



# UN Ocean Decade Roadmap for Africa



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**2021** United Nations Decade  
**2030** of Ocean Science  
for Sustainable Development



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# The Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap

Dr Zacharie Sohou

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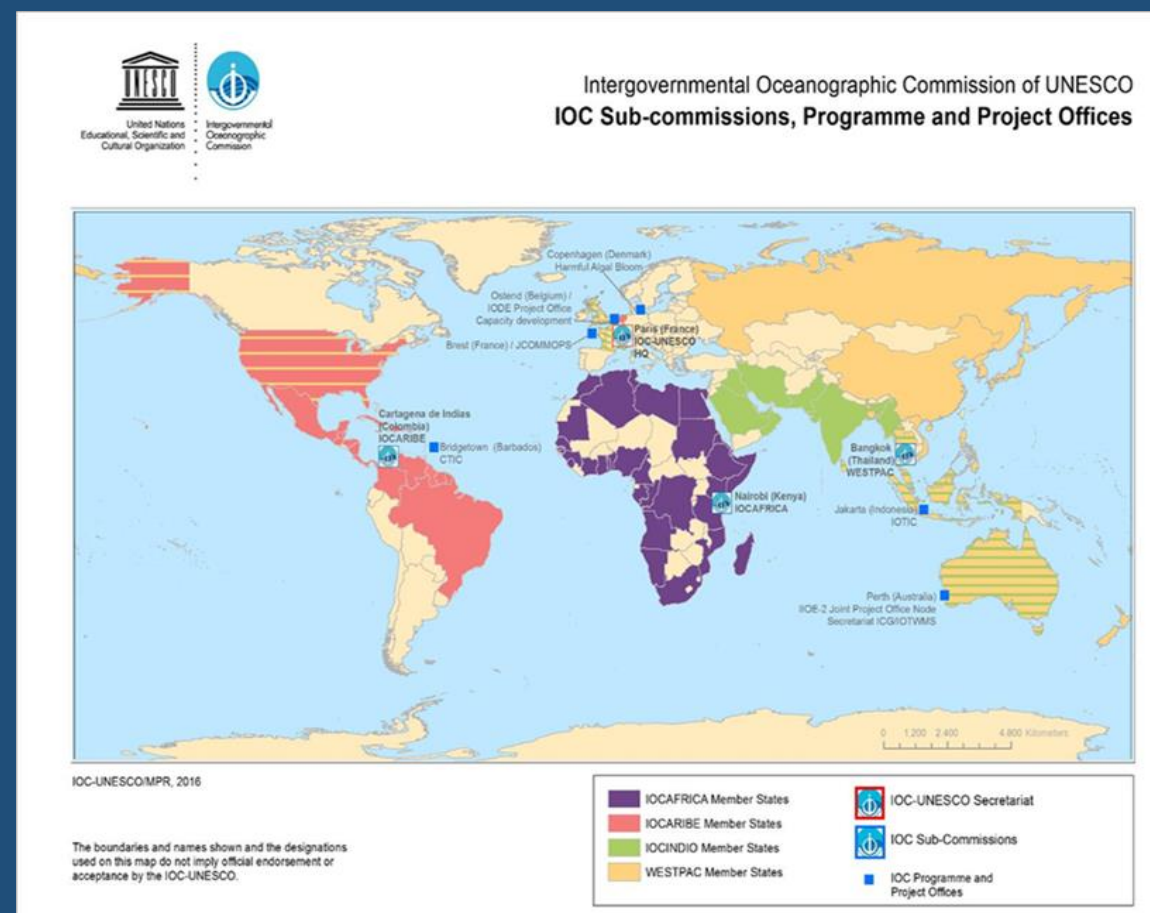
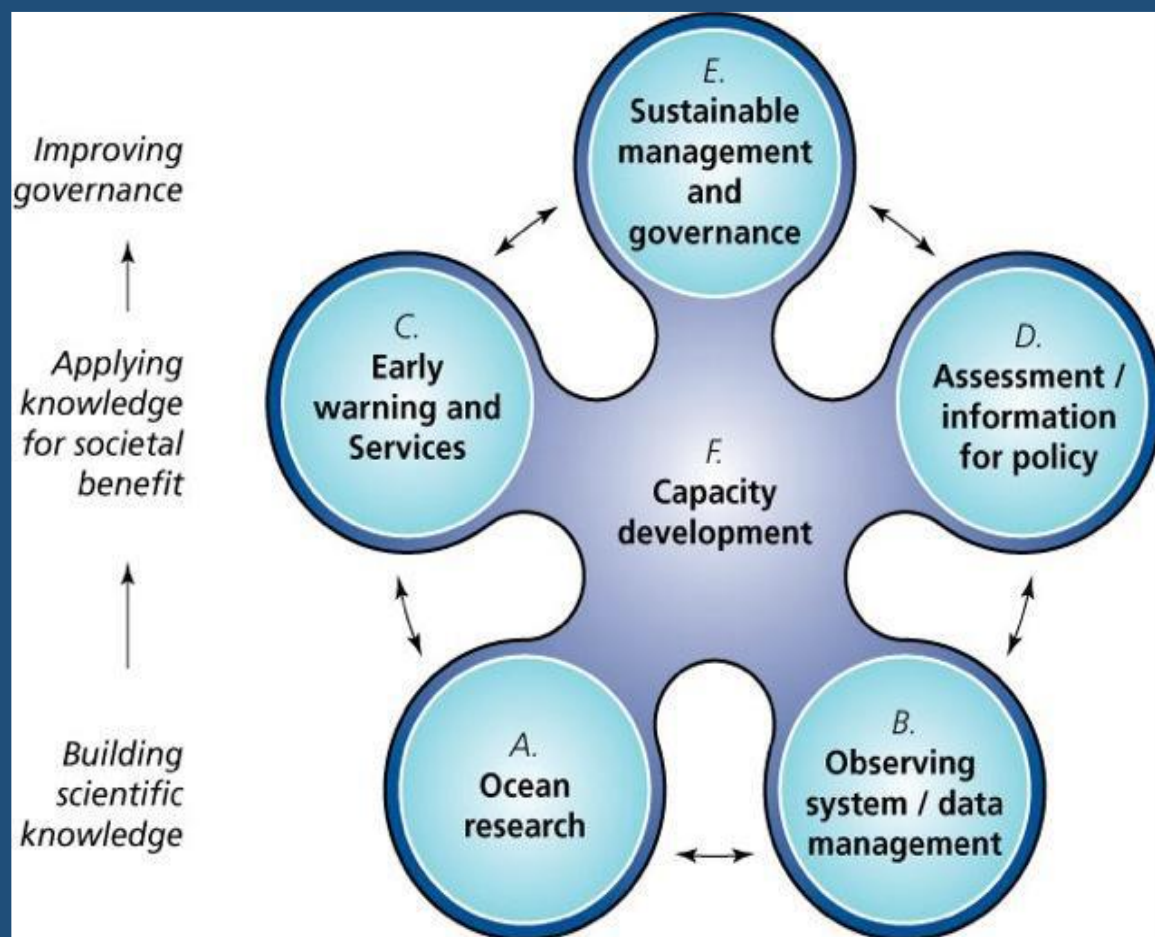
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Educational, Scientific and  
Cultural Organization



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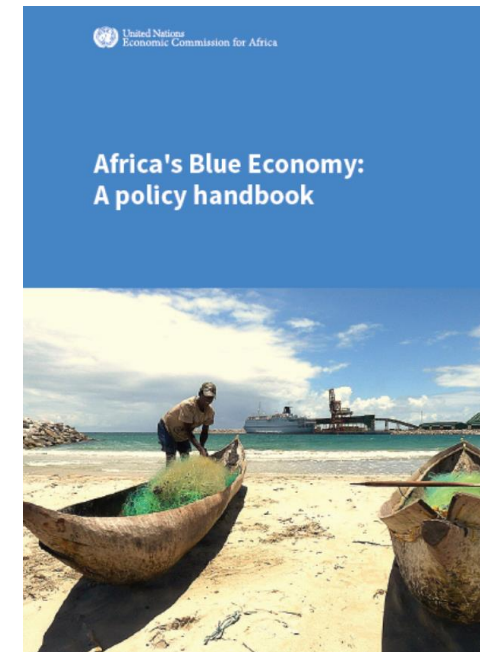
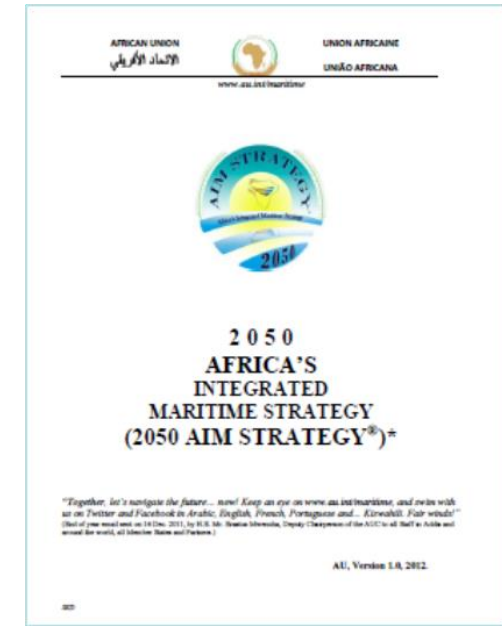
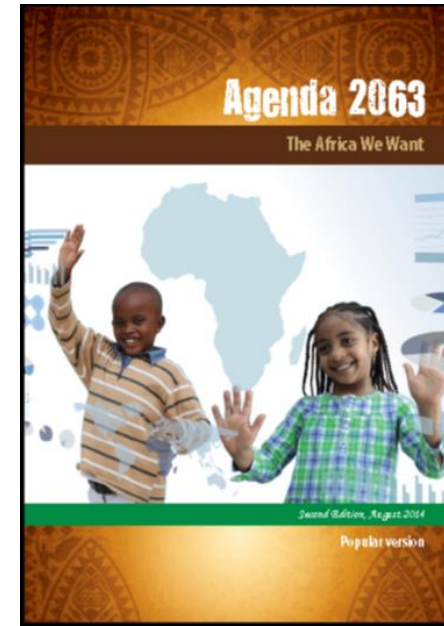
# The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, 1960->, 150 Member States

- Intergovernmental body of the UN system for **ocean science, observations, data exchange, services, capacity development, and science-to-governance work**



AGENDA 2063: Recognizes *that Africa's Blue economy shall be a major contributor to continental transformation and growth, advancing knowledge on marine and aquatic biotechnology, the growth of an Africa-wide shipping industry, the development of sea, river and lake transport and fishing; and exploitation of and beneficiation from deep sea mineral and other resources*

- ✓ Africa Integrated Maritime Strategy 2050
- ✓ **Declaration of 2015-2025 as the "Decade of African Seas and Oceans"**
- ✓ Declaration of 25 July as the African Day of Seas and Oceans.
- ✓ Preparation by UNECA of the Africa's Blue economy handbook
- ✓ Adoption of the Africa Blue Economy Strategy
- ✓ UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development



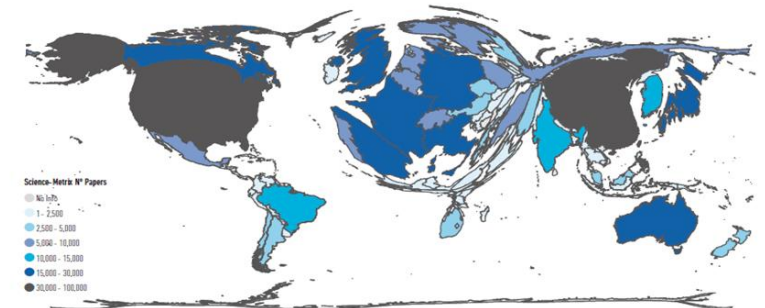


# FOCUS AREAS OF IOCAFRICA.

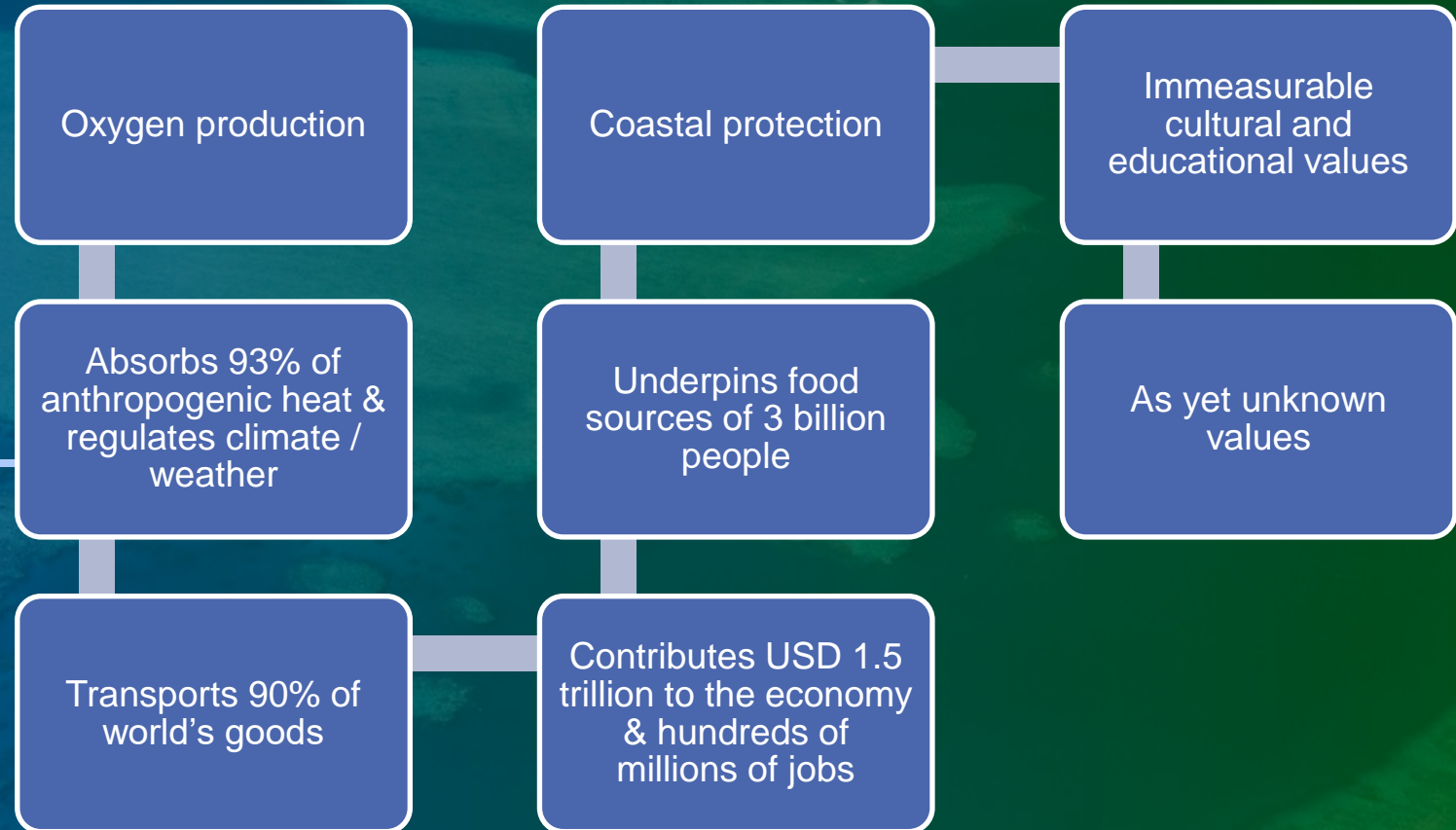
- **Ocean Observations and Data and Information Management:**
  - ✓ Oceanographic Expeditions & Coastal Observation platforms
  - ✓ Climate variability and climate change (weather forecast & extreme events)
  - ✓ Marine Spatial Planning, Coastal/ Marine Atlases, Marine Biodiversity
- **Ocean Science and its Application to Management:**
  - ✓ Modeling and forecasts of ocean state
  - ✓ Assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems in Africa
  - ✓ Vulnerability & adaptation of marine/coastal ecosystems to climate change
  - ✓ Harmful Algal Bloom: Detection and Early Warning
  - ✓ Ocean Acidification: Observation and Research
  - ✓ Marine Pollution: Survey and assessment
- **Capacity Development for Marine Science and Technology and Ocean Literacy:**
  - ✓ Basic training in the ocean sciences (UNESCO Chairs in Universities, Research Institutions, development of portal for training opportunities,)
  - ✓ Continuous Professional Development (Focused workshops, Regional Training Centres, Fellowships,
  - ✓ Ocean Literacy (Artwork/Essay competitions, exhibitions, conferences,
  - ✓ Partnerships and collaboration (WIOMSA, UNEP, National Institutions)

## AFRICA BLUE ECONOMY STRATEGY

- PORT AND SHIPPING
- FISHERY
- AQUACULTURE
- SUSTAINABLE BLUE ENERGY
- COASTAL TOURSIM
- BLUE CARBON AND OTHER ECOSYSTEMS



# Why an Ocean Decade? ...because humanity depends on the ocean...





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# ...but the ocean is under threat

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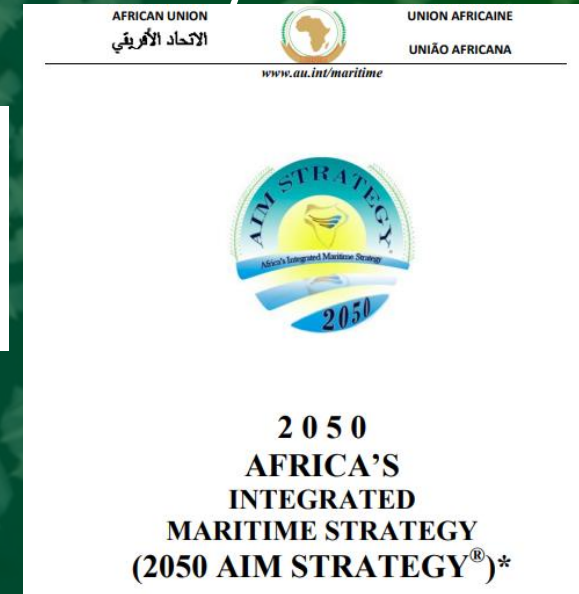
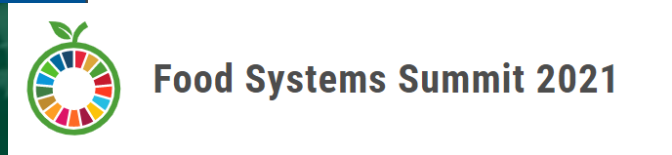
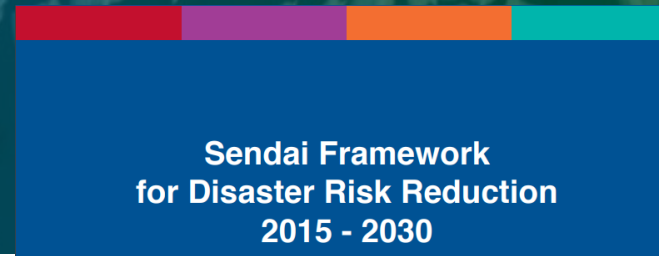


**No longer linear nor predictable - potential for negative feedback loops via ocean-climate nexus**



# Why an Ocean Decade linking science & sustainable development?

“Humanity is running out of time to manage the ocean sustainably...”  
2016 World Ocean Assessment





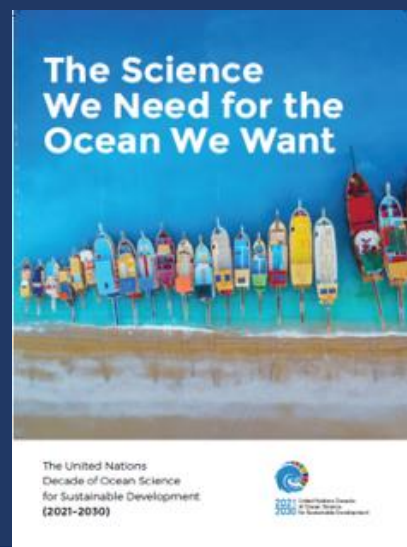
# Towards the Ocean Decade: 2017 - 2021



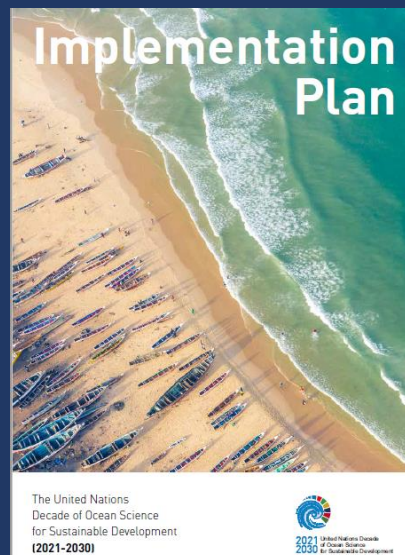
2016-2017



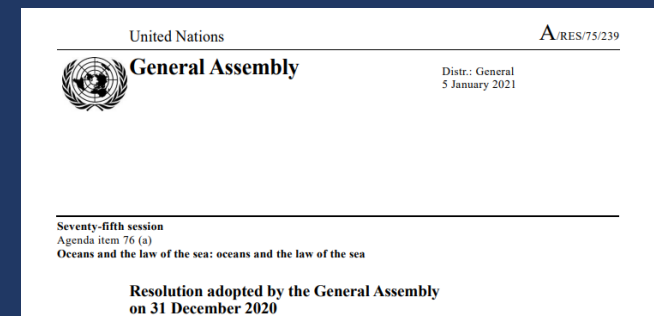
2018-2019



2020



UN Decade of Ocean Sciences for Sustainable Development  
Regional Consultations for Africa and the Adjacent Island States  
Nairobi, Kenya, 27-29 January 2021



304. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission to prepare the implementation plan for the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) in consultation with Member States, specialized agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and relevant stakeholders, and takes note with appreciation of that plan;

305. *Requests* that the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission regularly consult with, and report to, Member States on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and its implementation;

306. *Invites* the Secretary-General to inform the General Assembly on the implementation of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development through his report on oceans and the law of the sea, on the basis of information to be provided by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission;



# The Decade Action Framework



*Vision*

*The science we need for the ocean we want*

\*\*\*

*Mission*

**Transformative** ocean science solutions for sustainable development, connecting people and our ocean.



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## Knowledge & Solutions Challenges:

1. Marine Pollution
2. Protect and Restore Ecosystems
3. Sustainable Blue Food
4. Sustainable Ocean Economy
5. Ocean-Climate Nexus

## Infrastructure Challenges:

6. Community Resilience
7. Ocean Observations
8. Digital Ocean

## Foundational Challenges:

9. Capacity Development
10. Behaviour Change

Decade Programmes, Projects, Activities and Contributions solicited on a regular basis

# The Decade is also a growing ecosystem of societal actors...



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# The Ocean Decade in Africa



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**FIGURE 3**

**Steps in the development of  
the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap.**



Source: IOC-UNESCO [2022]



# The Ocean Decade in Africa

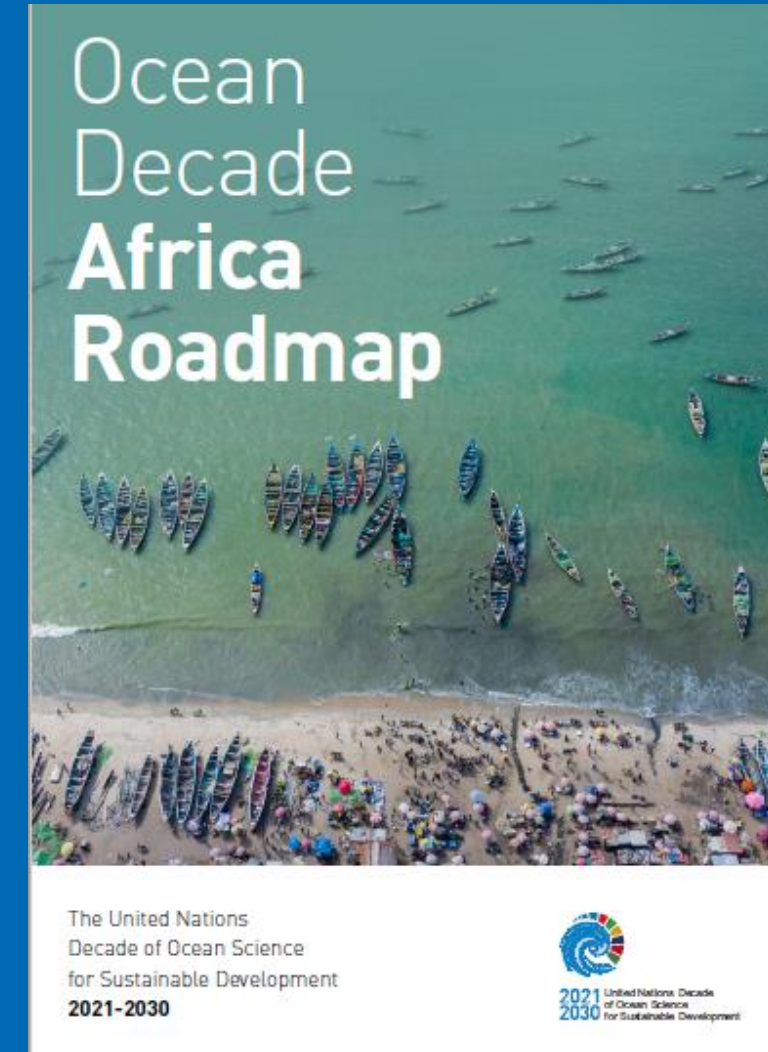


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# How can you get engaged in the Ocean Decade movement?



# Throughout the week!

How can the science and knowledge you are hearing about:

- Be used as a basis for co-designing a new Decade Action that would contribute to the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap?
- Be used to transform policy, resource management or other decisions through targeted communication and uptake?
- Be complemented by new partnerships including with industry, civil society, local governments or philanthropy?
- Be complemented by engagement with holders of Indigenous or local knowledge?
- Be replicated or scaled up to have greater impact in Africa Be complemented by capacity development initiatives including those that target ECOPs?

What is your individual role or the role of your institution in the implementation of the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap and in the broader Ocean Decade?

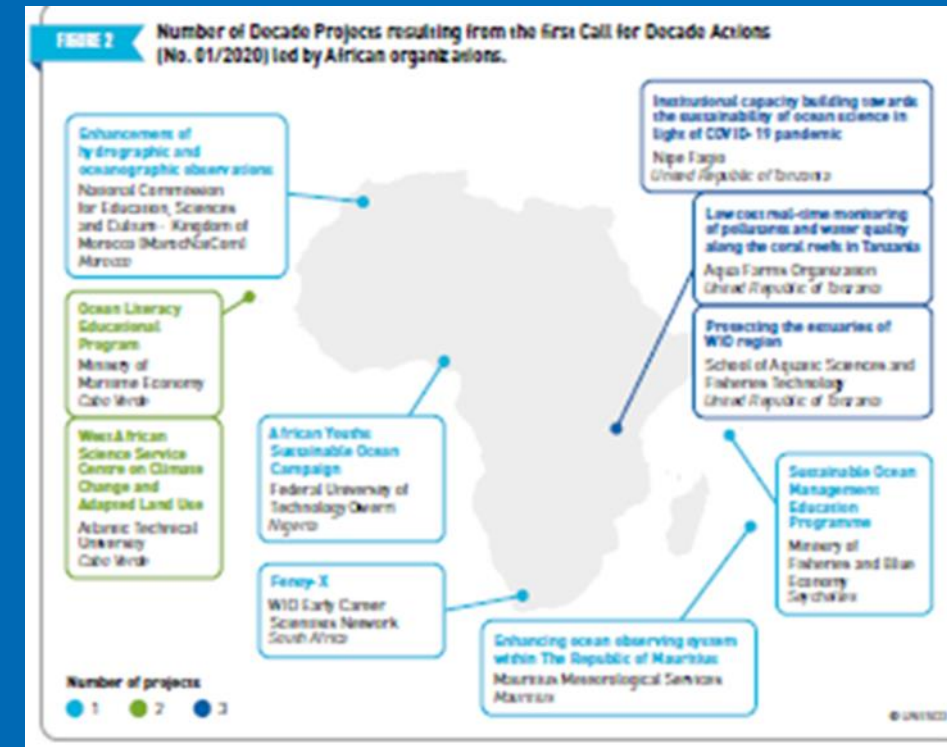


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# Governance & Coordination Structures

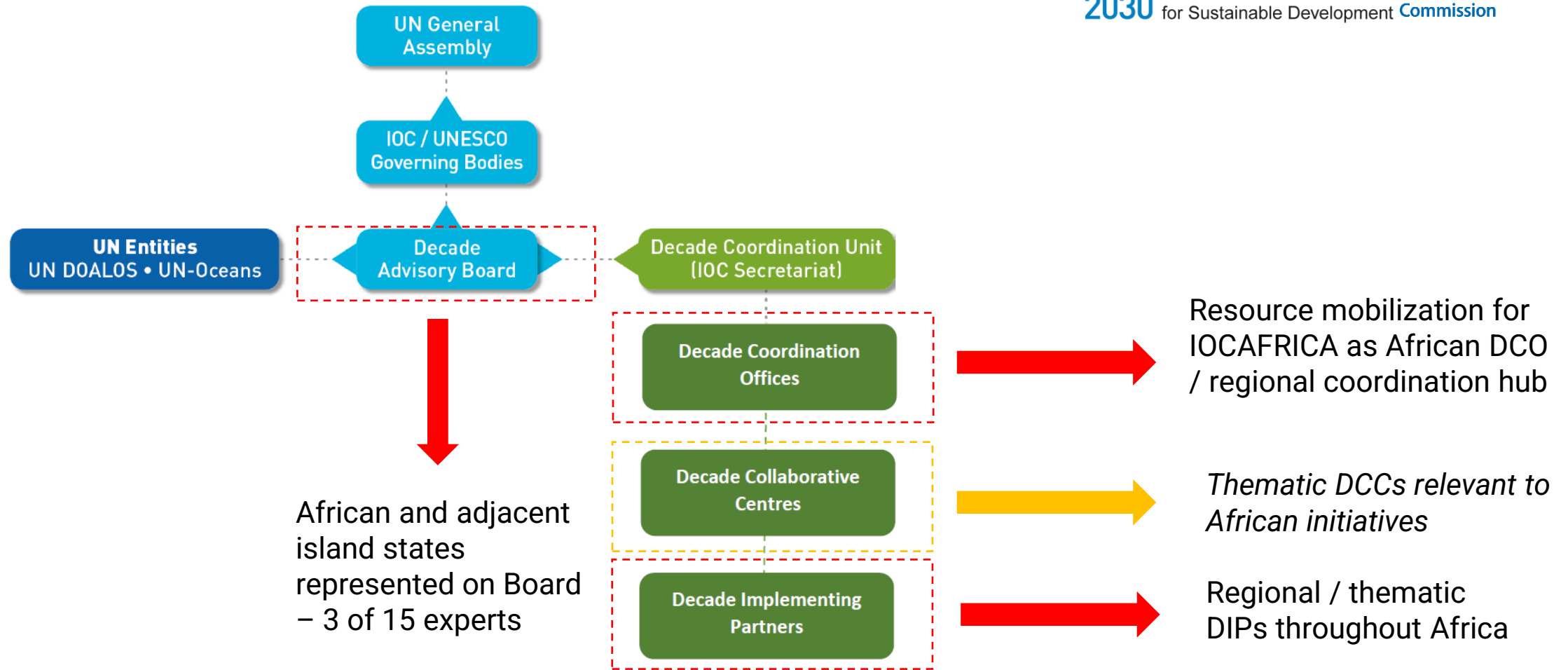


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# Voluntary Stakeholder Structures



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## African Regional Taskforce

Multi-stakeholder taskforce to guide implementation of Africa Roadmap. *Liaises with DCO.*

## National Decade Committees

Nigeria NDC

Cabo Verde  
NDC

Madagascar  
NDC

Angola NDC

Other  
NDCs?

Voluntary multi-stakeholder groups to convene partners around national priorities. *Liaise with DCO and DIPs.*



# Other Entry Points for Governments, Institutions & Individuals

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Private  
Sector  
Taskforce

Foundations  
Dialogue

Ocean  
Decade  
Expert Roster

Informal  
Working  
Groups

Contact  
[oceandecade@unesco.org](mailto:oceandecade@unesco.org) for  
more information on these  
structures!

**15 October 2022 - 31 January 2023**

## **Call for Decade Actions No. 04/2022 is soliciting:**

**Programmes** contributing to:  
Challenge 6 - Coastal Resilience and  
Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems  
Challenge 8 - Digital Representation of the Ocean

**Projects** contributing to more than  
20 endorsed Decade Programmes!



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**TSUNAMI HAZARD ZONE  
IN CASE OF EARTHQUAKE GO  
TO HIGH GROUND OR INLAND**

[About Us](#) ▾ [Our Work](#) ▾ [ECOP Highlights](#) ▾ [Oppor](#)

**Join Our Community**

# **ECOP PROGRAMME**

**Empower the Next Generation of Ocean Leaders**



**ECOP**  
Early Career  
Ocean Professionals



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<http://ecopdecade.org>





# JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Working together for the Ocean We Want

**Join The Ocean Decade** Global Stakeholder Forum

The Ocean Decade is for Everyone. Sign up to our interactive platform to start taking action now!

[forum.oceandecade.org](https://forum.oceandecade.org)



# ***UNESCO/IOC's Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA)***

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Thank You.  
Medaase.  
Oyiwaladon.

