

2020  
ANNUAL  
REPORT  
SEA SENSE



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## MISSION

**TO PROMOTE THE SUSTAINABLE USE OF COASTAL AND MARINE RESOURCES IN TANZANIA FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY AND THE HEALTH AND PROSPERITY OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES.**

## VISION

**WE ENVISION A SOCIETY IN WHICH COASTAL PEOPLE AND MARINE WILDLIFE LIVE IN HARMONY AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION PLAYS A KEY ROLE IN SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**

# BACKGROUND

**SEA SENSE ENVISIONS A SOCIETY IN WHICH COASTAL PEOPLE AND MARINE BIODIVERSITY LIVE IN HARMONY; WHERE POPULATIONS OF THE WORLD'S MOST ICONIC MARINE WILDLIFE SPECIES FLOURISH AND COASTAL LIVELIHOODS SUPPORT WELLBEING AND PROSPERITY.**



2020 was a unique year. Less than three months into it, the world was spun into a pandemic, with organizations, including Sea Sense, quickly having to assess how to respond to this new challenge, while continuing to support the communities we work so closely with.

Despite having to adapt to working remotely, pause field implementation and manage the uncertainty, Sea Sense had some significant achievements in 2020. New partnerships were established, and a new capacity building project was launched. Sea Sense continued to raise awareness among coastal citizens on the importance of protecting marine wildlife and provided training to community-based fisheries managers and government officers, equipping them with vital skills to strengthen small scale fisheries management.

# BACKGROUND

Our network of Conservation Officers proved to be, once again, an invaluable resource, working tirelessly to ensure our sea turtle monitoring programme was not interrupted. They continued to provide a valuable link to coastal communities, represented Sea Sense in the field while the rest of the team was restricted to home working, and supported their communities to mitigate the impacts of the pandemic.

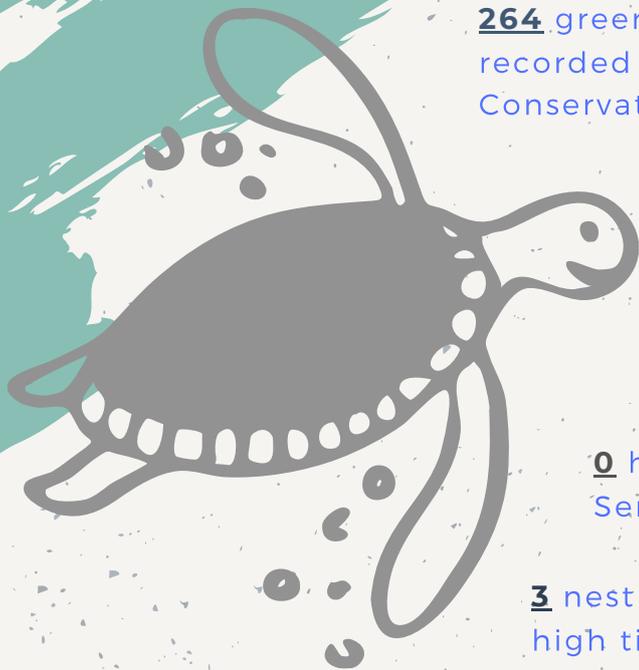
**We believe that 2020 was, without a doubt, a testament to Sea Sense's commitment to preserving marine wildlife and supporting communities to build sustainable and prosperous livelihoods. It is our hope for 2021 to continue to leverage support from donors, government and partner organizations, so that we can continue to work hand in hand with coastal communities, and ensure we look back at 2020 as an opportunity to evaluate and build back better.**

## OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

PRIORITY PROGRAMME AREA	STRATEGIC GOAL
<b>RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION</b>	IMPROVED CONSERVATION STATUS AND LONG-TERM PROTECTION FOR MARINE BIODIVERSITY IN TANZANIA.
<b>EDUCATION AND OUTREACH</b>	CITIZENS ARE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN MAINTAINING HEALTHY AND PRODUCTIVE MARINE AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS.
<b>SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS</b>	COASTAL LIVELIHOODS PROVIDE CONSERVATION BENEFITS FOR MARINE WILDLIFE AND PROMOTE THE PROSPERITY OF LOCAL PEOPLE.
<b>GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP</b>	LOCAL AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS ARE ACCOUNTABLE TO CITIZENS ON THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE AND COASTAL RESOURCES.

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# 2020 IN NUMBERS



**264** green turtle nests recorded by Sea Sense Conservation Officers

**25,441** sea turtle hatchlings safely reached the sea

**132** sea turtle mortalities recorded by Sea Sense Conservation Officers

**1** sea turtle nest poaching recorded by Conservation Officers

**0** hawksbill turtle nests recorded by Sea Sense Conservation Officers

**3** nest inundated by the high tide

**3** nests with rotten eggs

**14** sea turtle nests predated by wild animals (monitor lizards, ants and honey badgers)

**0** live dugong sightings

**1** dolphin and **6** whale mortalities recorded by Sea Sense Conservation Officers

**91** school pupils and **7** teachers participated in school education programmes

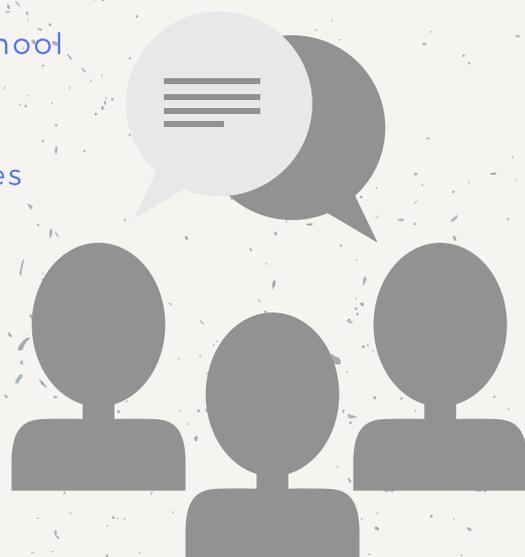
**1,437** people watched community theatre performances and joined in community debates

**71** elected representatives were trained in governance and leadership skills

**101** Beach Management Unit members participated in capacity development programmes

**19** community members trained on turtle population assessment protocol

**42** women fish workers participated in focus group discussions



# MARINE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

## NESTING ACTIVITY IN TANZANIA

Sea turtle nesting occurs along the entire coast of Tanzania. Every year, Sea Sense's network of 36 Community Conservation Officers conduct daily foot patrols of nesting beaches along nine coastal districts (Pangani Kigamboni Mkuranga, Mafia, Kibiti Kilwa Mkinga Tanga City and Muheza). In 2020, sea turtle nesting activity was monitored during early morning foot patrols. Nests were relocated to a safer area if deemed to be at risk of poaching or predation. Conservation Officers also collected data on marine wildlife strandings and documented illegal fishing activities.

2020 marked the 20th consecutive year since Sea Sense began its sea turtle nest monitoring programme, with 264 nests recorded across the nine districts. The graph below shows that nesting activity was lower in some years compared to others. Fluctuations in green turtle nesting activity are normal and are a result of an average three year re-migration interval. At a site-specific level, the nesting green turtle population in Mafia Island shows an upward trend. The same pattern is not observed in Kigamboni, where the population appears to be stable (no upward or downward trend).



**NUMBER OF NESTS RECORDED PER YEAR IN MAINLAND TANZANIA\***

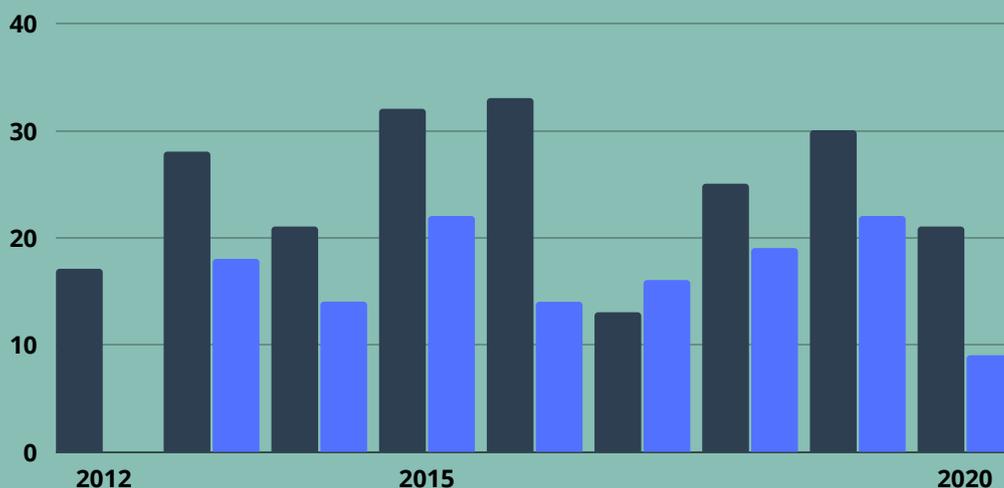
\*Note that the monitoring effort across the 20 years was not consistent for all districts, having started in Mafia in 2001, with Kigamboni added in 2005, Pangani in 2008 and Tanga/Mkinga in 2017.

# MARINE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

## POPULATION ASSESSMENT

2020 marked the ninth consecutive year of the annual nesting green turtle population assessment. The assessment is conducted during the peak nesting months of April and May, when night-time foot patrols are conducted at nesting beaches in Mafia and Kigamboni Districts. Flipper tags are applied to each female encountered, to allow

identification of individuals. The graph below shows the number of individual females that nested during the peak nesting months of April and May. Half of all nests laid each year are laid during this two-month period. Several females have been encountered in multiple nesting seasons, indicating high levels of nest site fidelity.



**NUMBER OF NESTING FEMALES DURING PEAK NESTING SEASON IN MAFIA (DARK BLUE) AND KIGAMBONI (LIGHT BLUE)**

Sea turtle populations in Tanzania continue to face a myriad of threats, which need a multifaceted approach. Coastal development is a major threat to nesting green turtles in Kigamboni, where strong enforcement of planning regulations is needed. Recent incidents of egg collection, poaching and turtle meat consumption and entanglement in fishing gears have been reported to our Conservation Officers. In response to these threats, information was reported to Village Councils for action, and Sea

Sense held meetings with the District Councils of Mafia and Kigamboni, to share the most recent nesting and tagging data, and to advocate for strong regulations and measures, which are essential for safeguarding the protection of sea turtles and their nesting and foraging habitats.

Despite these threats, local communities are increasing their capacity to conserve and protect marine biodiversity and demonstrating high levels of local stewardship.

# MARINE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

## CAPACITY BUILDING ON SEA TURTLE POPULATION ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL



In preparation for the annual nesting population assessment, the patrol teams in Mafia and Kigamboni participated in a two-day refresher training on population assessment protocols, which use internationally approved methodologies. Each patrol team member was issued with a set of guidelines for sea turtle monitoring to ensure adherence to best practices. Through the training, tagging team members were able to discuss the



protocols and procedures together, clarifying doubts or misinformation they had in the past and sharing specific experiences of participation in community-based sea turtle conservation. The training, ensured that the teams had the confidence needed to start the tagging season and collect crucial population data, which will enable Sea Sense to continue assessing trends in nesting green turtle populations in Tanzania.





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# MARINE WILDLIFE RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

## **STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION FOR SEA TURTLES**

With 20 years of community-based sea turtle research and conservation in Tanzania, there is an urgent need to reflect on the current state of knowledge and develop a roadmap for the next few years, so that sea turtle conservation measures continue to have the desired impact and Tanzania is well prepared to deal with emerging threats to sea turtles and their habitats.

Tanzania is a signatory state to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia. Sea Sense and the Government of Tanzania have begun the work to develop a National Plan of Action.

In order to inform the Plan, Sea Sense conducted stakeholder consultations, covering all coastal districts. Semi-structured phone interviews were conducted with technical experts and face-to-face consultations were conducted with coastal communities in Kwale and Koma (Mkuranga District) Pombwe and Jaja (Kibiti District) and Juani Island (Mafia District). The interviews helped to assess the level of knowledge of the respondents regarding the status of sea turtles in Tanzania, as well as collect recommendations on how to address the main challenges facing sea turtle conservation in Tanzania.

The resulting draft National Plan of Action will be finalized in collaboration with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and will be an important tool for guiding sea turtle conservation and management into the future.



## EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

**SEA SENSE'S EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAMMES PROVIDE A SOURCE OF INFORMATION TO CITIZENS ABOUT ENDANGERED SPECIES, MARINE CONSERVATION AND FISHERIES MANAGEMENT, SERVING AS A BASIS FOR ELICITING CITIZEN SUPPORT FOR IMPROVED CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY**

A community theatre programme was implemented in Kipumbwi and Kimang'a, in Pangani District. Performances included messages about the impacts of illegal fishing practices on coastal livelihoods and marine ecosystems, and community roles and responsibilities in the conservation and management of marine resources, including endangered marine wildlife. 1,207 people watched these community theatre performances and joined in community debates. Theatre performances in both villages were broadcast by Pangani FM and Mwambao, and are estimated to have reached a further 20,000 people.

The debates sparked by the performances provided an opportunity for citizens to openly discuss the main challenges they face in managing their resources, such as weak governance and corruption among leaders. More importantly, it was an opportunity for citizens to hold their leaders to account. This kind of open dialogue is an important step forward and demonstrates that communities are increasingly aware of the impact of these behaviours on their livelihoods and the sustainability of marine resources.

# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

## WORLD FISHERIES DAY CELEBRATION

A community event was held on World Fisheries Day, in Songo Songo, Kilwa District. More than 230 people were reached by the event, which included a variety of activities organized by Sea Sense, in cooperation with the Beach Management Unit, Village Government and Women Fish Worker Groups. Targeted messages about marine biodiversity, impacts of illegal fishing practices, waste management and the role of women and youth in marine conservation and management were shared through theatre pieces. The event was also broadcast by the Mashujaa Radio, reaching a further 4,000 citizens in Lindi, Mtwara, Mafia, Rufiji and Ikwiriri.

WORLD FISHERIES DAY IS CELEBRATED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD EACH YEAR ON NOVEMBER 21ST AND WAS ESTABLISHED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO OVERFISHING, HABITAT DESTRUCTION AND OTHER SERIOUS THREATS TO THE SUSTAINABILITY OF FISHERIES RESOURCES.



# EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

## MARINE WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP EDUCATION CAMPAIGN



**91** pupils and **5** teachers from four Secondary Schools, who participated in a Marine Wildlife and Environmental Leadership education campaign in 2019, were invited to join the Sea Sense team at a sea turtle nest hatching event. The event was held in Juani Island and Amani Beach, in Mafia and Kigamboni Districts, respectively, which support two of Tanzania's largest green turtle nesting populations.

To help prepare for the hatching event, and recognizing the threats posed to nesting turtles and emerging hatchlings by marine debris, the pupils assisted the Sea Sense team to clean

each of the beaches. **50kg** of plastic waste were collected in Juani and **15kg** at Amani Gomvu.

A brief presentation on sea turtle biology and threats to their survival was then offered by Sea Sense Conservation Officers working in the two areas.

The pupils were very excited to see the turtle hatchlings emerge from their nests as it was a new experience for all of them. They asked a lot of questions about sea turtle biology and were very curious about the work Conservation Officers do every day to conserve sea turtles and their habitats.

# CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

The Government of Tanzania has adopted a co-management approach to fisheries, which recognizes communities as key partners in resource planning, conservation, management and development. In the fisheries sector, community groups known as Beach Management Units (BMUs) have a legal mandate for fisheries management. Sea Sense works closely with BMUs to build their capacity to undertake the roles and responsibilities that have been

devolved to them through the Fisheries Act 2003. Sea Sense capacity building programmes focus on improving understanding of the National BMU Guidelines, which set out procedures for BMU establishment and subsequent operations. The programmes also develop the technical knowledge and expertise of BMUs so that fisheries management tools can be utilized effectively, and governance systems promote sustainability.



## MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE (MCS)

*'Learning how to rescue ourselves and other victims of drowning was not part of our patrol preparations, but we have now seen the need to set up regular rescue exercises for the patrol committee. The session on fisheries policies and laws will help us increase efficiency during patrols as it will make it easier to explain to fishers about which laws or regulations are being broken.'* Omari Jaa, chairman of the BMU MCS committee, Songosongo

# CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES



**91** BMU members in Kilwa Kivinji, SongoSongo and Somanga, in Kilwa District, participated in capacity building sessions on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance protocols. The training, which was implemented in collaboration with the Fisheries Education and Training Agency, covered topics such as maritime security and personal self-rescue techniques, fisheries policies and laws and use and repair of boats and engines.

**26** BMU members in Koma, Mkuranga District participated in capacity building sessions on BMU establishment and introduction of National BMU Guidelines. Having heard about the success of other BMUs in

Mkuranga and other districts, where the training has been previously implemented, BMU members declared their commitment to establish a BMU in their village, with full support from the Village Executive Officer.

The BMU capacity building programmes implemented by Sea Sense have had a significant impact on their operationalisation, with BMUs having held elections following the current BMU Guidelines, with the support of village leaders, and actively engaging in fisheries conservation and management. BMU members are implementing different strategies to combat the use of illegal fishing gears, including collaboration between neighbouring BMUs and the establishment of bylaws.

# CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

## COLLABORATIVE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AREAS

Collaborative Fisheries Management Areas (CFMAs) are defined spatial management units that serve to complement the existing Marine Protected Area network in Tanzania by promoting rehabilitation of degraded habitats and enabling the replenishment of fish stocks and other marine resources with economic and biodiversity value. They are formed by neighbouring BMUs that share a common fishing ground and are managed through BMU partnerships. Working in collaboration with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Lindi Urban and Lindi District Councils, Sea Sense supported the establishment of **3** CFMAs in the district. **50** BMU

leaders (5 per BMU) were trained on the roles and responsibilities of CFMA Coordination Committees (CCCs) and the procedures for CCC elections, based on the National CFMA Guidelines. Following the training, 50 office bearers of the CCC were elected. Moreover, during a round of CFMA consultations, Sea Sense worked with District Fisheries Officers and CCCs to identify priority fisheries, which served as a baseline for the development of 5-year Management Plans for each CFMA, focusing on their potential for management, replenishment and sustainability, as well as current challenges BMUs face in managing the selected fisheries.



# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## LATRINE CONSTRUCTION



Managing landing sites and fishing camps is one of the responsibilities of BMUs. However, poor hygienic conditions are a common challenge affecting these sites, leading to disease outbreaks which can affect entire communities.

In recognition of this challenge, Sea Sense supported the community to build a latrine at the Pembeni landing site in Songosongo Island, Kilwa District. The construction of the latrine was conducted in cooperation with the BMU, Village Government and the District Fisheries Officer. All construction materials and labour were sourced in SongoSongo and Kilwa Kivinje, as an effort to further support these communities and ensure their involvement in the project.

The Songosongo BMU, in collaboration with the village council, will be responsible for managing the latrine, which will be a source of revenue for the BMU. The presence of a latrine at the landing site will help to improve hygiene conditions, thereby reducing the likelihood of disease outbreaks in the community. It will also provide an additional opportunity for the BMU and Village Council to work together, helping to strengthen the relationship between the two parties. Finally, the BMU will be able to use the revenue collected from the use of the latrine to purchase equipment for patrols and beach clean ups, and, as a result, address one of their most significant challenges - the financing of their operations.

# WOMEN IN SMALL SCALE FISHERIES

Following the launch of the Tanzania Women Fish Workers Association (TAWFA) in 2019, Sea Sense continued to support its operationalization and the work of Women Fisher Groups.

Focus group discussions were held with **20** Women Fisher Groups in Mkuranga, to discuss progress made to date following the mapping of women fish workers in 2019 and provide mentoring and support to the groups.

In recognition of the work Sea Sense has done in support of TAWFA, Sea Sense was invited to participate in a Workshop on the National Plan of Action towards the Implementation of FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (SSF). During the meeting, fisheries stakeholders worked together to validate the main challenges and proposed actions in five thematic areas of the Action Plan, including Gender Equality and Vulnerable Groups.

Sea Sense was also invited to assist in the delivery of the second phase of the three-day Transformative Leadership Training to TAWFA leaders. The women came together to evaluate their progress following the first phase of the training conducted in 2019. During the training, TAWFA members were encouraged to share how they had applied the knowledge and skills gained in the first training. Two of the shared experiences were then used as the basis for discussions amongst the participants in order to highlight the challenges that TAWFA leaders are still facing and identify ways to address and overcome them.

Women are increasingly accessing positions of leadership, having played a crucial role not only in the management and conservation of marine resources, but also in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic.



# WOMEN IN SMALL SCALE FISHERIES

## HADIJA MALIBICHE

Hadija Malibiche is the General Secretary of the Tanzania Women Fish Worker Groups Association (TAWFA), as well as the coordinator of 10 different women fish worker groups, of which she is a member herself. Hadija is the perfect example of the importance of investing in women. Sea Sense has been working with and supporting Hadija, since the implementation of the participatory mapping of women fish worker groups in 2019. As the TAWFA secretary, Hadija was also part of the Transformational Leadership training, which Sea Sense helped facilitate in December 2020.



Hoping to secure funds to support the work of the women groups she is a part of, and with mentoring from the Sea Sense team, Hadija submitted four funding proposals in the past two years, two of which have been successful.

Hadija has taken significant strides and has established herself as one of the main representatives of women leaders in the small scale fisheries sector in coastal Tanzania. Over the past year, she represented her women's group at a Nane Nane festival in Ngongo, Lindi Region, where she had an opportunity to interact and discuss the progress made by TAWFA to date with the

Minister of Livestock and Fisheries, the Minister of Law and Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Mtwara Regional Commissioner.

In recognition of her outstanding work, Hadija has been invited to participate in a number of important meetings, workshops and trainings related to improving and disseminating information about the fisheries sector in Tanzania. She also participated in a baseline survey, organised by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), which aimed to identify the challenges faced by women involved in the small-scale fisheries sector.

# GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

## CAPACITY BUILDING ON GOOD GOVERNANCE AND STRONG LEADERSHIP



Local institutions play an extremely important role in the governance of marine and coastal resources and are, as such, important groups to consider in terms of capacity building. With the necessary skills to be accountable and committed leaders, these groups will be better equipped to manage fisheries and conserve marine biodiversity more effectively.

Following elections of Local Government Authorities, held nationwide in November 2019, 71 elected representatives in Somanga, Songo Songo and Kivinje, in Kilwa District received training in governance and leadership skills.

The training emphasized the importance of representing community needs and interests, and the impact of political interference on marine resource conservation and management. Village Chairpersons, Village Executive Officers, Ward Executive Officers, Ward Councilors and BMU leaders, a number of which were new to these positions, participated in the three-day training. Discussion topics included challenges of leadership, effects of poor leadership, the role of kinship structures and community perceptions of the role of women in small-scale fisheries and leadership positions.

# GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

## INTRODUCTORY AND FEEDBACK SESSIONS WITH VILLAGE, WARD AND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

Recognizing the importance of providing regular feedback on project progress, Sea Sense held a number of meetings with members of the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), members of the Council Management Team (CMT), as well as members of Village and Ward Councils.

A new project focusing on building resilience through a local fisheries management initiative in Lindi Rural, was presented to a panel of **13** members of the PO-RALG. Recommendations on the implementation of the project were received by the panel, who offered it their full support. The project was also presented to **16** members of the Council Management Team.

A separate presentation was given to **16** members

of the PO-RALG, this time to provide feedback and close out a project, which focused on building climate change resilience in small-scale marine fisheries in Tanzania.' The meeting was an opportunity to discuss how the PO-RALG can continue to support BMUs and ensure the long term sustainability of their work.

Feedback and close out meetings were also held with Council Management Teams of **5** districts, with a total of **99** District Officials. Nesting data for the year were presented to the CMTs of Mafia and Kigamboni, who found it very useful to learn about the historical trend of nesting patterns in the area and hear about the work Sea Sense has done with Secondary School pupils, and encouraged the organization to continue engaging with youth.

# MARINE CONSERVATION IN THE TIME OF COVID - 19



The first case of COVID-19 was recorded in Tanzania on 16 March 2020. Unlike other countries in East Africa, the Government of Tanzania did not enforce a lockdown or curfew, but restrictions were placed on group gatherings, schools and universities were closed, and social distancing was recommended wherever possible. As the restrictions came into force, Sea Sense quickly assessed the risk of all planned activities to identify those that could still be implemented safely, and those which would have to be postponed or cancelled. A decision was also made to close the headquarters for three months, with staff working from home. As the peak nesting season was starting just over a week after this decision was made, it was agreed that our Conservation officer network

should continue to carry on with patrols of nesting beaches at all major nesting sites in the country, as the beaches were still accessible and it was a low risk activity due to the remoteness of the beaches. The annual population assessment, undertaken during the peak nesting months of April and May at the two largest green turtle rookeries was also one of the activities we were able to continue implementing. The beach patrols are done in teams of two and on remote beaches, so it was deemed low risk.

Capacity building, education, and outreach programmes, as well as a National Stakeholder Workshop had to be put on hold or cancelled.

# MARINE CONSERVATION IN THE TIME OF COVID - 19

Our network of Conservation Officers were crucial in helping us respond to the pandemic by sharing health and safety guidance with coastal communities so that they understood how to take appropriate measures to protect themselves and their families.

Discussions were held with donors to explore the feasibility of reallocating funds from education and outreach activities so that handwashing and sanitation facilities could be purchased for coastal communities. As a result, over 7,000 face masks, 280 hand washing buckets and 770 soaps were

were distributed among 27 communities in six coastal districts in Tanzania. The materials were distributed among schools, health centers, local government offices, landing sites, fish markets, churches, mosques and dispensaries. The distribution of the material was done in collaboration with Sea Sense's Conservation Officers, District, Village and BMU leaders, as well as representatives of Women Fish Worker Groups. 780 of the face masks were produced by women fish worker groups, providing further financial support to women at a much-needed time.



# INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN 2020

In 2020 Sea Sense:

- Gave a presentation at the International School of Tanganyika in Dar es Salaam about our work on marine conservation and the impacts of plastic pollution.
- Participated in a Marine Conservation Focus Group Discussion organized by USAID Tanzania.
- Contributed two articles to the African Sea Turtle Newsletter.
- Co-authored a paper published in the Journal of the Indian Ocean Region on co-management of Marine Protected Areas.

# ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN 2020

In 2020 Sea Sense was invited to join the first cohort of the African Marine Conservation Leadership Programme (AMCLP), led by Maliasili in partnership with Blue Ventures. Sea Sense's Executive Director and Programme Manager were among 17 leaders of eight marine conservation organisations spanning Tanzania, Kenya, Somalia and the Comoros.



Photo courtesy of Blue Ventures.



## MEASURING OUR IMPACT

In order to understand and measure the long-term impact of our work, Sea Sense uses a combination of methodologies to collect monitoring and evaluation information from our beneficiaries. Data are collected through a qualitative approach, including Focus Group Discussions, semi structured interviews and collection of personal testimonies to

to document changes in attitudes, behaviours relationships and power dynamics. The information is used in reporting to a range of stakeholders, including coastal citizens, fisheries managers, government officials and Conservation Officers, to assess the success of our actions, and to guide the development of future work programmes.



# VOICES FROM THE FIELD

## THEATRE PERFORMANCES IN PANGANI

*'I'm so happy today, I have really enjoyed this event and the performances, which were very good. It has also been great to see what a sea turtle looks like for the first time. I have learned today that eating turtle meat can be fatal, and since I have eaten turtle meat many times, I am grateful nothing has ever happened to me. From now on, I will never eat turtle meat again, and will ask my parents to follow my example.'* Tobias Junior, 7 years old



## FEEDBACK TO COUNCIL MANAGEMENT TEAM

*'I have been working with Sea Sense for over 10 years, when sea turtle meat consumption in Kigamboni was very high. Sea Sense has helped reduce turtle poaching by raising awareness of community members, fishers and youth – and bringing together stakeholders and the district technical team. Citizens are now aware that sea turtles are protected by law in Tanzania. I'm also really happy with the data training Sea Sense implemented in my district, as it will help the technical team make good decisions when managing our resources.'* Ernest Kamata, DFO Kigamboni District.

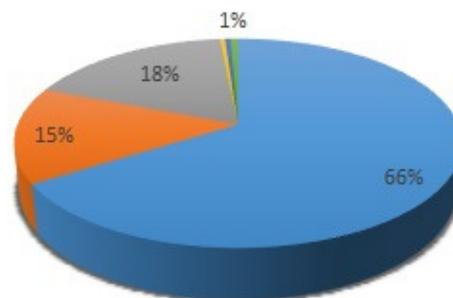
# SEA SENSE FINANCES

In 2020 Sea Sense received funds from six main sources international development partners, charities and foundations, corporate sponsors, research partners, private donations and sea turtle ecotourism.

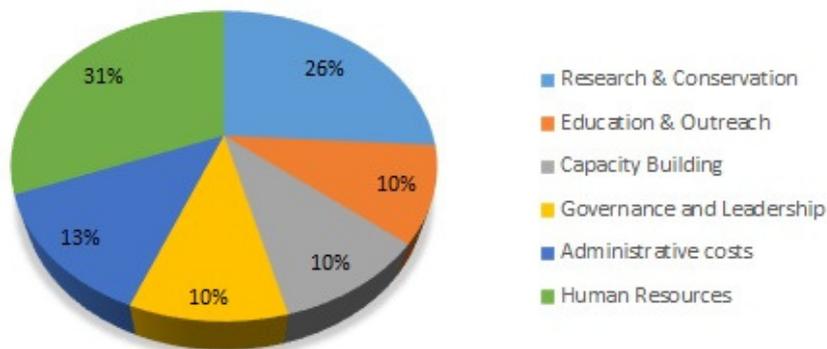
Income for the year was USD 422 318 and included funds from partnerships with USAID, UKAID, Bloomberg Philanthropies, Songas Ltd, Minara Foundation, Letz Sushi and the Dar es Salaam Yacht Club.

**Income 2020**

- International Development Partners
- Charities & Foundations
- Sea turtle ecotourism
- Corporate sponsorship
- Private donations
- Research partner



**Expenditure 2020**



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# SEA SENSE ADVISORY BOARD AND MANAGEMENT

## ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. Magnus Ngoile - Acting Chair  
Melkiory Ngido - Finance Member  
Mathias Igulu - Member  
Blandina Lugendo - Member  
Jason Rubens - Member  
Rosemarie Mwaipopo - Member

## MANAGEMENT

Joana Trindade - Executive Director  
Lindsey West - Technical Advisor  
Julitha Mwangamilo - Programme Manager

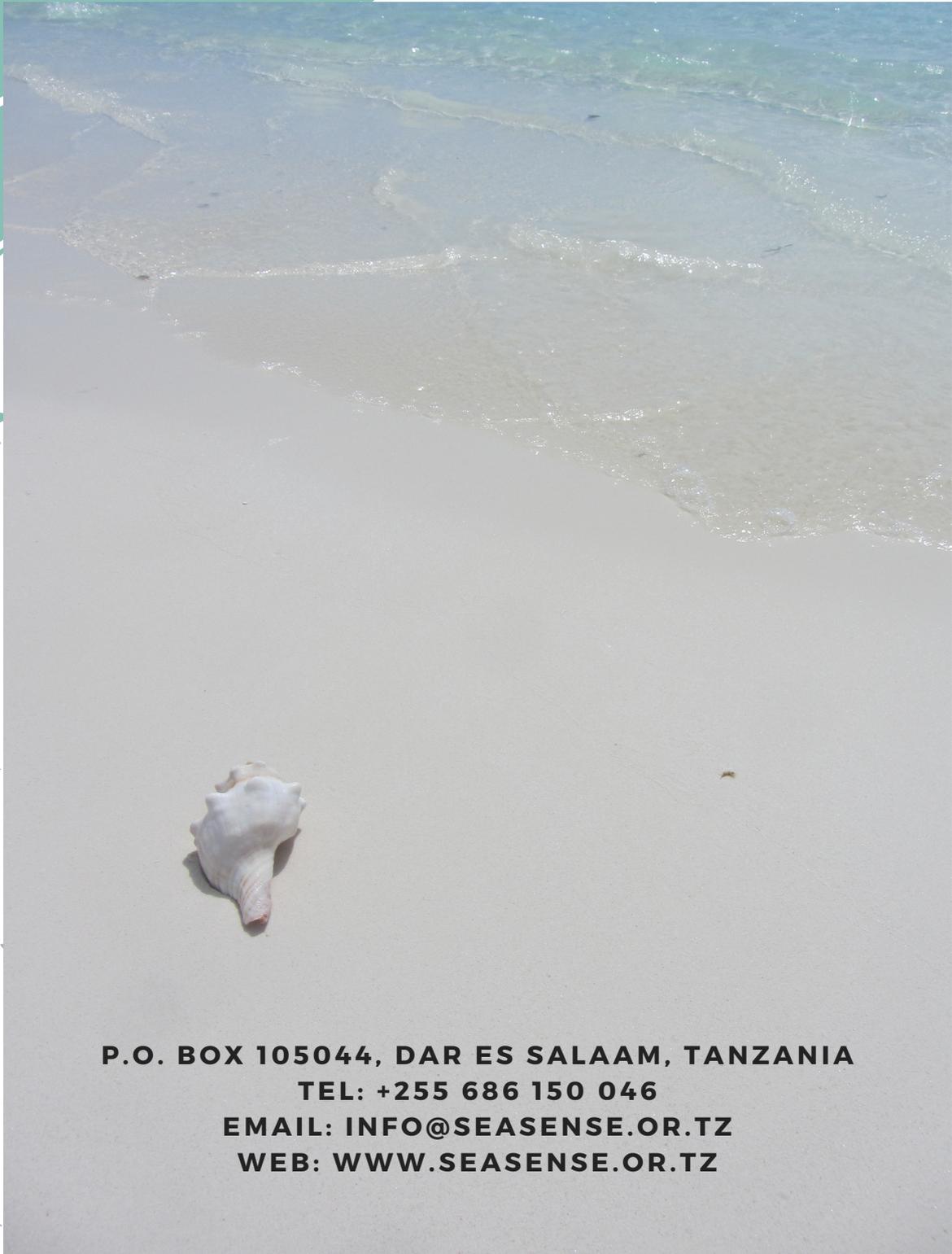


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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS WHOSE FINANCIAL SUPPORT ENABLED SEA SENSE TO ACHIEVE SO MUCH IN 2020, ESPECIALLY IN THE FACE OF A GLOBAL PANDEMIC. OUR SINCERE THANKS ALSO GO TO OUR CONSERVATION OFFICERS WHO WORK TIRELESSLY TO CONSERVE MARINE WILDLIFE IN TANZANIA, AND WHO KEPT OUR WORK GOING WHILE OUR TEAMS WERE NOT ABLE TO TRAVEL TO THE FIELD. THANKS ALSO TO VILLAGE CHAIRPERSONS, COUNCIL MEMBERS, BEACH MANAGEMENT UNITS, VILLAGE LIAISON COMMITTEES, DISTRICT AUTHORITIES AND THE GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA FOR HELPING TO PROTECT MARINE WILDLIFE AND CRITICAL COASTAL HABITATS IN TANZANIA.**



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