

Environmental safeguards in Kenya – oceanographic and coastal perspectives

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This paper addresses the historical evolution and improvements in the environmental management tools that Kenya uses in environmental governance to ensure environmental planning and sustainable resource use are planned for, developed, controlled and monitored to improve the economic, political, and social well-being of its people. A comparison of the global perspective is made with the national strategy. The potential of twining the availability of RV Mtafiti to the need to develop new national and regional monitoring or observer stations to inform the development or improvements of existing environmental management tools are explored within the national ocean policy and strategy, including new opportunities to exploit the resources of the EEZ. Examples of existing interventions in improving coastal livelihoods are discussed for a number of aquaculture interventions and for few natural resource management initiatives within the Kenyan coast and near-shore marine environments. Challenges in environmental management and governance are highlighted within the oceanographic and coastal perspectives in terms of environmental, social and economic interactions (governance, pressures from coastal zone overpopulation, environmental quality, sustaining critical coastal ecosystems and biodiversity) based on experiences from aquaculture interventions.