Western Indian Ocean Research Initiative in Marine Science and Education (WIORISE)

UDSM
Dr Margareth Kyewalyanga
Dr. Musa Chacha
Mr. Juma Silayo

UEM
Prof. Antonio Hoguane

UCT
Prof. Chris Reason

RISE MEETING, KOPANONG JNB
5TH OCTOBER 2010
Background

- The WIO-RISE grant from Carnegie RISE amounted to US$ 800,000 for two and half years
- Project formally started in December 2008
- Main goal: to support research and training in marine sciences in the Western Indian Ocean region
  - This presentation will highlight achievements and some challenges
Achievements: Manpower development

- Twelve postgraduate students: 6 pursuing Ph.D. and 6 pursuing M.Sc.
- Presently 8 students are at IMS and 4 students are at UCT.

Nationalities:
- 4 Tanzanians
- 2 Mozambicans
- 2 South Africans
- 2 Mauritians
- 2 Kenyans
<table>
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<tr>
<th>S/No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution of Study</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Degree</th>
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<td>Nehama, Fialho</td>
<td>UCT</td>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>F</td>
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<td>M</td>
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<td>M.Sc.</td>
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</table>
The WIORISE Family
Achievements:
Establishment of Partnerships

- Due to WIORISE initiatives, new partnerships have been developed in the region
  - Recruitment of students from Mauritius and Kenya
  - Strong link between IMS and School of Biological Sciences of the University of Mauritius
  - Sharing of equipment (especially for molecular studies) between the two institutions
Achievements: Network Interaction

- WIORISE workshop “Development of winning research proposals and scientific paper writing” 19-21 May 2010
- It brought together all the WIORISE students and junior faculty member from the nodes – so that students also get to know each other
- Bringing everyone together would strengthen collaboration, encourage joint research after graduation and establish mentoring
The WIORISE Family during the Workshop
Achievements: Enhancement of Academic Mobility

- The interaction developed over time resulted in sharing lecturers between UDSM and UEM.
- IMS was able to get an external examiner from UoN: a co-supervisor of a Ph.D. Student.
Achievements:

Improvement of communication

- Vsat internet installation at UEM has enhanced research and teaching activities at the SMCS
  - Due to availability of internet, the SMCS was selected as a center for e-learning in Mozambique

- There has been an improvement of bandwidth and hence improved internet speed at the IMS
Achievements:
Acquisition of Research Equipment

E.g. Acquisition of the Boat “PLUMA” at UEM improved research activities
Achievements:
Strengthening Research Development

Grants to support Faculty members for capacity building
Some Challenges

- Language barrier – official WIO languages: English/French/Portuguese
- Two students from Mauritius were not willing to study outside their country
- One PhD student originally enrolled at the University of Cape Town was offered an employment at the UDOM.
- Lack of equipment needed for students research at some of the nodes
Acknowledgements

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- Carnegie Corporation of New York – Funding
- Leadership at the Science Initiative Group - Institute for Advanced Studies -- Coordination
- Organisers of the RISE Conferences -- Logistics
- Universities Administration (UDSM, UEM, UCT)
Thank you very much
Asante sana
Muito obrigado
Merci beaucoup