



DLIST : distance learning & information sharing tool
BENGUELA

NEWSLETTER NO.3

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If you have any suggestions for the next edition, or there is something you feel we ought to include, please contact our team at admin@dlist-benguela.org. Consider this newsletter also your tool to share information and good ideas.



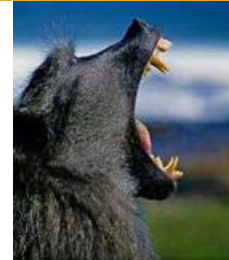
➡ Main Feature

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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



➡ Discussions

Welcome to the third edition of the DLIST newsletter. It has been a busy time since our last newsletter - have a look at the "News" section to read more about the opening of an Environmental Resource Centre at CPUT, as well as the recent International Waters conference in Cape Town. We also have reports from Namibia and Angola on artisanal fishing, and feature "Urban Sprout" - a new online directory and community blog focussing on eco friendly alternatives to products we use regularly.

Many people have asked for an update on schedules for the Earthnotes Environmental film festival as it travels up the coast of South Africa and Namibia - more below!

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 heard of DLIST, you can [find out more here](#). We're pleased you are interested enough in the sustainable management of our coast to have read this far.

Best regards
The DLIST-benguela Team
admin@dlist-benguela.org

MAIN FEATURE

Artisanal fishing programme in Angola



Agostinho Duarte
Institute for Development of Artisanal Fishing and Aquaculture (IPA)
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Artisanal fishing is a crucial sector for Angola, providing a livelihood and ensuring food security for a large number of people. There are 188 fishing communities along the Angolan coast and more than 5,000 inland. In 2003, the Angolan Government established the "Artisanal Fishing Reactivation Programme" to promote both sea and inland fisheries and encourage the creation of community fishing cooperatives. In this article Agostinho Duarte presents the results obtained during implementation and outlines the main recommendations identified.

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

FEATURED PARTNER

Urban Sprout



We all know the earth is changing... But apart from keeping ourselves informed, what else are WE doing to slow the detrimental effects these threats have on us? What about biofuels, organic foods, recycling, eco-friendly products, green architecture, ethical consumerism, ecological footprints... all words we are familiar with, but do we know how to use them? Well, **Urban Sprout** is a growing blog-style online community, featuring daily green blogs, events and a directory that focuses on organic and eco-friendly products. It's the type of site that spurs one to action.

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

IN THE NEWS

New environmental resource centre launched at CPUT

By Marion Davids, CPUT

"There is hope if we empower people" – these were the memorable words of the Deputy Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Ms Rejoice Mabudafhasi at the launch of the new Environmental Resource Centre (ERC) at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT). Launched on 2 August, the ERC aims to raise environmental awareness and to contribute to a community of practice of understanding and to send out to the world environmental professionals that will have the requisite skills to address the 21st century development challenges.

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

Earthnotes, a film festival in a box

A "film festival in a box", Earthnotes started in Cape Town and is now travelling from town to town along the west coast. The worrying state of our fish stocks, society's dependency on fossil fuels, water as a scarce resource, our region's wetlands and marine ecosystems, innovative solutions for overpopulated cities... these are some of the issues highlighted in a range of environmental documentaries, both local and international, presented by DLIST. In Cape Town, where the Earthnotes box was first opened, some of the documentaries raised lively discussion in Q&A sessions organised after the screenings, sometimes bringing inspiration for action.

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

Taking lessons about international waters home

By Kehiyomuti Asser Katunahange, Walvis Bay Municipality

The GEF Fourth Biennial International Waters Conference took place in Cape Town from 31 July to 3 August 2007 to look at project achievements and lessons learned in GEF's International Waters portfolio. Asser Katunahange, from the Municipality of Walvis Bay, tells us about his impressions of the conference and the lessons he will take home—and put to good use in his efforts to facilitate information dissemination to coastal communities.

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

Have we lost our traditional wisdom?

By Melusile Ndlovu

Recently, an interesting topic of discussion with the subject "What happened to the Knowledge?" received a lot of attention on the DLIST Discussion Forum. From "local knowledge" to "folk knowledge" and "information base for a society", "traditional wisdom" or "traditional science", there is no clear definition of indigenous knowledge. It seems consensual, however, that this knowledge is not being transferred between people and through generations—and thus not being applied to improve livelihoods and maintain a healthy link with the surrounding environment.

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

Artisanal fishery in Henties Bay

By Martin Tjipute and Fabian Mubiana, Henties Bay Research Centre

In Namibia the majority of people in the coastal towns of Swakopmund, Walvis Bay, Henties Bay and Lüderitz make a living purely on fishing. Artisanal fishery in Henties Bay, where the unemployment rate is as high as 75%, is quite unique. The local fishermen obtain recreational rock and surf angling licenses to fish as a means of providing food and earning a small income by illegally selling their excess catch. In 2003, a formal fishing association, Hanganeni, was formed. Daily catches are usually sold to restaurants, hotels and individual buyers, with 60% of the income going towards members' remuneration and the remaining 40% towards the association's running costs. However, dwindling fish stocks along the Benguela coastline have resulted in reduced and unpredictable catches, hampering the sustainability of Hanganeni.

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

DLIST node moderators meet in Cape Town

By Isabel Nosipho, Port Nolloth DLIST Node

On the 30th of July 2007, DLIST moderators from Port Nolloth, Cape Town, Lüderitz, Walvis Bay and Henties Bay gathered in Cape Town to meet each other, gain a better understanding of DLIST and discuss node activity plans. Many ideas came up to improve DLIST's outreach, such as putting some of the discussions on notice boards, being visible at events, getting involved with existing forums and even starting Ecoclubs.

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

RECENT DISCUSSIONS

What Happened to the Knowledge?

DLISTers share their views on indigenous knowledge systems, the breakdown thereof and the importance of their revival.

[[visit thread](#)]

Genetically Modified Foods

What is the truth behind South Africa's crops and the food that we consume? The discussion centres around the health, environmental and economic issues associated with genetically altered crops

[[visit thread](#)]

Pertinent Issues along Our Coastal Areas

Community members as well as other interested and affected parties discuss the latest reports of Eskom's plans for a nuclear power station along the Namaqualand coast and the news of a pilot site for a wind farm within the Matzikamma Municipality.

[[visit thread](#)]

Environmental Consciousness through Public Participation

Public participation and environmental consciousness is certainly essential for local communities' involvement in sustainable environmental projects on a local level. But how does one stimulate participation and involvement when the public interest in such matters is limited?

[[visit thread](#)]

NEW IN THE DOCUMENT LIBRARY

- Environmental Rights Afforded to Residents Affected by Mining Activities: A Case Study in Hondeklip Bay: Dissertation
[[see details](#)]
- Integrating Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Management with Environmental Impact Assessment
[[see details](#)]
- Case Studies on Investment on Community Land in Southern Africa
[[see details](#)]
- A Thousand and One Nights of Land Tenure
[[see details](#)]
- Designating Ramsar Sites
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