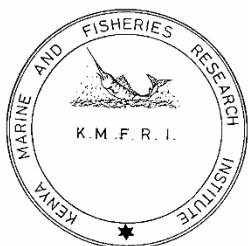


Renewed marine sciences collaboration between Kenya and Belgium

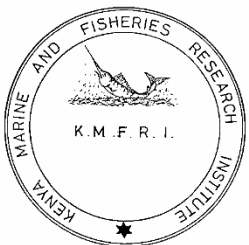


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Overview

- Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between VLIZ and KMFRI
- History of Kenya – Belgium collaboration
- On-going Kenya – Belgium collaboration
- Need for MoU: “umbrella” for joint efforts
- Phase 1: mapping of KBP legacy
 - Call for collaboration!

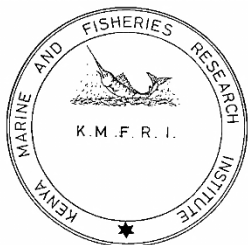


Memorandum of Understanding

Partnership for research, technology and education

⇒ common interest in developing bilateral relations:

KMFRI and VLIZ sign a MoU in October 2012



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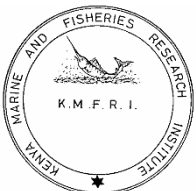
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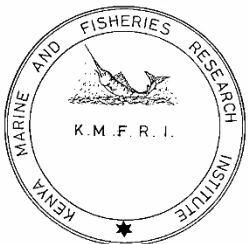
MoU to promote partnership in:

- ✓ Development of collaborative research projects
- ✓ Joint field work, research expeditions, experiments, monitoring and observation programmes.
- ✓ Exchange of expertise and exchange of (1) research staff, (2) technical experts and (3) students
- ✓ Capacity building for research, technology development, data management, and education.
- ✓ Exchange of data and information.
- ✓ Producing derived products from research, data and information (e.g. scientific publications, websites, books, multimedia, etc.).



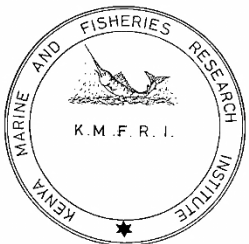
MoU with an action plan

- action points to achieve the goals of the MoU
- non – limitative list
- annual revision and update



MoU with an action plan

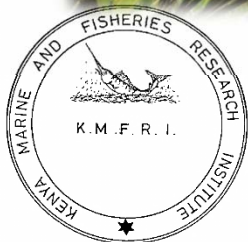
- Coordination
- Exchange of expertise, mobility
- Collaborative research projects
- Research infrastructure
- Data management
- Information management
- Communication and outreach





Tradition of Belgian – Kenyan collaboration in marine sciences

- 1984: Prof. Polk (VUB) to Kenya: research opportunities?
- 1985: start of Kenya – Belgium Project (KBP)
- Funded by Belgian Government



Kenya – Belgium Project: A SUCCESS STORY

- Different successive phases (15 years)
- Exchange of students and scientists (Belgium ↔ Kenya)
- International spin-off projects
- Significant scientific output



Prof. Stefano Canicci (Italy)
investigating mangroves.



Dr. James Kairo (KMFRI) planting mangroves
(PhD at VUB)



The Belgian House in Mombasa where Belgian visitors (scientists and students) were accommodated during their stay

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Walter Decler (Antwerp University); Philip Polk; Peter Pissierssens (left to right)



Prof. Ann Vanreusel (leaning against tree) with zoology group



Left to right: Magda Vincx, Jurgén Tack, Dirk Van Gansbeke, Eric Coppejans, Jan Schrijvers, and colleagues





Salt mining operation; Partick Sorgeloos conducted his “Artemia project” here.





Prof. Polk's oyster culture at Gazi Bay





The field lab and oyster culture at Gazi Bay

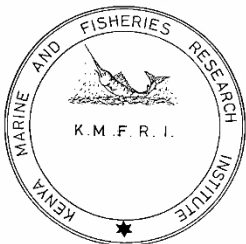


Current Kenyan-Belgian cooperation

- on-going but fragmented
- many scientists active during KBP now hold key positions in the field of marine science
- build on legacy: science, thrust & support at highest level
- strongest foundation to build a new Kenya – Belgium marine science community upon



Prof. Sorgeloos, Dr. Enock Wakwabi and colleagues discussing aquaculture potential for Kenya (2012).



MoU: an “umbrella” for collaborative marine research

⇒ MoU can provide an “umbrella”, under which:

- (1) all on-going collaborations can be clustered
- (2) new collaborations can be established
- (3) the profile and visibility of marine science collaboration in both countries and internationally can be increased





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GAZI WOMEN MANGROVE BOARDWALK



About the Boardwalk

The original 300m of the boardwalk was constructed in 2005 with support from the City Council of Overijse (Belgium), International Ocean Institute (IOI), and Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute. This has further been increased to 500m through support from UNDP-Small Grant Project and WWF- Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. The Objective of this project is to enhance community income through non-consumption of mangrove products and services.

Spot these animals along the boardwalk



Did you know ?

- All the 9 mangrove species in Western Indian Ocean are found in Gazi ?
- Fruits of *Xylocarpus granatum* have medicinal value?
- Oysters can be eaten raw?
- Mangroves breath using their roots?
- Mangroves sequester and store five times more carbon than productive terrestrial forests?

Our Products and services

- Natural mangrove honey
- A tasty traditional swahili cuisine
- Fresh and cool madafu from coconut trees.
- Traditional caps, "Vipepo" and baskets made by local women

What do we support

Bursary scheme



Mangrove reforestation



Eco tourism activities



Apiculture activities



KARIBUNI! HERZLICH WILKOMMEN! WELCOME AND ENJOY YOUR TOUR!













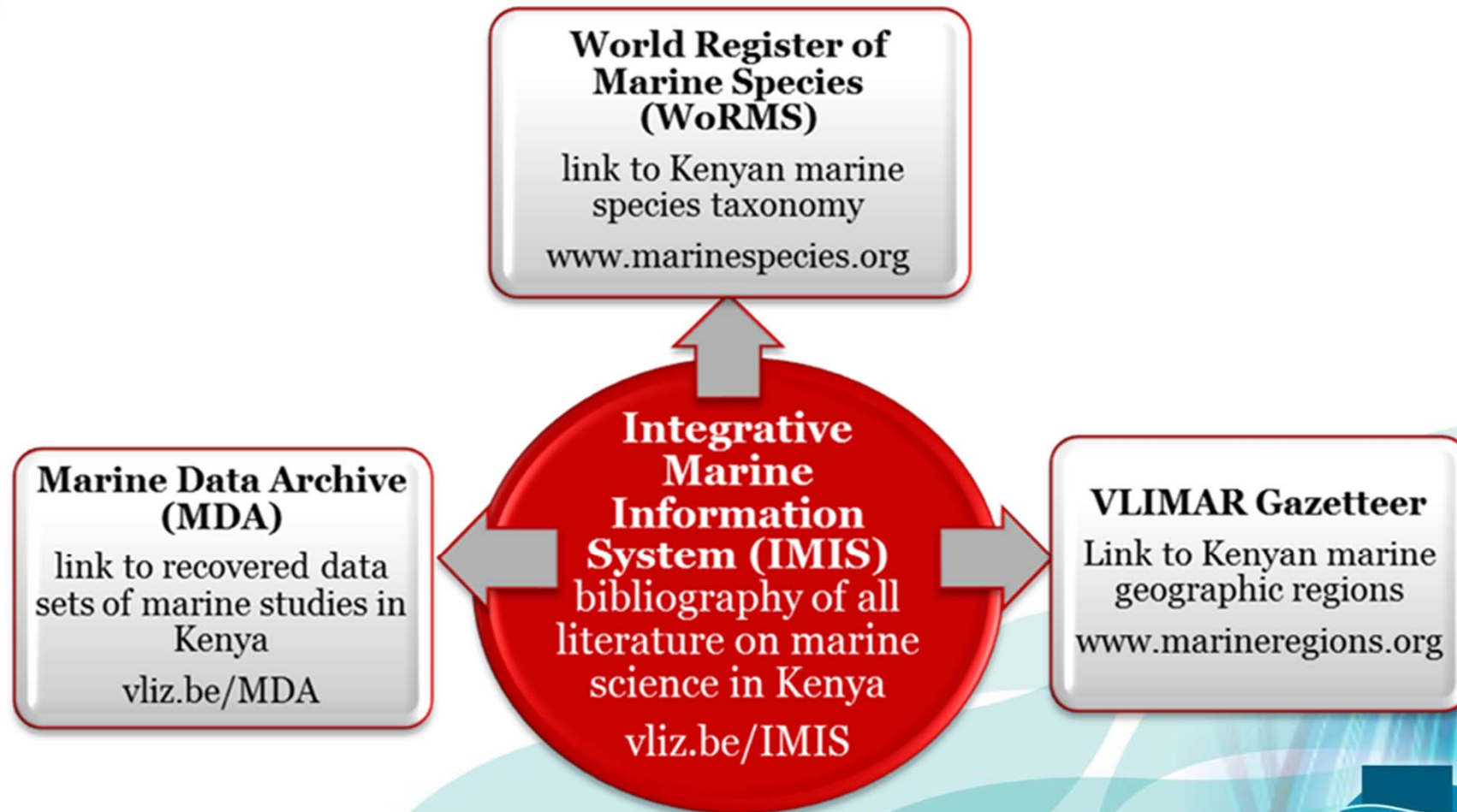
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MoU: a first phase

mapping, collecting, documenting and reviving the legacy of the KBP (grey literature, data sets, photos): using VLIZ database IMIS



Data-info system will constitute solid basis for future collaboration

Call for collaboration: (two-fold)

1. Cooperation in searching (grey) literature, datasets, metadata, samples, photographs, etc.
2. Invitation to explore possibilities for mobility and collaborative marine research in Kenya en Belgium



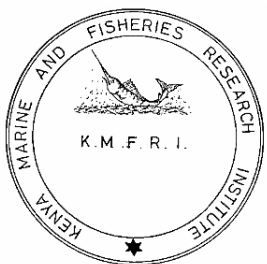


In short:

“The MoU between VLIZ and KMFRI will be a catalyst for joint research projects and will lead to useful exchange of data, information, expertise, staff and - above all - young people, the Kenyan and Belgian marine professionals of the future.”



Thank you for your attention!



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