

Strengthening the role of civil society in water sector governance towards climate change adaptation in African cities – Durban, Maputo, Nairobi

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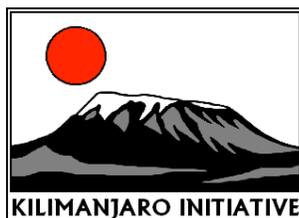
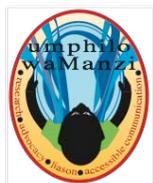
Submitted by: Patricia E. Perkins, project leader, Patricia Figueiredo, project coordinator, and Elizabeth Lorimer, graduate assistant

On behalf of the research team: Professor Eugenia Cossa (Eduardo Mondlane University), Saquina Macavele (MuGeDe), Anabela Lemos (Justiça Ambiental) in Maputo; Professor Patrick Bond (University of KwaZulu-Natal), Lushendrie Naidu (South Durban Community Environmental Alliance), Mary Galvin (Umphilo) in Durban; Professor Romanus Opiyo (University of Nairobi), Sadique Bilal (Kilimanjaro Initiative), Wahu Kaara (KENDREN) in Nairobi.

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University of Nairobi
Department of Urban
and Regional Planning



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

Research Institution: York University **Address of Research Institution:** 4700 Keele St.
Toronto, Canada M3J 1P3

Contact Information of Researchers:

Patricia E. Perkins
York University, Faculty of Environmental
Studies
Telephone number: 416-736-2100 ext. 22632
E-mail address: esperk@yorku.ca

Patricia Figueiredo
York University, Faculty of Environmental
Studies
Telephone number: 416-736-2100 ext. 20679
E-mail address: pattyf@yorku.ca

Romanus Opiyo
University of Nairobi
Telephone number: +254-2-718548
E-mail address: ropiyo@uonbi.ac.ke

Eugenia Cossa Eduardo Mondlane
University, Faculty of Education
Telephone number: +258 21 495422
E-mail address: eugenia.cossa@uem.mz

Simphiwe Nojiyeza
Centre for Civil Society, University of
KwaZulu-Natal
Telephone number: +27 31 260 2114
E-mail address: nojiyezais@yahoo.co.uk

Wahu Kaara
Kenya Debt Relief Network (KENDREN)

Telephone number: +254 020 2721076/99
E-mail address: wahukaara@yahoo.com

Bilal Sadique Issa
Kilimanjaro Initiative
Telephone number: +254 729 338932
E-mail address: sadiquebi@gmail.com

Saquina Mucavele
MUGEDE - Mulher, Gênero e Desenvolvimento
Telephone number: +258 21303180
E-mail address: MuGeDe@gmail.com

Rehana Dada
Climate Chronicle
Telephone number: +27 82 8296933
E-mail address: rehana@greenit.co.za

Mary Galvin
Umphilo waManzi
Telephone number: +27 312059034
E-mail address: mgalvin@mail.ngo.za

Lushendrie Naidu
South Durban Community Environmental
Alliance
Telephone number: 031 - 461 1991
E-mail address: sdcea2@mail.ngo.za

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1. Synthesis

This project includes research partners at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, the University of Nairobi, Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, and York University in Toronto, along with local environmental and community development NGOs in Durban, Nairobi and Maputo. The project's main development goal is to strengthen the capacity of civil society to influence water sector governance towards climate change adaptation in three African cities – Maputo, Durban, and Nairobi. Its specific objectives are:

- to characterize the institutional framework for urban water governance in the three cities, and explain how the different actors within this framework cope with climate change and variability;
- to identify and test viable alternatives for enhancing civil society roles towards adaptation to climate change and variability by vulnerable groups (e.g. by developing education, training and awareness programmes); and
- to share widely the knowledge generated for potential adoption by other cities in Africa.

The project started in February 2010 and its activities are due to end by December 2012 with final reporting completed by February 2013.

During this reporting period, which covers the first year of the project's implementation, members of our team have fostered collaborative relationships between community-based organizations and NGOs and universities in Durban, Maputo, and Nairobi. NGO staff members and university researchers are working together in each city to plan and conduct environmental education and workshops in the cities' low-income areas where water and climate change stresses are particularly evident. Each country team has convened and/or attended meetings with local government officials where the project's climate change and water management objectives have been discussed. Research assistants are now working within each partner NGO to characterize urban water governance frameworks in ever-greater detail and to develop locally-appropriate ways of enhancing civil society's role in responding to climate change. The academic members of our research team are selecting student interns to work with the NGOs and assist in documenting the project's processes, methods and findings. We are editing the information on climate change impacts and civil society's current responses and needs in each city which was shared at our first team meeting, for wider dissemination in published form and on the project website. All of these activities were included in the original project plan, methodology, and scope; in the following sections of this report we provide additional details and relate these initiatives to the project's objectives and original activity plan.

2. The research problem

Climate change is causing coastal erosion and periodic flooding in both Maputo and Durban, endangering scenic coastal roadways and causing saltwater intrusion, wind erosion, and desertification in urban food-producing areas; flooding in coastal slum areas; degradation of water quality in wells and potable water scarcity; and in Maputo the destruction of mangroves and threats to the locally-important shrimp fishery. There are clear signs that the sea level is rising, with concomitant expensive coastal management problems. The United Nations Habitat Cities in Climate Change Initiative emphasizes local government capacity-building, policy dialogue, climate change awareness, public education, and developing coordination mechanisms between all levels of government as priorities to help address these risks. Mozambique's national water law (1991) considers all water as state-owned, to be governed by the state for the benefit of the population, with water access for people, sustainability, and stakeholder participation as priorities. Four water basin committees have been established in Mozambique on the same general model as in Brazil. To make this participatory model more effective, the largest need is for capacity-building and community organizing to deepen and strengthen civil society's involvement in water governance. As Mozambique's capital, largest and densest city, and the home of the main university in the country, Maputo has a key role to play in setting the standard for progressive urban governance and water management.

Durban's municipal government has already developed a local climate change adaptation strategy; like Maputo, Durban faces coastal inundation and storm surges related to sea level rise, hotter temperatures and heat waves, changed rainfall and storm patterns, slum flooding and reduced drinking water supplies due to climate change. Local policy initiatives rely for effectiveness on awareness and capacity regarding climate change risks and adaptive responses in civil society. As in Mozambique, South Africa is implementing watershed committees or "catchment management agencies" (CMAs) to decentralize decision-making and create a framework for integrating the needs of all stakeholders in water governance. Environmental education and confidence-building through capacity-raising are recognized as crucial needs in this process; for example, the Inkomati CMA has initiated outreach programs targeting rural poor, emerging farmers, women and youth. Grounded participatory research leading to accessible public education and responsive community-based programs with civil society organizations are needed to help address these significant water governance challenges. This type of action research is well-developed in Durban, partly due to the work of the Centre for Civil Society and its partner NGOs. Durban's proximity to Mozambique means that watersheds spanning both countries, and similar ecological situations, will help to facilitate the research networking of this project.

In Nairobi, severe pre-existing infrastructure needs are being exacerbated by water supply fluctuations and slum flooding related to climate change. Just as in Maputo and Durban, environmental awareness and education leading to more equitable governance processes are required. As noted by the Kenyan delegation to the 2007 UN conference on climate change in Nairobi, Kenya's adaptation focuses include education, good governance, human resources development and training, institutional capacity building and management change, public finance improvement, and better national resources management. Nairobi, one of the largest and most complex cities in the world, provides a challenging arena for participatory governance research; results there are likely to have wide application in other large African urban areas.

Since this project was designed, both weather-related and socio-political manifestations of climate changes have advanced rapidly. Extreme rainfall and flooding in southern Africa in late 2010/early 2011 has lent urgency to our project's goal of contributing to improved water governance. For example, the lack of early warning systems for urban (and also rural) residents regarding flood danger, and of housing and other supports for flood refugees as well as prompt reconstruction funding mechanisms, are emerging as high-priority climate change-related governance needs. Durban's selection as the host city for the UNFCCC Conference of the Parties in late 2011 is creating an impetus for progressive climate change policy in South Africa, to which our project is poised to contribute. Patrick Bond and Wahu Kaara, two of our project team members, participated in the World Social Forum in Dakar in early February 2011, which also highlighted the urgency of climate change needs in Africa. Our project's importance and urgency are reinforced by these recent events.

3. Research findings and progress towards the project's goals

Our progress towards achieving the project's goals is outlined below. Since this project's methodology and our tracking of and building on its successes are important research contributions, we combine processes with outputs in our reporting in this section.

The Objectives, Outcomes, Milestones and Activities listed below are quoted directly from the original project proposal; the numbering has been updated in a few places.

At the end of this section, we provide a summary of our research findings thus far.

Objective 1: To characterize the institutional framework for urban water governance in the three cities, and explain how the different actors within this framework cope with climate change and variability.

Outcome 1: Actors involved in urban water governance gain better understanding of the institutional framework that is in place for coping with climate change and variability.

Milestones/outcome indicator 1.1: Research reports.

Milestone/outcome indicator 1.2: Actors involved in urban water governance able to clearly articulate the institutional framework for coping with climate change and variability.

PROGRESS THIS REPORTING PERIOD: At the Inception Meeting in Brazil, in August 2010, academic and NGO team members shared their presentations on climate change and urban water issues in relation to their work. These presentations and subsequent workshops allowed team members to discuss their current challenges and learn from one another. The presentations made during the inception meeting have been transcribed and documented.



Wahu Kaara speaks about KENDREN's work at the Inception Meeting.

Team members have held initial planning meetings in each of the three cities to discuss the institutional framework for urban water governance. In Durban, team members are involved with many different actors in their work on water and climate change in the city. Team members from both Umphilo waManzi and the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance attended a January, 2011 workshop regarding the National Climate Change Response Green Paper where a number of government officials and community organizations working on water and climate change were in attendance. Both of our Durban NGO partners will be making significant contributions to the development of Durban's climate change initiatives.



Débora Teixeira relates her experiences with NGO/University collaboration at the Inception Meeting.



Prof. Eugenia Cossa discusses Eduardo Mondlane University's new environmental education program at the Inception Meeting.

The Activities originally planned for the first year of our project, in our project goals and timeline, all address Objective 1 and are as follows:

Activity 1.1: Each local team holds a meeting in its own city to develop work plans, forge working relationships between university and NGO partners, and agree on the research instruments and processes (Project partners and facilitator).

PROGRESS: A number of meetings between this project's academic and NGO partners have taken place in all three cities. In South Africa, representatives from Umphilo waManzi, the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance, and the Centre for Civil Society at the University of KwaZulu Natal met in November to discuss the project plan and student internship opportunities. In Nairobi, Kilimanjaro Initiative and KENDREN staff has met several times with University of Nairobi project advisors, and the selection process for prospective interns to work with the NGOs is well underway. In Maputo, both Justiça Ambiental and MUGEDE staff have met with project team partners from Eduardo Mondlane University to plan for the participation of student interns.

Activity 1.2: Identify stakeholders working in area of study in each city (Government organizations, Civil society organizations, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants).

PROGRESS: In Durban, both partner NGOs have been active in collaborating with stakeholders in the city and are central members of local networks dealing with water and climate change. In Maputo, MuGeDe organized a meeting with stakeholders, including the Ministry of Public Works, National Water Board, Waters of Mozambique, Water Supply Investment Fund (FIPAG), the Water Regulatory Council (CRA), Ministry of Health, Ministry of Planning, and the City Council. Other environmental organizations also participated, as well as Dr. Elias Manjate representing Eduardo Mondlane University. The Nairobi team is also developing its climate change and water governance contacts in the city government and among other NGOs.

Activity 1.3: Develop an innovations platform that brings all stakeholders in each city together (Government organizations, civil society organizations, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants).

PROGRESS: As noted elsewhere in this report, each city team is developing its own approach to this activity; it is an emergent process and we are making progress.

Activity 1.4: Train research assistants in data collection methods related to climate change (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government).

PROGRESS: The following research assistants had begun to work with the NGO partner organizations by the end of this reporting period:

Umphilo waManzi - Dudu Khumalo; South Durban Community Environmental Alliance - Lushendrie Naidu; Kilimanjaro Initiative - Sadique Issa; Kenyan Debt Relief Network – Kiama Kaara; MuGeDe – Fernando Pondeca; Justiça Ambiental – Erika Mendes.

A PAR trainer has been identified to work with the Durban team. We are planning similar training sessions for the Nairobi and Maputo teams.

Activity 1.5: Research assistants and community groups bio-map climate change vulnerability in each city (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants).

PROGRESS: Umphilo waManzi has organized an initial mapping workshop for March 2011. The other partner in Durban, SDCEA, is also planning mapping activities related to climate change and water for the coming months.

Activity 1.6: Facilitate collective story telling about the lives of those in the area of study (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, students and research assistants).

PROGRESS: Umpilo is taking the lead in developing its methodology of “community learning journey” workshops related to river health, food security, rainwater

harvesting, and other water/climate change topics.

Activity 1.7: Document current water governance structures (Collaborating universities, research assistants and students).

PROGRESS: Initial characterization of the existing water governance structures and challenges in each city, prepared by project team members, was shared at our initial team meeting in August, 2010. Documenting these realities is a key goal for the university students' internships, in collaboration with the NGO partners in each city.

Activity 1.8: Conduct participatory research with civil society, NGOs and local organisation on water security (Civil society, NGOs, University, students).

PROGRESS: The project's design, in working with partner NGOs, is participatory and our initial team meeting was a model of participatory project governance. Community meetings and participatory research activities are getting underway in all project areas, with defining "water security" an important focus.

Activity 1.9: Collect gender disaggregated data on climate change vulnerabilities (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government).

PROGRESS: We have begun to collect this information in conjunction with community meetings and workshops.

Activity 1.10: Conduct SWOT analysis (University faculty, research assistants and students).

PROGRESS: none yet.

Activity 1.11: Conduct interviews with local government officials and leaders on water governance structures (University faculty, students and research assistants).

PROGRESS: As noted, NGO partners in all three cities have begun to meet with government officials and traditional leaders regarding climate change and water governance.

Activity 1.12: Train research assistants on data analysis techniques, using data collected by each group in each of the three cities (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government).

PROGRESS: none yet.

Activity 1.13: Data analysis by research assistants. During data analysis the research assistants should identify the following:

- Level of existing knowledge on climate change among low income groups in the study area
- Level of awareness among civil society groups and low income persons about climate change
- Efforts of dealing with climate change challenges within target communities and civil society

- The scope for improved response and adaptation to climate change in study area
- Constraints and limitations experienced by target community groups
- Training needs for civil society and community groups
- The strengths of partner organization in climate change adaptations.

PROGRESS: none yet.

Activity 1.14: Report writing (project team).

PROGRESS: This report, as well as our First Technical Report on the first six months of the project’s work, and the Inception Meeting Report, have been prepared and submitted.

Several of the Activities listed under Objective 1 which were originally planned for years 2 and 3 of our project are already being addressed:

Activity 1.15: Project team meets to document lessons learnt and to develop next steps (York University, Collaborating universities and facilitator, NGO partners – year 2).

PROGRESS: One main goal of our periodic meetings by telephone and Skype is to discuss developments and strategize about next steps for the project in each city and within each NGO. We have held conversations with each partner NGO in early 2011.

Activity 1.16: Develop policy recommendation and intervention plans (Government officials, local government officers, NGOs, civil society and collaborating universities – year 2).

PROGRESS: In preparation for the UNFCCC’s COP17 meeting in Durban in November 2011, our project’s partners in South Africa are already involved in policy-related networking and commenting on policy proposals through the Durban government’s “green paper” process (see www.climateresponse.co.za). We are sharing their experiences through project networks in preparation for our project’s participation in COP17.

Activity 1.17: Hold a workshop for government officials and policy makers in the urban water sector in each city (Facilitator and University faculty, NGO partners -- year 2).

PROGRESS: These workshops are urgently needed and are now being planned. In Maputo, government officials and policy-makers invited to a project introduction meeting organized by MUGEDE on October 25, 2010 were so impressed by the project’s orientation that they urged team members to develop a proposal for expanding its focus to the national level in Mozambique.

Activity 1.18: Community feedback workshops (NGO partners – year 2).

PROGRESS: Feedback from community groups with whom our NGO partners are working is ongoing.

All of the Activities intended to accomplish Objectives 2 and 3, as envisioned in our project goals and timeline, were to take place in years 2 and 3 of the project. However, we have already begun to address these Objectives and conduct some of the related activities even in this first year. This progress is outlined in the following sections.

Objective 2: To identify and test viable alternatives for enhancing civil society roles towards adaptation to climate change and variability by vulnerable groups.

Outcome 2: *Civil society organizations use identified or developed interventions to help vulnerable groups cope with climate change and variability.*

Milestone/outcome indicator 2.1: Best practices (interventions) to cope with climate change and variability collectively identified/developed together with stakeholders.

Milestone/outcome indicator 2.2: Number of civil society organizations trained and using best practices to cope with climate change and variability.

PROGRESS THIS REPORTING PERIOD: Partners had the opportunity to learn about strategies and alternatives for enhancing civil society roles in water governance and climate change adaptation at the inception meeting in Brazil. Team members took away ideas from these presentations, which included ideas from the ECOAR Institute for Citizenship, a not-for-profit organization with experience in environmental education with vulnerable groups.



Our project team learns about community-based climate change adaptation initiatives near Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



Wahu Kaara, Prof. Romanus Opiyo, and Simphiwe Nojiweza share ideas at our Inception Meeting.

Activity 2.1: Based on the baseline results identify/develop interventions for coping with climate change and variability (Collaborating university faculty, York University, civil society, NGOs – year 2).

PROGRESS: As described above, this project's community meetings, workshops,

innovative intervention strategies, and its tripartite mechanisms for linking universities, NGOs, and government officials in each city are establishing a framework within which climate change interventions can emerge. We are laying the groundwork now for this activity.

Activity 2.2: Develop training and awareness enhancing programmes for civil society organisations and NGOs (Students and university faculty and civil society, NGOs – years 2 and 3).

PROGRESS: Our partner NGOs, as part of their previous work in local communities, have a great deal of experience with awareness-enhancing programmes, community organizing, and capacity-building. They are expanding their work to focus expressly on the link between climate change and water governance, and applying their experience to this project's goals. Progressive improvements in the agency of women and vulnerable groups are a major focus.

Activity 2.3: Develop methods and procedures for incorporating equity and gender issues in climate change interventions (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government–year 2).

PROGRESS: NGO partners are working on this in their activities with local communities.

Activity 2.4: Train civil society organizations and NGOs to cope with climate change and adaptation (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, and facilitator – year 2). *We would like to change how this activity is described, since all partners and their communities are already coping with climate change and adaptation; in future project documents we will modify this activity's description to read: "Iteratively seek to improve our training and awareness enhancing programmes in workshops with civil society organizations, community groups, and NGOs."*

PROGRESS: Beginning with our project's opening conference/workshop in August 2010, we see all opportunities for meetings, field visits, capacity-building, and education of our project team as models for how similar/related activities may be conducted in local communities.

The following activities planned for our project are underway to some degree, or are in the planning stages, and we will have more detailed reports on our progress in subsequent reports.

Activity 2.5: Implement progressive water governance to mitigate insecurities of vulnerable groups by civil society organizations and NGOs (Civil society, collaborating universities, NGOs and students – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.6: Civil society, NGOs and students develop, implement and revise community workshop techniques on water governance issues (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.7: Civil society and NGOs monitor and evaluate water governance frameworks in each city (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.8: Involve local government officials in reviewing water governance structures (Local government officials and university faculty, NGOs – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.9: Document local ecological and political knowledge of vulnerable groups (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.10: Assess emerging additional techniques for engaging vulnerable groups (Civil society, collaborating universities, project team, NGOs – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.11: Document and report process results (Project team, civil society and collaborating universities, NGOs – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.12: Assess emergence of policy suggestions to improve local climate change adaptation (Local government officials, policy makers, civil society, NGOs and collaborating universities – years 2 and 3).

Activity 2.13: Project team meeting to compare city-by-city results, processes, challenges and ideas, and develop next steps (Project team – year 2).

Activity 2.14: Conduct PRA to involve local participants in research design and in assessing outcomes (Facilitator, collaborating universities, NGO partners – years 2 and 3).

Objective 3: To share widely the knowledge generated for adoption by other cities in Africa.

***Outcome 3:** Lessons learnt from the study cities are being used in other cities within the three countries and other African countries (up-scaling and out-scaling of project results).*

Milestone/outcome indicator 3.1: Project results disseminated widely in other African cities

Milestone/outcome indicator 3.2: Thesis reports from participating students

Milestone/outcome indicator 3.3: Journal articles and policy briefs

Milestone/outcome indicator 3.4: Workshop reports.

PROGRESS THIS REPORTING PERIOD: This objective is being addressed through several different activities. Teams have met in each city to prepare for student interns who will begin their fieldwork in early 2011, receiving academic supervision and credit for their research work with partner NGOs in each of the three cities. Also, partners from Kenya and South Africa shared project-related findings, strategies and research at the 17th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate

Change in December 2010 in Cancun, Mexico (Patrick Bond; York University graduate student Jacqueline Medalye also distributed flyers about our project at Cancun side-events) and at the 2011 World Social Forum in January 2011 in Dakar, Senegal (Wahu Kaara and Patrick Bond participated in side-events, as did SDCEA director Desmond D'Sa and UKZN student Rehana Dada).

Activity 3.1: Establish links between civil society groups, NGOs and local government (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government – year 2).

PROGRESS: As noted, project introduction meetings and COP17 planning meetings are providing opportunities for these links to be established and developed.

The following activities planned for our project are underway to some degree, or are in the planning stages, and we will include more detailed summaries of our progress in subsequent reports.

Activity 3.2: Build the capacities and confidence of civil society groups in project areas on how to carry out activities related to climate change on their own (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government – years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.3: Train civil society groups and NGOs on monitoring and evaluation procedures (Facilitator, collaborating universities, NGOs –years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.4: Establish networks with other civil society groups and NGOs working in other parts of the country and with other international groups working on climate change ((expand the membership of the innovations platform) Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities, local government – years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.5: Academic, civil society and NGO partners develop joint statements of research challenges, processes and results (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities – years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.6: Project team meets to develop joint reports on project outcomes (Project team, year 3).

Activity 3.7: Disseminate project results online and at international conferences (Project team, collaborating universities, civil society, NGOs –year 3).

Activity 3.8: Project partners expand partner networks and plan next steps (project team – years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.9: Full project team develops and revises collaborative report (Project team – years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.10: Partners collaborate on publications, web dissemination of lessons learnt and participation in conferences (Civil society, NGOs, collaborating universities – years 2 and 3)

Activity 3.11: Partners expand research networks (Partners – years 2 and 3).

Activity 3.12: Technical/financial report prepared (Project team – year 3).

Summary of research findings:

Our project is contributing to an emergent process of increasing community involvement in climate change awareness and water governance, through linkages between NGOs, neighbourhood organizations, universities, and government officials. These linkages, at both the local/urban level and the international level, foster creative methods of community engagement, best practices in policy development, and progressive means of addressing the needs of marginalized groups, including women and the geographically and economically vulnerable.

Our initial team meeting/conference, in August 2010, demonstrated that methods of research team engagement are similar in many ways to methods of community engagement. There is no substitute for learning-by-doing, building personal trust among people of varied backgrounds so they can successfully share their varied knowledge, and visiting and experiencing successful examples of community education and development in times of climate change. We are already well into successive iterations of this model at several scales, and we have begun to articulate its results both in academic venues and beyond.

Overall contribution to knowledge from a scientific and policy perspective:

By summarizing what is known about climate change and water management challenges in Durban, Maputo and Nairobi, from both academic and community perspectives, this project's website and initial publications are contributing to scientific knowledge of climate change and its impacts. The project provides a venue for sharing this understanding.

The project's contributions regarding successful methods of engaging with vulnerable communities, and its dissemination of these methods in academic circles and beyond the academy, are already emerging.

The project's policy contributions lie initially in its assembly of relevant information on climate change and water governance priorities, for use by governments in policy-making. The project is also bringing together vulnerable populations, represented by community organizations and NGOs, with university partners and concerned traditional and elected leaders, to address the most pressing climate change challenges in each city. It is thus facilitating progressive democratic governance and policy development.

4. Project implementation and management

During this reporting period academic partners and NGOs met in their respective cities to discuss strategies for implementing the project and achieving its goals. From September to December 2010, Project director Patricia Perkins, had a one-term course release to allow time for project-related work. On October 8, 2010, Memorandums of Understanding, agreed upon at the Inception Meeting, were redrafted at York's Office of Research Services into project "sub-agreements," using a standard York format, and sent to partners for approval and signing. As of this reporting period, all partner NGOs have signed their respective sub-agreements.

On October 22, 2010, following several meetings and conference calls, York financial officers obtained agreement from York's foreign exchange provider institution to waive their customary minimum charges for fund transfers to the African partners for our project. On October 27, 2010, York agreed to allow this project to make six institutional advances at a time to NGO partners (normally, only one such advance at a time is allowed), and to reimburse academic partners on a semi-annual basis.

In January and February 2011, partners received project funds to hire research assistants and organize community workshops. NGO representatives met with Patricia Perkins and Patricia Figueiredo via Skype to discuss the use of project funds, learn about the administrative procedures required by York University, and discuss their current initiatives to organize community workshops and other project-related activities.

During this period, partners also provided graphics and written materials for the website, which is currently being built by Wen Ma, a York University Web Design student, and Patricia Figueiredo, the project coordinator. The latter has begun editing a collection of essays written by project partners and presented at the project's Inception Meeting, which took place in August 2010. Partners have worked in collaboration with Patricia in editing the chapters, which are planned for publication in the latter half of 2011.

All partner NGOs have now hired their respective research assistants and have begun to present plans and activities for the coming months. As mentioned in the Inception Meeting Report, we have proposed modifications to the project budget, which will strengthen the ability of our NGO partners to carry out their community engagement and workshop development activities.

In Maputo, Justiça Ambiental (JA) has proposed to focus on environmental education of youth on issues concerning water conservation. JA has also started a project to educate engineering students on issues of water governance and sustainable urban planning. On October 25, 2010 MuGeDe held its first meeting with government officials and other stakeholders to discuss strategies for implementing the CCAA project in Maputo. Thirty participants, including representatives of the Ministry of Public Works, the Maputo City Council, the Ministry of Planning and Development, the Health Department, Waters of Mozambique, the National Water Directorate, and researchers and representatives of the Khampfumu District, attended this event.

In Nairobi, Kilimanjaro Initiative (KI) scheduled several project-related activities for January and February 2011, which include a garbage collection campaign, a community forum on environmental education focusing on water and climate change (February 12) and a community clean up (February 15 and 16). In January 2011, KI launched a garbage collection campaign in Silanga Village, Kibera, which aims at creating public involvement in environmental matters, most importantly, in water conservation. KENDREN's director Wahu Kaara has represented our project at several international meetings in Africa, including the World Social Forum in Dakar, Senegal in early February 2011.

In Durban, the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA) has planned and conducted several workshops, including workshops for community youth, food gardens and rainwater harvesting workshops, and special “climate change road shows” in advance of the Durban-hosted COP17. Registration for SDCEA’s Spring Activity and Youth Awareness Workshop began on October 1, 2010. Umphilo waManzi has been planning an upcoming community meeting and seminar on water governance towards climate change adaptation in Durban, which will take place on March 9, 2011. Umphilo has hired Simphiwe Nojiyeza—a PhD student at the University of KwaZulu-Natal and active member of the University’s Centre for Civil Society—to summarize relevant climate change documents and government policies, and develop a guide with questions and issues for community groups, in both English and Zulu. In addition, representatives of Umphilo waManzi have participated in planning meetings for COP17, which will take place in Durban this December.

Lastly, the academic partners in each city have identified students to participate in NGO internships, which commence this month.

Administration by Research Organization

Our learning curve related to a series of management issues has affected the project and unfortunately slowed our progress somewhat during this first year. York University has a number of required procedures covering projects like ours, which although onerous at the beginning, establish good documentation and institutional verification practices which allow the university to certify and report on the management of the project throughout its life, consistent with the best accounting standards. Many of these procedures have been strengthened or newly implemented at York over the past few years, and some staff members are still in training regarding their efficient operation. For example, this has caused a delay of several months in sending funds to the partner institutions and academic partners. We have done our best to educate York officials and research officers about our project’s requirements, and to develop ways of complying with the requirements while moving ahead expeditiously with our project’s implementation. The groundwork has now been laid for efficient and effective project administration moving forward.

Forecasted Expenditures

Forecasted expenditures for the next reporting period include:

Personnel

- Salary of Project Coordinator (approximately CAD\$8,500)
- Semi-annual transfer will be made to this project’s three academic partners (CAD\$667 per month x 6 months x 3 partners = CAD\$12,006)
- Patricia Perkins’ course release = CAD\$4,390
- PAR consultants, facilitators and trainers will be hired to provide training to NGO staff within the next reporting period. An estimated CAD\$9,820 will be spent for this.

Consultants, Facilitators, Trainers Equipment

- Purchase of four laptop computers (CAD\$6,000).

International Travel

- We anticipate that CAD\$29,100 will be spent on travel (i.e. airfares, accommodations and ground travel) and workshop arrangements within the next reporting period.

Training

- An estimated CAD\$22,800 will be spent on student training. More specifically, one student from each country --Canada, Kenya, Mozambique and South Africa --will have the opportunity to intern and conduct research at one of the partner NGOs during the next reporting period. This amount will cover air and ground travel as well as a living allowance for each student.

Research Expenses

- Semi-annual institutional transfers will occur in June 2011 and will be equivalent to six months of research assistant salary, plus researcher field expenses and workshop expenses multiplied by six NGO partner organizations (CAD\$24,000).
- We anticipate spending CAD\$500 on research dissemination costs for editing, printing and translation of materials. An estimated CAD\$1,000 will be spent on website development and maintenance and CAD\$1,200 on research communications, supplies and other expenses.

We predict a total of **CAD\$118,816** in expenses during the next reporting period.

5. Project outputs and dissemination

Information Sharing and dissemination:

To date, the project has disseminated basic information regarding the project. Project staff created a brochure, which provides a description of the project and some of the concerns for water management and climate change in each of the three cities, Nairobi, Maputo, and Mozambique. Copies of the brochure were distributed at COP16 in Cancun in December 2010.

As well, the project coordinator and graduate assistant have finalized the design and layout for a project website, and developed content for the site. A web designer has been engaged for the project and the site is being prepared for launch in early 2011, linked to York University's Institute of Research & Innovation in Sustainability (IRIS) website: www.iris.yorku.ca/cca. The website features our partners and their work, as well as reports, news on the project's outcomes, publications and materials, and photos.

The research team is also compiling a book on the information that was shared and documented at the inception meeting in August 2010 in Brazil.

Knowledge Creation

Our team has begun to develop and employ innovative methods for conducting community workshops to get local populations confidently involved in democratic water governance and climate change awareness and adaptation. For example, the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance in its preparations for COP17 is carrying out programs on climate change mapping, food gardens, rainwater harvesting, an environmental education plan for Durban, and a “climate change roadshow” which is being presented in venues across the city. Umphilo is planning an all-day seminar and planning session on urban flooding, for climate change activists and community members, traditional authorities, and government officials, to be held March 9, 2011. This seminar will create a forum for discussion and generate joint policy proposals, using mapping and “water dialogue” tools. University of KwaZulu-Natal student Simphiwe Nojiyeza, working with Umphilo, is preparing a summary of relevant climate change documents and policies, with issues and questions for community groups to consider, in English and Zulu. The annual climb of Mount Kilimanjaro which the Kilimanjaro Initiative organizes is highlighting environment and climate change issues this year, while providing opportunities for youth leadership and strengthening the role of youth in water sector governance. MuGeDe is working with Eduardo Mondlane University students to organize community meetings on climate change and water issues with traditional authorities’ participation in four vulnerable areas of Maputo. Justiça Ambiental is working through elementary schools in marginalized neighbourhoods to strengthen the outreach to children and their parents on climate change issues. All of these techniques for community outreach aimed at progressive policy change – as well as others, which emerge over the course of the project -- are being documented and tracked in terms of their effectiveness, flexibility and appropriateness in local urban contexts; this is the crux of our project’s contribution to knowledge creation.

Training

A separate report on PAR assessment and training needs of our NGO partners and other community organizations in each city is being prepared. Team members in Durban have begun to identify PAR trainers in their city. Representatives from MuGeDe and the Kilimanjaro Initiative attended an IDRC PAR training session in Accra, Ghana in September 2010. Feedback from this meeting is being shared with other project partners.

Monitoring and Evaluation

A full Monitoring and Evaluation plan for the project is being developed in collaboration with all team members.

Capacity-building: Institutional reinforcement and sustainability of the research organization

The opportunities for learning in the areas of project management and finance have been immense over the last period for the project's staff at York University. The project coordinator has met regularly with representatives from the University's research accounting and research services office to streamline the process and improve efficiency in releasing funds to the project's participating institutions. Discussions from these meetings have led to several decisions to increase efficiencies. For example, the project has decided to release funds to NGO partners semi-annually rather than quarterly, to reduce administrative burden on the project staff and excessive international banking fees.

Capacity-building: Research and Administrative Skills Development

Our partner NGOs, in particular, are stretching their administrative capacities and learning some new skills as a result of this project. Some organizations did not previously have Skype capacity or facility with Skype communications technology; the laptop computers provided through the project and our need for periodic long-distance meetings are leading to their downloading and learning to use Skype. The financial reporting requirements and complexities of the international financial transfer process are also opportunities for new experiences for all of us related to project management and administration.

Capacity-building of women and marginalized social groups

Both within and beyond our partner NGOs and universities, equity is a central focus of our project. Our 12-member project team includes 3 men and 9 women. Our initial project meeting and capacity-building session was attended by 5 men and 11 women. This project provides stellar opportunities for women in the partner organizations to exercise leadership roles, and its emphasis on gender and economic equity in community workshops and other outputs remains central.

6. Impact

Groups which our project is already reaching include university faculty and students (through their participation in the project, contributions to research, training and leadership opportunities, and contributions to policy development); NGO team member organizations (through opportunities for international networking and capacity-building, financial and administrative support, connections with local and international research and policy communities, and partnership development); community and NGO members, civil society and climate change activists (through capacity-building and educational workshops and meetings, links with other organizations, and enhanced democratic participation opportunities); and government officials (through improved information on climate change realities, challenges and policy options; improved connections with university and NGO constituencies, and access to international partners working to address climate change challenges).

7. Recommendations

- Our partner organizations are eager to participate in the COP17 meeting in Durban, but because this has arisen since our project was designed, we will need additional funds in order to bring additional representatives of our project team to Durban and highlight our project and its results there. This is an ideal forum for the CCAA program, and we hope that a special pool or funding mechanism to facilitate participation in COP17 will be created.