THE SCIENCE TO POLICY PLATFORM FOR THE NAIROBI CONVENTION

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UNEP, Nairobi Convention
WIOGEN KICK OFF CONFERENCE
Who we are

- **A legal framework** and platform for regional collaboration between countries and partners

- **Mandate:** protect, manage and develop the Western Indian Ocean at regional level;

- **Vision:** A partnership between governments, civil society and the private sector, working towards a prosperous Western Indian Ocean Region
The Contracting Parties:

- Somalia
- Kenya
- Tanzania
- Seychelles
- Comoros
- Madagascar
- France
- Mauritius
- Mozambique
- South Africa
Partnerships

National institutions
FARI
RECs Partnership

- RECs: implementing arms of the African Union frameworks
- Coordinating the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of Agenda 2063 at member states’ level
Main activities of the work programme

1. Assessments and capacity development
2. Management
3. Coordination and Legal aspects
4. Information and awareness
Why the Western Indian Ocean Matters

- 5% global industrialized fish catch (4 million tonnes/yr)
- 11,257 marine species (13% endemism)
- 2,200 fish species (83% of known fish families)
- 65 million people live within 100 km of wider coast
- Estimated US$ 22 Billion/year from marine & coastal resources; assets estimated at US$ 333.8 billion
- Over 40 EBSA & approx. 700 Seamounts identified
- Emerging Oil & Gas frontier of global interest
Africa is changing: WIO Region changing too

Aspiring Africa (March 2013)

ODA vs. FDI vs. Remittances, Developing Countries in Africa

- ODA
- FDI
- Remittances

Year:
- 1990
- 1995
- 2000
- 2005
- 2010
- 2012

USD (millions):
- 0
- 10000
- 20000
- 30000
- 40000
- 50000
- 60000
- 70000
Threats
- Pollution from land-based sources
- Overfishing
- Biodiversity and habitat loss
- Illegal fishing

Climate change impacts
- Inadequate governance

New opportunities
- Infrastructure

Cumulative extinctions as % of IUCN-evaluated species

- Terrestrial: 38%
- Freshwater: 81%
- Marine: 36%
Bending the Curve on Biodiversity Loss:

*Peak, Plateau and Restore...*

Are we working at a scale that matters??

- Double Sustainable Fisheries
- Keep Major Rivers Flowing
- Halt Deforestation
- Eliminate Poaching
- Protect 30% of Land & Sea

Living Planet Index: 2012 - 58%, 2020 - 67%, 2025, 2030

Very Dangerous
Knowledge transitions

Policy

Technical publications

Research: Basic/applied
Mandate for Science to Policy Platform

- **Decision CP 4/** parts 3 and 4 directed the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention, in collaboration with other organizations, to facilitate the establishment of the network of academic and research institutions in the region;

- **Decision CP 7/17** of the seventh Conference of Parties (COP) to the Nairobi Convention requested the secretariat to hold, and encourage partners to support, regular science to policy dialogues;

- **Decision CP 8/12** also requested for the establishment of a dialogue platform to strengthen links between science, policy and action; and

- **Decision CP 9/12** on Science-policy dialogues urged the Contracting Parties to promote a science-policy interface by building regular dialogues between scientists and policy makers to exchange science-based decision making.

- Establishment of FARI in 2004........
FARI ACHIEVEMENTS

- Provided technical support to WIOLAB through membership in technical working groups,
-Reviewed and validated the Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA),
-Preparation of the Strategic Action programme (SAP),
-Review and validation of the Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analysis (MEDAs) for ASCLME
-Science to Policy contributions.
Science to Policy Platform

- In the delivery of its Work-Programme, the Convention executes various projects with partners across the region e.g. SAPPHIRE and WIOSAP

- The WIOSAP Project has proposed the establishment of a science-policy exchange platform under the Nairobi Convention for policy

- While the SAPPHIRE Project has proposed the establishment of a STAP to serve as key point (bridge) to science to policy interface for improve ocean governance, evidence-based decision making and adaptive management.
Rationale of the SPP

• It was proposed that a body is established at Convention level to serve these projects needs and wider Convention science and policy related matters.
• Provide the necessary information for evidenced-based decision making
• This body shall be called the Science to Policy Platform (SPP) for the Convention.
• A multi-stakeholder platform comprising of representatives of formal and informal knowledge generating institutions, practitioners, policy makers, communities and the private sector within the WIO region
• Serve as an intermediary body to bridge the gaps between science, policy and practice
SPP Shall provide a framework for:

• Facilitating sharing of information between institutions and the Nairobi Convention and other regional processes,
• Offering scientific and technical advice on priorities for management, assessment and information dissemination to the regional initiatives,
• Enhancing cooperation among universities/research institutions, government institutions, NGOs, regional organizations/programmes in the region,
• Coordinating and facilitating identification of opportunities for collaborative regional research.
Objectives of the SPP

• Information sharing between academic and research institutions and the Nairobi Convention and other regional frameworks;
• Cooperation amongst universities/research institutions, government institutions, NGOs, regional organizations/programmes in the WIO region;
• Cooperation and facilitating identification of opportunities for collaborative regional research in line with the Nairobi Convention Work Programme;
• Providing critical linkage between research and decision making processes, and
• Providing quality assurance for the scientific research products by experts in the WIO region.
TORs of the SPP

• Serve as key point (bridge) to science to policy interface for improve ocean governance, evidence-based decision making and adaptive management;
• Providing quality assurance to elements of the Nairobi Convention Work programme and other regional stakeholders;
• Contributing to the development of the Nairobi Convention Work Programme;
• Identifying new and emergent fields of research, including the application of new technologies and innovative research approaches;
• Providing expert technical support in the peer-review of projects, management decisions and policies;
SPP Operations/Membership

• Focal Points to the Nairobi Convention
• Membership is open to relevant heads of academic and research institutions;
• Rep for each institution by the head of the academic or research institution or formal alternate;
• The Science to Policy Platform can seek advice from other individual experts as may be required in an ad-hoc manner;
• Governmental institutions, NGOs and regional programmes with mandate to conduct research on marine and coastal issues are eligible for membership of The Science to Policy Platform;
Outcomes of the StP Meeting 2019

• Policy/management recommendations based on emerging or current scientific;
• The status of oceanographic research established and a roadmap for data and information sharing defined;
• Validated regional toolkits and Guidelines to address conservation and management needs of the regional.
• A **formal science-policy structure** established to support implementation of the Convention’s Work-programme and associated projects e.g. SAPPHIRE and WIOSAP
As an Example:

Leading to COP 9

Call for submission of priority issues Science to Policy Forum

- To highlight emerging issues and present evidence to policy makers on the areas that require new policies
- The issue should be of regional and/or global importance
- Should not promote institutional projects/programmes
- Issues from previous COP Technical Meeting
- Partnership Meeting

Policy Forum

COP

- Technical Meeting
- Partnership Meeting
Some of the COP decisions

• Decision CP.9/3. Management of marine litter and municipal wastewater in the Western Indian Ocean:
  • Strategy/Action Plan and TWG

• Decision CP.9/7. Develop and support implementation of projects
  • The impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise and shipping activities on marine animals and prioritization of projects relating to the subject.

• Decision CP.9/9. Climate change adaptation and mitigation
  • To urge Contracting Parties to address the impact of ocean acidification, including through capacity development and the enhancement of scientific cooperation in partnership with research and academic institutions, regional monitoring and adaptation activities; role of blue carbon
Regional Task Forces

• Coral Reef Task Force
• WIO Mangrove Network
• Critical Habitats Task Force
• Water Quality Task Force
• River Flows Task Force
• Marine Litter and Microplastics Technical WG
• Marine Spatial Planning TWG..........
Some Recent Key achievements
Western Indian Ocean
Marine Protected Areas Outlook:
Towards achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

A story of regional collaboration

[Flag images of various countries]
Purpose

- The WIO-SAP is supporting Contracting Parties in the implementation of SDG 14 with special focus on Targets 14.2 and 14.5

- Target 14.2 calls for *the sustainable management and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems*

- Target 14.5 states that *by 2020, countries shall conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas*

- WIOMSA managing technical coordination of the process
Also Illustrated with Case studies

CASE STUDY

Madagascar LMMAs and the MIHARI Network: from local fisheries management to marine conservation

Joanna Smith, Didier Dogley, Rick Tingley and Jude Bijoux

The Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning (SMSP) project, funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), was implemented by the Government of Madagascar and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The project focused on developing a marine spatial plan for the Malagasy continental shelf, with the goal of promoting sustainable fisheries management and biodiversity conservation. The plan was developed in collaboration with key stakeholders, including local communities, government agencies, and international organizations. The plan included recommendations for the establishment of marine protected areas (MPAs) and the development of sustainable fishing practices. The project also aimed to enhance the capacity of local government agencies to manage marine resources effectively.

CASE STUDY

The Seychelles Marine Spatial Planning

CASE STUDY

MPA Governance in Kenya

Arthur O. Tuda

Formal MPAs in Kenya are primarily managed by the government (management is government-led) guided by the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act 2013. The Act sets out restrictions on different uses, the jurisdictions and responsibilities of the managing authority (Kenya Wildlife Service), and the rights and obligations of the public. Legal incentives are the key drivers in most MPA-related processes, ensuring that the statutory conservation objectives are fulfilled in MPA decision-making. However, the Wildlife Act also provides a basis for community participation, which is guided by specific legal provisions as a means of promoting transparency, equity and compliance in achieving statutory MPA objectives. Present MPA governance challenges include the lack of regulations specific to MPAs, and some shortfalls in the Act in respect of provision for management interventions that address emerging challenges such as the impacts of climate change. Barriers to adaptive governance also exist including low adaptive management capacity among MPA staff.

Illegal beach seine catch, Malindi Marine Park, Kenya. © Peter Chadwick

- Tanzania – Blast Fishing
- Tanzania – Oil and Gas
- Comoros – MPA Motivation
Table 2: Summarised country findings of the snapshot management effectiveness assessment for the Western Indian Ocean marine protected areas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>French MDAs</th>
<th>Mauritius</th>
<th>Zambia</th>
<th>Comoros</th>
<th>Seychelles</th>
<th>Madagascar</th>
<th>South Africa</th>
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<th>WIO Region Score</th>
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<td>2. Protected Area Regulations</td>
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<td>3. Marine Protected Area Boundary Demarcation</td>
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<td>5. Management Plan</td>
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<td>6. Implementation of Management Plan</td>
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<td>7. Operational Budget</td>
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<td>8. Annual Plan of Operation (APO)</td>
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**Rating Matrix**

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<th>2 – 2.5</th>
<th>3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Definition of Rating</strong></td>
<td>Not Applicable under current circumstances</td>
<td>No evidence presented/ No effort made to address indicator</td>
<td>Some effort made to address indicator but less than minimum standard achieved</td>
<td>Minimum standards achieved but gaps still exist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Boundary integrity**

**in the region.**

**Regional Score**

8 10
## Project Guidelines and Proposal Development

### Seagrass Ecosystem Restoration for the Western Indian Ocean

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposal Demo Project Title</th>
<th>Partner</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhancing stakeholder capacity on use of ICZM as a tool for conservation of the coastal and marine environment through a demo ICZM Project in Malindi – Sabaki Estuary Area, Kenya</td>
<td>National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Towards integrated spatial planning for sustainable management of coastal and marine resources in Kilifi county, Kenya</td>
<td>World Wide Fund - WWF</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coral culture for small scale reef rehabilitation in Mauritius</td>
<td>Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI)</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
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<td>Assessment of Blue Carbon Ecosystem (Seagrass) around the island of Mauritius</td>
<td>Albion Fisheries Research Centre, Albion, Mauritius</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
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<td>Community-based ecological coastal rehabilitation using an ecosystem approach</td>
<td>Terrestrial Restoration Action Society of Seychelles (TRASS)</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Habitat restoration and attraction of seabirds to Ile aux Aigrettes (Mauritius)</td>
<td>Mauritian Wildlife Foundation</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
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