



**OBSERVATION & PREDICTION  
SERVICES TO SUPPORT POLICY  
MAKING IN NIGERIA**

**4 MARCH 2023**



# OVERVIEW OF NIGERIA'S OCEAN/BLUE ECONOMY



- Coastline of about 853km.
- The surface area of its continental shelf is about 37,934km<sup>2</sup>.
- Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) area = 210,900km<sup>2</sup>, within which Nigeria exercises sovereign rights for the purpose of exploiting, conserving, and managing its fisheries resources.
- Nigeria's territorial waters are located in the gulf of guinea and known for its rich marine biodiversity.

- In January, Nigeria launched its Expanded Committee on Sustainable Blue Economy, led by the Vice President, with the aim of enhancing the governance framework and infrastructure of the maritime sector.
- The Committee includes representation from the Federal Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture, reflecting their involvement in the decision-making process.
- This led to the formation of the ministry of Marine and Blue economy in July 2023 by the Presidency.



# Common Challenges in BE



- **IUU, Marine Safety and Security:**
  - Piracy, IUU fishing, smuggling of people, arms trafficking of illicit goods, terrorism, etc.
  - Inadequate collaboration among stakeholders and uncoordinated institutional mandates,
  - Lack/weak law enforcement capacities
  - Limited funding for assets and equipment
- **Coastal Vulnerability to Flooding and Erosion:**
  - Increasing coastal population and consequential pressure on resources
  - Poor urban planning and resource scarcity
  - Limited early warning systems and coastal resilience
- **Pollution, Climate Change and Habitat loss:**
  - Impacts of climate change (floods, sea level rise and salinization of coastal aquifers)
  - Menace of plastic pollution and impact on food chain and environment
  - Unsustainable agricultural practices, land-based sources of pollution, HAB
  - Poor waste management and Habitat degradation



# Need for Coastal Information

**01**  
Maritime  
Security

**02**  
Environmental  
Management

**03**  
Scientific  
Research &  
Education

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**04**  
DRR & Early  
Warning systems

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**05**  
Tourism and  
Recreation

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# Planned Actions



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Credit: Efraim Dastanta Ginting

**01**

Develop  
Nigeria's blue  
economy  
policy/framework  
ork

**02**

Bankable  
Projects

**03**

Strengthening  
R&D &  
capacity  
building

**04**

Partnerships on  
Marine and Blue  
Economy/NASDR  
A

**05**

International  
collaboration/i  
nter agency  
collaboration  
AU, UN inter  
alia

**06**

Strengthening  
exchanges,  
information &  
inclusiveness



- The need for a National, Regional and Continental Approach
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- Inclusiveness

- Needs/Baseline assessment
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- Need for Policies and frameworks to streamline information/Political willingness

**Thank You**

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