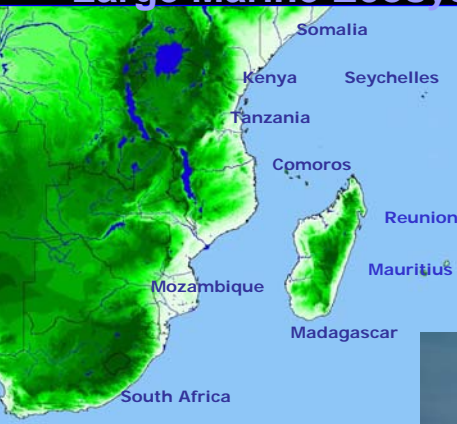



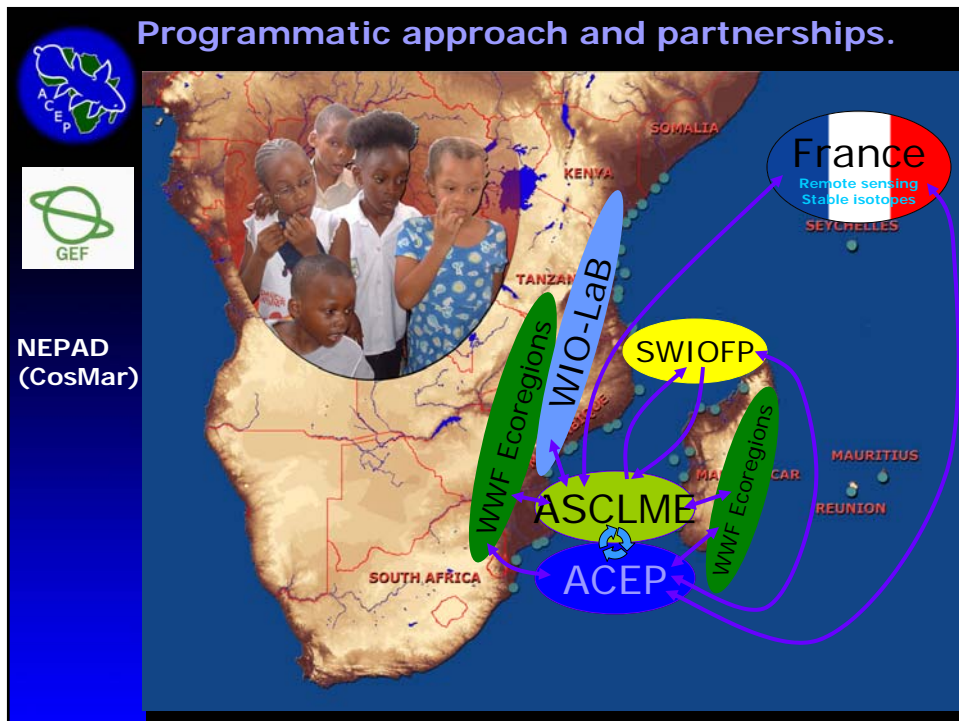
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Agulhas Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystems (ASCLMEs)



Nik Sekhran
Aase Smedler
David La Roche
Steering Committee







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Common Programme Goal

Ensure the long-term sustainability of the living resources of the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems for the benefit of humankind



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Biggest challenge

Developing appreciation of value of off-shore research in the face of poverty





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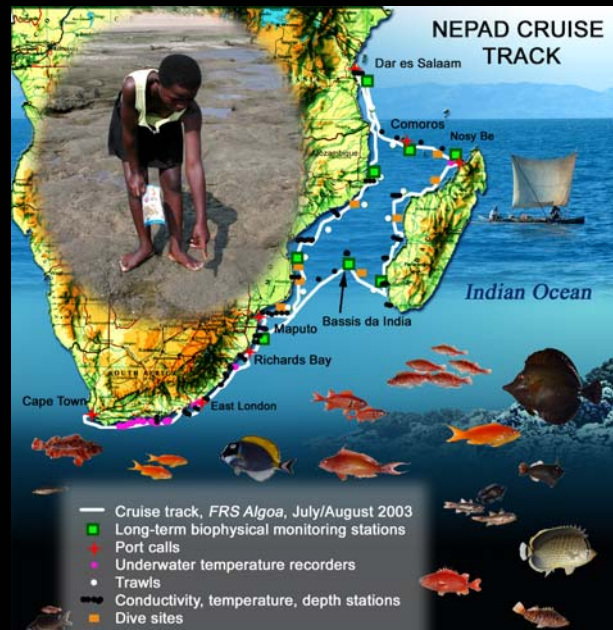
ASCLMEs PROJECT GOALS

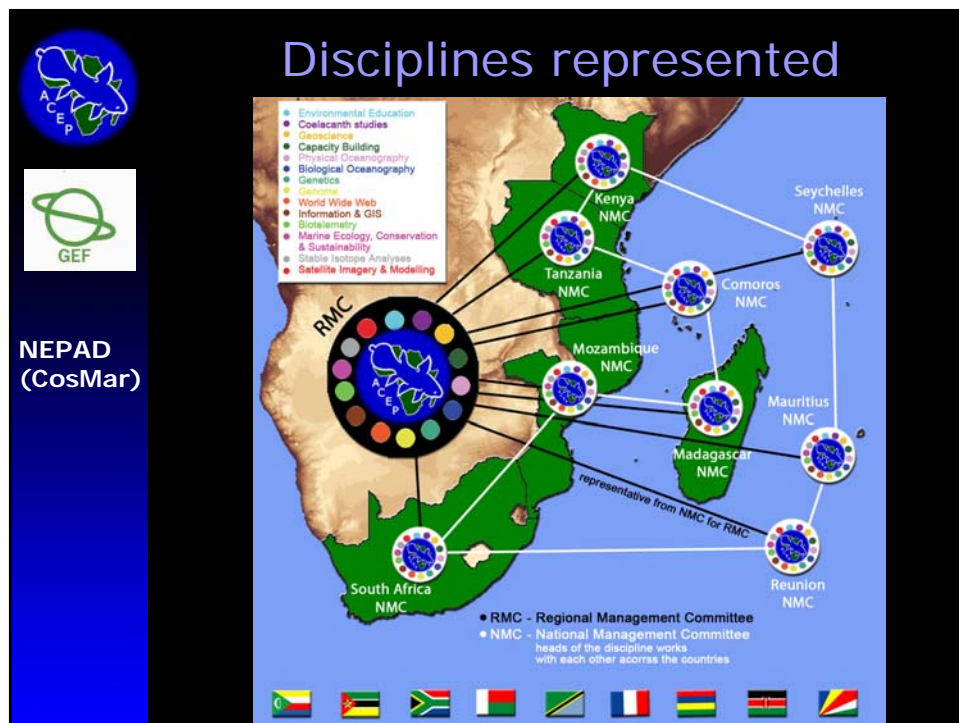
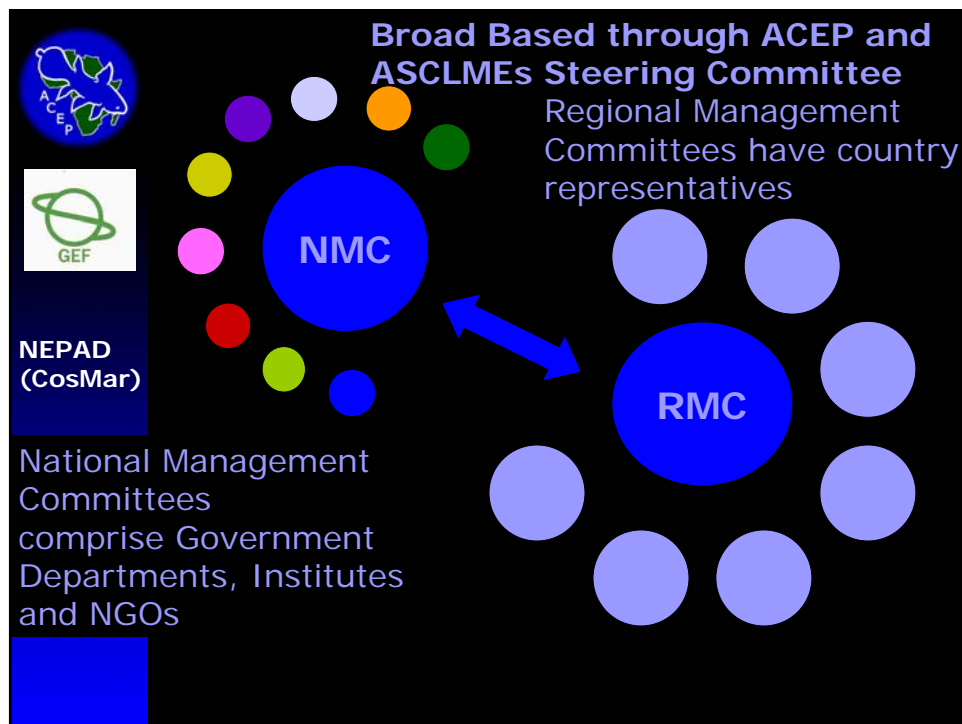
- Develop the knowledge necessary to better manage the fisheries and biodiversity through capacity building and ecosystem studies.
- Understand the processes that drive the energy and economies of the western Indian Ocean.
- MDGs (help countries achieve Millennium Development Goals)
- TDA (Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis for Programme)
- SAP (Strategic Action Plan for Programme)

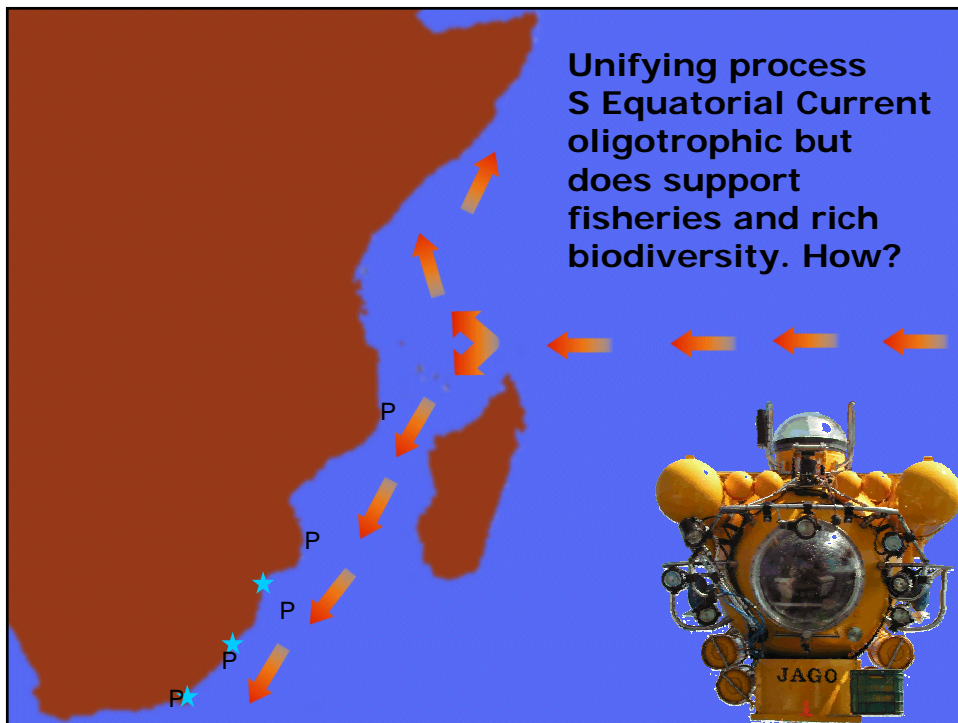
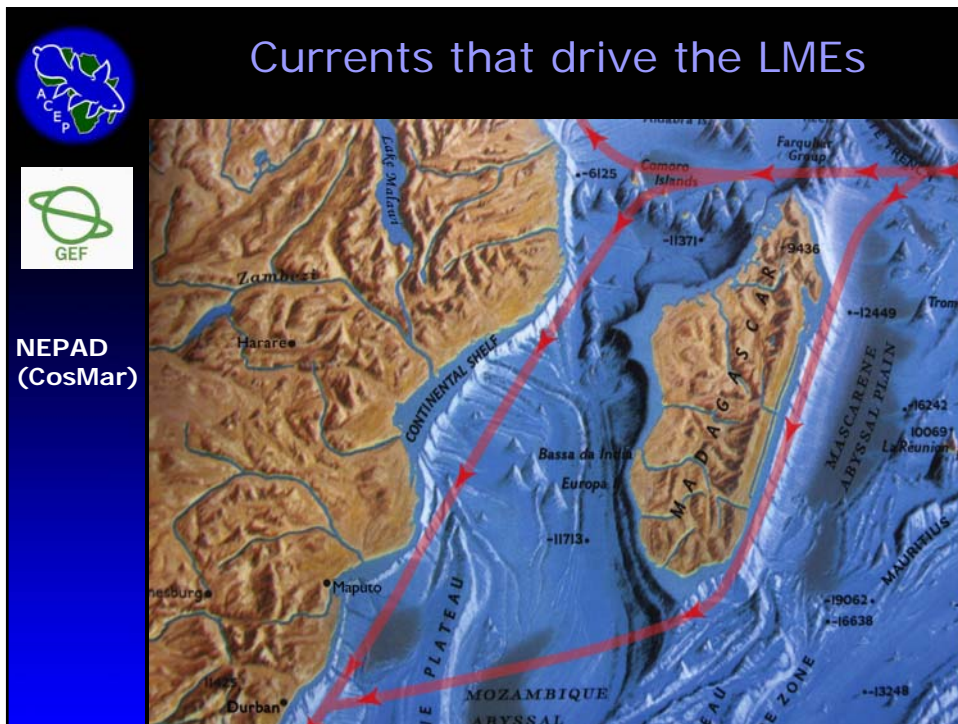


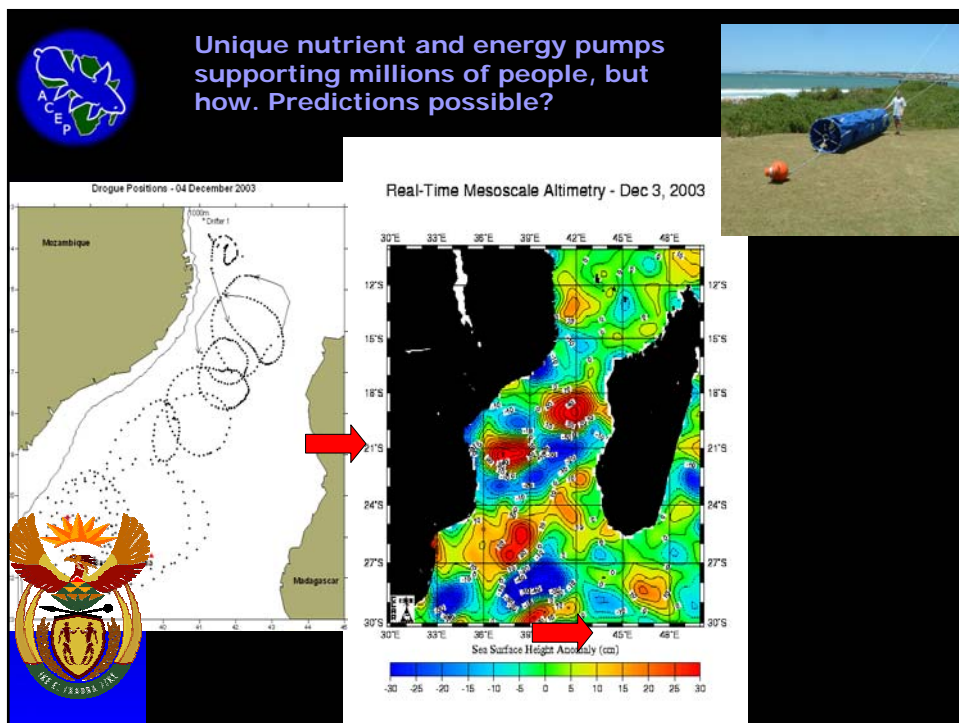
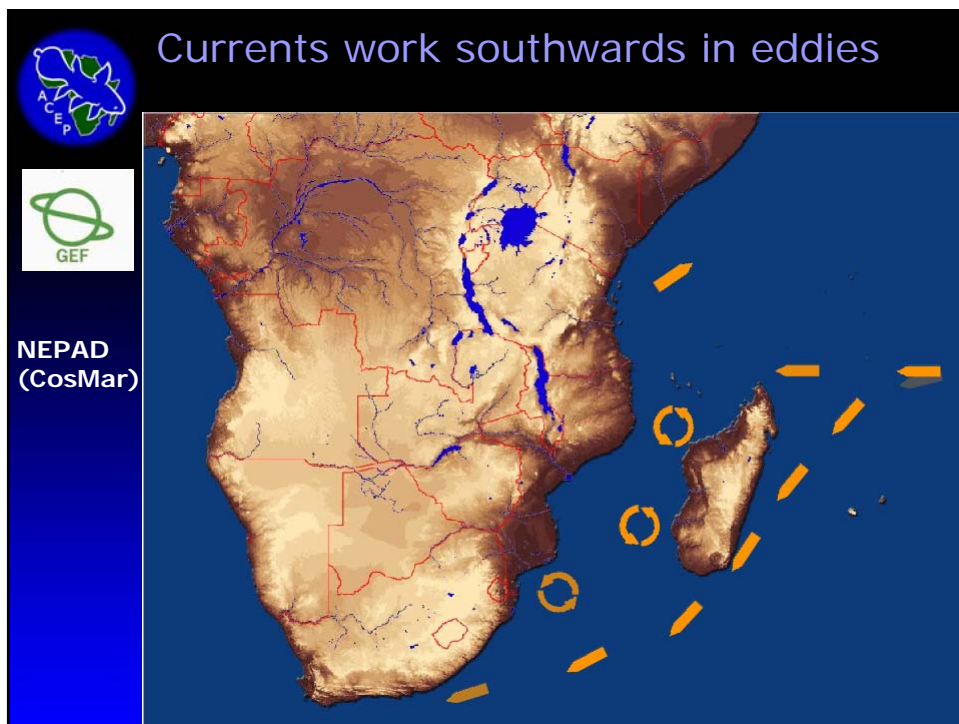
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NEPAD a wonderful new opportunity for conservation in Africa







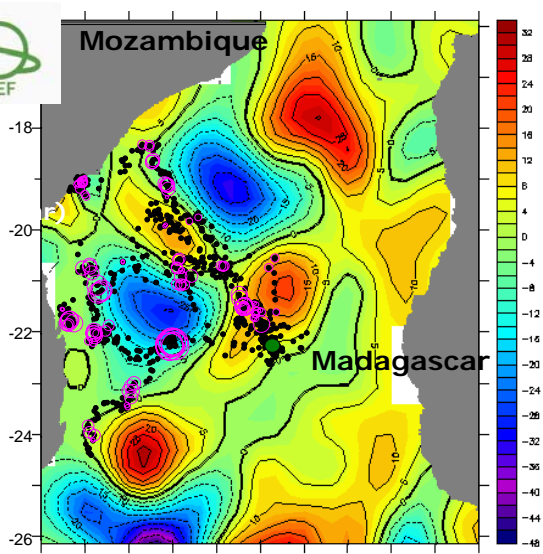




Unique oceanographic patterns and processes



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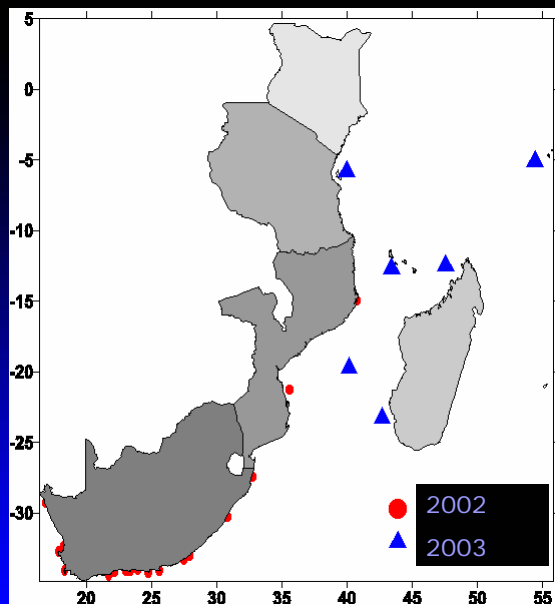
Great frigates tagged with electronic sensors to describe and understand foraging movements

Result : Birds forage in nutrient rich areas (purple circles).

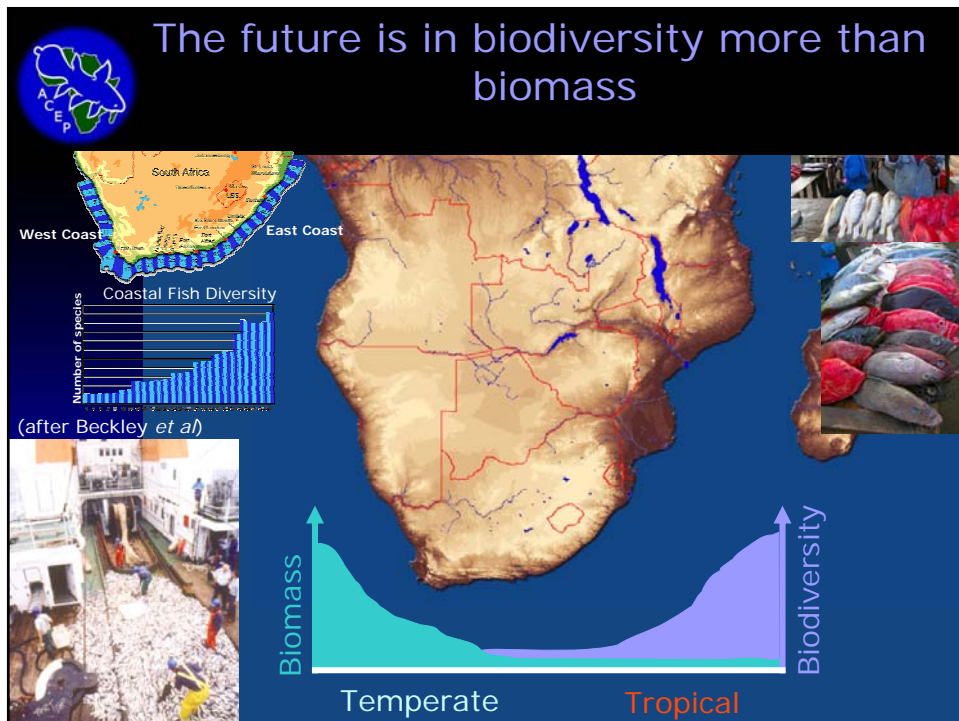
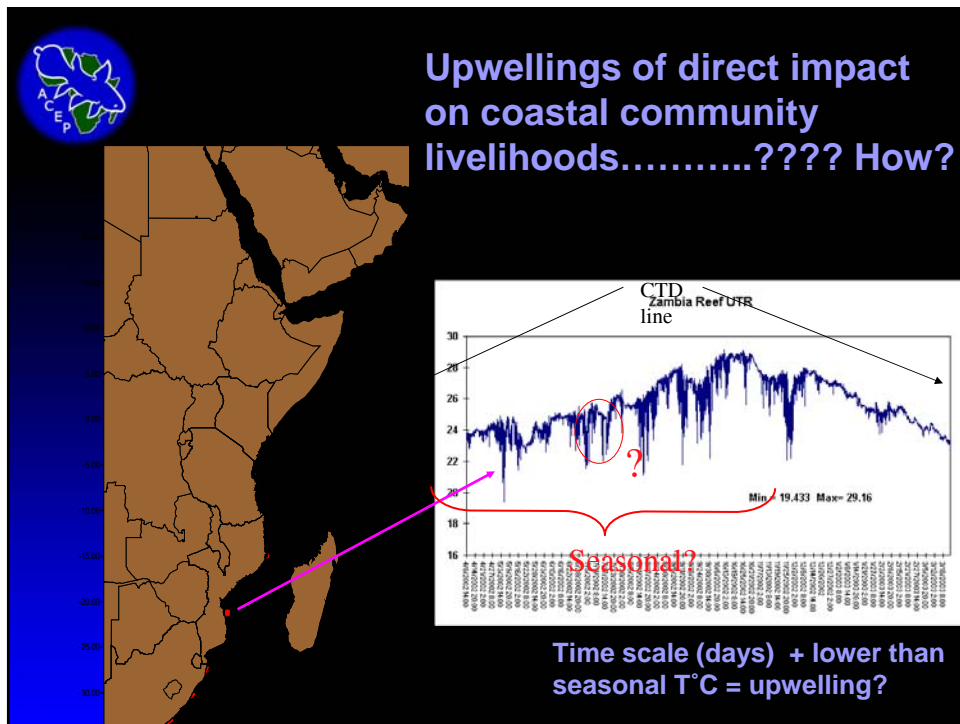
ACEP and Frances Marsac (France)





Long-term underwater biophysical monitoring stations




By end of 2003 all sites were operational



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Typical trawl data

- 1.5kg 8 species
- 14kg 61 species
- 6kg 17 species

From our own and other sampling cruises.

- Our best 600kg 52 species





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Relying on investments in fisheries is short sighted

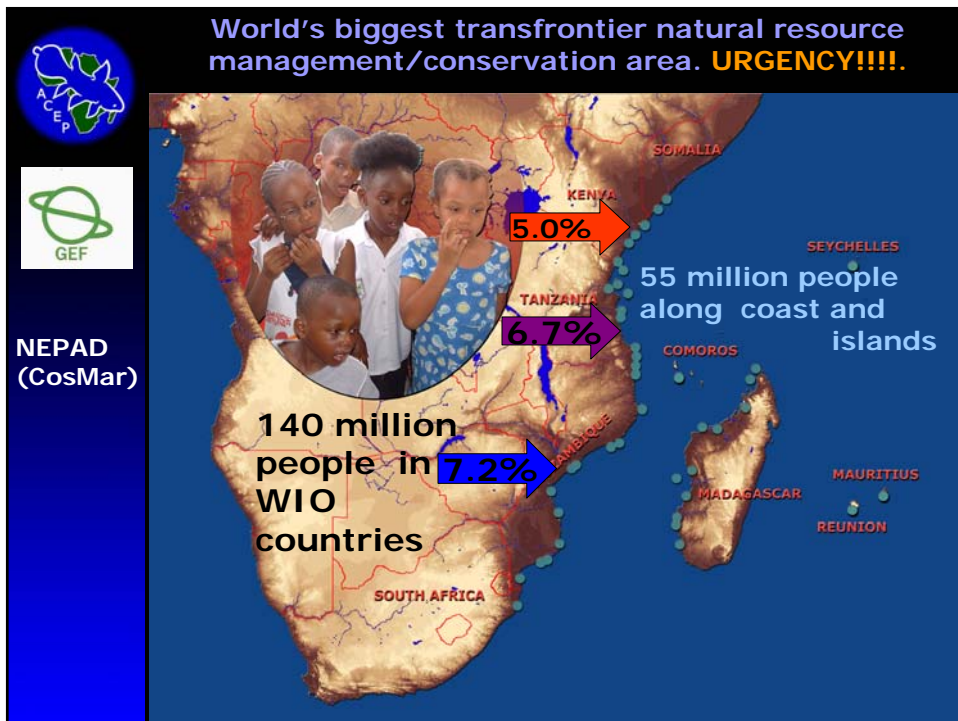
Economic growth should focus on rich biodiversity, MPAs and sustainability.

Trawling shows that trawling should not take place



Developing a Sustainable Economy for those who Depend upon the Sea

Just as the economy on land is based on conservation of natural life, so too the economy for those who depend on the sea must be based on wise management and use of the marine ecosystem. We are building the capacity to develop the management strategies for a sustainable economy.





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Social sciences and education



Socio-economics
and indigenous
knowledge



Capacity building and
teacher training



Learner programs, education
& public awareness



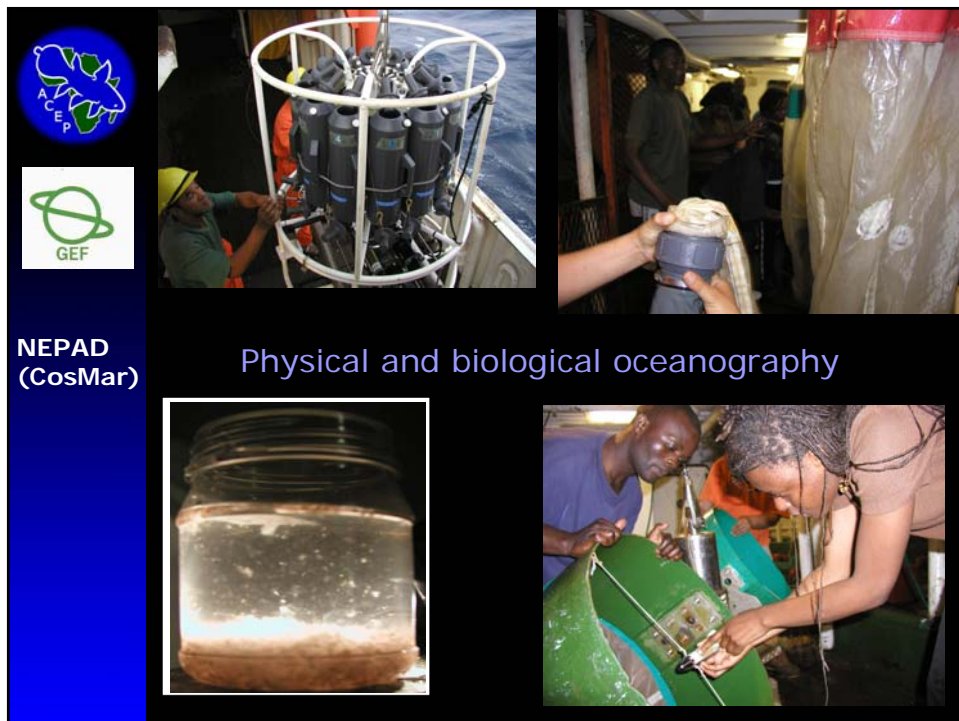
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Capacity building takes centre stage

- Four imperatives
of capacity
building:
attain, train,
retain, sustain.













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A wonderful new opportunity for sustainability in Africa

Virtual institution and centre of excellence in geosciences




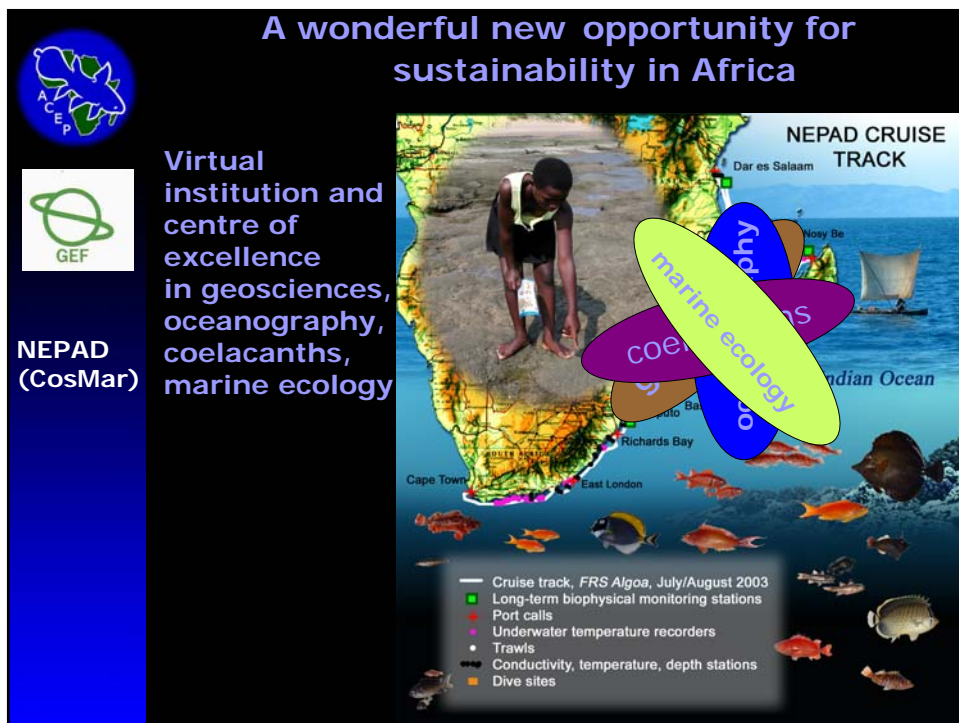



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A wonderful new opportunity for sustainability in Africa

Virtual institution and centre of excellence in geosciences, oceanography, coelacanth, marine ecology, Genetics & genome resources,

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NEPAD CRUISE TRACK

Dar es Salaam
Nosy Be
Indian Ocean
Cape Town
East Lo

— Cruise track, FRS Algoa, July/August 2003
■ Long-term biophysical monitoring stations
● Port calls
● Underwater temperature recorders
● Trawls
● Conductivity, temperature, depth stations
● Dive sites

Genetics & genome resources

A wonderful new opportunity for sustainability in Africa

Virtual institution and centre of excellence in geosciences, oceanography, coelacanth, marine ecology, Genetics & genome resources, socio-economics & indigenous knowledge,



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Socio-economics & IK






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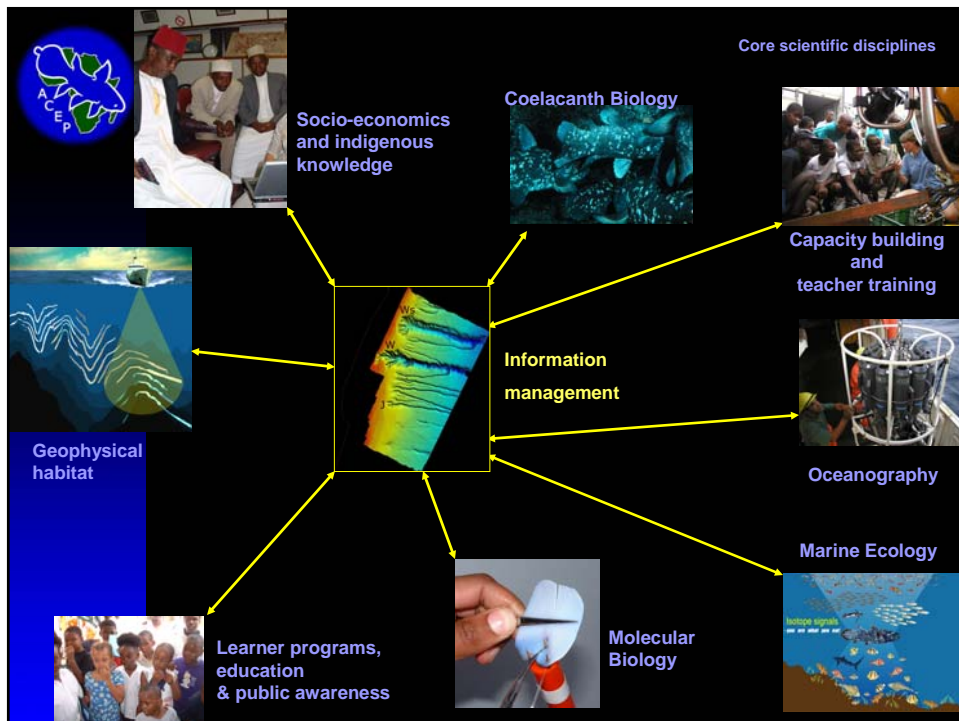
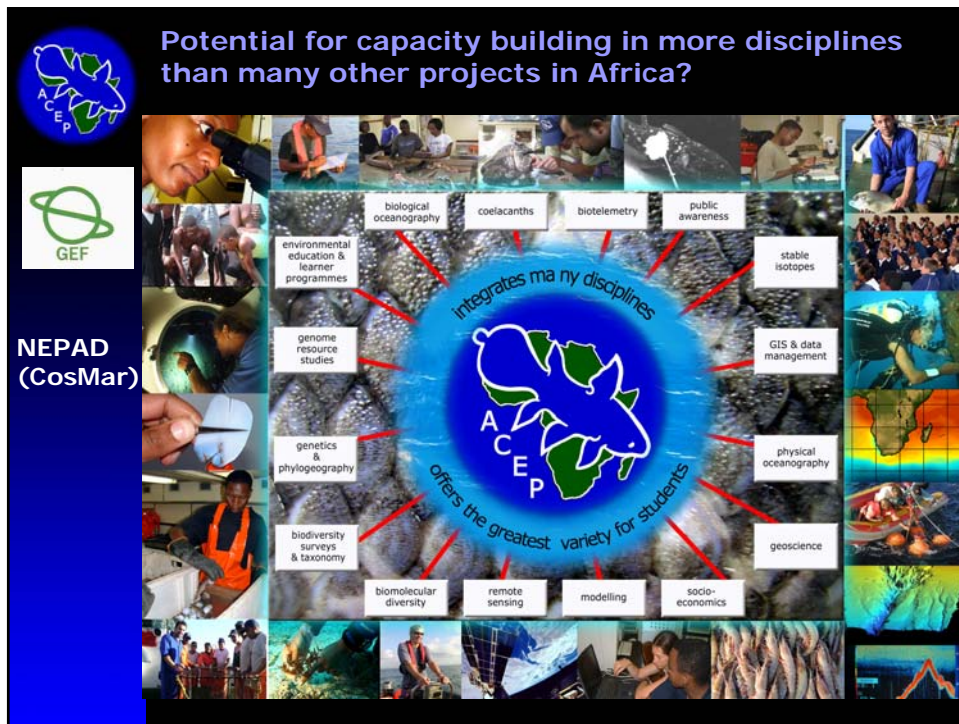



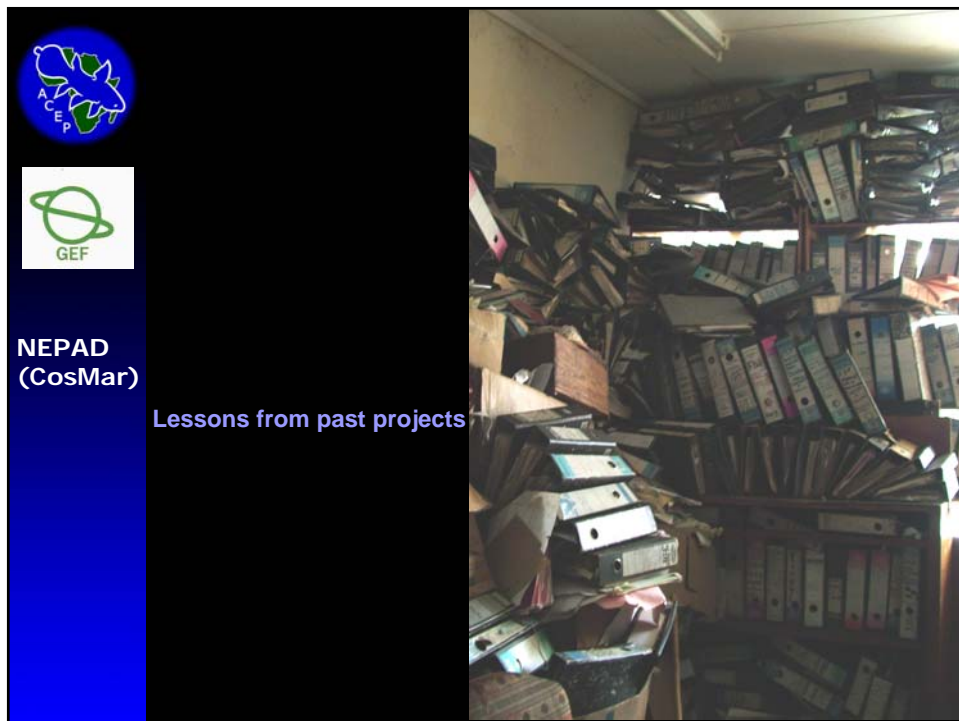
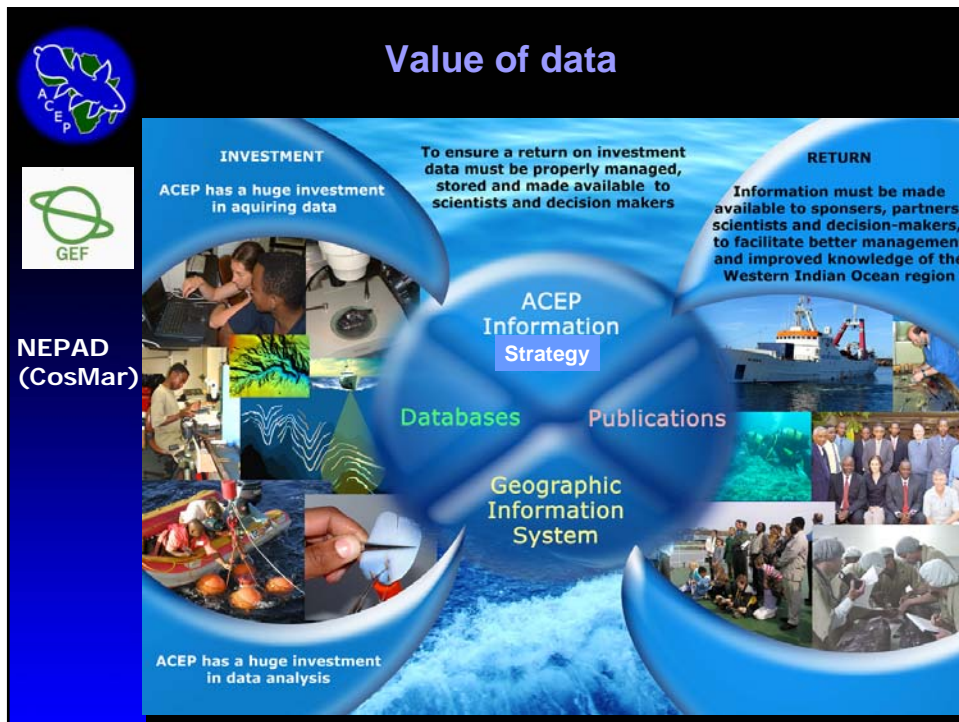
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A wonderful new opportunity for sustainability in Africa

Virtual institution and centre of excellence in geosciences, oceanography, coelacanth, marine ecology, Genetics & genome resources, socio-economics & indigenous knowledge, GIS all for sustainability

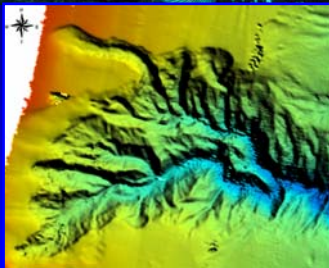








Principles



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Challenges

- A large study area and complex data environment
- Many data and metadata formats and standards
- Limited / slow Internet access
- Insufficient human capacity to meet our responsibilities
- Lack of long-term funding security to undertake several activities (including supporting students and interns)

Solutions

- Develop a long-term regional vision
- Work within current constraints to the best of our ability through shared effort, making the best use of data and currently available technologies
- Consolidate data management
- Select priority short-term projects to achieve goals



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The Future

- Integrate multidisciplinary information to answer fundamental questions about coelacanths and WIO ecosystem processes
- Use the GIS as an integrated tool for multidisciplinary ecosystem research, management and decision-making in the western Indian Ocean
 - access to verified scientific information in a useable form will provide a tool for informed management decisions
 - Good management of natural resources together with a well-designed network of MPAs will support the persistence of marine ecosystem processes on which coastal people depend

Through:

- Securing funding for sustainability of information systems
- Securing a sustainable support for students
- Pioneering new systems with international partners
- Meeting out national data provision responsibilities
- Meeting our regional and global responsibilities – dissemination of information that is critical to the region



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Together we
can do more

