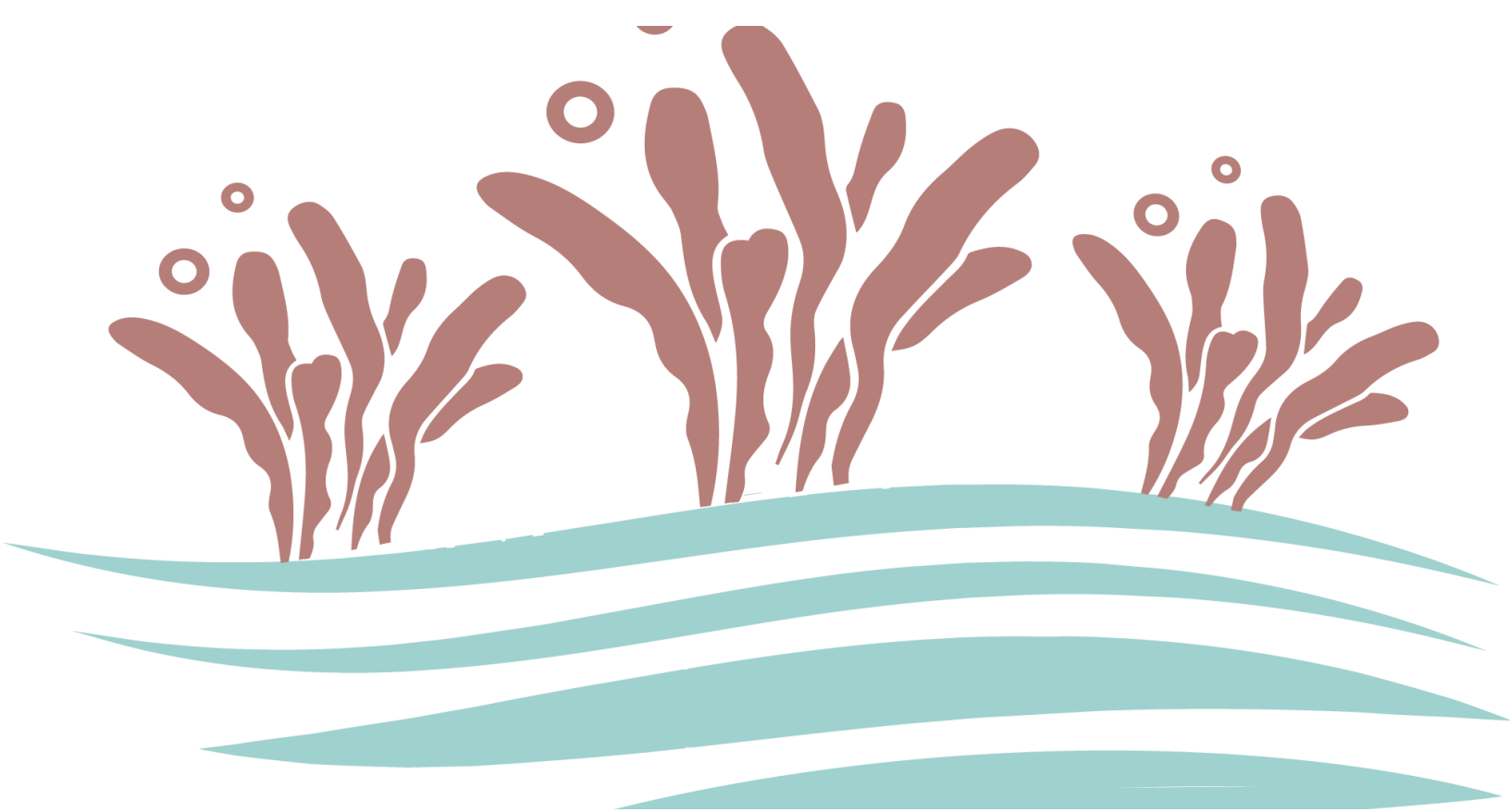




Sea PoWer

Annual Report 2022





Sea PoWer

*Seaweed farming innovation for
women's empowerment*

2022: Our first year as an NGO!

2022 marks our first year as an international, Tanzania-registered non-governmental organization (no. INGO/R/2897) – a landmark status we achieved in February 2022 after Sea PoWer began its activities as a project in 2017. We are grateful to all those who have accompanied us in this journey so far.

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Our vision

Sea PoWer's vision is to reach women's empowerment and equitable development through seaweed farming innovation and transformation.



Our mission

Sea PoWer's mission is to achieve, in partnership with women seaweed producers, an adapted seaweed farming technology that transforms women's lives and enables the sustainable integration of seaweed farming in the local economic and ecological landscapes of Tanzania and beyond.

At the heart of Sea PoWer is women's empowerment through the co-generation of knowledge and building of women seaweed farmers' technical know-how, income, social capital, confidence and self-esteem.

Our objectives



To raise awareness about, promote and scale out deep-water tubular nets farming innovation for increased seaweed productivity and climate change resilience

To empower women seaweed producers and enhance their capacity through a gender-transformative approach

To promote peer-to-peer training and support safe and sustainable technology diffusion to groups of women seaweed farmers

To support value addition and address post-harvest and marketing bottlenecks for seaweed products.

To support groups of women seaweed farmers voice their interests and concerns in coastal resources management and policy making.

Our values



Sea PoWer

Is **holistic**: its focus is just as much human as technological and environmental.

Is **unique**: its approach relies on innovation and empowerment as two sides of the same coin.

Is **inclusive**: the women seaweed farmers – our Sea PoWer sisters – are integral to the team and we work with men, communities and industry stakeholders to be part of the change.

Is **participatory**: co-production of knowledge, peer-to-peer learning and partnerships are at the heart of our work.

Is **grounded in science**: our advances are published in academic journals and we believe in scientific scrutiny.

Has a team **passionate** about seaweed farming, gender equality and sustainable development in equal measures.

Believes in a **more equitable world** where technology is a means and not an end.

Our approach

Innovation-cum-empowerment

Sea PoWer's progressive approach combines innovation with empowerment. It seeks to simultaneously improve seaweed productivity, women's work conditions and climate resilience, as well as act as a vector for their emancipation by increasing their income, capabilities, self-confidence, control and entrepreneurship, benefits from their harvests, and reconnection with the sea.

Our approach rests on four interconnected actions:

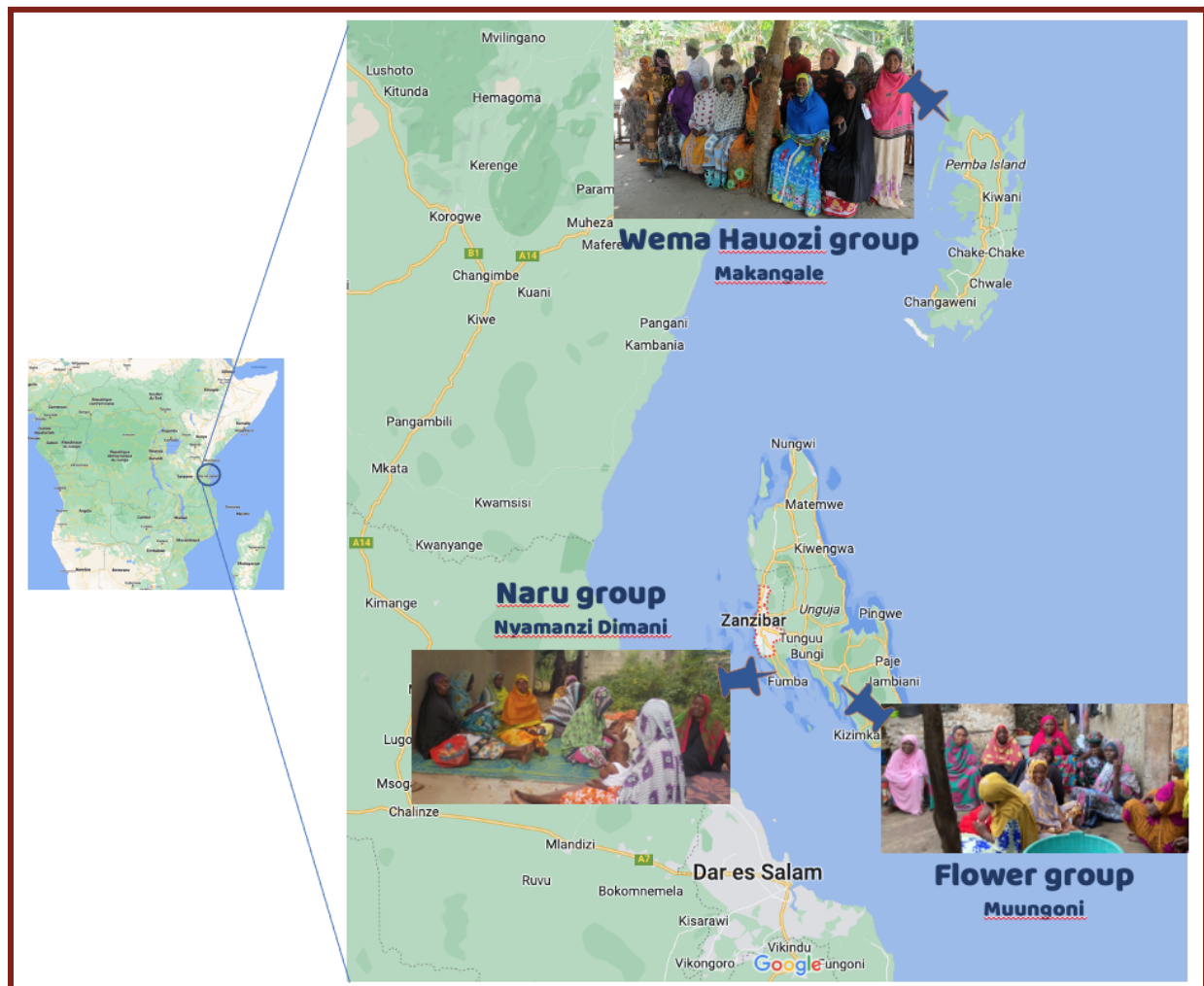
- 1. Building women's capacity and social capital.
- 2. Promoting the adoption of an adapted seaweed farming technology – “tubular nets” – co-designed with women seaweed farmers.
- 3. Progressively challenging prevailing gender norms.
- 4. Engaging with fellow women producers, male community members, seaweed buyers and other industry stakeholders.



Where we work

Sea PoWer currently works in the Zanzibar archipelago of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Between 2017 and 2021, Sea PoWer established three groups of women seaweed farmers in Nyamanzi Dimani, Muungoni and Makangale, to pilot the deployment of tubular nets, and to build their capacity to increase their benefits from seaweed farming. In 2022, Sea PoWer continued to support these groups and ambitions to expand its support to a new group of women seaweed farming in mainland Tanzania in 2023.



2022 in numbers



33 women and **10** men improved their deep-water seaweed farming knowledge and skills.

10 women learned how to swim.

24 women and **10** men improved their seaweed transformation and value addition knowledge and skills.

5 women showcased their products and knowledge on public seaweed days and events.

2 women participated in a UN-Women-facilitated consultation for Blue Economy policy making.

Sea PoWer was represented in **3** international meetings.

A record **2900** kg of seaweed were harvested by one group in a single harvest cycle in late 2022.

\$400 were accumulated in the Sea PoWer-supported groups' savings accounts.

Key activities

In 2022, the main focus of our activities was on safety in seaweed farming and processing. As women seaweed farmers need to farm in increasingly deep water to adapt to the challenges of climate change, their safety in the water is paramount. Yet, very few know how to swim.

Equally, processing seaweed into products with added market value, such as soaps and lotions, requires taking specific precautions when handling caustic inputs. We are grateful for the grant received from the International Seaweed Coalition (formerly known as Safe Seaweed Coalition) to build women seaweed farmers' capacity and confidence in this regard.

We also continued monitoring the farming activities and cohesion of the *Naru*, *Flower* and *Wema Hauozi* groups and seized opportunities for further outreach.



PROMOTING ADOPTION AND BENEFITS FROM DEEPWATER SEAWEED FARMING

- - - - X

We have provided advice and troubleshooting regarding deep-water tubular net use during our regular visits to the three groups of women seaweed farmers we support. Seaweed planting and harvesting have been ongoing every 6 weeks.

Regular interactions with the groups, which are integral to co-learning, have enabled us to identify some challenges in the growth of seaweed inside the tubular nets, in some areas and at specific times of the year, when environmental and climatic conditions are changing.

We have been encouraging our Sea PoWer sisters to optimize their farming through a mix of tubular nets and ropes to farm in deeper water and have designed data recording forms to monitor seaweed outputs from



both techniques. Women's confidence has been growing and groups have been generating additional income through the rental of their boat to fishers on days when it is not needed for seaweed farming.



SWIMMING TRAINING COURSES

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Swimming training courses were conducted over several weeks with the members of the three Sea PoWer groups, in partnership with the Panje Project - Zanzibar. With specially made-to-measure all-covering swimming suits, the women seaweed farmers learned how to swim, overcome their fears and feel confident in the water.

All the women proudly received their Certificate of Achievement at the end of the training.



In a society where swimming is not taught, where the sea is perceived as an adverse environment and where gender norms prevent women from engaging in such activities, it is no small feat.

“I am happy to have received the swimming training, this has made me feel lighter and I would like to continue to swim more, at least once a week”



SAFE SEAWEED PROCESSING AND VALUE ADDITION WORKSHOPS

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A series of 4-day peer-to-peer training workshops were conducted with the members of the Wema Hauozi and Naru groups in partnership with the Zanzibar Seaweed Cluster Initiative (ZaSCI). The women seaweed farmers learned how to make good soaps and lotions and practiced the necessary procedures for the safe handling of caustic products, such as wearing protective equipment and labeling containers.



During the training, record keeping and entrepreneurship were also discussed.

Each session concluded with the cooking and sharing of a delicious "seaweed roast", which demonstrated to the training participants another benefit of seaweed!

The seaweed products made were sold in the communities and generated additional income for the women seaweed farmers.



LOCAL OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

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Sea PoWer supported the participation of women seaweed farmers in important local outreach events that increased our visibility and the voice of seaweed farmers:

USDM Research Week and International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA) event in April 2022 during which one of our farmers showcased her seaweed products.

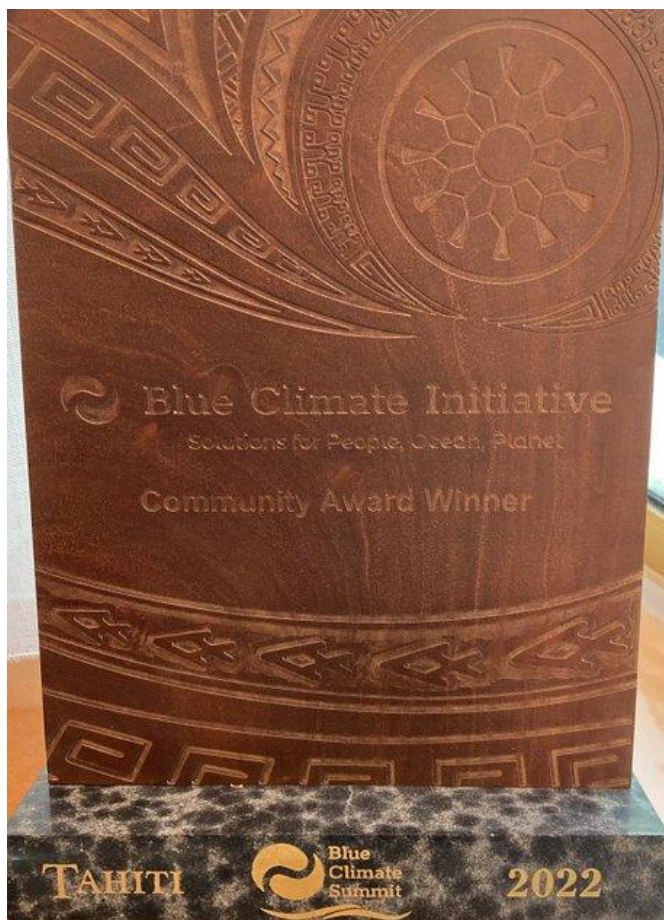
Seaweed Day July 23rd, 2022 during which our women seaweed farmers showcased their production and knowledge, and were graced by the visit of the President's wife.



UN-Women consultation for mainstreaming gender in Zanzibar's Blue Economy Strategy, in August 2022, which gave a unique opportunity for women seaweed farmers to be

represented in a policy consultation process.

The Sea PoWer team also held meetings with local authorities (e.g. Zanzibar Seaweed Company Ltd) to further its engagement with local stakeholders and synergize actions.



GLOBAL OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

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Sea PoWer was invited to participate in several high-visibility events of global outreach:

Blue Climate Summit in French Polynesia (14-20 May 2022) where Sea PoWer received an award from the Blue Climate Initiative for the work it has accomplished so far.

Safe Seaweed Coalition Annual Meeting (30 June 2022) where the potential and challenges for women farming seaweed in Zanzibar were discussed.

8th edition of the Gender in Aquaculture and Fisheries International Conference (20-22 Nov. 2022) where the work of Sea PoWer in the wider context of gender justice was presented.



A strategic connection was made with **NOTPLA**, a London-based plastic alternative innovation company, for analyzing a sample of seaweed from the Wema Hauozi group in Pemba.

Finally, on November 16th, 2022, Sea PoWer launched its new website!

www.seapower.or.tz



MONITORING & EVALUATION

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In order to understand the impact of our work, we use a mix of qualitative and quantitative elicitation techniques and work with our beneficiaries to gather information. Regular visits and discussions with the three groups enable us to keep track of progress and of any issues that may arise in relation to seaweed production or group management and needs. We have designed forms to compile the data recorded by the women we support on production inputs

and outputs, and income generation from seaweed sale and transformation, as well as from additional activities such as the renting of the boat to fishers and tourists when it is not in use. This information is not only useful for us, but also for gaining a better understanding of the seaweed industry as a whole.

In addition, we collect every 3 years, through a structured survey, data to monitor women's empowerment, such as how our actions are building women seaweed farmers' social capital, personal capacity, confidence and self-esteem. We use data we previously published (2020) on this as a benchmark.

We also upload quarterly our progress, achievements and challenges in Tanzania's NGO Information System (NIS) as our reporting requirements to the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children-Community Development.

Looking forward



2023 promises to be very exciting!

We have on our horizon the expansion of our capacity building and tubular net innovation adoption support to a new group of women seaweed farmers in Kilwa District on Tanzania mainland, thanks to a partnership with Aqua-Farms Organization and ORRAA.

While continuing our regular activities with women seaweed farmers in Zanzibar and strengthening further their safety in deep water, we will also aim to increase our visibility among a wider range of stakeholders in the archipelago.

We will continue seeking opportunities for new partnerships, new developments and additional funding to enable Sea PoWer and its beneficiaries moving forward.

Our finances

Summary of audited accounts for the period ended 31 December 2023:

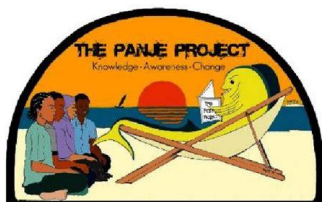
Sources of Revenues/ Income	Amount in TZS
Subsidies from Government	0
Members' and users' fees and contributions	0
Community and Public Support	0
Local Granting Organizations (Local Foundations)	9,930,227
Corporate Social Responsibility (Private Sector support)	0
Grants from Foreign Development Partners	54,617,249
Other	925,580
Total Revenues	65,498,356

Type of Expenditure	Amount in TZS
Direct Program Costs	14,503,494
Administrative Costs	1,506,890
Total Expenditure	16,010,384

Balance	49,487,972
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Thank you

Heartfelt thanks to:



Our founding team:

Dr. Cecile Brugere, Chairperson

Dr. Flower Msuya, Executive Secretary

Dr. Narriman Jiddawi, Treasurer

Dr. Betty Nyonje, Member

Our volunteers:

Ms. A. Pandu, Ms. M. Hamad

Our present and past donors

Safe Seaweed Coalition (2022),
BCI (2021), Swedbio (2018), DFAT
Australia (2017)

Our current partners

Soulfish Research & Consultancy,
ZaSCI, AFO, The Panje Project

Our Sea PoWer Sisters

In Muungoni, Nyamanzi Dimani and
Makangale communities



Stonetown, Zanzibar, URT



+255 762 022 356



seapower.zanzibar@gmail.com



www.seapower.or.tz



@Sea_PoWer