



[www.c-3.org.uk](http://www.c-3.org.uk)

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L'INDUSTRIE, DE L'ARTISANAT ET DE  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT- UNION DES COMORES

11

Nov-Dec 2007

### *Environmental education in local schools*

C3 has begun an environmental education programme in local schools in order to complement their work by raising awareness and knowledge of environmental issues among young Comorians. Up until now there has been no education of this kind provided in local schools.

Since the end of October, C3 has been giving weekly classes at the school CM2 in the village of Iconi to a class of 38 students between the ages of 10 and 15. These classes have taught basic environmental concepts such as that of food chains and interaction webs as well as the biology of species found in the Comoros. In the New Year, C3 hopes to expand the programme in other schools around Iconi and Moroni, to provide information about the local environment and conservation to students.



*Environmental education classes*



*The green turtle, one of the Comoros' most  
threatened species*

### *SocMon training workshop*

From 24th to 27th February 2008, C3 plans to run a training workshop in Moroni in collaboration with CORDIO (Coastal Research and Development Indian Ocean), funded by NOAA. This workshop will train participants how to effectively implement socioeconomic monitoring programmes to evaluate the human aspect of coastal resource use in order to ensure more effective management. Individuals trained during this workshop will form a network of socioeconomic monitoring sites throughout the Comoros, to be coordinated by C3 over the next 18 months. Anybody with a committed interest in the conservation of marine resources in the Comoros may apply to take part in this training workshop by submitting a CV and letter of motivation to Melissa Hauzer, C3-Comores C3-Comores BP 8310, Moroni ([melissa@c-3.org.uk](mailto:melissa@c-3.org.uk); Tel. 34 47 67). We welcome applications from male and female candidates from Anjouan, Mohéli and Grande Comore. Travel costs, food and accommodation will be provided as necessary.

### *C3 attends conferences in Cape Town, South Africa*

Melissa Hauzer recently travelled to Cape Town to attend Duke University's workshop, 'By-catch in Africa: Assessment, Research, and Mitigation', from 27th-28th November as well as the 17th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals from 29th November to 3rd December. The workshop and conference were held at the Cape Town International Conference Centre and brought together marine mammal and fisheries researchers, scientists, and students from around the world.

The Duke University workshop on by-catch was a part of Duke's Project GloBAL and aimed 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. The workshop, hosted by Tara Cox, Andy Read, and Jeff Moore from Duke University, was extremely interesting and successful. It was a great opportunity for the various countries in Africa involved in the by-catch study to present and compare their results, challenges, and successes. There were also various experts from the region who offered interesting insight into the challenges of conducting a rapid assessment survey in developing African countries. Melissa gave a well-received presentation on C3's results and experiences conducting the rapid by-catch assessment in the Comoros.

C3 and Melissa would like to thank Duke University and the Project GloBAL team for the opportunity to attend and present at the workshop.



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

*C3 at the Christmas Bazaar*

C3-Comores was invited to participate at the second annual Christmas Bazaar, organized by 'Moroni Accueil', held on 2nd December at the Ecole Francaise. C3 members promoted the organization, raised awareness on different environmental and community causes and raised funds for different projects currently underway. An overview of C3 activities in the Comoros was presented through a PowerPoint presentation, posters and illustrated summaries of the different projects. Funds were raised by selling C3 T-shirts and postcards, through a donation box and a raffle. The grand prize of the raffle (offered by Comores Aviation and HUPPE) was an all inclusive weekend for two in Hoani, Mohéli. The second prize was an introduction to diving at Itsandra Plongée and the remaining prizes were meals for two in some of Moroni's best restaurants ( Select, Jardin de la Paix, L'Escale, Chez Babou),. The event was a great success with regard to the number of people that attended and the valuable contacts made. C3 would like to thank Moroni Accueil for the opportunity to participate.



Drawing the raffle at the Christmas Bazaar

*Waste management awareness raising in Iconi*

C3-Comores raised awareness of the need for effective waste management in Iconi during November and December. Many Comorian towns such as Iconi have a major waste problem in the form of litter disposed beside roads, on beaches and in the ocean. This can have negative impacts not only on the environment but equally on the health of the community. An awareness raising event was organized mid-December through a collaboration between C3-Comores, ADELEC (Environmental Association of Iconi) and OULEZI (Health Association of Iconi). Influential women were invited from each neighbourhood of Iconi to participate at the event and to share their experience of the problem. The main aims were to encourage the community to take responsibility themselves of the waste management problem and to emphasise the importance of sorting waste into organics and non-organics.

*Exciting new ecotourism project on Mohéli*

C3-Comores has just confirmed an exciting new ecotourism project in collaboration with Working Abroad a British NGO and the association HUPPE on the island of Mohéli. Eco-volunteers, sent by Working Abroad, will be based in the village of Hoani where they will help with the conservation of sea turtles and community development. C3-Comores will train HUPPE personnel in ecotourism management and sea turtle conservation techniques. In turn the local ecoguards will train eco volunteers to monitor the nests of green turtles which will contribute greatly to the large nest-monitoring project already underway. They will also help within the community with awareness raising projects and English lessons. This ecotourism project will generate revenue for HUPPE and in this way will help the community strengthen its economy through tourism and cultural exchanges.

*New staff and intern*

At the beginning of December, C3 welcomed a new staff member. Daniella Blake came to C3 as an intern and will continue to work with C3 as Programme Officer, supervising field work carried out on the three islands. At this time C3 said goodbye to Rozenn Le Scao who worked as Programme Manager for eight months. C3 would like to thank Rozenn for the work she did for the organization and wishes her all the best for the future.

C3-Comores welcomes Sophie Hansen who started her internship at the beginning of November. She is German-French and studied marine biology. Before joining the C3 team in the Comoros, she was working for IUCN Europe with the communication unit. She is particularly interested in the conservation of marine mammals.

*The C3 Team*

- Melissa Hauzer, Programme Coordinator
- Daniella Blake, Programme Officer
- Sophie Hansen, Intern
- Pascale le Point, Intern
- Mouzidalifa Yssouf, Ecotourism Officer

*Community environmental manual*

Following C3-Comores fruitful collaborations with village associations in Hoani, Mitsamiouli, Iconi and Chindini, we are currently completing an environmental manual, directed specifically at Comorian village communities. This manual will provide information about: wider concepts of conservation management; international examples of conservation in action; endangered coastal species and habitats of the Comoros; environmental threats in the Comoros and their solutions; community-based monitoring and management programmes. This 50-page manual will be a valuable tool to train community ecoguards, establish village environmental groups and run youth programmes such as the Junior Ecoguards on Mohéli. The manual will be illustrated over the coming months and will be available in electronic format mid-2008. C3-Comores is currently seeking funding to print and distribute hard copies of the manual.

*C3-Comores wishes a Happy New Year 2008 to all of our friends, collaborators and supporters worldwide!*

