

TRADITIONAL MANAGEMENT OF CHWAKA BAY MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM IN ZANZIBAR TANZANIA

THE PRESENT STATUS AND FUTURE
STRATEGIES

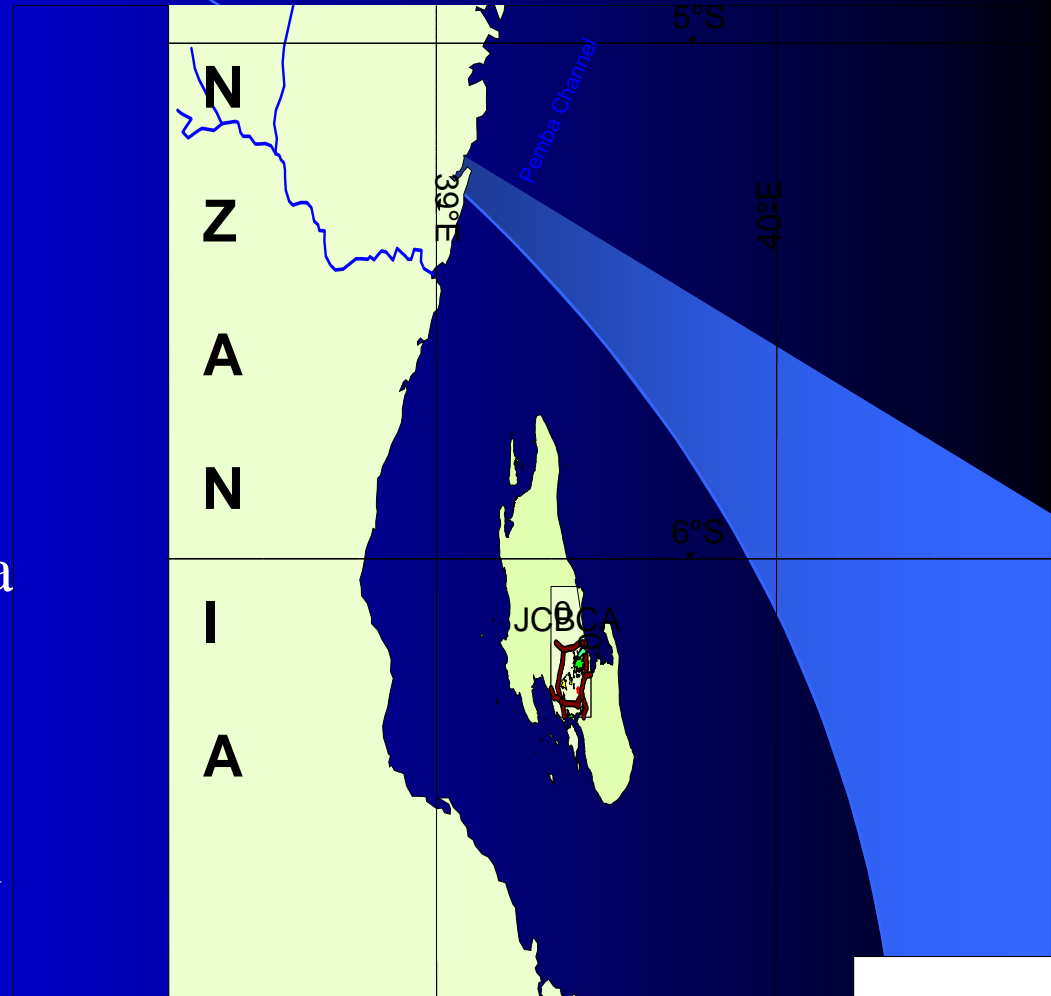
Tanzania

- Its area is three times that of New Mexico Area (364,898 sq mi /945,087 sq km)).
- The island of Zanzibar is separated by 30 mile channel
- Population: 36,588,225 (growth rate: 2.0%)



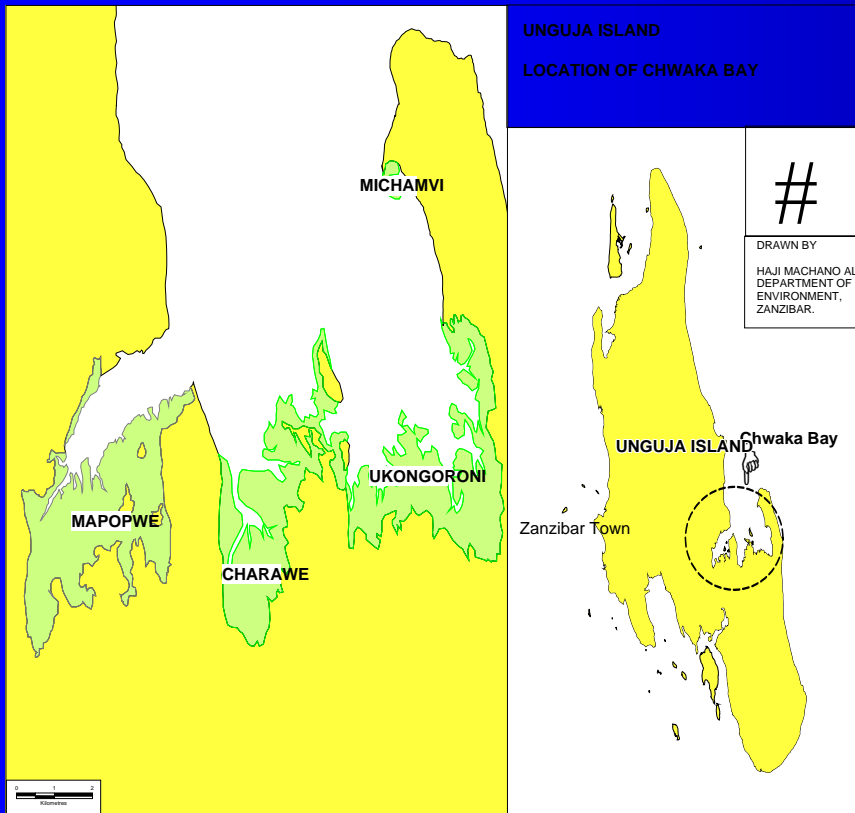
Zanzibar

- Tanganyika became independent on Dec. 9, 1961; Zanzibar on Dec. 10, 1963. On April 26, 1964, the two nations merged into the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar. The name was changed to Tanzania six months later.
- Zanzibar is small archipelago Unguja, Pemba and several small surrounding islands



Chwaka bay

- The Chwaka bay mangrove forest is located in the central district of the South region of Unguja island, about 35km from Zanzibar town.



Overview continue....

- On the landward side of its mouth, the bay is fringed by a dense mangrove forest, which is drained by a number of tidal creeks
- the largest of which is Mapopwe Creek, which is the main water exchange route between the forest and the bay
- Mangrove covers an area of about 2800ha
The largest stand of mangrove forest occupying about 5% of forest cover in Zanzibar

Importance of Chwaka bay mangroves

- Mangroves contribution to fisheries is 49% (Nasser, 1994)
- Provide wide range of wood products.
- High species diversity



Threat to mangroves ecosystem

- The great danger to the mangroves forest is man and unless human activities are careful controlled the valuable mangrove assets will be irretrievably ruined. For quite a long time mangroves of Zanzibar have been subjected to heavy exploitation for tannin, building poles, charcoal and lime burning and fuel. Bark was extracted for tannin and it was an important source of revenue for coastal community and the nation.

Background of management system in Chwaka bay

- Griffith management plan of 1950s
(Formal management system)
- Traditional management system

Traditional management system

- In 1940s the eight villages around Chwaka bay mangroves formed a joint local mangrove council.
- Supervised by elders and controlled overexploitation of mangroves by issuing special permits and imposing penalties to offenders.
- The Council derived its revenue through the issue of tax to mangrove products.
- The revenue was used to pay for the running cost of the Council and for community events.

Scope of the study

Keeping in view, it is imperative that, the DCCFF, reevaluate the causes, which accelerated the deforestation, and the priorities and needs of villagers, which may influence management and future conservation strategies

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The study seeks to examine the factors that contributed to the degradation of mangroves ecosystem and the implication of adopted changes in management system

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To suggest a theoretical model that will be adopted for better management of mangrove forest

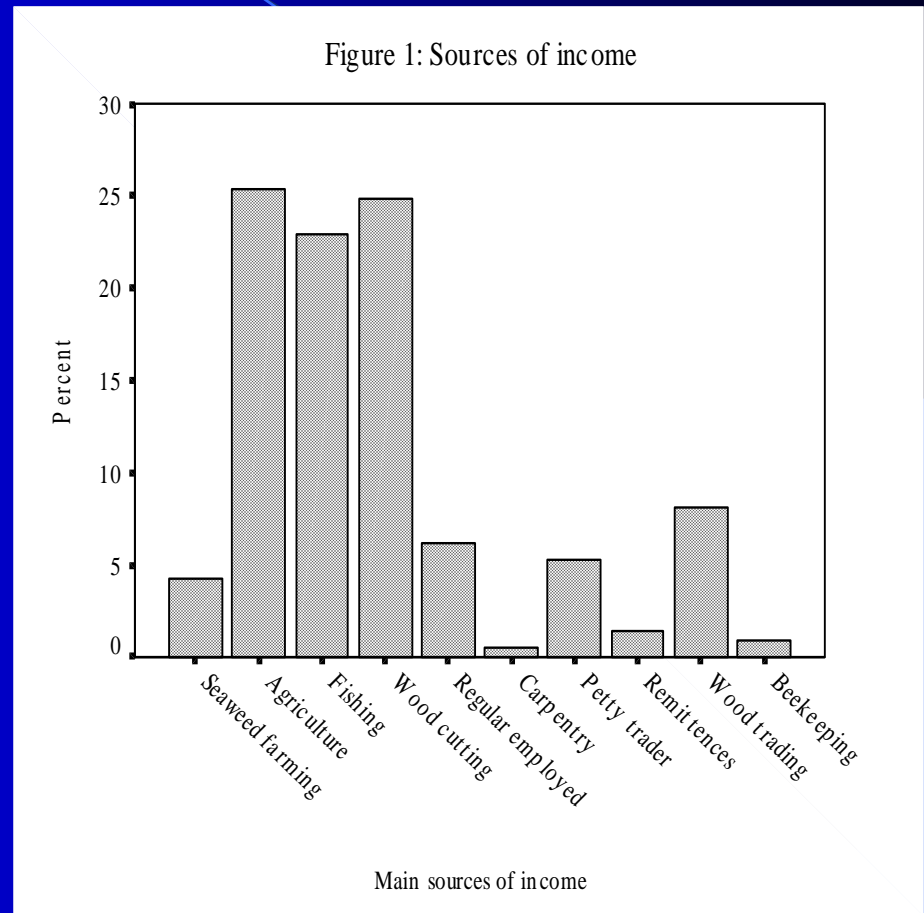
Methodology

- Two sets of methods were used for data collection
- The first, the qualitative information gathering, which involved review of the documents and discussions with various stakeholders
- The second, the quantitative data collection of specific information associated with social-economic and management aspect using structured interviews

Results and Discussion

Main source of income

- Agriculture, fishing related and woodcutting and wood trading are the main sources of income. However, within the sample population, about 25% and 8% primarily depend on woodcutting and wood trading, respectively



Harvesting arrangement

- The arrangement calls for two distinctive extraction regimes of ten year each, which alternate between the famous known mangrove forest of Mapopwe and that of Kinani creek. Informants have revealed that such arrangement is no longer valid since for years have not been able to control harvesting and subsequently all creeks have been exploited concurrently causing confusion on such arrangement.

Mangroves extraction areas

All effort should take into consideration the designation of extraction site for specific village(s) in order to limit free access to the mangrove resources.

Area	Scores %
Kinani	52.0
Mapopwe	34.9
Both	12.5
Total	100.0

Conflicts on mangrove resources access

- All effort should take into consideration the designation of extraction site for specific village(s) in order to limit free access to the mangrove resources.

Common TEK practices in the area



Figure 5: Fishing using traditional methods and equipment.

- The roots of TEK in Chwaka bay
- Factors favored the traditional management system in the area.

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- Elders of Chwaka, have a wealth of knowledge on lunar/tidal effects and their relationships to the availability of fish.
- The fisherfolk apply this knowledge to make optimal use of the resources
- Closing and opening of octopus and prawn fishing
- Traditional Fishing areas reserve

Collapse of management system

- Revision of forest policy
- Factors governed the change of forest policy included,
 - Increasing mangroves degradation
 - Down sizing of forest guard,
 - Low budget of forest sector
 - Growing conflicts between DCCFF staff and community

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- Most of respondents revealed that, the failure of management and the collapse of traditional management system in Chwaka bay caused by many factors including, the little support received after the adoption of multiparty system in country. Since the declaration of multiparty system in 1992, many conflicting political groups evolved.

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- Like wise, it was also analyzed that, the traditional management system was broken down because of pressures from commercialization, population growth, technological innovations and deterioration of the authority of elders as guardians of management systems in the community

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- Another factor is lack of legal recognition for the traditional systems. The Chwaka bay mangrove management system persisted for some decades without legal recognition, and its existence was just on good will with the then government authority

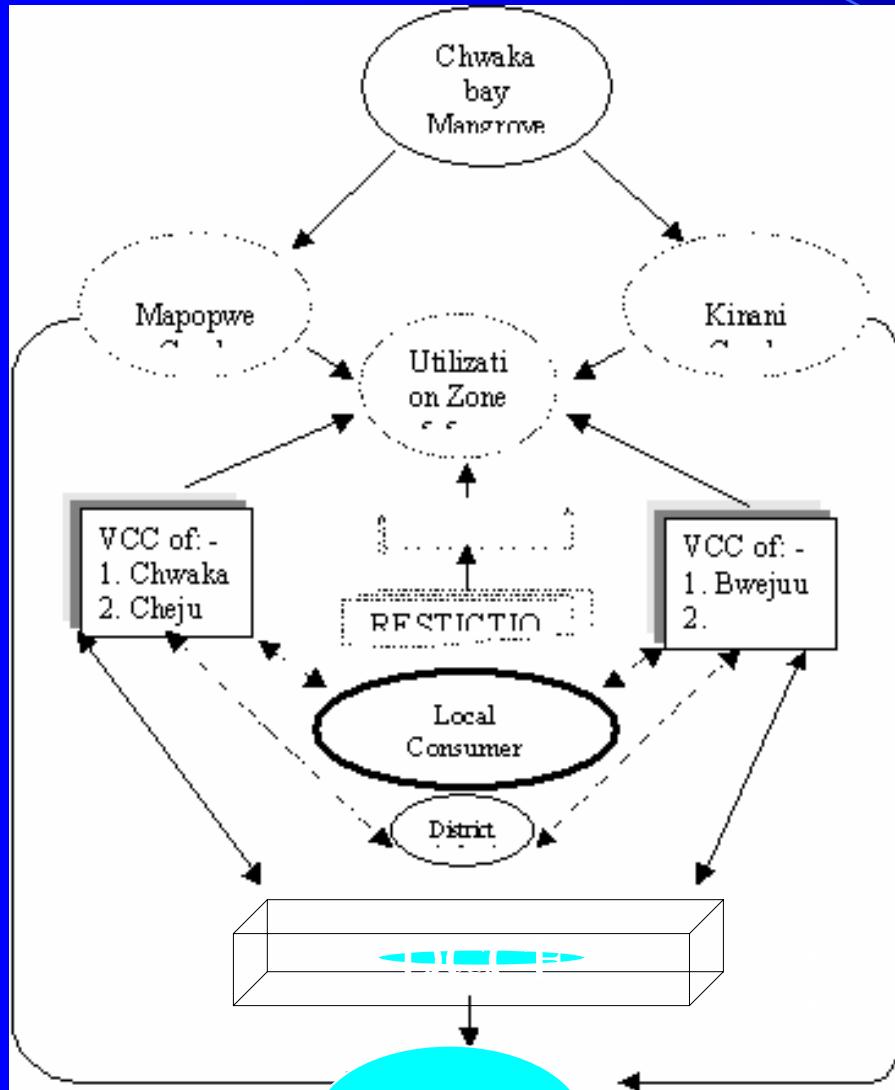
Present Status of community involvement

- With an increasing promotion of the ‘local management’ concept, villagers considered that they have exclusive right of access to all that mangrove resources within their village boundaries
- They believe that with the increasing change in resource use pattern, it is their rights to protect them from over exploitation by other village users and subsequently causing conflicts

Present efforts

- Establishment of village conservation committee
- Establishment of Conservation Association(JECA)
- Establishment Alternative income generating activities

Proposed model



The proposed model has taken into consideration the historical perspective that acknowledges the division of cutting systems of Kinani and Mapopwe creeks and the participation of local authority

Conclusion

- Based on these findings a theoretical model, which accommodates the interests of all parties and the demand for sustainable utilization was proposed. It is expected this recommendation will provides a viable solution and options in the development of the management for mangrove forests of Kinani and Mapopwe creeks of Chwaka bay.

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- The village Conservation Committees would take a leading role in mobilizing the local communities while DCCFF would take responsibility to facilitate negotiations for the adoption of the proposed framework for implementation with consultation of district authorities.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

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