

Mangrove is assaulted by irregular constructions of houses.



Houses closer and closer to the river

Just a closer look to see how much has the mangrove occupation along the bank the Matola River has grown. Practically every bank is occupied by houses, most of them with precarious material, buildings of reed, and masonry houses.

According to Luis Jafar, resident in Matola River who has been living in the neighbourhood since 2010s, people are destroying the mangrove for the construction of houses. "We are damaging our environment as we are destroying the mangrove. These houses are made during the night, and when it is dawn we just come across with these houses. Actually people know that they should not build here because it is not a place for construction, but they do not listen. The city council has also tried to prevent from building houses along the banks but they are stubborn". He said.

In addition to the invasion of houses, there is deforestation which has also contributed to the disappearance of mangroves. This problem damages the environmental health and it affects aquatic life. Cutting down of mangrove stakes or branches, foster the destruction of habitats, reduction of biodiversity, acceleration of erosion, poor ecological productivity, soil impoverishment and other problems.

In this context, Jafar calls for an urgent intervention to save the mangrove "The area has already been devastated and the occupation can grow if no intervention is done urgently, the government has to do something to prevent further construction, or prevent them from cutting more mangrove trees Mr. Jafar lamented

Foto de Mangal

