
- 10. Mtwara
- 11.Rufiji
- 12.Mkinga

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13. North B

**Zanzibar** 

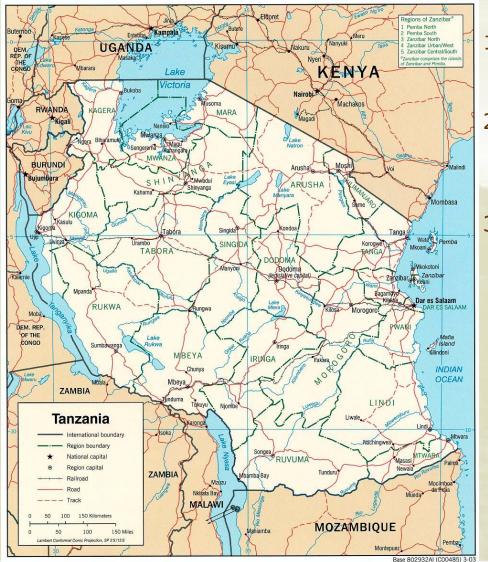
- 14. Central
- 15. Urban
- 16. Southern
- 17. Western
- 18. North A

#### **Pemba**

- 19. Micheweni,
- 20. Mkoani
- 21. Chakechake
- 22. Wete

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- Majority of coastal population are 1. **Muslims**
- 2. Worked with madrasas, linking environmental stewardship and teachings from the Holy Qur an
- 3. Local religious leaders and institutions have a significant influence on people's attitudes and opinions





# **Building Relationships**

- Initial meetings with:
  - Ministry of Education, mainland and Zanzibar
  - Mufti of Tanzania, Muslim Council of Tanzania and Office of Mufti, Zanzibar
- All Sheikh's were instructed to work closely with the program and support development of materials linked to the Holy Quran
- Management committees established in Zanzibar to oversea project implementation
- Meeting held with government and religious stakeholders for all to discuss the program and roles, and support





# **Project Objectives**

- To increase the knowledge of youth in coastal communities on coastal 1. and marine ecosystems and engage them in addressing conservation issues through Roots & Shoots service learning methodology.
- To deepen students' understanding of conservation and coastal and 2. marine ecosystems through the development and dissemination environmental education materials.
- To increase awareness of environmental conservation actions in the 3. coastal areas





## **Project Activities**

- 1. Teacher training workshops on incorporation of EE
- 2. Produce and distribute environmental education materials - video shows, manuals, partner with BAKWATA and Ministry of Education
- 3. Facilitate the formation of Roots & Shoots clubs
- 4. Train youth in leadership skills
- 5. Facilitate youth in establishing different environmental/conservation projects
- 6. Conduct Community Environmental Awards Scheme (CEAS) to increase public awareness and participation in coastal conservation issues.





### **Teacher Training**

- 1,539 teachers trained on incorporating EE
- 551 teachers received refresher training
- **217,537** students reached, with 67,518 from madrasas
- Supported implementation of Tanzania Policy









#### **Materials Developed/Produced**

- Environmental Education Guide 8,500
- Madrasa Environmental Education Teachers Guide 3,000
- EE Quarterly Newsletters 23,000
- Roots & Shoots Manual 2,000











#### Sample Lesson from the Madrasa Manual on the Environment

Partial excerpt – He (Allah S.W) created the trees and all the other plants that bear different fruits. Eat the fruits of the tree and harvest them when they are ready. However, do not use misuse these trees, because he (Allah S.W) doesn't like people who misuse (Qur an 6:141)

Lesson: In this lesson we are reminded that it is he, S.W, who created the different trees with fruits. We are given permission to eat the fruits, but not to misuse the. Anything contrary to this, shows that we are not grateful to our Creator. To misuse is to go against Islamic teachings.



**Inspire and Support Conservation Actions** 

•Over 2,400 students attended Youth Summits held in 22 districts

 Project in collaboration with local government organized CEAS – 47,000 students and community members

•805 schools and madrasa's participated in CEAS (286 madrasa's)

440 schools formed R&S clubs & initiated projects







**Capacity of District, Ward & Madrasa staff** Enhanced

 Monitoring and data collection capacity enhanced

 Bakwata and district staff working together on project activities and monitoring together

 Relationships built between the formal education system and madrasa network







### **Lessons Learnt**

- 1. Initial engagement of the government and Islamic community was essential to build a foundation for success, and sustain program interventions
- 2. Openness to incorporate key Islamic stakeholders led to success in implementing activities in madrasa's.
- 3. Bi-annual stakeholder meetings played a key role in building trust and a real partnership
- 4. Training teachers and madrasa, served to improve teaching techniques & motivate them
- 5. Learning by doing motivates students & makes subject matter more enjoyable.
- 6. Conservation clubs are instrumental in improving students' skills and talents such as artistic, presentation, writing and other life skills.









# **Thank You**

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