

# JOURNAL NGOUVA



www.c-3.org.uk

Community Centred Conservation—C3-Comores

C3-Comores, BP 8310, Iconi, Grande Comore

Email: info@c-3.org.uk

Tel. +269 73 75 04,  
36 75 06, 34 47 67



MINISTRE DE L'AGRICULTURE, DE LA PÊCHE, DE  
L'INDUSTRIE, DE L'ARTISANAT ET DE  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT- UNION DES COMORES

8

May-Jun 2007

## Winners of C3's Poetry Competition

On April 22, C3 launched an environmental poetry competition in celebration of Earth Day and C3's 5th anniversary. The contestants were middle and secondary school pupils and their poems included topics such as environmental protection and attitudes towards the environment. There were 7 winners in total: Soilhat Elamine, Inzlat Mohadji, Mardhua Abdillah, Naima Lmour Mzé Hamadi, Saindou Abdallah, Antoyi Abdou and Anfiat Mauoulida.

Prizes included exercise books, novels, pens, a week's IT training, and a pizza; these were generously donated by: Librarie Camy, Ahdjae Services Informatique, Librairie Alapage, and Nassib.



## Bycatch Study

C3 is working with Duke University, USA to conduct a study of bycatch on all 3 islands of the Comoros during the months of July and August. C3 will be collaborating with the Department of Fisheries of the Comoros to conduct the study. The goal of this project is to develop and test a protocol for rapid assessment that quantifies and maps artisanal fishing effort and catch of sea turtles and marine mammals in data-deficient areas.



English Class at Mitsamiouli



Seagrass between Mitsamiouli and Malouja



Quadrat surveys at Trou de Prophete



Seagrass beds at Galawa Beach

## Seagrass Mapping in Grande Comore

C3's seagrass mapping project for Grande Comore is well underway with the majority of the Northern region already complete. The research involves mapping the boundaries of the seagrass beds and conducting transects to collect data on species diversity and abundance. The seagrass research is part of an on-going project which will be carried out on all 3 islands.

C3 would also like to recognize the Oulanga Association, Association pour la Developement de Rahaléo (ADR) in Mitsamiouli for hosting C3 for 4 weeks and the Oulanga Association in Ndroudé for hosting C3 for 1 week during their field work in the north. In return, C3 has been providing the association with English language classes and training in seagrass research.

## Collaboration between C3 and the Ministry for the Environment of the Comoros

C3 is pleased to announce that we have signed an MOU with the Ministry of the Environment for the Union of the Comoros. C3 looks forward to this new partnership and will work even more closely with the Comorian government on collaborative environmental projects.

'...to develop conservation efforts worldwide by building the capacity of local individuals and institutions through grassroots research and training initiatives'

## Mohéli: its Environment and its Future - C3 workshop held on Grande Comore

On June 22nd, Melissa Hauzer and Rozenn Le Scao held the 'Operation Moheli' workshop at the Ministry of the Environment for the Union of the Comores in Moroni. Topics discussed included: PMM: What do stakeholders really think of the park? Ecotourism: What is the future for Mohéli? Marine endangered species: here today, gone tomorrow? Attendants at the workshop included government officials and representatives from various local and international organizations. The workshop proved to be a great success with interesting and insightful discussions.



## C3 announces scholarships for women

C3 is offering scholarships for 2007-2008 at the University of the Comoros for two women studying the environment. The students' tuition is paid for the year and they will be given the opportunity to gain practical work experience with C3 throughout the year.

C3 is currently providing scholarships for two male students at the University of the Comoros and would like to extend this offer to two women for the coming year. This programme is part of one of C3's aims to help empower women in the environmental sector and to increase the number of women with whom they work.



C3 workshop on Grande Comore

## C3 welcomes new interns!

C3 would like to welcome new interns Niamh Kelly and Helen Pagett.

Helen is from the UK and has an MSc in Marine Environmental Protection from the University of Wales during which she developed techniques in the asexual propagation of soft corals. For her BSc in Marine Biology with Oceanography she studied the effect of gravel banks and dredging on shark populations in the Solent. She also volunteered with the sea turtle protection society of Greece carrying out Loggerhead turtle conservation on Crete.

Niamh is from Dublin, Ireland where she attended University College Dublin and received a BSc in Zoology. In 2005 she worked for Operation Wallacea in Indonesia surveying coral reefs and marine mammals. Niamh is currently a student at Napier University in Edinburgh completing an MSc in Wildlife Biology and Conservation.



## Turtle Poaching Study

During the month of June, C3 began a turtle poaching study on Grande Comore. The study, previously conducted on the island of Mohéli, aims to carry out anonymous interviews with poachers and consumers to gain insight into the local turtle meat market and motivations behind killing and eating turtles. With the greater understanding gained from this study, effective solutions and conservation methods can be implemented. The study will be completed in the month of August.



Turtle poaching in the Comoros

## The C3 Team

Rozenn Le Scao, Programme  
Manager

Melissa Hauzer, Programme  
Coordinator

Arabella Bramley, Intern

Niamh Kelly, Intern

Helen Pagett, Intern

Mouzidalifa Issouf, Trainee

Miroirdine Kamardine, Trainee



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