

MARINE SCIENCE FOR MANAGEMENT (MASMA) PROGRAMME

COMMISSIONED RESEARCH: INVITATION TO SUBMIT A FULL PROPOSAL ON

“Effectiveness of community-based organisations (CBOs) in marine and coastal management”

The Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) through the Marine Science for Management (MASMA) programme has launched the “Commissioned” research grant programme to support priority research that is innovative, catalytic, and that provides information that could be used for management purposes.

MASMA was established in the light of the predominantly narrowly focused natural science research currently taken place in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region, which is characterized by limited emphasis on interdisciplinary research and limited attention to the critical links between science and the larger societal issues in the region. Consequently, MASMA seeks to strengthen **applied and interdisciplinary** research on both the **natural and social science aspects** of coastal environmental issues for the purpose of advancing knowledge that is directly **relevant to society and resource management**.

Under the “Commissioned” research grant programme, proposals are invited from experts from within and outside the region.

BACKGROUND

Coastal and marine resource management programmes in the WIO are frequently oriented to either community-based management or co-management (i.e. a partnership between local communities and local or central government). This reflects global trends and acknowledges the importance of full community participation in natural resource management and the need to return benefits to local people affected by a management activity. Some countries, in for example South East Asia where non-governmental and community-based organisations may play a stronger role than in the WIO, have practised community-based management for many years. These are experiences that the WIO countries, which recently have decentralised management in order to facilitate community involvement of natural resources, could learn from.

Community-based management has been recognised as a specific governance mechanism relatively recently and particularly in the WIO region, it is still relatively poorly documented and understood. It covers a wide spectrum, from management by indigenous people and local communities through customary laws and ethnic governance patterns to more modern forms of voluntary stewardship and locally agreed organisations and rules. In the case of co-management, negotiations may result in a variety of types of joint management arrangements between the

community and government agencies or other stakeholders (such as local and international NGOs). Issues of land and resource tenure and ownership play a key role, but are often poorly understood and the rights and involvement of migrant peoples, such as fishers, is sometimes ignored.

Studies have started to show that different communities may respond in very different ways to management activities and that such differences may play a large role in determining the success or failure of a management project. Even where legal and policy frameworks for community-based management are adequate (and often they are not), the manner and quality of their application vary. Other constraints to effective community-based management include the long-time scale required to build community support and ensure participation and ownership, problems when community expectations of potential benefits are raised too high, and the difficulty of demonstrating the impact of community-based management in a quantifiable manner.

Thus although this approach to natural resource management has long been recognised as essential, there is now a need for a better understanding of how genuine participation and involvement can be developed, the factors for success, and the political and legal frameworks that will ensure suitable 'enabling' environments. The basic capacity for community-based management in most cases needs enhancement, and this requires a better understanding of the skills required and the organisational structures that are suitable under different situations. Central to successful community-based and collaborative management is the existence of well organised and effective community-based organisations (CBOs) that are capable of understanding and analysing the issues to be addressed, identifying solutions, developing strategies and plans to implement the solutions and partnering with stakeholders.

This research should result in a critical analysis of CBOs in marine and coastal management with a focus on identifying important policy issues and priority areas for developing their role in the various governance levels that they are involved with. The study will be of value to the many international and regional organisations operating in the WIO. It will also be of value at national level, in particular to policy makers, NGOs and government bodies concerned with developing appropriate governance models for coastal resource management.

SCOPE OF WORK

It is recommended that the proposal to be developed be centred on the aspects mentioned below, which from our perspective are necessary to understand the effectiveness of CBOs in coastal and marine resource management. However, additional good ideas and approaches from applicants are welcomed.

Furthermore, proposals should describe the methods they propose to use, number of cases, and selection criteria. How many countries will be case study sites, what specific locations and initiatives are proposed as case studies? The recommendations from the research study will be driven by what is found in the case studies.

- Review and summarise the main research to date on management using CBOs, the theoretical basis for its use and success, and identify previous relevant work in the region.

- Using the scientific literature, develop a suitable definition of ‘CBO’ for the purpose of the research study (ensuring a clear distinction between CBO and NGO – non-governmental organisation); based on experience and contexts in specific countries in WIO, prepare a classification of different types of CBOs that can be used in the study.
- Describe the various relationships that arise between CBOs and other stakeholders in coastal management, notably local communities and government agencies, but also the private sector, NGOs and other elements of civil society.
- Develop suitable set of indicators for measuring the success/failure of CBO in coastal and marine resource management.
- Identify a series of case studies in the region where CBOs play a prominent role in coastal and marine management and, using the indicators identified, analyse these to provide an understanding of how effective CBO management is under different scenarios
- Analyse how local power structures affect the effectiveness of the CBOs.
- Analyse the effect of government/legislative environment on the role of CBOs and nature of management models that arise.
- Study the local CBOs in their external environment (market involvement, external stakeholders, etc).
- Develop recommendations for activities that need to be undertaken to improve the effectiveness of CBOs in coastal and marine resource management.

The study should cover at least three countries and should be undertaken in collaboration with relevant institutions in the region. It should contribute to building the capacity of students through involving them in different stages of the study. Consideration should be given to holding a workshop towards the end of the study to disseminate the results and ensure full sharing of information.

ELIGIBILITY

Principal Investigators and members of their teams should meet the following criteria:

- a. Demonstrable credibility and capacity to conduct research on the selected topic.
- b. Educational background: The Principal Investigator should have attained an education level of at least MSc or MA degree in a discipline related to marine sciences¹.
- c. The grant is specific for individuals and/or research teams from the WIO region. However, individuals and/or research teams may involve scientists outside the region as appropriate, and cover their costs from the grant funds applied for. The involvement/participation of the scientists from outside the region may not exceed three man-months² annually.

¹ Marine science here includes both the social, cultural, economic and natural sciences

² One man-month is defined as the working days on a month, which are 20 days.

- d. The Principal Investigator should be from the WIO region and be employed by an institution (governmental or non-governmental) in the region. The institution is expected to provide salaries, working space and basic research facilities.
- e. Evidence of potential/existing collaboration with appropriate experts and institutions that are competent in the technical matters that the proposed project entails.

DURATION AND FUNDING

The maximum duration for activities supported under “Commissioned” research grant programme is two (2) years. The total funds request should not exceed US\$ 150,000. However, proposals for less than that amount are encouraged.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

A full proposal based on the elaboration of the above-mentioned issues should be submitted by fax, email or ordinary mail by **31 July 2006**. The proposal should be prepared according to the format provided in Annex I.

The proposal and CVs of the members of the team should be submitted to:

Executive Secretary
Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)
P O Box 3298 Zanzibar
TANZANIA
Tel: +255-24-2233472;
Fax: 255-24-2233852;
Email: secretary@wiomsa.org

For further information on the priority research themes, reviewing process and other relevant information please visit the WIOMSA website, www.wiomsa.org or contact the Executive Secretary at the above address.

ANNEX I: FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED

All pages should be single-spaced, typewritten (computer or typewriter) in at least a 12-point font, and printed on A4 (210 mm x 297 mm OR 8.5" x 11") paper. The entire proposal should not exceed 25 pages, including illustrative materials like tables, figures, charts etc. Applicant(s) should note that all the necessary information for reviewing the proposals should be included in the 25 pages, with only the reference letters and CV(s) allowed as annexes. Each proposal must include the following items; applicants should carefully read and understand the specified guidelines on each item. Proposals failing to meet the provided guidelines will not be considered for review.

1. Title Page

This should be a separate (cover) page, with the title of the research proposal and name(s) and contacts (address, telephone, fax, e-mail) of the applicant(s). The title should identify the project, be as short as possible, and be sufficiently descriptive to reflect the nature of the proposed work. In case of more than one applicant, the principle investigator (or contact person) should be clearly indicated.

2. Abstract

The abstract should not exceed 1 page. This is a very important part of the proposal, giving a summary of the entire work. It should present a precise description of the research being proposed, including objectives, methodology and expected results.

3. Background

In this section, the applicant(s) should give background information of the proposed research, which may include: i) current state of knowledge; ii) how the proposed work will impact on the theme in question; iii) justification of the proposed research (i.e., why conduct the research); iv) possible applications of the knowledge generated, expected institutional impact and other potential benefits of the project/workshop/training course.

4. Goals and Objectives

The applicant(s) should clearly state the main goal of the work, and give specific objectives to be achieved by conducting the proposed research. Furthermore, it should include a framework of analysis defining the conceptual framework, and theoretical frame of reference that will guide the research. Hypotheses, theories, and research tasks, etc. should be appropriately formulated.

5. Methodologies

In this section, the applicant needs to discuss how each of the proposed objectives will be achieved, and questions answered in the most rigorous way possible. This includes the materials and methodology; the timeframe for completion of the work; and the roles and responsibilities of each investigator.

6. Approvals

The applicant(s) should mention whether relevant national/local approvals and research permit have been sought or granted and by which agencies. The names and addresses of the agencies should also be given

7. Gender Considerations

State whether gender consideration constitute an important dimension of the project in defining the important relationships of the problem or in data collection. The applicant should show explicitly how the methodology will address gender issues.

8. Risk Analysis

Possible problems, difficulties, and/or factors that could prevent timely completion and/or implementation of the project/workshop/training course

9. In-Country Collaboration

The applicant(s) should identify and describe any collaborators and partners in-country who would be involved in the research and who could ensure the sustainability of the work and /or national/local stewardship as relevant. Other stakeholders should also be identified.

10. Results and Dissemination of Research Findings

Expected major outputs of the project/workshop/training course should be defined. The likely use of the results from the proposed activity, and beneficiaries of activity should be discussed. Furthermore, the means of communication of results to users and decision makers should be explained

11. Literature Cited

All literature materials cited in the text must be listed in this section.

12. Budget and Budget Justification

Annex IV should be completed as a summary of the budget. The budget to be included in the proposal should be clear, complete, and well explained such that the rationale for each figure is given in sufficient details and the roles and responsibilities of each investigator should be clearly defined. This will enable the reviewers to evaluate the relevant application of the funding requested.

13. Available Resources

It is important that the applicant provided information on financial and material support, for this proposal, from other sources. Applicant should specify the staff, facilities, equipment and supplies that will be available for the project, from the institution to which the applicant is affiliated. If relevant, specify the time schedule for research training involved in the project.

14. Curriculum Vitae

The CV for each investigator may not exceed two (4) pages. It should include peer-reviewed publications related to the subject of the proposed research.

REFEREE'S FORM TO SUPPORT APPLICATION FOR A RESEARCH GRANT

Applicants should give this form to a referee to be completed as part of the grant application. This form will be treated as confidential and should be sent directly to the secretariat by the referees. The form should be type-written (computer or type-writer)

Please provide us comments on the: Applicant's general character; academic record; prospects and ability to conduct the proposed research; relevance of the proposed research; the duration you have known the applicant and under what capacity; and any other relevant information. *Please attach additional sheet if the need arises.*

Name Signature
Institution Date
Address Tel:
..... Fax.....
..... **E-mail**

BUDGET FORMAT

An example of the format in which budget items should be submitted is as follows:

Research title	Country	Project No (WIOMSA)
Responsible for the accounts	Institution	Budget period

Local currency

Local currency code	Exchange rate/SEK (on budget date):
	Exchange rate/USD (on budget date):

Bank		Account No.	
Bank address		Title of account and name	
Payment date preferred	1 st :	2 nd :	Final:
Amount in local currency/USD			

Planned Expenditure

Account No (WIOMSA)	Expenditure (titles of Accounts at WIOMSA)	Total	Proposed Payment Schedule		
			1 st Install- ment	2 nd Install- ment	Final Payment
Total					

Signature of Project leader
Place and date: Signature: Name (capitals)

NOTE: If duration of project is greater than one year, please attach additional information (as above) on the budget items for subsequent years.