

Dugong & Seagrass

CONSERVATION PROJECT

This Project is executed by the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, with financing from the GEF, and implementation support by UN Environment and technical support from the CMS Dugong MoU Secretariat.

Community Centred Conservation (C3 Madagascar)



www.c-3.org.uk



HOW TO BUILD AN ENVIRONMENTALLY-ENGAGED GENERATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

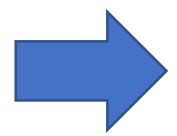
YOUTH - WHY?

- Phenomenal level of growth of Malagasy population to 25% during the last 10 years (20 to 25 million people)
- Increase of pressures on the natural environment

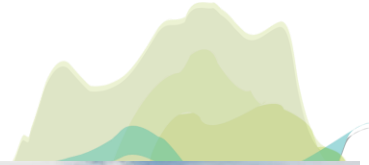
54% of the Malagasy population consists of young people under 20 and 45% of these are under 15 (Rapport National sur le développement humain, 2018).



How to use the demographic potential for the benefit of the environment and the conservation?



Engaging youth in conservation and sustainable development is critical and should not be cursory



The obstacles to youth engaging in conservation/sustainable development

The limitations of the formal national education curriculum



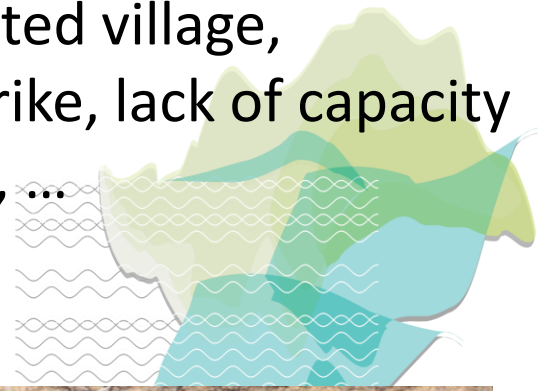
Engaging youth should not just be school presentations and field trips but more



The obstacles to youth engaging in conservation/sustainable development

Limitations in the current education system

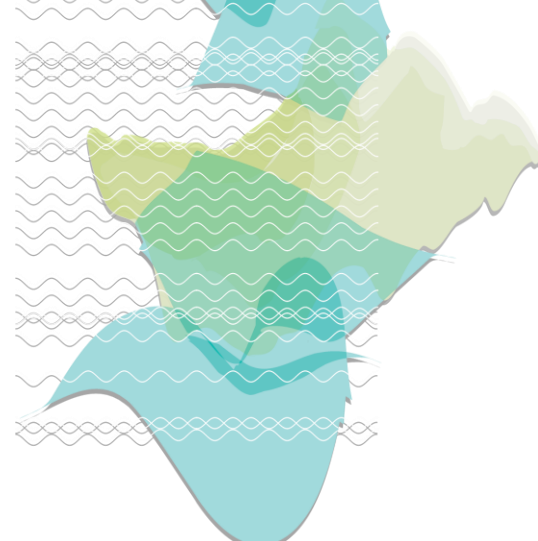
- General limitations : poverty, human resource, infrastructure (poor quality of classrooms and road), existence of isolated village, communications, political disruption, teacher's strike, lack of capacity building of teachers, lack of pedagogical supports, ...



The obstacles to youth engaging in conservation/sustainable development

Limitations in the current education system

- Lower high school enrollment rate 41.9% and for final years of high school 14.7% (Unicef, 2012)



The obstacles to youth engaging in conservation and/or sustainable development

Why not think about

- Training on leadership (e.g, Jeune Chambre Internationale or JCI, Youth African Leadership Initiative YALI, etc.)
- improving communication skills, self-confidence and ambition
- offering young people opportunities to develop their social responsibility
- Increasing motivation of the school to achieve better exam results and access to higher education or to work



C3's Junior ecoguard programme

Junior ecoguard network

What? - Environmental club made up of youth

Where and When? - First JEs with a Scout group from 11 to 18 years old in Antsiranana in 2010



C3's Junior ecoguard programme

Profile of a Junior Ecoguard today

- Youth from the primary school are now included (9 to 12 years old)
- Criteria: motivation, ability to communicate, dynamism, creative, good general knowledge, good facility of expression, parental authorization, resourcefulness, ...



C3's Junior ecoguard programme

Roles of Junior ecoguards

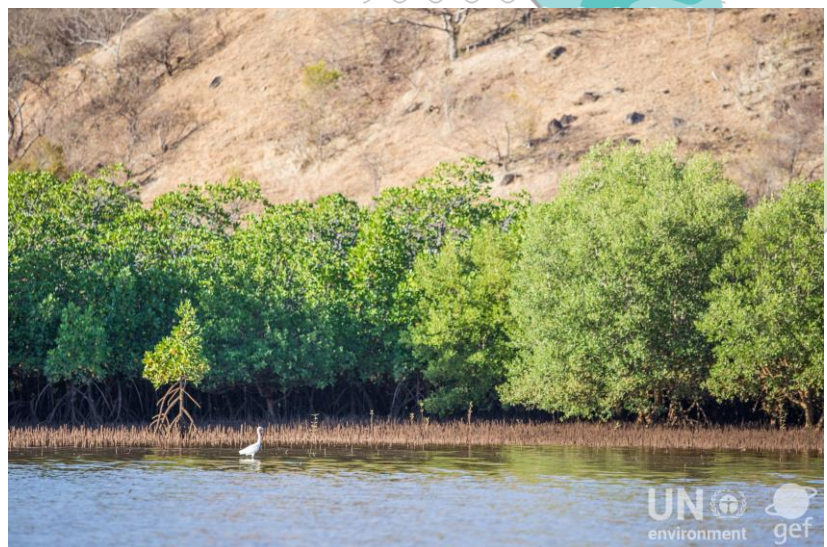


- Raising awareness with regards to laws, ecology, conservation programmes
- Monitoring local species, habitats with NGO and teacher assistance
- Planning events in the community with regards to environmental awareness and regeneration/care, assisting in national and regional environmental days (World Environment Day, Earth Day etc)

C3's Junior ecoguard programme

Roles of Junior ecoguards

- Communication conduit between NGOs and the wider community
- Mobilisation of wider community for habitat regeneration on a wide scale (e.g. planting 2 ha of mangrove forest)



Formalisation of the programme

Development of Junior Ecoguard Manual :

- Environmental Education Guide in French
- The manual is divided into two parts: a part on the marine inhabitants, coastal and terrestrial and a second part on threatened and important marine species for the conservation of biodiversity with the specificity to the region
- There are 10 sections (habitats mangroves, seagrass, sea turtles, dugongs, sharks, ...)

DUGONGS : THÉORIE

OUVERTURE DE SÉANCE : 10 minutes, par les élèves

Séance de brainstorming avec vos élèves. Posez les questions suivantes à vos élèves et laissez-leur le temps et l'imagination pour s'exprimer en y répondant de manière personnelle (chanson, mime, dessin, démonstration écrite ou orale etc.). L'élève est libre de faire le cours, chacun doit prendre la parole, le professeur est spectateur et n'intervient que pour rediriger, orienter, corriger.

Que sont les dugongs ?

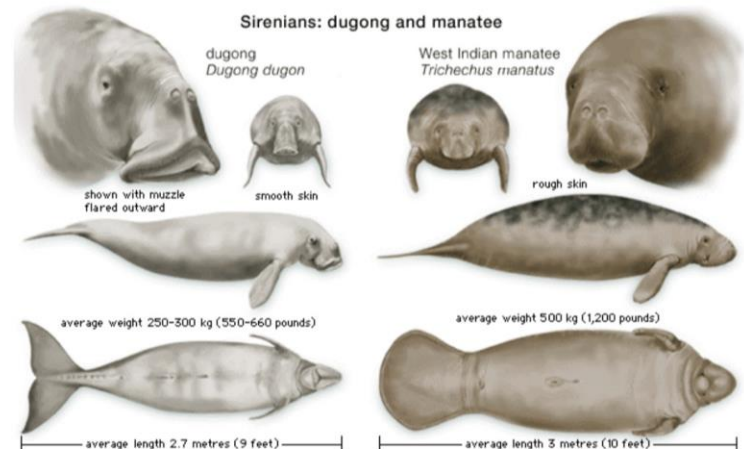
Quelles sont les menaces ?

Comment les conserver ?

1. Que sont les dugongs ?

Le dugong est un mammifère marin de l'ordre des siréniens qui vit dans les zones côtières de l'océan indien, de la Mer Rouge et de l'océan pacifique. Il est cousin des 3 espèces de lamantins qui vivent dans la zone tropicale de l'Atlantique. Ce mammifère marin aussi appelé vache de mer ou halicore mesure 3 à 4 m de long et peut atteindre plus de 500 kg. Il peut vivre jusqu'à septante ans en solitaire ou en petits groupes.

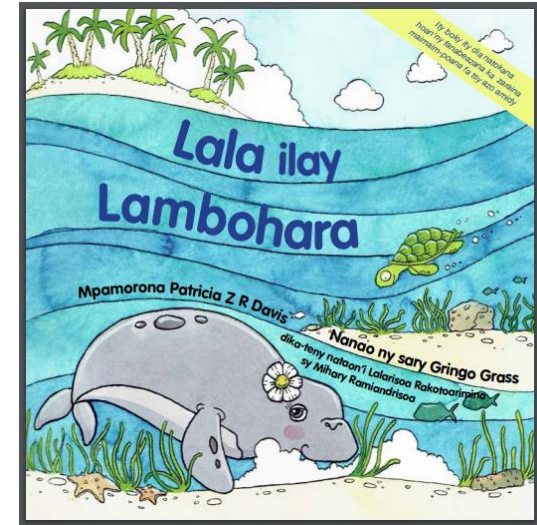
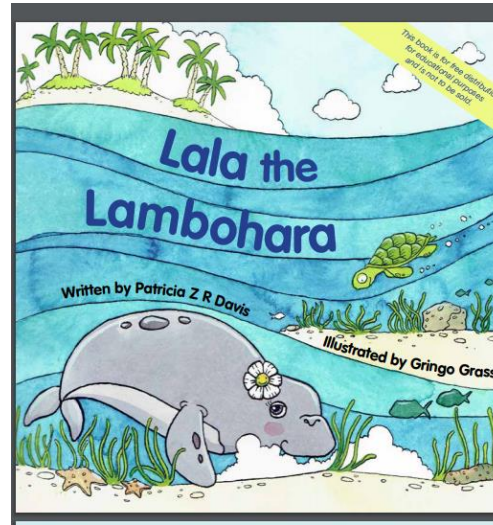
Le dugong est un herbivore qui vit principalement près des zones côtières, dans des eaux peu profondes. Il se nourrit principalement d'herbiers marins, les phanérogames, formant des prairies sous-marines. Le dugong peut passer jusqu'à 16h par jour à s'alimenter, consommant jusqu'à 30 kg d'herbes marines. Il privilégie deux espèces : *halophila* spp. et *halodule* spp. Il se nourrit généralement jusqu'à 10 m de profondeur, mais peut occasionnellement se nourrir à des profondeurs plus importantes, jusqu'à 30-40 m.



Formalisation of the programme

Development of toolkit by C3 composed of

- Poster containing information on endangered species such as dugongs, turtles, ...
- T-shirts for JE
- Film on C3 activities, marine biodiversity
- Story books
- Manual
- Notepad, pen, color pencil, papers for drawings, ...



Formalisation of the programme

Training approach : 'Building capacity of educators'

- 3 days of training inclusive of educational authority staff, local NGO staff
- Average 60 participants for each region
- 20 schools per region





Regional Director of National Education in Diana province , Claude Rabeaniray : *I'm very proud of this national partnership between our Ministry of Education and C3 . C3 is a financial and technical partner and is actively contributing to the sustainable development components of government policy. This training introduces a novel method which allows pupils access to fieldwork, making them eager to learn how to conserve endangered species and the environment.*

The Director of Secondary school Ambilobe : *I'm a diver, I have enjoyed the beauty of the marine ecosystem in my locality but I did not know that seagrass, mangrove and coral reefs were so important and are refuge of thousands of species."*

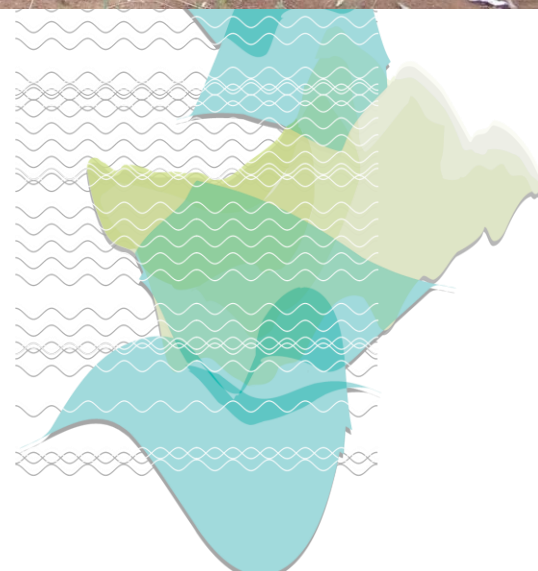


Formalisation of the programme

Forming a JE group

Application of the teacher training at the level of their separate schools:

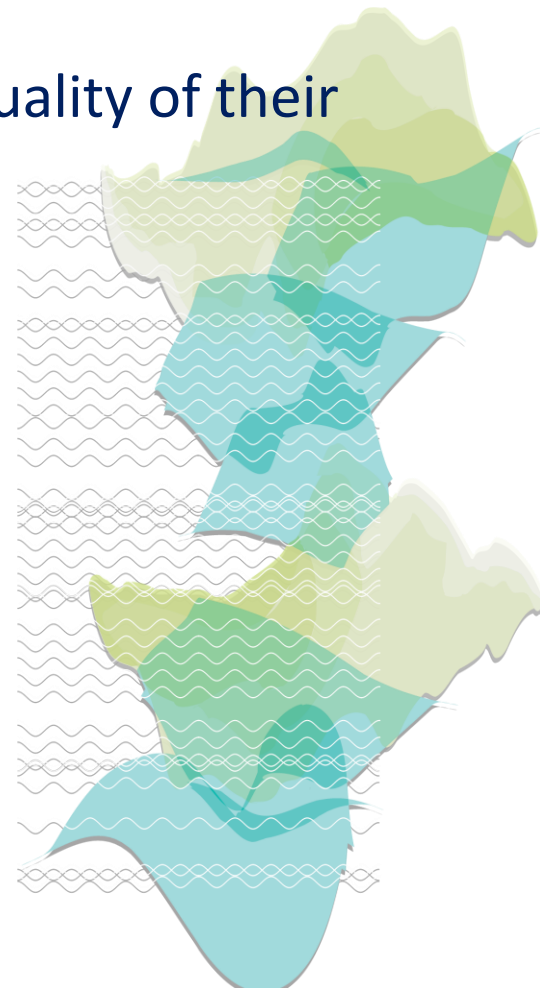
- Development of the JE club according to the selection criteria
- Implementation of the action plans defined during the teacher training



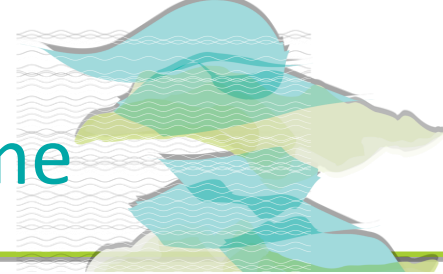
Formalisation of the programme

Small Grants scheme for funding proposed activities that have associated costs

- Provide a boost to the selected schools on the quality of their implementation and action plan
- 10 schools were supported
- Innovative Proposal
- Environmental Protection
- Impact and target people
- School contribution
- Reasonable budget



The C3's Junior ecoguard programme



Teacher Training and JE expansion

- 4 Regions in the North of Madagascar:
DIANA , SOFIA, BOENY and SAVA
- 150 school teachers across 70 schools
- 1800 members

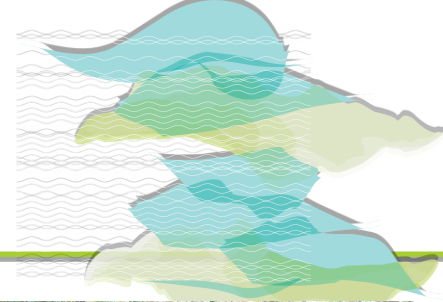


Monitoring and Sustaining the network



- Assessment of achievements of trained teachers on the use of the Environmental Education Guide
- Monitoring the use of the Environmental Education Guide Junior Ecoguard Network and school-level impacts
- School achievement reported to local education authority
- Local education authority report to regional and national ministry of education
- Regular Communication over internet, phone about issues/achievement/planning with C3

Impact

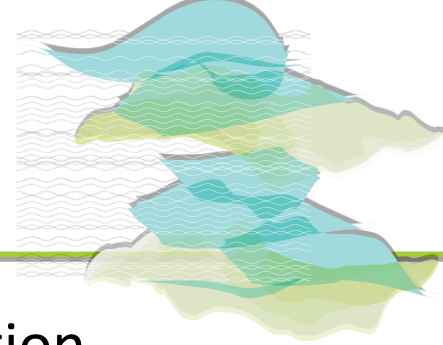


Pre and post event questionnaires for assistance to assess whether messages about the conservation and protection of marine biodiversity through sketches, presentations or film are well received and understood by the public.



In general the evaluation done by C3 after each outreach shows that the messages are received 90 to 95%

Impact



climate change awareness : e.g participation in restoration activities (communities and schools), reforestation of mangroves

Personal actions : waste management, awareness on reducing the use of plastics, beach cleaning



knowledge transfer between older and younger generations

Persist cultural heritage from generation to generation and knowledge as species and customs associated with them disappear

➔ Many young people and even adults were unaware of the dugongs, but thanks to the awareness activities conducted by JE: sketches and presentations and story book they now have knowledge of the species and their own cultural and historical ties to it.



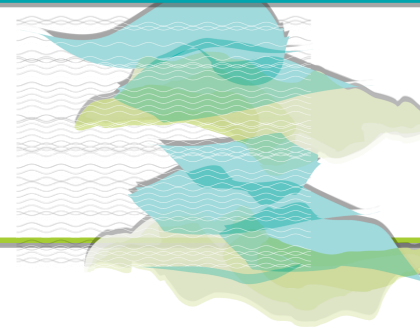
knowledge transfer between older and younger generations



➡ Awareness raising by JEs make communities aware of the importance of preserving habitats and species to prevent the loss or disappearance of other species, so that future generations can also have the chance to see them.



What Next?



Formal integration into primary and secondary education syllabus with Ministry of Education for 2020

Further training across whole of Madagascar, getting more donors on board to facilitate this

Recognition

- Recognition by Ministry of Education (2016)
- UNEP Volvo Adventure Award (2011)
- ArkIVE film award (2012)
- Global High Schools Finalists - Dyovanah as a young female leader travelling to Abu Dhabi to learn about renewable technologies and represent Madagascar's youth (2019)



Malagasy quotation

‘Tanora mamboly hazo, manan-kialofana rahatrizay’

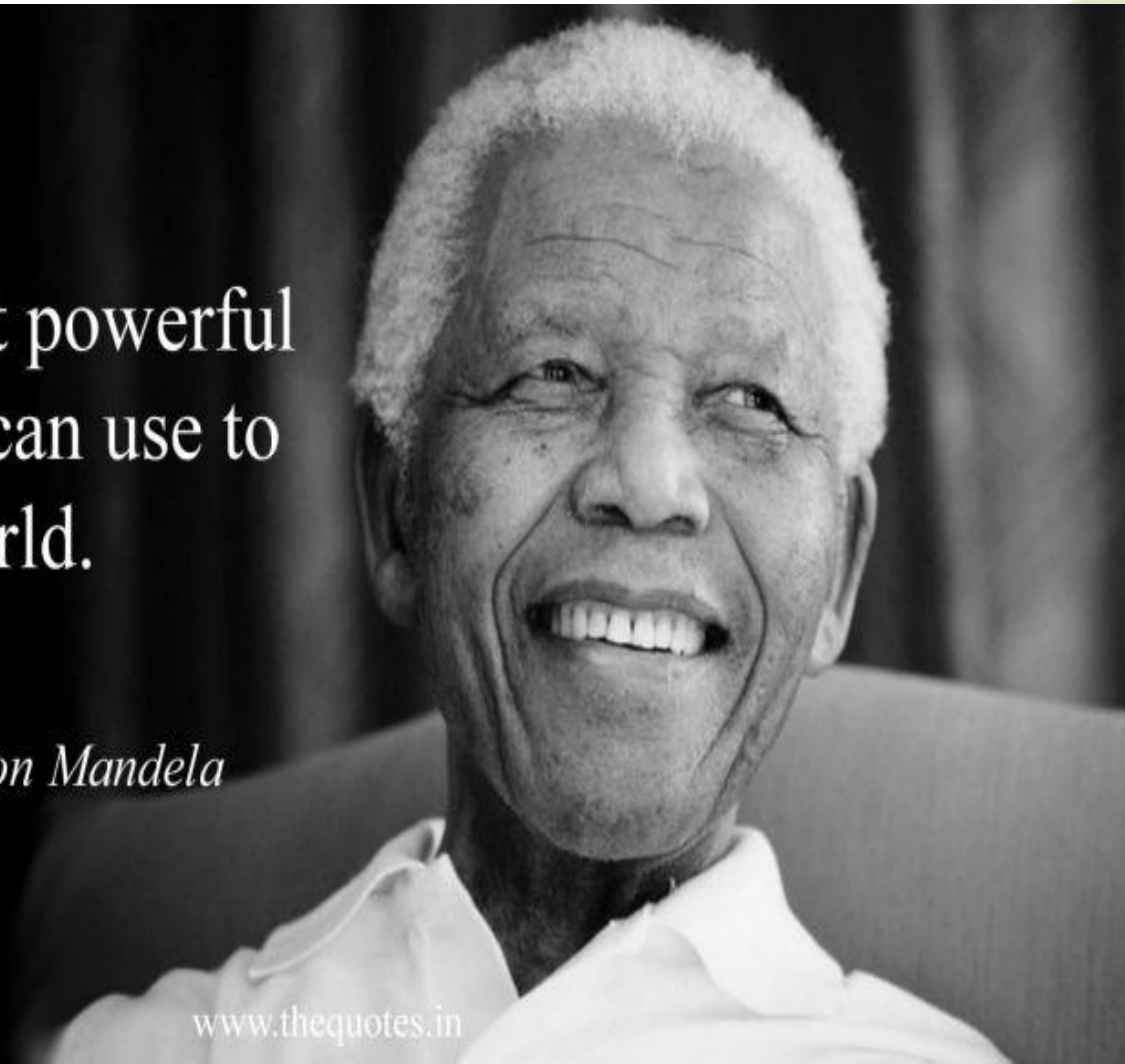
Young people planting trees will have shelters when they get old



Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to
change the world.

Nelson Mandela

www.thequotes.in



THANKS TO



THANK YOU !!!





Dugong & Seagrass

CONSERVATION PROJECT

