Update on the Ocean Decade in Africa

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Chair
Africa Ocean Decade Taskforce
Why an Ocean Decade?

“Humanity is running out of time to manage the ocean sustainably...”

2016 World Ocean Assessment
Why an Ocean Decade? ...because humanity depends on the ocean...

Oxygen production
- Absorbs 93% of anthropogenic heat & regulates climate / weather

Coastal protection
- Underpins food sources of 3 billion people

Transports 90% of world’s goods

Contributes USD 1.5 trillion to the economy & hundreds of millions of jobs

Immeasurable cultural and educational values

As yet unknown values
...but the ocean is under threat

Climate change

Destruction of habitats & ecosystems

Pollution – plastic + many others

Overfishing

New emerging threats?

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

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
Call for Decade Actions/Programmes

Expressions of Interest for potential Decade Programme proposals that aim to address any of the 10 Decade Challenges.
## Endorsed Actions in Africa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Type of Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Ocean Matter (TOM)</td>
<td>Liberia</td>
<td>Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Western Indian Ocean (WIO), Productivity under climate change</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature based Solutions for Mitigation of Watershed pollution: Cross-habitat facilitation by coastal seagrass meadows (SOMWAT)</td>
<td>Germany; Tanzania; South Africa</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blue carbon for sustainable development</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Virtual Platform for Sustainable Ocean Education</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>High resolution seafloor habitat mapping – WIO</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use: Cabo Verde Graduate School on Climate Change and Marine Sciences</td>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sustainable Ocean Management Education Programme</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthening the Blue Economy</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancement of hydrographic and oceanographic observations in support of marine scientific research (Coastal and natural resources, deep and ultradep deep seabed geoscientific mapping, etc.)</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Project</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low cost real-time monitoring of pollutants and water quality along the coral reefs in Tanzania: Supporting effective ocean management</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protecting the estuaries of WIO region</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Project</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- From five Calls for Decade Actions
- Only 1 Endorsed programme from Africa
- 20 endorsed projects
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ocean Literacy Educational Program (Ocean health and protection)</td>
<td>Cabo Verde</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Institutional capacity building towards the sustainability of ocean</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<td>science in light of COVID-19 pandemic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Enhancing ocean observing system within The Republic of Mauritius</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fenoy-X: A data domain system of ocean knowledge for the future</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>prosperity of ocean resources in the Western Indian Ocean. (Fenoy:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Malagasy name for filing the gaps) (X: is for the decade)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Coastal Ocean Restoration and Resilience</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ocean to climate seamless forecasting in Africa</td>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participatory Modeling for Nature-based Solutions in the WIO-Region</td>
<td>Germany; Tanzania; Madagascar</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>(PaMoNBS)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oceanographic and Ecological data for Nature-based coastal protection</td>
<td>Germany; Tunisia</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<td>in Tunisia (ORIENTATE-TN)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mangroves as Nature-based Solutions to Coastal Hazards in Eastern</td>
<td>Germany; Ghana</td>
<td>Project</td>
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<td>Ghana (MANCOGA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Environment Monitoring System for the Ocean and Coasts (GEMS</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Programme</td>
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</table>
DECENTRALIZED COORDINATION STRUCTURES

Decade Coordination Offices: Scoping for IOCAFICA

Decade Collaborative Centers: Ocean Prediction (Mercator Ocean International)

Decade Implementing Partners: National Institute of Oceanographic and Fisheries, Egypt

National Decade Committees: Angola, Benin, Cabo Verde, Madagascar, Morocco and Nigeria
Launched in May 2022

Developed through a highly consultative process (Nairobi consultation workshops, Regional Gap Analysis and Pre-conference workshops)

Provides a framework for the Decade in Africa

Identifies nine priority areas for focus in Africa

Has linkages with other regional frameworks
United Nations Ocean Decade for Africa

The Science we Need for the Ocean we Want in Africa

Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap

Nine Priority Decade themes for Africa

1. Sustainable ocean management in Africa
2. Ocean and human health in Africa
3. Unlocking the blue carbon potential of Africa
4. Fisheries and IUU in Africa
5. Strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems and community resilience
6. Ocean observations and forecasting systems for Africa
7. Digital twin for Africa - Establishing an African ocean knowledge hub
8. Strengthening capacities and skills for marine science and technology
9. Regional ocean literacy programme for Africa

Regional ocean literacy programme for Africa
Established in October 2022

Multistakeholder - Civil Society, Intergovernmental Organizations, Private sector, multilateral institutions

Mandate: Oversee and promote the implementation of the Africa Roadmap and the enabling environment

14 individual members and 6 institutional members

Chair and 2 Vice Chairs
AFRICA OCEAN DECADE TASKFORCE ROLES

Communications & outreach

Creating and Building Partnerships

Monitoring, Evaluation & Coordination

Resource Mobilization
The Ocean Decade in Africa…

- Very few endorsed programmes from Africa
- Around 44% of Programmes have been or will be working in the African countries in the next 12 – 24 months (majority of these are not led by African institutions/organizations)
- The number of actions spearheaded by non-African partners significantly surpasses those led by African partners
The Ocean Decade in Africa…

Decreasing trend in endorsed projects in Africa with each call although this trend has been significantly reversed with Call for Decade Actions No. 06/2023 with 24 submissions for co-design ideas.

Endorsed Project Trends by Decade Action Calls

- Projects led by non-African partners
- Projects led by African partners
- All Projects working in the Africa
The Ocean Decade in Africa...

Most frequently addressed priorities by Programmes are “Ocean and human health in Africa,” “Strengthening capacities and skills of African Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs),” and “Regional ocean literacy programme for Africa.”

In contrast, notable gaps are evident in “Sustainable ocean management in Africa,” “Unlocking the blue carbon potential of Africa,” and “Strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems and community resilience.”
UMBRELLA DECADE PROGRAM FOR AFRICA

Science and Knowledge for a Resilient and Sustainable Ocean Economy in Africa

- Sustainable Management of Marine Resources
- Climate Change and Marine Biodiversity
- Tackling Ocean Pollution for enhanced human health
- Extreme Events and Disaster Risk Reduction


Ocean observations including data and information (Physical, Chemical, Biological, environmental, Social-Economic)
Programme Strategic Objectives

**POLLUTION-FREE AND HEALTHY OCEAN**
Prevent, reduce and control pollution from land and sea-based sources

**DIVERSE OCEAN**
Conservation of biodiversity and sustainable use of marine resources

**RESILIENT OCEAN**
Marine and coastal ecosystems resilient to impacts of climate change

**SAFE OCEAN**
Early warning of sea level-related hazards and community awareness and preparedness

Sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits
2024 Ocean Decade Conference
Barcelona, Spain: 10 - 12 April 2024

• African Satellite Event
• Looking SEAWARD: African oceans and the Ocean Decade narrative" at the Ocean Decade Conference.

• Date: 12th April 2024
• Time: 1:00pm-2:40pm
Engage in the Decade

WELCOME TO

The Ocean Decade Network

Dive into the Ocean Decade Network and connect with a global community of ocean-minded professionals co-designing and co-delivering the science we need for the ocean we want.

How to engage with the Ocean Decade Network

Africa Community of Practice (COP)
THANK YOU

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http://oceandecade.org