



CORAL REEF TARGETED RESEARCH & CAPACITY BUILDING FOR MANAGEMENT CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE: EAST AFRICA

University of Dar Es Salaam, Institute of Marine Sciences, Zanzibar, Tanzania

The Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Dar es Salaam, is one of four Coral Reef Targeted Research & Capacity Building for Management (CRTR) Program **Centres of Excellence** (CoEs) throughout the world.

Centres of Excellence convene the CRTR **Working Groups** which form the scientific basis of the Program. This ensures research can be discussed and implemented with regional and local scientists, managers, NGOs and stakeholders in a collaborative spirit.

GOAL

Build scientific capacity **to inform management and policy, so that coral reef ecosystems can be sustained for current and future generations.**

OBJECTIVES

1. To provide technical support to CRTR Working Groups' research and training activities.
2. To build regional capacity through:
 - graduate scholarships
 - training workshops on regionally emerging issues, and
 - access to new expertise.
3. To undertake regionally relevant coral reef research such as the impacts of coral bleaching, fisheries, and various environmental factors (nutrients, sedimentation, primary productivity) to coral degradation and recovery processes, and also facilitating coral reef information outreach and uptake in the Eastern Africa region.

The Institute of Marine Sciences, the focus for coral reef research in Eastern Africa, is located in the heart of Stone Town, Zanzibar, providing laboratory facilities and office space for over 25 faculty and staff.



Coral reefs in Zanzibar, Tanzania. Top image is *Porites cylindrica*. Bottom image is *Platygyra* sp.



Most fisheries in Tanzania are artisanal on near-shore reefs (S Yahya)

Local Research Priorities

- Investigations on coral replenishment processes (settlement, recruitment, restoration), fisheries, associated environmental factors (nutrients, sedimentation, primary productivity, ocean currents) and isotope studies.
- Mapping and characterisation of coral reefs and associated threats.
- Information dissemination on coral reef issues and indigenous knowledge in reef management.

IMS researchers participate in several national and regional activities and projects relevant to the CRTR program, e.g. assessment, monitoring and mapping of coastal habitats and resources in marine parks and reserves; development of coastal resource atlas and databases, e.g. Kinondoni Municipal Council, Dar es Salaam, etc.

The CRTR Project is a partnership of the Global Environment Facility, The World Bank, The University of Queensland (UQ), US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and approximately 40 research organisations around the world. The CoEs are E Africa (Institute of Marine Sciences, Zanzibar, Tanzania); South-east Asia (Marine Science Institute, University of the Philippines); Meso-America/Western Caribbean (Unidad Academica, Puerto Morelos, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico); and Australasia/South Pacific (Centre for Marine Studies, UQ, Australia).



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