



(Partnerships and synergies for knowledge transfer, coastal resilience and sustainable community development)

Pwani University, P.o. Box 195-80108, KILIFI

Email address: cpacts@pu.ac.ke

C-PaCTS Project Brief

Introduction

C-PaCTS is a collaboration project bringing together Technische Universität München (TUM) in Germany, Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in Indonesia, and Pwani University (PU) in Kenya to build “Partnerships and synergies for knowledge transfer, coastal resilience and sustainable community development” to primarily to address critical issues of climate change and sustainable development Goals (SDGs) among coastal rural communities. The primary goal of the project is to foster for improved dialogues and partnerships between academics and communities, as well as enhancing exchanges between South-South and North South academic institutions for sustainable coastal community development. Multifaceted approaches including joint curriculum design, participatory community action research, and co-creative learning have been institutionalized in order to effectively support and link to sustainable land management, education and environmental science.

The project focuses on building a pulsating international network of students, scholars and fisherfolks and women groups and other community actors to co-generate knowledge, primarily to inform the design and implementation of strategies on climate change and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Placing emphasis on enhancing south to south and north -south dialogues, premised on Javanese guyub principle, the project fosters for mutual capacity building and new teaching and research interfaces. The project integrates community knowledge and academic research across continents and aim to develop co-designed curricula on coastal resilience and SDGs (4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17) grounded in real-world cases and local participation. The project is structured in key work packages including a keen focus on education, equity, institutional reforms, environmental action implemented through real field work, exchanges, and community-based knowledge transfer.

The Challenge(s)

Climate change, Land grabbing, unequal development and pollution are rampant challenges bedeviling and increasing the vulnerabilities of coastal rural communities in Kenya and Indonesia. Integrated solutions aligned with the local community



Technical
University
of Munich



perspectives are paramount for reversing the current trends of multifaceted challenges. Participation programme focused on action research, mitigation strategies, resilience building, and mutual exchange is crucial for addressing the above challenge, given that the fact that none of the SDGs have been achieved in these areas. Therefore, this project aims to address the lack of effective dialogue and feedback loops between academic and community knowledge. Academic systems often operate within internal loops, while community knowledge remains localized. Additionally, academic knowledge transfers tend to follow a North-South orientation driven by funding opportunities.



Innovation, Intended Impact, and Sustainability of the Project

C-PaCTS project introduces innovative models for integrating community knowledge and academic research across continents. It develops co-designed curricula on coastal resilience and SDGs, grounded in real-world cases and local participation. Expected outcomes include new teaching modules, citizen science methods, knowledge-sharing platforms, and inclusive governance approaches. Stakeholders include academic staff, students, community leaders, fisheries associations, policymakers, and NGOs. Project results will be shared through conferences, open-access publications, community barazas, and policy briefs. The sustainability strategy embeds outputs in long-term university structures, supports staff training, and promotes hybrid learning. It aims to establish a lasting knowledge hub, strengthen institutional capacities, and influence both higher education and local climate adaptation practices beyond the funding period.

