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## Marine Sanctuary and Forest Preserve, Chumbe Island, Tanzania

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*On this page: A case study on Marine Sanctuary and Forest Preserve, Chumbe Island, Tanzania. Find more at the [Municipal Public-Private Partnership Framework - Project Summaries](#) section for brief summaries of around 100 projects from around the world, examples of successes and challenges, as well as innovative ideas on solutions, or visit the [Guidelines on Innovative Revenues for Infrastructure](#) section.*

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### Project Summary:

#### Background

Chumbe Island, a 55-acre, uninhabited island located about eight miles southwest of Zanzibar, Tanzania, is home to a rich natural environment. The island is blessed with coral rag forest and surrounded by coral reefs, which are home to more than 420 fish species and 200 hard coral species. However, the sensitive ecosystem was under threat from overfishing and overharvesting, which were contributing to the degradation of the marine environment.

#### Project Structure

A private company named Chumbe Island Coral Park Ltd (CICP) submitted an unsolicited proposal to the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (RGoZ) for the establishment of a marine sanctuary and forest

preserve in Chumbe Island. To gain political support for the proposal, CICIP worked closely with seven government departments and garnered the support of the region's fishermen and local communities to get the project approved. In 1993, the CICIP was given a 33-year land lease to develop eco-friendly bungalows and a visitors' center on 5.9 acres of land on Chumbe Island. In 1994, the RGoZ granted CICIP exclusive management rights over the marine sanctuary for ten years and over the forest reserve for 33 years. In 2004, the marine contract was renewed for another ten year.

CICIP provided about two-thirds of the initial capital investment for the project, totaling USD 1.2 million, with eco-friendly donors contributing the remainder. The operation and maintenance costs are between USD 150,000 and USD 200,000 per year. The revenue generated by small-scale eco-tourism to the island is sufficient to cover the costs of managing the sanctuary and preserve, research projects, conservation, and public education programs designed to generate support for the sanctuary.

The RGoZ maintains ownership of the marine areas and Chumbe Island, including CICIP's developments, with the Zanzibar Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources and the Zanzibar Ministry of Lands and Environment responsible for the direct supervision of the project.

## Lessons Learned

Since 2000, CICIP's operations on Chumbe Island have been fully self-sustaining. Latest available reports indicate that the number of visitors to the island reached only 40 percent of total capacity. The primary goal of the project is not to make a profit, but rather to achieve both financial and environmental sustainability. This means that, if the island were to reach full capacity, CICIP could recover its investment and even fund a limited expansion in some areas.<sup>1</sup>

Obtaining support from key stakeholders – in this case, the region's fishermen and local communities – is vital for the successful development and delivery of a project, even or especially when initiated as an unsolicited project proposal.

*Footnote 1: Source(s) [https:// www.esc-pau.fr/ppp/ documents/featured\\_ projects/tanzania.pdf](https://www.esc-pau.fr/ppp/documents/featured_projects/tanzania.pdf), accessed 16 February 2019*

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*The [Guidelines on Innovative Revenues for Infrastructure \(IRI\)](#) is intended to be a living document and will be reviewed at regular intervals. They have not been prepared with any specific transaction in mind and are meant to serve only as general guidance. It is therefore critical that the Guidelines be reviewed and adapted for specific transactions.*

*To find more, visit the [Innovative Revenues for Infrastructure](#) section and the [Content Outline](#), or [Download the Full Report](#). For [feedback](#) on the content of this section of the website or suggestions for links or materials that could be included, please contact the Public-Private Partnership Resource Center at [ppp@worldbank.org](mailto:ppp@worldbank.org).*

