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"We are the first generation with tools to understand changes in the Earth's system caused by human activity, and the last with the opportunity to influence the course of many of the changes now rapidly under way"

Peter Vitousek, Stanford University 1997



Discu

Welcome to the fifth edition of the DLIST Newsletter! Our feature article brings us the concerns of a community member from Honco, a poor town in South Africa that is blessed with rich natural and mineral resources. The author explores the legacy left by the mining industry over years and years of exploring the area's mineral wealth and questions their responsibility towards the social upliftment of communities.

Yet this issue is also filled with new initiatives that show a commitment to responsible environmental and social development, hope and inspiration to many. Read about the Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) project in Walvis Bay, one of the 20 cities worldwide participating in a global initiative. Further north, aquaculture activities are picking up in Angola and have become one of the priorities of the government to contribute to poverty reduction. In all three BCLME countries, DLIST partners have certainly been active. Read about an environmental library, a radio programme, a short course on stakeholder participation, the "Sustainable Development in Coastal Areas" distance learning course, youth coastal events. Find out about our new partner, Drynet, who is rising up to the challenge of desertification.

On the other side of the continent there is activity too. More than 10 countries have joined hands to protect and manage their shared marine resources along the Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME).

The newsletter presently goes to all registered DLIST users, as well as many people who may be new to the platform. If you've never received the DLIST, you can [find out more here](#). If you have suggestions for newsletter articles, please write to our team at admin@dlist-benguela.org.

Best regards
The DLIST-benguela Team

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MAIN FEATURE

Social Responsibility - Is it an idle idea?



By Priscilla Magerman, writing as a concerned community member

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Hondeklipbaai is a small and rather impoverished community. Contrary to real circumstances, best be called a rich area—rich in terms of its natural resources. And that is just the natural wealth the community is also blessed with mineral wealth envied by many and is surrounded by several mines. So how is it that a community like Hondeklipbaai can be dependent on government projects and subsidies? What is the legacy left by the mining houses after years and years of exploring the area's mineral wealth? Read Priscilla's views here.

FEATURED PARTNER

Drynet - Rising to the Challenge of Desertification



By Karen Goldberg

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The impacts of climate change and desertification are predicted to fall disproportionately on the poor, who rely heavily on the environment for their livelihoods and who are least able to adapt. We can no longer afford to ignore these problems if we are to achieve the goals of poverty eradication and development. Drynet is taking on this challenge. A joint EU-funded initiative of 14 organisations from around the world, Drynet aims to strengthen civil society networks, providing them with the knowledge and skills to influence dryland development policies in Africa. Drynet South Africa is gathering momentum, with a national database of 65 civil society organisations, and is making progress for the identification and dissemination of sustainable land management (SLM) best practices and radio programmes on desertification.

IN THE NEWS

Aquaculture picking up in Angola

Angola is endowed with rich water resources and has excellent conditions for the development of aquaculture. Aquaculture in Angola is considered one of the priorities of the Angolan Government to promote sustainable economic development and contribute to poverty reduction. The last years have seen renewed interest from the private sector and concerted efforts to put in place an adequate regulatory and policy framework. Read more about Angola's potential for aquaculture and efforts to revive this sector in a brief summary of the Ministry of Fisheries' State of Aquaculture in Angola.

[\[find out more \]](#)

Joining hands to protect the East Coast

We have been following the joint efforts of Angola, Namibia and South Africa to protect their shared marine resources through the BCLME project. Now, on the other side of the continent, Eastern Africa is also getting together to identify common problems and joint solutions for sustainable management of the Indian Ocean and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME). All who live along the coast of the ASCLME are encouraged to participate and become aware of the processes stirring in the region, as the decisions made will ultimately affect all.

What are the DLIST Partners up to?

An exciting environmental film library housed at the ERC in Cape Town, discussions heating up on the Northern Namibia, a short course on stakeholder participation in the making, the "Sustainable Development Coastal Areas" distance course kicking-off again, and coastal events with youth groups in Namibia... some of the most recent activities of DLIST and its partners.

Walvis Bay becomes part of a Global Biodiversity Initiative

By David Uushona and Olavi Makuti

An exciting project to protect and manage biodiversity at the local level has recently been launched in Walvis Bay. The Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) is a 3-year pilot project initiated by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI). Walvis Bay is one of the 20 cities worldwide that are taking part in the LAB Project. Walvis Bay, Cape Town, Ekurhuleni, Durban and Johannesburg are the only participants from Africa. LAB brings together cities from a range of global contexts to explore the best ways for local governments to engage in

Book Review: Stories for Fire Dogs - Opening our Hearts to the Earth

Creative non-fiction essays engaging with the environmental crisis – global warming in particular.

A Dangerous Dichotomy

Is there an apparent dichotomy when it comes to environmental and developmental issues? Or are all aspects, biodiversity and cultural, interrelated? Find out what had to say about the topic:

[[visit thread](#)]

NACOMA Visioning Workshops

The second phase of the visioning workshops for the Namibian Coast Conservation and Management (NACOMA) Project will be undertaken in March and April. Communities will be provided with a platform to express their views and concerns about the future utilization and conservation of the natural resources of the Namibian coast. See details:

[[visit thread](#)]

NEW IN THE DOCUMENT LIBRARY

- The Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Mediterranean
[[see details](#)]
- Review on Aquaculture Development in Sub Saharan Africa
[[see details](#)]
- Aquaculture gets a Second Chance in South Africa
[[see details](#)]
- Analysis of Marine Aquaculture Developments in Namibia
[[see details](#)]
- Environmental Management Act of Namibia
[[see details](#)]
- Lei dos Recursos Biológicos Aquáticos de Angola (Angola's Aquatic Biological Resources Law)
[[see details](#)]
- Regulamento Geral da Pesca Angola (Angola's Fisheries Regulation)
[[see details](#)]
- Review of existing institutional mandates, policies and laws relating to coastal management, and proposals for change (NACOMA)
[[see details](#)]
- Cleaning up: Experience and Knowledge to Finance Investments in Cleaner Production
[[see details](#)]