

Conservation Education Society and Marine Education Centre Annual Report 2019



Introduction

The Conservation Education Society & Marine Education Centre

The Marine Education Centre (MEC), located in Diani, Kenya officially opened its doors to the public in September 2018. The centre has several exhibits, packed with information on marine ecosystems and biodiversity, including large exhibits on sea turtles, cetaceans and whale sharks, all of which are found along Kenya's coastline. Each of the exhibits highlight the important work our partners are doing, with many of these organisations using the centre as their work base in Diani (see 'The Marine Team' section on page 3). All exhibits emphasise the conservation problems our oceans and marine life face, with special focus on plastic pollution and industrial fishing.

In March 2019, the Conservation Education Society was established as a not-for-profit, operating out of the MEC, managing the education and fundraising activities. Although the Society was established in 2019, work had already started much earlier, in October 2018, alongside MEC activities. CES founders partnered with the MEC with three main objectives; to educate guests, students and as many people as possible on marine conservation and sustainability; to manage all fundraising activities for both CES and MEC, and; to create a network of partners within conservation, helping support, strengthen and expose the fantastic work that goes on along Kenya's coastline. To learn more about CES and MEC partnerships please refer to 'Our Partners' section on page 5.

But, why?

Diani, being one of the best beaches in the world, attracts people from all round the globe. This has had a significant strain on Kenya's coastline and unfortunately this has negatively impacted the ecosystems and wildlife found here. Activities such as unsustainable fishing, pollution, poaching, selling of marine products for tourism, coastline development, and more, are only exacerbated by the high volume of tourists that visit Diani each year. Oceans are incredibly important to humans, providing both ecological and economic benefits for coastal communities worldwide. However, the continuation of the abovementioned activities will have serious implications for humans. Changes need to be made so that future generations can continue to enjoy the oceans beauty and endless benefits.

Both CES and MEC throughout 2019 have been working hard to combat human impact along Kenya's Coastline, this has been achieved through the implementation of several programmes and activities, read on to learn more.

2019 Highlights...

- ⇒ Our team have almost tripled size in 2019, check out the Marine Team section to learn more about our diverse team (page 3).
- ⇒ We have made several partnerships with other conservation-focused organisations working in Kenya. These partnerships have not only strengthened our work and capacity, but we hope, will also be the foundation for future conservation projects and efforts along Kenya's coast. Check out 'Our Partners' section (page 5).
- ⇒ In 2019 several programmes were implemented. Our education programmes received over 800 students and over 100 teachers. We conducted 28 beach cleans, removing 33,385 items of trash. The marine team scuba divers were involved in underwater monitoring of sea turtles and other marine flora and fauna. MEC received over 750 guests for eco-tours. MEC and CES hosted Diani's first Sea Turtle Festival. Check out 'Our programmes' to learn more (page 6).
- Many of the marine team have attended workshops and conferences, improving our knowledge and networks as well as contributing to important issues, such as sand harvesting and fisheries management. Check out page 14 for further information.
- ⇒ Both MEC and CES successes have solely been due to the kind support, either financial or in-kind donations from local businesses and individuals, to which we are incredibly grateful. Check our 'Our finances' for further information (page 15).





Marine Team



Dempsey Mai, Diani Turtle Watch's Manager

Dempsey Mai joined the marine team on behalf of Local Ocean Conservation as the Manager for Diani Turtle Watch in November 2019. Previous to this he worked as a research assistant at Colobus Conservation on primate behavior and human-wildlife interactions. He obtained his BSc at Egerton University in 2012 graduating with a degree in Biological Sciences. Dempsey's keenness to

protect, preserve and conserve the sea turtle species that are on the verge of extinction is what prompted him to take up his role as the Diani Turtle Watch Manager.



Fatma Manyenze, Conservation Education Society's Marine and Education Project Coordinator

Fatma Manyenze joined Conservation Education Society in June 2019. Previously, Fatma worked as an intern for the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute. She obtained a BSc at the University of Nairobi in 2013 and her MSc at Pwani University in Fisheries in 2019. In July of 2019, Fatma attended the 11th WIOMSA symposium in Mauritius. Fatma's MSc thesis contributed to a regional project Estuarize-WIO entitled "Characterization of

the fisheries resources of the Tana Delta ecosystem, north Coast of Kenya". Her general interest is in the biodiversity that lies within the coastal and marine ecosystems.







Jenni Choma, Marine Education Centre's Marine Biologist and Project Manager

Jenni Choma has been at the Marine Education Centre since it's opening. Prior to this she worked in Australia, New Zealand, Malaysian Borneo, and the Maldives. Jenni studied Biology at Newcastle University in the UK obtaining a BSc with honours in 2010. She started diving in 2012 and became a Divemaster by 2013. Jenni's aim is to

use both marine education and research to bring about conservation of the marine environment.



Joana Hancock, Olive Ridley Project's Project Manager- Kenya

Joana Hancock was the Sea Turtle Biologist for the Olive Ridley Project in Kenya from November 2018. Since November 2019 Joana is the Project Manager and will be focusing on furthering sea turtle research in Kenya. Joana started working as a sea turtle biologist in 2002 and has since been based in Greece, Costa Rica, and Panamá on projects with leatherback, green, and hawksbill turtles. She completed her MSc thesis

in Cape Verde in 2011 and most recently her PhD in São Tomé and the Príncipe Islands. Joana is also a member of Central Africa's sea turtle conservation network (RASTOMA), collaborating with projects throughout Africa.





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Marine Team Continued...



Kelly Martin, Conservation Education Society's CEO

Kelly Martin is the CEO of the Conservation Education Society, which was founded in March 2019. Kelly's main focus and passion is education that teaches respect and appreciation for the natural world. Previous to this, Kelly managed a Primate Conservation Rehabilitation Centre, Colobus Conservation in Kenya. Kelly studied Zoology at Liverpool John Moore's University, obtaining a BSc with honours in 2010. Kelly later obtained a MSc in Primate Conservation at Oxford Brookes University in 2015. Kelly

has travelled and worked in several African countries and Indonesia on a variety of conservation projects, relocating to Diani, Kenya Conservation in 2015.



<u>Leah Mainye, Olive Ridley Project's Sea Turtle Monitoring</u> <u>Assistant</u>

Leah Mainye joined the marine team in December 2019. Prior to this, she worked as an intern at several conservation organisations; namely, A Rocha Kenya and the REEFolution Foundation. She obtained her BSc in Marine Biology from the University of San Carlos, Philippines, where her enthusiasm for marine conservation led her to focus on by-catch species in crab

fisheries as part of her undergraduate thesis project, which she successfully completed in 2018. As a sea turtle monitoring assistant, she dives almost daily to monitor the sea turtle population via a photographic identification project along Diani's coastline.







Nevil Agesa, Diani Turtle Watch's Project Coordinator

Nevil Agesa joined Local Ocean Conservation as the Project Coordinator for Diani Turtle Watch in December 2018. Prior to this he volunteered at Kitale Nature Conservancy and Colobus Conservation. He obtained a Diploma in Wildlife Management with Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute in 2016.

Nevil oversees the turtle nest relocation sites in Diani and also works with the local communities. Nevil loves nature and enjoys monitoring species and their habitats, as well as educating communities on wildlife.



Pauline Mukila, Marine Education Centre's Marine Biologist Assistant

Pauline Mukila joined the marine team in November 2019. She studied Applied Biology receiving her diploma from Kenya National Examination Council in 2015. She studied ecological monitoring and environmental assessment, conservation education and community conservation. Pauline's interest lies in community

conservation programmes and developing educational material to aid in marine conservation.





Our Partners

MEC and CES believe that building a network of like-minded people and organisations, where each can share ideas and support one another, is the only way we will truly be able to conserve and protect our natural world, because let's face it, no one can do it alone. Therefore, as part of our conservation efforts, we work with, and support, several amazing conservation organisations in Kenya. This support comes in different forms, from being based on site working together directly, to financial support (see 'Our Finances' section for a breakdown), to increasing awareness, or via collaborations in research and monitoring programmes. Please note that each of these organisations are doing fantastic work in their respective areas, and we encourage you to check out each of their annual reports to learn more!

Kwale Plastics Plus Collectors

Kwale Plastics Plus Collectors was established in 2017 with the aim to clean up the land, rivers, beaches and ocean. This is to be achieved via upgrading waste management, and in the future the project intends to recycle plastics into durable building materials. To date, they have installed 44 green stations for the public to freely dispose of recyclable trash. KPPC partnered with CES & MEC in June of 2019 to install their first small-scale plastic recycling machines, provided by Plastiki Rafiki, a start-up based in Nairobi. These machines shred, melt and extrude HDPE plastics into moulds to create colourful keyrings, giving this plastic waste a second life.



Local Ocean Conservation & Diani Turtle Watch

Diani Turtle Watch was launched in 2012 by Local Ocean Conservation who have been operating in Watamu since 1997. DTW was formed to monitor sea turtle nesting throughout Diani; relocating nests at risk, safeguarding through incubation, collecting data after hatching, as well as collecting data on bycatch turtles and turtle mortality, and raising awareness surrounding sea turtle conservation throughout Diani.



Olive Ridley Project

The Olive Ridley Project was founded in 2013 as a UK charity based in the Maldives. Today they have the largest sea turtle identification and ghost net databases in the Indian Ocean. In November 2018 one of their sea turtle biologists joined the Marine Team here in Diani to continue the sea turtle identification program and further sea turtle work in Kenya. The overall aim of this project is to understand sea turtle population dynamics and estimate sea turtle abundance, density, and distribution ranges throughout the area.



Our Partners Continued...



The REEFolution Foundation

The REEFolution Foundation began coral restoration efforts in Shimoni and Wasini in 2015. They work closely with the community, conduct education, and have year-round research students to further their work. The foundation aims to restore local coral reefs and create artificial reefs with the help of local communities. Combining local and scientific knowledge, they aid coral growth and reef formation with the aim to improve and sustain local biodiversity, thereby contributing to the livelihood conditions of those who depend on marine resources. To date, they have transplanted almost 6,000 coral fragments into their nurseries, deployed close to 600 artificial reefs, and hosted 21 national and international students working on a variety of research projects.

Our Programmes

<u>Conservation – Fieldwork and Monitoring programmes</u>

To ensure the success and longevity of all our conservation projects, we often work in collaboration with each of our partners. Check out what we have been able to achieve in 2019;

Since July 2018, the marine team have been monitoring wild sea turtles along Diani's coastline. This is achieved via a photographic identification programme in which our divers photograph turtles underwater then individually identify them via the unique pattern of scales on their faces. The Olive Ridley Project took over the running of this project in November 2018, and during the 18 months from July 2018 to December 2019, 385 green turtles and 40 hawksbill turtles have been added to the database.

In addition, the marine team have removed four ghost nets from Diani's reefs, each of which has been recorded in the ORP ghost net database. We have also been able to track the presence and growth rates/reduction of tumours in green turtles. This is from a disease known as Fibropapillomatosis and currently 17 of the identified green turtles exhibit them. Growth rates vary among individuals, and we have even seen reduction in the size of tumours too.



Conservation – Fieldwork and Monitoring programmes Continued...

The marine team have worked with Local Ocean Conservation's Diani Turtle Watch team since opening. One out of the seven relocation sites in Diani is located at the Sands at Nomad Hotel, who have sponsored a sea turtle nest relocation site since 2017. Of the 237 nests monitored between Waa and Funzi Island by DTW in 2019, 16 were relocated to this site, with the first on 14th January, and the last nest hatching on 16th December. From these 16 nests, 1,375 endangered green sea turtle hatchlings left their eggs and made the difficult climb and dangerous run to their awaiting ocean home. Furthermore, Diani Turtle Watch's small team is based at the MEC and are an integral part of the Marine Team (check out the Marine Team Section on page 3 for further information)!





In partnership with Kwale Plastic Plus Collectors (KPPC), the MEC installed a small recycling workstation in June 2019. Plastic collected from Diani beach is used and processed through the machines by the KPPC team. In 2019, over 700 keyrings were produced. These keyrings are then sold to create awareness of the problem of plastics, and to raise funds for both KPPC and MEC. The marine team has also assisted KPPC in organising quarterly beach cleans with the Diani community which has resulted in over 47,000kg of trash being removed throughout the year.

As part of our coral reef education, we have promoted the work of the REEFolution Foundation who are based in Shimoni, south of Diani, and work in coral restoration. We have worked together directly at a number of events in Diani, helping to increase public awareness for both projects. We also raise funds on their behalf, please see 'Our Finances' section on page 15 for further information. We also have some exciting planned with projects **REEFolution** for 2020, so watch this space!



<u>Conservation – Fieldwork and Monitoring programmes Continued...</u>

Between September and December, four post graduate Kenyan students joined the marine team for an 11-week coral reef, seagrass and macroalgae monitoring programme. The students conducted surveys from Mwachema River to Chale Island in partnership with Coastal Oceans Research and Development – Indian Ocean (CORDIO), Allen Coral Atlas (ACA), and Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI). The data has contributed to a ground truthing satellite effort to map the world's reefs, a Masters thesis, and species composition, abundance and distribution analysis from which future projects will be planned.

Scuba divers in the marine team have also acted as citizen scientists contributing to the databases of the Kenya Marine Mammal Network, Marine Megafauna Foundation and CORDIO. In 2019, they submitted;

- monthly dolphin data,
- one humpback whale sighting in September,
- eighteen whale shark identification photographs,
- coral bleaching data pre-, during-, and post- the El Nino event, and
- post-sand harvesting surveys in Waa and Tiwi to look for effects of sedimentation on the coral.

In addition, the marine team holds an onsite biodiversity database of species sighted and photographed during snorkels and dives in Diani. From July 2018 to December 2019 these submissions sit at;

- 130 fish,
- two sea turtles,
- two sharks,
- six rays, and;
- 30 invertebrate species.

However, we still have hundreds of photographs yet to be categorized; a project planned for 2020!

<u>Conservation – Education</u>

Education Programmes

CES in partnership with MEC have hosted a 1- or 2-day education programme to 576 participants from September 2018 to December 2019. Most of these participants have been students from nearby schools and colleges, but we have also received students from Mombasa and an international group from China; Global Youth Tie, who joined us for a 1 day education programme. See the table below and pie chart on the next page for a breakdown;

		Male Students					Number of colleges	Others
2018	32	21	11	13	1	0	0	1
2019	544	250	294	71	7	3	1	1

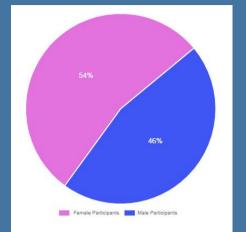


<u>Conservation – Education Continued...</u>

All education programmes provided are catered for each group. CES is working with five teachers on a marine curriculum. Throughout 2019, CES has been meeting with teachers from the Kwale Wildlife Clubs Patrons Action Group (KWAPAG) to develop marine-themed education materials, which have been adapted to consider local context and the Kenyan curriculum. So far, two teacher packs and two student workbooks have been produced and over 150 copies distributed. These materials are were piloted throughout 2019.

CES tries their best to cover transportation and associated costs for local schools visiting the MEC. Activities conducted at the MEC have also been developed to enhance participant understanding of marine biodiversity conservation, along with improving skills such as math, creativity and languages etc. Activities include upcycling workshops, marine biodiversity research, and beach clean-ups. CES ensures that data is collected on all education programmes, including pre and post surveys, and beach clean data, see page 11 for 2019 beach clean data.





The percentage of male and female participants who visited MEC via CES programmes from October 2018 to December 2019.



Camp International Summer Programme

From June to August, MEC and CES hosted 18 teams from the UK via a partnership with Camps International. This consisted of UK students, teachers, and Camps International team leaders, in total reaching 267 students and 53 teachers and team leaders. Teams joined us either for 1-day or 1.5-days to learn about marine conservation. Each team did a beach clean and participated in an upcycling workshop of old flip flops collected from the beach.



<u>Conservation – Education Continued...</u>

Outreach Education Programme

Most educational activities occur at the MEC or, materials are provided by the CES to schools. However, visiting the MEC is not always possible, due to costs, distance or schedules. Therefore, the CES also organise onsite visits and conduct workshops and activities at schools and colleges.

<u>Schools Visits</u>

In 2019, CES visited a total of five school visits. Visits involved question and answer sessions with students, tours of facilities and current conservation activities that were happening in the schools. This included indigenous tree planting on school compounds and upcycled washing facilities.

<u> Mama Lorenza Vocational Centre</u>

Since March 2019, CES has worked closely with Mama Lorenza Vocational Centre (MLVC), based in Ukunda, on marine conservation-themed activities. The first activities implemented were documentary evenings, this involved a marine team member visiting the college and previewing a marine documentary; throughout 2019, these events have totaled seven evenings.

In September, CES along with MLVC kick started their first marine afterschool club. So far, we have implemented a recycling scheme at the college, spent time designing and making jewelry out of old trash, and learning about marine conservation. MLVC have also visited the centre and conducted a beach clean with the marine team!



Summer Holiday Programme

Through partnership with the Diani Taekwondo group, four visits were made to the centre in November and December by Taekwondo participants and local children. A total of three team leaders accompanied a total of 50 children during the four visits. The activities involved a beach clean-up from Colobus Conservation to the MEC, a tour, and a visit to Diani Turtle Watch's nest relocation site located at the Sands at Nomad Hotel, amongst other activities.

CES and MEC also partnered with Colobus Conservation to offer conservation focused education days. Both MEC and Colobus Conservation were visited by the Daraja Group Foundation from Bridge International on the 13th November; a total of 12 students and one leader.



<u>Conservation – Education Continued...</u>

From 21st to 27th March, two of our marine team members hosted 19 students from the Rift Valley Academy on The Sands at Chale Island to conduct a 5 day marine ecology course focusing on coral reefs, mangroves, sea turtles, plastic pollution in our oceans and intertidal zones. The programme included a presentation and fieldwork activity per topic, including, but not limited to; snorkeling, mangrove forest boat trip, and beach clean with trash segregation.



<u>Beach Clean Data</u>

In 2019, a total of 28 beach cleans were organised (please see table on the right), as part of our education programme activities. These include local primary, local secondary schools, colleges, international groups from Camps International and Global Youth Tie, and participants in our Summer Education Programme.

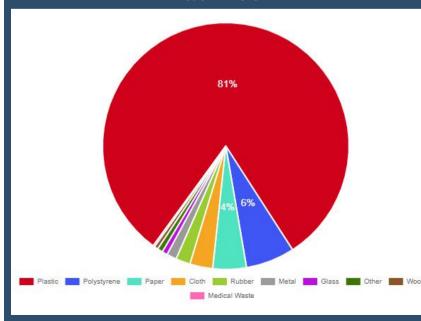
As a result, a total of 33,385 items of trash were removed from Diani Beach. Unsurprisingly, over 80% of this was plastic. Please see the pie chart below for a breakdown of the trash removed.

	No. of Beach
	Clean-ups
January	1
February	0
March	3
April	2
May	0
June	2
July	7
August	9
September	0
October	1
November	1
December	2
TOTALS	28





Categories and percentages of overall trash removed from Diani Beach in 2019



<u>Conservation – Community Outreach</u>

<u>Diani's First Sea Turtle Festival</u>

CES and MEC hosted Diani's first ever Sea Turtle Festival on 16th June to celebrate World Sea Turtle Day. The event was a great success with approximately 200 students and 20 teachers attending from eight primary and secondary schools in Kwale county, along with community groups and residents from the area. Eleven conservation organisations were invited to showcase their amazing work as well as help to run activities such as the sea turtle scavenger hunt, sand sculpture competition, and egg and spoon races, to raise awareness about sea turtles. Students from local schools also participated in creating awareness throuah poems, performances and artwork. Sponsorship for the festival was generously donated by local businesses, which also helped fund local schools to be part of the festivity.





<u>Community Visits</u>

MEC was visited by both local and international groups in 2019. These included the Africa Child and a group from a local church, totaling 41 community members. Through creating awareness on the marine environment and our work, as well as that of our partners, we are aiming to form collaborations and partnerships with more local conservation groups as well as organise more community groups visits to the centre in 2020, including the Kwale Scouts and a nearby mangrove conservation group.

<u>Mangrove Visit in Tiwi</u>

Members of the marine team met with the Chikono Phidzu Mangrove Group in Tiwi and a member representing Mwakamba Jitegemee Youth Group in Kongo on 20th December, to initiate a potential partnership in supporting restoration of mangroves along the Mwachema river. In total, the meeting was attended by seven community members.



<u>Conservation – Community Outreach Continued...</u>

<u>Art CLub</u>

On the 21st July, CES ran the first art workshop at the MEC. Local art lovers and an art teacher joined us for the day. Since the first meeting, the group has continued to meet, forming an art club at the centre. Group sizes vary between 3-6 and a total of three meetings have taken place so far!



<u>Documentary Nights</u>

MEC has hosted a total of 22 free presentation and documentary evenings at the Sands at Nomad Hotel throughout 2019, on topics including sea turtles, whale sharks, cetaceans, the importance of our oceans, and more. A total of 350 tourists and community members attended.

<u>Talks</u>

On the 17th October, MEC was invited to do a talk at a nearby holiday resort, Lantana Galu Beach. The talk was focused on sea turtles, their behaviour, reproduction and conservation. In total, over 13 individuals attended.

<u>Eco-Tour Visits</u>

MEC is open to the public between 3pm and 5pm daily. During this time marine team members are onsite to provides tours of the centre and answer any questions on marine life and conservation. In 2019 we received over 750 guests at the centre. Nearly half of these guests were Kenyan; see the table on the right for a breakdown of guests.

Approximately 40% of these guests had heard of the MEC via word of mouth. This was followed by guests who had heard of us through the Sands at Nomad activities, such as managers cocktail evenings and the guest relations team (37%). The Marine Team activities at Diving the Crab also attracted guests, with approximately 9% visiting due to the diving centre. Others were from events, advertisements and CES programmes.

	Nationality	
	Kenyan	43
d	British	17
d e	German	15
e	North American	6
of	From other European countries	13
e	From other African countries	2.2
e	From the Americas	0.6
b	Other Asian countries	1.2
g	Other	2



Workshops and Conferences Attended

The Marine Team have attended several workshops and conferences throughout 2019.

th th		
17 th & 18 th	Emergency First Response Course hosted by Diving the	Jenni Choma, Kelly Martin,
February	Crab	Joana Hancock.
12 th & 17 th April	Sand Harvesting Stakeholders Conference hosted by Kenya	Jenni Choma, Joana Hancock.
	Ports Authority	
16 th May	Sustainable Tourism Conference for the Sustainable	Jenni Choma.
	Tourism Africa Summit in Mombasa – to receive runner up	
	for the Innovative Protection of Marine Life for Sustainable	
	Oceans award	
18 th June	Plastiki Rafiki workshop, in partnership with KPPC	Jenni Choma, Kelly Martin,
		Fatma Manyenze, Nevil
		Agesa.
1 st -6 th July	11 th WIOMSA symposium in Mauritius	Fatma Manyenze.
31 st July	Spatial Planning for Kwale Country, hosted by CORDIO	Jenni Choma.
25 th September	Allen Coral Atlas (ACA) project training hosted by CORDIO	Jenni Choma, Fatma
& 2 nd October		Manyenze.
17 th October	CoralNet training hosted by ACA and CORDIO	Fatma Manyenze.



Our Finances

CES and MEC are not-for-profit organisations, therefore all funds raised are through donations, sponsorships and shop sales. Last year we were able to raise the following funds for the project.

Income (KSH)

Donations*	606,204
Events- Sponsorship and Donations	167,400
Corporate Sponsorship (from the Sands at Nomad)	1,226,465
Programme Income**	640,310
Gift Shop Sales	404,259
Total	3,044,638

*Donations received from individuals and other organisations including, East African Women's League, Base Titanium, GA Insurance and Scuba Duka.

**International groups and organisations, such as Camps International use our services for their programmes.

From the funds raised, some was on behalf of our partners; either through adoption schemes, shop sales, or fundraising activities. In 2019, we were able to raised the following amounts on behalf of the following

organisations;

Support/ Donations (KSH)

Diani Turtle Watch/ Local Ocean Conservation	289,950
Kwale Plastic Plus Collectors	36,254
Olive Ridley Project	86,268
REEFolution Foundation	19,600
Other (Kwale Scouts, Mama Lorenza etc)	10,000
Total	442,072

All funds raised, go directly to the operational costs of the centre, all education programmes and other conservation projects (see above). See below for the breakdown of expenditure for 2019;

Expenditure (KSH)

Gift Shop- Cost of Goods	145,830
Event Set up	115,164
Staff Salaries and Expenses	1,354,108
Programme Expenses	241,029
Marine Education Centre*	103,691
Legal Costs	6,711
Total	1,966,533

*Expenses include minor maintenance of the centre, and office set up costs, such as a printer etc.

In-kind Support

Not only do MEC and CES receive financial support, but they also receive support in other ways, which is vital for our work. Below is a list of support we have received in 2019;

Camp Kenya	Donation of a Mac computer and computing equipment.
Diving the Crab	 Through the Marine Education Centre's relationship with Diving the Crab, the marine team has been able to dive for free, spending a total of 27,660 minutes underwater on the sea turtle identification dives alone. Additional dives include the sand harvesting monitoring surveys and Allen Coral Atlas coral reef mapping dives.
DM Tours	• Providing transport for tourists to and from the centre each week.
Sands at Nomad and Sands at Chale Island	• Accommodating staff and interns, provision of a work space in the form of a Marine Education Centre, providing staff lunches and transport, expertise, and general support.

We also receive support through volunteering; this year we received 13 volunteers, ten of which volunteered their time for the Diani Sea Turtle Festival, and three of which have volunteered time at the centre.

We have also provided in-kind support to other organisations; see the table below for a breakdown;

Diani Turtle Watch/ Local Ocean Conservation	 Development of resources. Assistance with the Sands at Nomad Hotel sea turtle nest relocation site.
Diving the Crab	 Marine life briefings on the daily dive trips Co-designing of marine life interaction materials
Olive Ridley Project	Diving BuddyStaff support through CES
Kwale Plastic Plus Collectors	Workspace in partnership with Sands at Nomad Hotel

With Special Thanks to....







2020 Plans

We have a number of exciting projects for 2020, including but not exclusive to the following:

- \Rightarrow Further develop the capacities of our current partners, plus build new partnerships.
- \Rightarrow Continue to monitor marine species, populations and ecosystems along the Diani coastline.
- ⇒ Work with the Diani community to increase awareness surrounding marine life interactions and sustainable fish and seafood.
- \Rightarrow Host the second Sea Turtle Festival in June!
- ⇒ Install new information exhibits at the MEC, which will expand on subjects such as sustainability and climate change.
- \Rightarrow Develop and implement new marine conservation experience programmes in the form of internships.
- ⇒ Strengthen community partnerships through the support of local initiatives, the first focus being mangrove restoration along Mwachema river.
- ⇒ Further develop capacity of our staff through in-house training, and support participation of workshops.
- \Rightarrow Complete the 5-year strategy for both CES and MEC. This will be published in 2020.
- \Rightarrow Increase both fundraising opportunities and awareness of MEC and CES through online exposure.
- ⇒ Strengthen and formalise partnerships with Kwale's Teacher Service Commission and the Department of Education, with the objective of supporting governmental schools and teachers in conservation education.
- ⇒ Continue developing educational resources that can be used in schools and at the centre. These materials will be freely available for all, with the objective to improve understanding of the natural world, as well as supporting other subjects and skills such as math's and creativity, etc.

If you would like further information on anything you have read in this report, please do not hesitate to contact us. You can also follow up on our social media platforms, all details are below;



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