

Project 106002-001, Report 2012A2

Report of the final meeting of the project entitled “Strengthening the role of civil society in water sector governance towards climate change adaptation in African cities – Durban, Maputo, Nairobi”

held in Nairobi, Kenya

November 5-8, 2012

by Patricia E. Perkins and Patricia Figueiredo Walker

on behalf of the research team:

Professor Eugenia Cossa (Eduardo Mondlane University), Professor Elias Manjate (Eduardo Mondlane University), Saquina Macavele (MuGeDe), Nilza Matavel (Justiça Ambiental) in Maputo; Professor Patrick Bond (Centre for Civil Society, University of KwaZulu-Natal), Priya Pillay (South Durban Community Environmental Alliance), Dr. Mary Galvin (Umphilo) in Durban, Dudu Khumalo (Umphilo) in Durban; Professor Elijah Ndegwa (University of Nairobi), Professor Romanus Opiyo (University of Nairobi), Sadique Bilal (Kilimanjaro Initiative), Wahu Kaara (KENDREN), Kiama Kaara (KENDREN) in Nairobi.



Country/Region: Africa (Nairobi, Kenya; Maputo, Mozambique; Durban, South Africa)

Research Institution: York University

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction
2. List of Participants
3. Agenda
4. Presentations
5. Field Visits
6. Project Evaluation
7. Conclusion
8. Photo Gallery

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this three-year project (2010-2013), which was funded by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the U.K. Department of International Development through the Climate Change Adaptation in Africa (CCAA) program, was to develop practical strategies for strengthening urban governments in planning investments in climate change adaptation, and to strengthen the role of civil society in water management towards improved climate change adaptation. The project aimed to link university researchers with community-based NGOs conducting environmental education and organizing participatory workshops in low-income urban areas with pressing climate change and water-related problems; build on proven methods of community-university collaboration to strengthen urban watershed governance; increase equity in public participation processes related to urban climate change adaptation; and foster progressive local, national and international policy development on climate change-related water management—while training students, university researchers, NGO staff members, and community participants.

This report discusses the agenda, content and outcomes of the team's final project meeting, which was held in Nairobi, Kenya on November 5-8, 2012.

The meeting was co-organized by Patricia Figueiredo Walker, the project coordinator, and Sadique Bilal, the research assistant at Kilimanjaro Initiative (KI), without whose support and assistance, this meeting would not have been possible. The field visits to research sites in Nairobi were organized by the Kilimanjaro Initiative (KI) and the Kenya Debt Relief Network (KENDREN). Most of the meeting was held at the Biblica Guest House on Dennis Pritt Road in Nairobi, where the out-of-town participants also stayed.

The objectives of this meeting were to:

1. Provide an opportunity for project partners to present an overview of what they accomplished during the final year of the project;
2. Discuss ways to disseminate project results and outcomes;
3. Report on the involvement of students;
4. Provide an opportunity for students to present on their research projects and receive feedback from the team;
5. Visit the communities with whom local partner NGOs have worked to implement this project;
6. Discuss lessons learned and challenges faced;
7. Consider the political and social justice implications of this project through a process called *Praxis Mapping*;
8. Conduct an end-of-project evaluation and document the project's achievements;
9. Discuss future plans

This report contains a list of meeting participants, a detailed day-by-day agenda, a list of the presentations made to the group by each participant with the PowerPoint presentations where available, a summary of the field visits made to research sites in Nairobi and their relation to our project, a summary of our end-of-project evaluation and the Praxis Mapping process, a gallery of photographs of the week-long meeting, and a conclusion.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Canada

Professor Patricia E. (Ellie) Perkins | Project Director, York University
Patricia Figueiredo | Project Coordinator, York University
Aaron Saad | PhD Student, Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University

Kenya

Professor Elijah Ndegwa | Academic Advisor, University of Nairobi
Mr. Romanus Otieno Opiyo | Academic Co-advisor, University of Nairobi
Stephen Otieno | Masters student, University of Nairobi
Sadique Bilal Issa | Research Assistant, Kilimanjaro Initiative
Stephen Kasoa | Information and Communication Technology Officer, Kilimanjaro Initiative
Wahu Kaara | Executive Director, Kenya Debt Relief Network (KENDREN)
Kiama Kaara | Research Assistant, Kenya Debt Relief Network (KENDREN)

Mozambique

Nilza Matavel | Research Assistant, Justiça Ambiental (JA)
Professor Eugenia Cossa | Academic Advisor, Eduardo Mondlane University
Elias Manjate | Academic Co-advisor, Eduardo Mondlane University

South Africa

Professor Patrick Bond | Academic Advisor, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Mary Galvin | Executive Director, Umphilo waManzi (present via Skype)
Dudu Khumalo | Research Assistant, Umphilo waManzi
Priya Pillay | Research Assistant, South Durban Community Environmental Alliance
Paaristha Oomadath | Activist and Community Scholar, University of KwaZulu-Natal

AGENDA

Sunday 4 November

Travel to Nairobi

17:00 Those who have arrived meet in the Biblica Guest House restaurant to discuss and finalize the week's agenda.

Monday 5 November

Team Meeting at Biblica Guest House

Dennis Pritt Road, Opposite Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) offices,
Nairobi

P.O. Box 60595-00200 Nairobi, Kenya

Telephone: (+254 20) 2715059/8

Cell phone: (+254) 707 251 040

Fax: (+254 20) 2713224

Email: biblica.guesthouse@biblica.com

Free wireless connection available to all participants

All meetings in the guest house Conference Room, unless otherwise indicated

9:00 Opening remarks, Introductions and Country Team Updates

Following updates by Ellie on the project's book, Synthesis Report, website, and other ways we are sharing our work to date, each partner will provide a short overview of what they have done since we last met, and report on how the partnerships among academic and NGO partners have worked, student involvement with the project, and progress in meeting the project's overall goals. What have you been able to accomplish? What challenges have you faced; what has worked well and what not so well? If you can show some photos in a short PowerPoint, this would be great. Each team is welcome to choose one or several representatives to present this overview. Hopefully we will have time after the presentations for a short discussion.

Elias and Eugenia on the Maputo students' trip to Durban

Mama Dudu on Umphilo's work in Durban

Priya on SDCEA's work in Durban

Nilza on JA!'s work in Maputo

Saquina's report on gender/climate justice in Mozambique (Ellie presents)

Wahu and Kiama Kaara on KENDREN's work in Nairobi and globally

Sadique on KI's work in Nairobi

Romanus and/or Prof. Ndegwa on Nairobi student studio

10:30 – 10:45 Tea break

10:45 – 1:00 Partners' presentations continued

13:00-14:00 LUNCH

14:00-15:30 Discussion and synthesis of project results with all partners

15:30 – 15:45 Tea break

15:45 – 17:30 Discussion of results continued

We will have a chance to draw out comparisons and reflect on the results reported.
Do we have the elements of an innovative approach to climate justice to share?
What does this include? This discussion will be continued on Thursday.

19:00 on DINNER at Biblica

Tuesday 6 November

Field Visits to Nairobi Game Park, Kibera and Huruma

6:30 Mini-bus picks up everyone at Biblica Guest House

6:30 – 8:30 Visit Nairobi Game Park, where growth of the city and animal conservation are both subject to climate change pressures in a complex web

8:30 – noon Field visit to Kibera

Noon Bus leaves Kibera

12:30 -14:00 Lunch at Silver Springs Hotel

14:00-17:00 Field Visit to Huruma

Wednesday 7 November

Monitoring and Evaluation sessions at Biblica Guest House

9:00 – 10:30 Monitoring and Evaluation session facilitated by Julius Nyangaga

Has our project met its goals? What challenges have we faced and how have we addressed them? What are our best accomplishments? What can we do to report and share them?

10:30 – 10:45 Tea break

10:45 – 13:00 Monitoring and Evaluation discussion continued

Have we developed an Innovations Platform for facilitating? What is it? What are its main elements?

13:00 -14:00 LUNCH

14:00 – 15:30 Monitoring and Evaluation discussion continued

Should we share our results? How? What is our post-project dissemination strategy?

15:30 – 15:45 Tea break

15:45 – 17:00 Monitoring and Evaluation discussion concludes

What does everyone think about how we've accomplished our project's overall goals? What can we report to IDRC, and what are we proudest of?

17:00 – 19:00 (time to be confirmed) Student Research Forum -- presentations and discussion

Stephen Otieno on his CIGI research project and Canada experience

Aaron Saad on his PhD research plans

University of Nairobi students – group project presentation on planning in Kibera

We will hear and provide feedback on the students' research projects, documenting and advancing our project's objectives.

19:00 on DINNER at Guest House

Thursday 8 November

Final Meeting at Biblica Guest House

9:00 – 10:30 Praxis Monitoring session facilitated by Patrick Bond and Ellie Perkins

What are the political and social justice implications of our project's work? What challenges have we faced politically, and how have we addressed them? What do comparisons among the situations in each city tell us? How can we build on these conclusions in our ongoing work, and what are the implications of this project for our own choices and activities as we move ahead?

10:30 – 10:45 Tea break

10:45 – 13:00 Praxis Monitoring continued

13:00-14:00 LUNCH (in the guest house dining room)

14:00 – 15:30 What have we accomplished that goes beyond our original goals? How do we collectively articulate what we have learned about how community-based organizations, working together with universities, can build resilience in marginalized communities the face of climate change?

15:30 – 15:45 Tea break

15:45 – 17:30 How do we all plan to move forward from this work? What are our plans? What would we like to do in the future, if possible?

17:30 – 19:00 Break

19:00 Mini-bus leaves for PROJECT CLOSING DINNER – Carnivore
Restaurant
Langata Road, Near Wilson Airport,
PO Box 56685, City Square 00200, Nairobi,
Tel: 020 6005933-7 6002764

Friday 9 November
Return Home

PRESENTATIONS – November 5, 2012

On the first day of the project's final meeting, partners were asked to provide an overview of their progress and activities carried during the past year, as well as to report on the following:

- How the partnerships among academic and NGO partners have worked;
- Student involvement with the project;
- Progress/success in meeting the project's overall goals
- Accomplishments and challenges faced

PDF files of all these presentations are available at:

<http://ccaa.irisYorku.ca/research-project/publications/>

“Community and Government Engagement,” and “Engaging with local communities in regard to climate change and water,” presented by Priya Pillay, South Durban Community Environmental Alliance

“Eduardo Mondlane University's presentation” by Elias Manjate and Prof. Eugenia Cossa, UEM

“Nairobi Team Updates” by Romanus Opiyo

“Overall South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA), Umphilo waManzi and Centre for Civil Society (CCS) Activities,” presented by Prof. Patrick Bond, University of KwaZulu-Natal

“Small Gestures, Big Changes,” presented by Nilza Matavel, Justiça Ambiental

“Water for Transformation of Communities in Relation to Climate Change,” presented by Sadique Bilal and Stephen Kasoja, Kilimanjaro Initiative

“What ‘praxis’ lessons do we learn from activists? From reformist to non-reformist reforms,” presented by Prof. Patrick Bond, University of Kwazulu-Natal

FIELD VISITS – November 6, 2012

On November 6, project partners visited the [Kenya Wildlife Service](#), where growth of the city and animal conservation are both subject to climate change pressures in a complex web.

They also attended a community meeting in Silanga, a village in Kibera – the largest informal settlement in Nairobi and second largest in Africa.



There, participants visited a sports field upgraded by [Kilimanjaro Initiative](#) (KI), a partner CSO, and attended a community meeting hosted by village elders, youth representatives, KI and the University of Nairobi.

Silanga residents spoke to the group about challenges they currently face, including pollution of the Nairobi Dam, poor sanitation, migration and overpopulation, inadequate infrastructure and living conditions, lack of access to clean and potable water, flooding, and climate change. As the team witnessed while in Nairobi, intense rains prove a real challenge for residents of low-income areas in Nairobi, such as Silanga. In lieu of proper drainage systems, residents use sandbags to stop rainwater from entering their homes.



Youth representatives spoke about youth involvement in criminal and illegal activities in Kibera due to lack of opportunities. The youth present (all of whom are now involved in productive work) have started a community garden with the financial assistance and guidance of Kilimanjaro Initiative.

While in Kibera, the team visited the garden, which had been heavily impacted by recent heavy rainfall. KI and the youth have since started looking at different strategies to minimize the impact of heavy rains on the garden, which they hope will soon become a source of income.



Following the meeting, the team took a brief walking tour of Silanga, where sanitation is an income-generating system. Residents typically pay about US\$0.10 to access public toilets. Although the municipality has set up public toilets in Kibera, local for-profit water cartels prevent the public from using these toilets, because they make profit out of selling this service.



Following the visit to Kibera, the team went to Mathare, Huruma – another informal settlement in Nairobi. The field visit was organized by the [Kenya Debt Relief Network](#) and hosted by local community groups, who spoke about political and sanitation challenges faced in Huruma and how the community is addressing them. During a walking tour of Mathare, community hosts showed our team alternative models to water commodification. The team was shown how water is captured in storage tanks by community organizations and sold to users. However, the money is not taken as profits but instead goes back into the community. There was a diversity of projects supported under this model, including a car wash and a community garden.

END-OF-PROJECT EVALUATION – November 7, 2012



The evaluation session was facilitated by Julius Nyangaga, Regional Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Manager for the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (IIRR) in Nairobi and steward of the [Outcome Mapping Learning Community](#)

During this end-of-project evaluation session, the team divided itself into country groups to review, critique, analyze and discuss its challenges and accomplishments. Together, each country group attempted to articulate *whether* and *how* it addressed, advanced and accomplished the project's three objectives:

1. Characterized the institutional framework for water governance in each of the three cities and explain how they cope with climate change and variability;
2. Identify and test viable alternatives for enhancing civil society roles in climate change; and
3. Share widely the knowledge generated for other cities in Africa.

Progress towards achieving objective one:

This objective was largely accomplished through our Synthesis Report on the institutional framework for water governance in Durban, Maputo and Nairobi (add link to this on the project website). Members of the research team in all three cities were involved in compiling this report, which was completed in 2011.

The Nairobi team spoke about climate change and water governance and argued that alternative governance structures need to exist where community involvement in policy making can occur. Awareness-raising of water governance as it applies to local people needs to happen.

Nilza, Eugenia and Elias pointed out how incorporating environmental awareness into school curricula is difficult as they are already full. They commented on the need for youth awareness and participation. Patrick, from the South Africa group, spoke about the positive change that the SDCEA, Umphilo, etc., have been able to bring about. Mary Galvin, who was present via Skype, also commented on the increased awareness about climate change and water problems among community

groups and individuals due to these efforts. Mama Dudu pointed out the problem of funding as a barrier to effective activism; local, sustainable funding is needed.

Progress towards achieving objective two:

This is our project's major area of research contribution. Civil society organizations and partners in each city have been working to develop and document ways of enhancing the important role of civil society in addressing climate change. These are detailed in each organization's final report, and in various project outputs.

Patrick and Mama Dudu gave examples of alternatives for enhancing civil society roles in climate change, emphasizing the need for participation at every stage. Community empowerment, local knowledge dissemination, and follow-up are necessary. The Nairobi team expressed the need for alternative official structures, but also identified the challenge therein, due to lack of accessibility to policy-making on the part of community members. The Maputo group's approach took the route of enhancing and strengthening the formal education system, looking to schools to implement awareness and environmental education programs for youth. Organizations engaging youth to discuss climate change issues are key.

Progress towards achieving objective three:

We are disseminating and sharing our project's results in a number of ways: on our website, through video and films, articles in open-access and other academic journals, a forthcoming book, blogs and links with other online information pathways. We hope to publish a manual on community-based climate change response workshop ideas and strategies.

A discussion on dissemination and promulgation of climate change issues and awareness pointed out the importance of networking and project partner meetings.

Partners noted the differences we have identified between countries: what works in one might not work in the other. There are different struggles, different mindsets, different considerations in each place, so the project's results must be adapted by their users.

We agreed that it is a good idea to incorporate the use of social media to spread messages, share knowledge, and contact people across the world.

Following the facilitated evaluation session, on November 8 we had a discussion about the overall political-economic impact of our work, which is described in a separate Praxis Mapping report. To access or download the complete Praxis Mapping report, please visit <http://ccaa.iris.yorku.ca/research-project/publications/>.

The project's results in meeting its objectives are much more fully discussed in our Final Technical Report (2013A1), which includes detailed reporting from each partner organization.

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS – November 7, 2012

Stephen Otieno, Master's student in Environmental Planning and Management at the University of Nairobi, gave a presentation on his research on redefining water governance in Nairobi in times of climate change.

Stephen also spoke about his experience as a visiting scholar at York University, which was supported by the Centre for International Governance Innovation's (CIGI) Africa Initiative Graduate Research program. Stephen's blogs and research paper on water challenges in Nairobi were published on the CIGI website.



Aaron Saad, a PhD student at York University's Faculty of Environmental Studies, also gave a presentation on his research on the political economy of climate change, vulnerability, and displacement. His research in Nairobi has been foundational to his dissertation development.

Aaron spent six weeks in Nairobi, where he helped to document the Nairobi team's research methods and community-based approaches to climate change adaptation. Aaron's report can be found at <http://cca.iris.yorku.ca/publications>.

CONCLUSION

The project team's final meeting was successful, in that it allowed us to complete the circle of information sharing and reflect together on the outcomes of our project. Partners from Maputo and Durban were able to visit the sites where the Nairobi team has been working, in Kibera and Huruma, and speak with local people, officials, and students about climate change, sanitation and water governance (just as we did in the other two cities during our 2011 project meeting there).

In both formal presentations and informal conversations, partners shared information and compared situations and views. We reported to each other on the project's challenges and successes, made plans for further dissemination of the project's results, and had fun together in interesting, hospitable surroundings, thanks to the great planning and hard work of Sadique Bilal on behalf of the Nairobi team.

PHOTO GALLERY



From Left: The Nairobi Team meets at Biblica Guest House to discuss their contributions to the project on November 7, 2012; Stephen Kasoa of Kilimanjaro Initiative presents on the organization's activities during 2012; Prof. Patrick Bond (CCS) presents on "reformist and non-reformist reforms"; Project partners attend community meeting in Silanga, Kibera; Wahu Kaara (KENDREN) chats with village elders about community garden; Silanga elders chat following community meeting in Silanga; Kibera youth gather for a photo outside of community centre; Sadique Bilal of Kilimanjaro Initiative describes climate change and water-related challenges faced by Silanga residents; Garden in sack technique being used by local residents; Youth chat and garden in Silanga; Nairobi Dam; Youth works on community garden; Pile of trash next to Nairobi Dam in Huruma; Water tank in Kibera; Prof. Patrick Bond chats with Kibera youth about their efforts to maintain the garden; Silanga, Kibera; Street vendors in Kibera; Team gathers for a photo at Kenya Wildlife Service.