PRESENTATION TO
THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP ON SPACE
TECHNOLOGIES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WORLD HERITAGE
SITES
BEIJING, CHINA
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Outline

- Introduction – Country Profile
- Biography – Personal Info
- NMK Mandate and heritage assets
- World Heritage Sites in Kenya
- Lamu World Heritage Site
- Challenges of the Lamu WHS
- Opportunities For Application Of Remote Sensing
WHERE I COME FROM
Located in the Heart of Africa and straddling across the equator, Kenya shares borders with Ethiopia in the north, Sudan in the Northwest, Uganda in the West and Tanzania in the south. The Indian Ocean lies to the East. The Rift Valley runs through the country north to south.
WHO I AM AND WHAT I DO
My Tribe

There are many ways of telling one's own story. If I was a politician I would talk about my vision and strategy, if I was an athlete I would talk about my dedication and triumphs but I am the King so I will talk about my subjects.
THE HOME MAKER

ICON OF THE FAMILY, PILLAR OF STRENGTH, DISCIPLINARIAN

THATCHER
THE PRINCESS

CENTRE OF MY UNIVERSE

PAJERO
THE HEIR

THE FUTURE IS IN HIS HANDS

JUNIOR
This is where heritage begins. Whatever decision I make today, it must not compromise the ability of the next generation to raise their own families - kingdoms (Sustainable Development).
Current Employment

- The National Museums of Kenya (NMK) is a multi-disciplinary state corporation whose core mandate is identification, preservation, conservation and development of Kenya’s rich and diverse heritage.

This mandate is fulfilled through the work of several directorates key among which is the Directorate of Museums, Sites and Monuments (DMSM). Deployed at the Lamu World Heritage Site and conservation Office

- Duties include assisting the manager of the lamu world heritage site in co-ordinating the conservation regulatory functions of the National Museums of Kenya as well as those of development controlling of the of Lamu county council in order to deal with conservation areas within the Lamu district.

- Preparation of conservation plans and cost estimates for the restoration and conservation of monuments and historical landscapes and carrying out of condition surveys.

- Supervision of building and restoration works within historical sites,

- Preparation of the Annual State of Conservation Report for the World Heritage Site of Lamu and selected national monuments within the Lamu district.

- Collaborate with the Heritage Site Manager and other partners to develop conservation programme for the Lamu World Heritage Site
MANDATE OF THE NMK
National Museums of Kenya (NMK) is a state corporation established by an Act of Parliament, the Museums and Heritage Act 2006. NMK is a multi-disciplinary institution whose role is to collect, preserve, study, document and present Kenya's past and present cultural and natural heritage. NMK manages numerous Museums, Sites, Monuments and urban and cultural landscapes of national and international importance alongside priceless collections of Kenya's living cultural and natural heritage. www.museums.or.ke
ETHNOGRAPHIC WOODEN MATERIALS AND CONTEMPORARY ART PIECES

OPERATES 3 DIRECTORATES

NMM AND OTHER REGIONAL MUSEUMS

ETHNOGRAPHIC WOODEN MATERIALS AND CONTEMPORARY ART PIECES
WORLD HERITAGE SITES IN KENYA

SIX WORLD HERITAGE SITES

- MOUNT KENYA NATIONAL PARK
- SIBILOI NATIONAL PARK
- KAYA FORESTS
- RIFT VALLEY LAKES
- FORT JESUS, MOMBASA
- LAMU OLD TOWN
OTHER HERITAGE PROPERTIES
OTHER CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSETS

SPIRIT OF THE PLACE

human excellence, intellectual ingenuity

Connection with space and places
As a practitioner, my personal quest is to illuminate our connection to space and places.

TRADITIONAL HOMESTEAD
EVOLUTION OF TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND HOW IT CAN INFLUENCE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

CAN WE DO IT AT THE MACRO LEVEL
No object is part of our cultural heritage until it is perceived and interpreted as such.
LAMU WORLD HERITAGE SITE
Lamu archipelago consists of several Islands namely; Pate, Manda, Lamu, Ndau and Kiwayu. According to the 2009 census, Lamu district has a population of 108,000 people with Lamu town accommodating 25,000 people.
The town dates back to the 13th Century though archaeological evidence suggests that human habitation on the Island could have been as early as 10th Century.

The emergence of the town and its subsequent development can be attributed directly to the historic Indian Ocean trade which brought along cultural and economic interchanges; the result of which is the entrenchment of a whole new civilization to the East African Coast.
Today the town is heir to a rich urban culture characterized by the unique stone town and unperturbed traditional way of life.
Lamu people have a strong sense of adherence to traditional and religious values.

Narrow streets and elaborate plaster motifs in many houses are among the commonest features in the town.
Lamu District has often been referred to by many scholars as the cradle of Swahili civilization. The district especially the Lamu archipelago is endowed with numerous historical settlements, sites and monuments which are the object of preservation by the National Museums of Kenya of which the most prominent is the Lamu Old Town, a World Heritage Site.
External carved wooden doors are distinctive decorative features of the Coast of East Africa. Many of these doors are over 100 years old and bear testimony to the carpentry skills of the people and fine woods of these coastal regions. Although a few examples of similar doors can be seen in the Old Arabian trading ports of the Red sea and Gulf areas, as well as in the Sudan and Somalia and also in Goa and the Gujarati trading towns of the west coast of India, East Africa is the only place where they still exist in large numbers and where a continuing tradition of door carving is practiced.

Carved doors are not like a modern day painting or sculpture where the artist chooses the subject matter, designs and executes it so that the finished result is entirely an expression of himself. Door carving is a craft, which is often done in a workshop and the owner of the workshop may well be purely a businessman, who employs craftsmen of varying skills, designers, woodcarvers, and locksmiths etc, who collectively produce a door to the specification of a particular client.

ATHMAN HUSSEIN ASST DIRECTOR  RMSM-COAST
Mystical powers of the swahili door.

As a physical architectural element, the Swahili door is neither designed nor has the capacity to keep out intruders. Rather, it is the mystical and the magical qualities of the Swahili door that deter intruders from entering the Swahili house. The Koranic inscriptions on the upper part of the door, the Swahili proverbs and sayings, the orientation of the door towards Mecca, the patterns and motifs on the door, the etiquette of entering a Swahili house and the metaphorical meaning and function of the *Kizingiti* (the door threshold) are pointers to mystical and magical powers that a Swahili door possesses.

Dr Kalandar Khan
Plate 4: Filling the joints of the coral rag bed laid over the timber ceiling joists. This is the traditional technique used in constructing suspended floors in Swahili buildings.
PERCIEVED THREATS TO THE LAMU HERITAGE

- LAMU PORT DEVELOPMENT (LAPSSET)
- OIL EXPLORATION WITHIN THE ARCHIPELAGO
- INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS
- CONSTRUCTION WITHIN THE WATER CATCHMENT AREAS
- CLIMATE CHANGE AND RISING SEA.

Opportunities For Application Of Remote Sensing Technology.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR APPLICATION OF REMOTE SENSING IN LAMU

- LAPSSET PROJECT
- MARINE ARCHEOLOGY
LAPSSET Corridor Project is a ‘Kenya Vision 2030’ flagship project, with the following objectives:

- Foster transport linkage between Kenya, South Sudan and Ethiopia.
- Dynamic promotion of regional socio-economic development along the transport corridor especially in the Northern, Eastern, North-Eastern and Coastal parts of Kenya. Northern Corridor currently Kenya's only economic corridor;
- Feasibility studies have shown that if implemented, the LAPSSET Corridor Project, will inject a growth value of approximately 2% to 3% of GDP into the economy;
- Economic development of the region through enhanced cross border trade.
LAMU PORT DEVELOPMENT

LAMU PORT, SOUTH SUDAN, ETHIOPIA TRANSPORT CORRIDOR PROJECT

PROJECT COMPONENTS

1. Lamu Port
2. Railway Line
3. Highway
4. Crude Oil Pipeline
   Product Pipeline
5. Oil Refinery
6. Resort Cities
7. Airports

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE
High Grand Falls
--- Lamu Metropolis
AREA OF PROPOSED PORT AMD METROPOLIS DEVELOPMENT
ARTISTIC IMPRESSION OF THE LAMU PORT AND METROPOLIS
ANTICIPATED BENEFITS OF THE LAPSSET

- Lamu has been in the backburner of development in the last 50 years.
- The proposed PRORT project is expected to change the socio-economic landscape of Lamu County in terms of:
  a) Infrastructure development
  b) Job creation
  c) Tourism
  d) Intercultural exchange
ANTICIPATED THREATS

- Environmental degradation
- Population explosion
- Cultural erosion
- Escalation of disease outbreak (HIV-AIDS)
- Mass tourism
- Loss of traditional life coping skills
- Impact on cultural and natural heritage
Ishakani Site A
Large tomb site with cylindrical pillar north of the present Ishakani village

Ishakani Site B
Group of tombs north west of present Ishakani settlement with several cylindrical pillars
Ishakani Site A
Large tomb site with cylindrical pillar north of the present Ishakani village
Mwana
STRIKING A BALANCE

• The Government of Kenya with the help of UNESCO has undertaken a heritage impact assessment exercise - This is expected to guide the envisaged port and associated infrastructure developments.

• The national museums of Kenya which is the custodian of heritage in the country is working towards:
  1) Developing models of Governance to promote and sustain Heritage and development for the benefit of the present and future generations?
  2) Integrating the contribution of Heritage to development beyond tourism and local economy.
The Kenya Government through the NMK is looking at what strategies can be developed to enhance Heritage and sustainable development in order to promote communities livelihoods? These include:

1. How people are valuating their heritage in view of the following aspects?
   - Consciousness of what is of value to preserve and to promote Heritage
   - How mechanisms of sustainability can be implemented
   - How to create Social Fabrics that sustainably build the local Heritage for the well-being of the people?
   - How to recognize the participation of vulnerable groups within a comprehensive understanding of Heritage
Ultimately the Kenya Government hopes to create a symbiotic relationship between heritage and sustainable development. The local culture must inform the envisaged developments and the envisaged developments must strive to illuminate the local cultural heritage for example the forms of the new developments must be inspired by the traditional built forms and designs.

Opportunities For Application Of Remote Sensing Technology In Urban and infrastructure development Marine Archeology Along The Kenyan Coast
REPORT ON THE SITE VISIT OF THE PRELIMINARY CONSTRUCTION WORKS OF THE LAMU PORT AREA

Prepared by Lamu World Heritage Site and Conservation Office
National Museums of Kenya
February 2012
On the 13th February 2012 a site visit was conducted on the preliminary road works of the Lamu port area by staff from the Lamu Museum in the company of the KPA Representative in Lamu and the project Resident Engineer.
The team visited the Mashundwani and Kililana villages on the southern sector of the proposed ports project where road making equipment had been deployed and had opened up an access road from Mokowe leading to the two villages.
Archeological remains—probable grave according to local villages unearthed by the road making equipment along the path of the new road.
Many more remains have been exposed by bush clearing in preparations of new works.
Opportunities For Application Of Remote Sensing Technology In Marine Archeology Along The Kenyan Coast

A number of Chinese Junks believed to be part of the fleet of Zheng He sunk of the coast of Kenya.
Evidence indicates that trade between China and the East African coast was flourishing at the time.
Giraffes presented to Yongle emperor of the Ming in 1416 (or 1414) by the King of Malindi (in the present day Kenya). The Chinese regarded it as “Qilin”, a sacred and auspicious animal known as Chinese unicorn.
It is also been established that a number of survivors from the shipwreck may have reached shore and cohabited with local communities.

Researchers say that Kenyan Mohamed Sharifu and his family are descendants of Chinese sailors who were shipwrecked on Pate Island, off the coast of Kenya, in the 15th century. But Sharifu says he doubts the story.

PHOTO BY: Erin Conway-Smith

Mwamaka Sharif's mother, who is said to have Chinese ancestry, shows a Chinese-style bowl in Siyu Island, Kenya, July 9, 2015. (Xinhua/Sun Ruibo)
Nanjing University of Traditional Chinese Medicine.
SINO-KENYAN PROJECT TO LOCATE WRECK OF CHINESE SHIP

NMK is working with the National Museum of China and University of Peking
HOPEFULLY REMOTE RENSING WILL HELP TO FIND THE SHIP IN LAMU WATERS
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