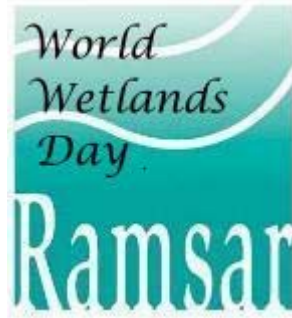


**THE WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2007
KENYA**



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List of acronyms

GVI - Global Vision International

KEMFRI - Kenya Marine Fisheries and Research Institute

KESCOM - Kenya Sea Turtle Conservation Committee

KWS - Kenya Wildlife Service

WCK - Wildlife Clubs of Kenya

NMK - National Museum of Kenya

WWD - World Wetlands Day

Acknowledgements

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the schools, community groups and the donor fraternity, whose continued participation and support for the World Wetlands Day has created a special place for this memorable event each year. With their help, WWD continues to grow and improve indispensably.

Special word of thanks is extended to the WWD 2007 main sponsor Ramsar Convention through KWS Head quarters for the financial support. We also thank other sponsors for their financial support and many in-kind donations. Your generosity with supplies, food, beverages, services and other gifts kept our volunteers motivated and energized for their tasks. We appreciate your contributions and your commitment to the World Wetlands Day 2007 (see appendix 5.2 for a list of sponsors)

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

The World Wetlands Day (WWD) is normally celebrated on 2nd February each year. The day marks the date when the convention on wetlands was signed on 2nd February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar.

World wetlands day was celebrated for the first time in 1997 and made an encouraging beginning. In the Kenyan Coast, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), in conjunction with Kenya Sea Turtle Committee (KESCOM) and Wildlife Clubs of Kenya (WCK) takes this opportunity to raise public awareness on values, functions and benefits of wetland in general and the Ramsar convention in particular. The Theme for the World Wetlands Day 2007 ***“Fish for Tomorrow”*** is one that touches almost everyone, wherever you live and whatever you do. Almost all of us eat fish (including shell fish), statistics show that 1 billion people in the world rely on fish as their sole source of protein. Yet the current state of the world’s fisheries is a matter of great concern. While 75% of our commercially important marine fisheries and many of our inland stocks are currently being over fished or are being fished at their biological limits, the demand for fish continues to grow – indeed it has doubled over the last 40 years and is likely to continue to grow as global

population increases. In addition, over 35 million people world wide are currently involved in the industry, 95% live in developing countries and the majority are small - scale fishers; their livelihoods depend on making sure that there will be fish for tomorrow.

2. Project Goals

(a) Specific Goals

1. To enhance the level of awareness amongst school children and other stakeholders on the importance of conserving wetlands.
2. To create awareness and publicity on near shore coastal wetlands and inland marine fisheries.
3. Improving coordination and creating synergies among resource managers, researchers, users, and donors to address issues on coastal and marine resources.
4. Harness volunteer's efforts and synergies with a view of increasing the level of their participation in conservation of coastal and marine wetlands

(b)How to accomplish these goals:

- i) Dedicate efforts to bring together Kenyans from all walks of life to express themselves on the marine environment and resources therein during world wetlands day (WWD).
- ii) Sensitizing young minds through competitive theme interpretation during the World Wetlands Day.
- iii) Create a forum for exchange and /or transfer of contemporary science and expectations from the young to the old through modeling, poetry, debate, drama and dance during the World Wetlands Day.
- iv) Share experiences from other countries with those who have had occasion to travel and experience different approaches.

3: Specific Benefits

- Enhance a more focused coastal and marine education program among school children and local community.
- Promote awareness towards increased benefits accruing from a healthy environment among the fisher community and general public.
- Promote coordinated interaction between resource managers, educators, users and researchers.
- Channels volunteer's efforts and synergies towards coordinated objectives
- Increases sensitivity towards community needs and cultural believes among the managers and scientists

4: Significance

Conservation work involves shaping people's behavior and attitudes towards the environment, such that one feels inwardly obliged to act responsibly, both in public and private life. The ability to recognize the extent of the impacts of our actions, and the accompanying desire to avoid deleterious behavior, is a process that takes long to build. Formal and informal education and awareness campaigns are crucial in accomplishing this objective, and the WWD for Kenya is one such event. We have seen interest in this activity grow from a few school children to resource users across the borders. Each successful year, the judges who vet the various activities have indicated an improvement in depth and extent of the theme interpretation (each year has a different theme proved by the Ramsar convention). We therefore consider the annual WWD a very successful project towards better wetlands for now and in the future.

2.0 EVENT PLANNING

2.1 Organizing committee

The first 11th WWD planning meeting was held on the 6th January 2007. The organizing committee was composed of members from 6 members KWS- Coast Conservation Area, KESCOM, and Kisite Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve. The committee consisted of 2 sub-committees - Publicity and Fundraising committees.

2.2 Publicity

Information about the WWD was passed to participants through stickers, posters, letters, banners and brochures.

2.3 Budget

The WWD budget requirements were as follows:

Item	Amount (Kshs.)
Printing Publicity Material (4 pcs Banners and 100 pcs Brochures)	5,000.00
Hiring of Equipment (5 tents and PAS)	4,875.50
Refreshment for pupils and students (400 soft drinks, snacks)	12,000.00
Lunch for the VIPs	15,000.00
Photography and Video Coverage	11,500.00
Facilitation Costs (Local running fuel, stationery, postage, telephone and contingency)	8,500.00
Awards 300 certificates	3,000.00
Reports and dissemination	2,000.00
Total	61,875.5

3.0 EVENT OUTPUT

3.1 Participation

WWD 2007 attracted more than 300 participants from primary schools, community based organizations (CBOs), government institutions, local NGOs, hoteliers and private water sports clubs.

Due to limited funding only five schools from Shimoni were involved in this years' WWD.

3.2 Presentations

There were four categories of competitions for adjudication: performances (dramas, poems, songs and dances). Based on this years' theme interpretation winners were awarded presents that included books and pens.



Fig 1: Art work display



Fig 2: Poetry



Fig 3: Song dance

3.3 Clean up

Beach and coastal clean up that included the local market centre was conducted by all participants. A proximately 750 Kg of garbage were collected mainly non-biodegradable materials mainly plastics, flip flops, bottles, iron scrap, buckets, glass, fishing nets, tins, metals, cigarette filters and many more.



Fig. 4 Clean up

3.4 Mangrove replanting

The season for mangrove replanting was offset. However, mangrove replanting will take place during the onset of rains targeting 4 main species including *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Ceriops tagal*, *Avicennia marina* and *Sonneratia alba*. This will be an ongoing program for the schools and communities in Shimoni area.



Figure 5: Speech from the Chief Guest

4. WWD Programme and Participants

The event was held on the 24th February 2007 from 9 am to 2 pm at the Kisite Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve Headquarters – Shimoni. The chief guest was Mr. Hassan Mohamed Hassan; the education Officer National Museums of Kenya (Fort Jesus). The VIPs included Dr. James Kairo (KMFRI) who gave a keynote speech on the value and general importance of mangroves. Other institutions with key representatives in attendance included GVI, Colobus Trust, KESCOM and the Provincial administration.

In his closing speech, the Warden of Kisite Mpunguti Marine National Park and Reserve underscored the significant role that the coastal and marine resources continued to play not only in supporting local communities livelihoods but also contributing to the national economy. Noting that these resources are, however, facing diverse threats due to destructive and unsustainable exploitative practices, he stressed on the need for concerted efforts by all the governmental and non-governmental agencies and the community fraternity in addressing these trends.

Appendix 5.1: PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

	NAME	NO. OF STUDENTS	NO. OF PATRONS
1	Kag Primary School	13	2
2	Kichaka Mkwaju Primary	10	1
3	Mkwiro Primary Sschool	10	2
4	Shimoni Primary School	12	3
5	Wasini Primary School	10	3

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

	NAME	NUMBER
1.	Community representatives	149
2.	Local NGO's representatives	18
3.	Government Representatives	12
4.	Guests	33
5.	Organizing institutions (KWS and Kescom)	23

Appendix 5.2: SPONSORS

5.2.1 Cash Donations

Number	Sponsor	Amount (Kshs.)	Activity
1.	KWS Wetlands Division	50,000.00	Facilitation
2.	One earth Safaris	5,000.00	Facilitation
3.	Kikambala Fish Station	3,000.00	Banner Production

5.2.2 Donations in Kind

Number	Donor	Donated
1.	Paradise Divers	15 Cartons of Mineral Water
2.	Charlie Claws	2 Cartons of Mineral Water

Appendix 5.3: WWD 2006 Evaluation sheet.

WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2007

EVALUATION SHEET

(To be filled by School Patron)

School's name _____

School's address _____

School's tel. No. _____

Patrons' name _____

No. Of participants _____

Tick and fill where necessary:

1. What is your general view of this year's Marine Environment Day?

A. Excellent

B. Good

C. Fair

D. Poor

2. Did the day's events done play any role in awareness creation in Marine conservation?

A. Yes

B. No

If yes, which the events played this role sufficiently

A. Performances.

B. Artwork.

C. Sand art.

3. Briefly comment on this year's WWD with regards to last year's (if you took part last year)

4. Give a brief account of your future expectations on WWD

5.4 Waste Management sheet

Waste Management Form
World wetland day 2007

Enhancing Community Participation in the Conservation and Management of Wetlands in the Kenyan Coast

Date: Name/reporters.....

Beach(s).....

..... Location:.....

Items Collected:

NON-BIODEGRADABLE

ITEMS	Number	KGS	Where Collected	Distributed	When	How reused	COMMENT
Flipflops							
Plastic Bottles Water							
Plastic Bottles Other							
Glass Bottles							
Tin scrap							
Iron Scrap							
Hard Plastics: Buckets; boxes etc							
Material/Cloth							
Fishing nets/items							
Fishing line							
Bouys							
Polysterene							
Lighters							
Light bulbs							
Tin soldier men							

BIO-DEGRADABLE

ITEMS	Number	KGS	Where collected	Distributed	When	How reused	COMMENT
Hard wood pieces							
Soft wood pieces							
Bamboo							
Mangrove wood							
Other							

Any other info: