



**“Navigating Ocean Sustainability in the WIO and Beyond”**  
**Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
**7-9 Nov 2023**

**The Regional Ocean Governance (ROG) Strand:**  
*A milestone in the participatory and multi-stakeholder process  
of developing the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy  
(ROGS) for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO)*



**ROG Strand Report**

## **Introduction**

The 2023 Marine Regions Forum, organized by IDDRI, TMG Think Tank for Sustainability and RIFS in collaboration with the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and funded by European Union and the Swedish Ministry of Climate and Enterprise and German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, attracted over 150 practitioners, scientists, policy-makers, and development partners to Dar es Salaam for 3 days of interactive sessions across four topical strands.

**“Regional Ocean Governance” was one of these topical strands** and focused on the participatory process of developing a Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS) for the Western Indian Ocean. The Strand’s 5 sessions were chaired by professionals from the WIO and beyond, with support from both the Marine Regions Forum team and the ROGS Support Team:

- Session 1: Inclusivity in Regional Ocean Governance for Collective Implementation
- Session 2: Sharing the ROGS Process with the WIO and Beyond
- Session 3: The WIO Information Management Strategy: Critical support for the ROGS
- Session 4: ROGS Institutional Arrangements: Who does what, when and how?
- Session 5: Financing and Resourcing the ROGS

**The majority of ROGS Strand participants came from:**

- **All WIO countries:** Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Réunion (France), Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa, and Tanzania

**Additional individuals came from:**

- **Further Africa countries:** Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ivory Coast, Namibia, Senegal, Togo, and Zambia
- **And beyond:** Belgium, Colombia, France, Germany, Ireland, Jamaica, Spain, Thailand, United Kingdom, and United States

Participants represented all stakeholder groups and levels. *Please see a full Participant List in Annex.*

Based on participant feedback immediately following each session, **overall goal achievement for the ROG Strand was 4.34 / 5.00** (1 low, 5 high).

**Participants liked the following about the ROG Strand (clustered; see Full Feedback Results in Annex):**

- Inclusive, interactive, and empowering approach that allowed everyone to contribute
- Diversity of speakers and quality of their presentations
- Valuable exchanges among participants
- Engaging group work
- Great facilitation and organization

**Participants would change the following for similar future events (clustered; see Full Feedback Results in Annex):**

- Increase diversity of actors (e.g. decision-makers, youth, women, local and indigenous communities, fishers, legal sector)
- Increase time for in-depth discussions
- Provide translation into key regional language(s)
- Include more success stories

## Session 4.1 – Inclusivity in regional ocean governance for collective implementation

Co-Chairs: **Doreen Simiyu**, South West Indian Ocean Tuna Forum (SWIOTUNA), **Dominic Stucker**, Collective Leadership Institute (CLI)

Rapporteurs: **Shannon Hampton**, **Hamza Buqaileh** – RIFS



Credit Empower

**Description:** The WIO ROGS has been under development through a participatory approach, aiming to ensure that state and non-state actors are fully engaged in the process. The multi-stakeholder ROGS Task Force was nominated by the focal points of the Nairobi Convention and led this process. This session provided an opportunity for participants to share experiences of stakeholder engagement and to reflect on how to ensure inclusivity of underrepresented groups - such as local communities, women, youth, and small-scale fishers - in the co-implementation of the ROGS.

**Approximately 45 participants** attended this session, co-chaired by:

- Doreen Simiyu, South West Indian Ocean Tuna Forum (SWIOTUNA)
- Dominic Stucker, Collective Leadership Institute (CLI)

Average goal achievement was **4.40 / 5.00**:

- **4.4 - Share examples of inclusivity in co-implementation of ocean governance** from the Western Indian Ocean
- **4.3 - Discuss who needs to be involved** for co-implementation of the WIO ROGS
- **4.4 - Summarize key approaches/principles discussed for ensuring inclusivity** in WIO ROGS co-implementation

Please see the full Session 1 Agenda in Annex.

**Speaker Inputs:** **Timothy Andrew**, Nairobi Convention Secretariat, opened the session by explaining what “inclusion” means in the context of regional ocean governance, how to ensure voices are heard in the processes and implementation of activities and why this is key to successful impact. The ROGS is based on work from a multi-disciplinary task force drawn from the region that includes governments and experts. He talked about the challenges that those involved in the ROGS process had to overcome to include local communities and private sector actors. He said that the outcomes from this session will be useful to include in the preamble of the ROGS.

**Hadley Becha**, CANCO Kenya, explained that all coastal communities have environmental and economic rights within ocean governance. Coastal communities are heterogeneous in terms of geography, gender, and socioeconomic status. Community engagement must be a planned process, not just a meeting with a list of participants. Inclusivity and community engagement must consider the rights of citizens, transparency, accountability, the right of information, and whether the communities are empowered to manage the changes.

**Flower Msuya**, University of Dar es Salaam, made a case for involving women in ocean decision-making through the example of seaweed farming. She pointed out that 80% of seaweed farmers in East Africa are women and women make up most of the stakeholders of the seaweed industry through their role in the farming, processing and trading of seaweed.

**Salim Ali**, SWIOTUNA, explained why it is important to involve small-scale fishers in ocean management and governance, such as in marine spatial planning. Small-scale fishers are involved in research processes, but the results of this research is rarely disseminated to coastal communities. He highlighted that there is the need for a cohesive message from the numerous government agencies that is clearly communicated to communities.

In discussions, participants mentioned that putting in place a network of protected areas and working with local communities will lead to better catch results, while protecting the environment. Participants also indicated that many projects are designed by researchers and the government and fail to include communities in the design part of the process.

**Ghaamid Hatibu**, WIO Early Career Scientist Network, made the case for involving young professionals and intergenerational collaboration for ocean management and governance. Young professionals are innovative and bring fresh ideas and input. They can play a role in the conservation and management of resources through storytelling, showcasing novel ways of inclusion and can highlight intergenerational perspectives.

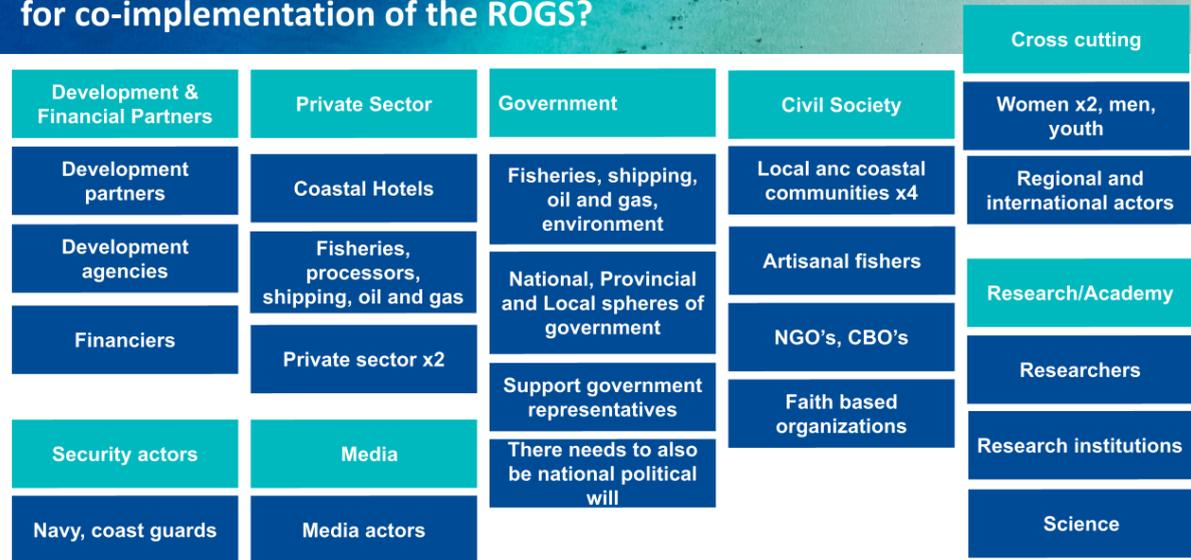
One participant asked about tips on how to interact with other young people on the ground to make changes in fisheries and Ghaamid mentioned his involvement in the Tanzania youth biodiversity network and providing environmental education at schools.

**Discussion:** Participants responded to three key inclusivity-related questions:

1. Which actors – from across sectors, levels, and societal groups – are essential to include for co-implementation of the ROGS?
2. How can we increase meaningful inclusion of these key actors in co-implementation of the ROGS? and
3. How can we help balance power differences among these key actors to ensure that more marginal voices can be amplified and respectfully integrated into co-implementation of the ROGS?

Based on individual participant inputs collected in shared slides during the above inputs, self-selected groups added to, refined, and clustered results on 3 key inclusivity-related questions:

## Question #1: Which actors - from across sectors, levels, and societal groups - are essential to include for co-implementation of the ROGS?

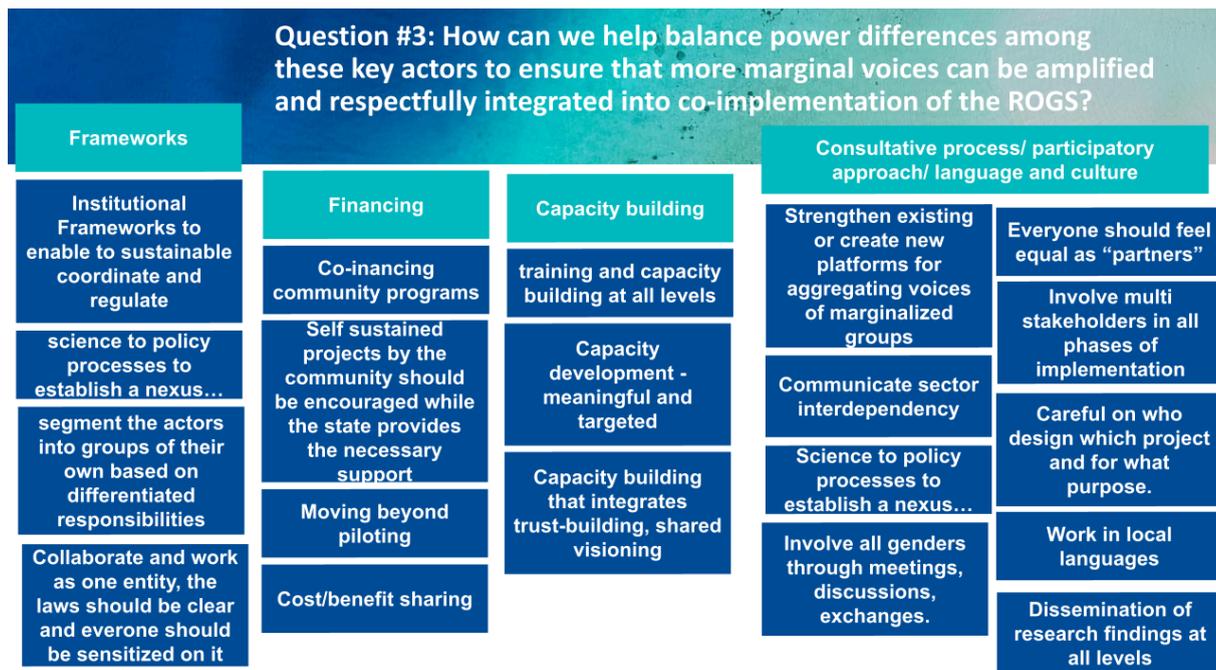


In onward discussions, Prof. Ken Findley pointed out the important role of academia and particularly a multi-disciplinary approach to research and capacity enhancement.

## Question #2: How can we increase meaningful inclusion of these key actors in co-implementation of the ROGS?



To ensure meaningful inclusion, participants emphasized the crosscutting need to tailor the language and mode of communication to different audiences given that the actors identified above speak different languages and work at different levels.



Each group presented their results before all participants engaged in a plenary discussion on the question: "What stands out to you about our clustered results? What patterns do you notice?"

**Conclusions:** Before the session closed, Sam Petersen, WWF, offered some concluding thoughts. She highlighted the challenges of ensuring meaningful engagement with coastal communities and the importance of including a diversity of voices in ocean policy for transparency and accountability.

Key messages:

- A participatory process is important when developing ocean governance strategies to ensure credibility, and ownership, and contextual relevance.
- When engaging with coastal communities, there needs to be a common understanding of expectations and a clear engagement strategy.
- When engaging in multi-stakeholder processes and with coastal communities, patience is important. Collaboration methodologies, the type of engagement chosen processes, and trusting personal relationships matter.

## Session 4.2 – Sharing the ROGS Process with the WIO and Beyond

Co-Chairs: **Tim Andrew**, Nairobi Convention Secretariat, **Christopher Corbin**, Cartagena Convention Secretariat, **Claudette Briere Spiteri**, IOC/UNESCO GEF IW:LEARN

Rapporteurs: **Shannon Hampton**, **Hamza Buqaileh** – RIFS



Credit Empower

**Description:** The process to develop the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS) in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) can provide inspiration and guidance for other regions seeking to develop regional ocean governance strategies. This session will provide space to exchange on lessons, methodologies, and partnerships, showcasing good practices and innovative approaches both in the WIO and other large marine ecosystems (LMEs).

**Approximately 45 participants** attended this session, co-chaired by:

- Tim Andrew, Nairobi Convention Secretariat
- Christopher Corbin, Cartagena Convention Secretariat
- Claudette Briere Spiteri, GEF IW:LEARN

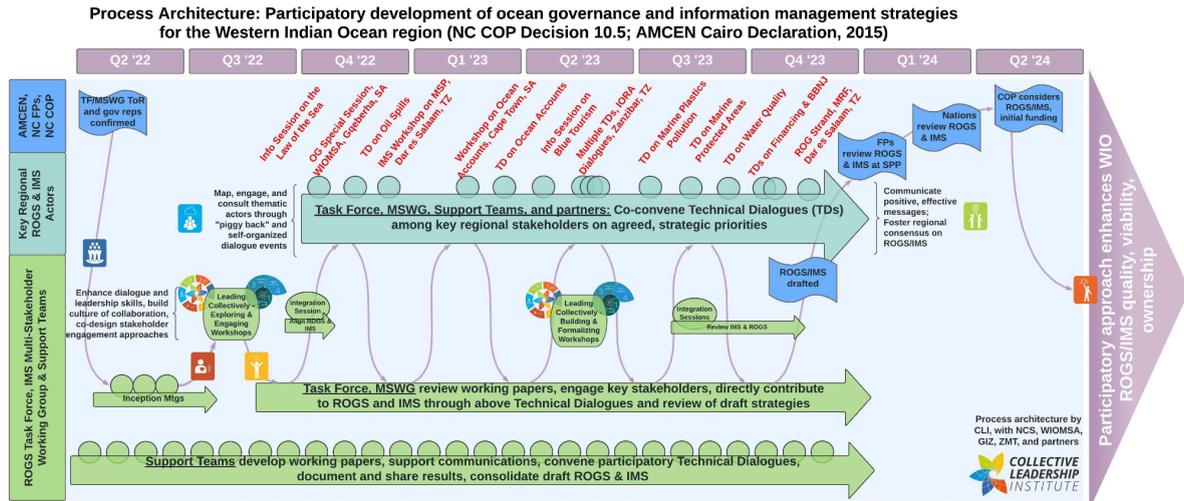
Average goal achievement was **4.42 / 5.00**:

- **4.3 - Increase understanding of WIO ROGS process**, one example of participatory ROGS development
- **4.5 - Exchange on lessons learned and best practices of ROGS co-development** across different regional seas
- **4.5 - Generate ideas on how to address entrenched ROGS challenges and opportunities**

Please see the full Session Agenda 2 in Annex.

**Presentations and discussions:** After the session was opened by the co-chairs, a joint keynote input on “The development of the Western Indian Ocean Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS)” was made by Dominic Stucker, Collective Leadership Institute, Kieran Kelleher, ROGS Advisor, and Gina Bonne, Indian Ocean Commission.

**Dominic Stucker** explained the process of developing the ROGS and its participatory nature together with a dedicated, multi-stakeholder task force. This process graphic shows how the complimentary ROGS and Information Management Strategie (IMS; see section 4.3) were co-developed through a series of Technical Dialogues:



Credit CLI

**Kieran Kelleher** provided further detail on the content of the strategy. The task force identified regional priorities that the ROGS addresses through four clusters of topics: 1) maritime security, 2) blue economy, 3) environment and natural resources and 4) knowledge management and science. The task force also identified which actors could take a leadership role in terms of implementation, financing, and resourcing. He explained the importance of learning from other regions to address challenges in a functional and efficient manner.

**Gina Bonne** shared lessons learned during the ROGS development process involving a multi-actor task force comprising state and non-state country representatives and representatives of the regional economic communities, the Indian Ocean Commission, the African Union, and others to provide an inclusive forum for stakeholder dialogue and collaboration. She emphasized a political mandate is needed to develop a ROGS and members need to feel invested in the process in order to be committed.

**Claudette Briere Spiteri**, GEF IW:LEARN, explained the role of large marine ecosystems (LMEs) in advancing regional ocean governance and building partnerships. She highlighted the importance of LMEs in fostering strategic collaborations and strengthening governance from the regional to the local level.

Co-chair, **Christopher Corbin**, moderated a panel discussion among representatives from other regions including Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, Regional Communities and Commissions and LME practitioners on the challenges, best practices and lessons learned in the WIO and other regions:

- Thandiwe Gxaba, Benguela Current Commission
- Aboubacar Sidibé, Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME)
- Abdoulaye Diagana, Abidjan Convention
- Mahesh Pradhan, Coordinating Body of the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)
- Lorna Inniss, IOCARIBE

Providing insights from the Benguela Current Commission (BCC), **Thandiwe Gxaba** shared steps taken in Angola, Namibia, and South Africa, including the use of marine spatial planning. The BCC has developed transboundary plans for marine protected areas through a consultative process. Lessons learned included the difficulty of harmonizing policies, resolving intersectoral conflicts, the different mandates across ministries in different countries, and the fact that regional priorities are not

necessarily national priorities. The BCC has engaged youth ambassadors for activities undertaken at the national and regional level. They have also adopted a gender policy and action plan.

**Aboubacar Sidibé** discussed the importance of an inclusive and participatory mechanism and a dynamic science-policy interface for decision-makers and stakeholders and shared some lessons learned from the ROGS co-development process in the CCLME, including the establishment of the Ecosystem Working Group for the reinforcement of scientific knowledge and evidence. He emphasized the key challenge in the region is of a financial nature and why communication about progress, impact, and added value is important.

**Abdoulaye Diagana** mentioned the challenge in the Abidjan Convention area of relying on projects to facilitate activities. He advised participants to talk to policy-makers in their language in order to get them involved and engaged. In the Abidjan Convention area, they are developing a blue economy strategy for the region, exploring possibilities of youth ambassadors to amplify communication and how to better mobilize funds for implementation.

**Mahesh Pradhan** said more efforts can be invested to link current policies to the triple planetary crisis. He said we need a new ecosystem framework that includes marine spatial planning and marine protected areas with a link to habitats.

**Lorna Inniss** highlighted some lessons learned including the benefits of mainstreaming joint action in intergovernmental mechanisms.

Participants debated on the best path forward, including the need to balance regional action with national sovereignty. Looking at examples from other regions, they discussed the viability of having an apex decision-making body in the WIO for better regional decision-making. Panelists and participants spoke on the importance of political mandates and political will in the process of implementing the ROGS, and the potential of regional mechanisms to cohesively bring together and complement the different national strategies.

**During the session, participants contributed responses to six key questions posed by co-chairs:**

- 1) *How can regional ocean governance strategies inform and inspire the implementation of continental and global ocean governance strategies?*
  - At conceptualisation stage, they must be established in alignment with continental and global policy decisions and frameworks so that there is no contradiction.
  - Development of regional ocean governance strategies (as in the WIO) can be conducted in a participatory and multi-stakeholder manner, drawing out collective intelligence and innovative ideas that can inspire other regions.
- 2) *How can regional ocean governance support inclusive and sustainable blue economies?*
  - Through mobilizing technical and financial support for the activities in various blue economy thematic areas.
  - Effective ocean governance can create a foundation and enabling environment for blue economies across the WIO.
- 3) *How can national political will for collective implementation of regional ocean governance be enhanced, aligned, and prioritized?*
  - Through endorsing high level critical decisions and creating an enabling environment for their implementation, including funding and capacity.
  - By recognizing that national mandates and priorities on the ocean can best be fulfilled by leading change collectively with all other WIO countries.

- 4) *How can we best facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue, collaboration, and credible decision-making for strengthening collective implementation of ocean governance strategies?*
  - By active participation in COPs, regional meetings, national consultations, etc.
  - By fundamentally valuing and investing time and energy in high quality engagement, dialogue, and collaboration across stakeholder groups as the most robust way for delivering on ocean governance. Decision-making must be transparent and devolved to the most appropriate level (where expertise and experience best match the types of decisions needed) to be credible.
  
- 5) *How can coastal states collectively secure greater benefits from improved fisheries governance by the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)?*
  - By strengthening tools such as Marine Spatial Planning and Marine Domain Awareness for better protection and utilization of fisheries resources.
  
- 6) *How can best practices on ocean governance effectively be shared among regions, adapted, and applied?*
  - In the WIO, through WIOMSA Symposia. Across regions through meetings of the Regional Seas and the Marine Regions Forum, whether in-person or online. Through best practice platforms, such as Panorama.

**Conclusions:** Chris Corbin offered closing remarks. Claudette Briere Spiteri shared a [short video on the Collaborative Systems Mapping of Sustainable Pathways](#) (CoSMoS) tool and its potential application to ocean governance processes.

**Key messages:**

- A regional ocean governance strategy (ROGS) is a continuous and adaptive process that can include different methods of cooperation such as various sorts of task forces and working groups.
- The ROGS is not an instruction manual, but a facilitating document that provides a framework for discussion, collaboration and joint implementation. It guides stakeholders on what to do at the intersections among sectors and at the subregional and national levels.
- Developing a ROGS requires money, technical resources, and finding common areas of agreement, such as the ocean as a shared resource.
- It is important to be clear about the mandate and to garner sufficient political will, because all agencies have mandates but are not always consistent and cohesive. A regional mandate can help bring a fragmented region together.
- The process should be as inclusive and participatory as possible to ensure a high quality and credible strategy, plus collectively led implementation
- Considering different views from different sectors is of high importance to the success of the ROGS.
- Collaboration is key in a context where there might not be many human and financial resources to manage the ROGS.
- An implementation and monitoring plan to measure progress of the ROGS is helpful to ensure that all areas are collectively implemented with clearly defined targets and indicators.

As a bonus for participants, Claudette Briere Spiteri shared a [short video on the Collaborative Systems Mapping of Sustainable Pathways](#) (CoSMoS) tool.

### **Session 4.3 – The WIO Information Management Strategy: Critical Support for the ROGS**

Co-Chairs: **Ken Findlay**, GOAP Africa Community of Practice; **Yvonne Waweru**, GIZ

Rapporteurs: **Shannon Hampton**, **Hamza Buqaileh** – RIFS



Credit IISD

**Description:** In parallel to the development of the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS) in the Western Indian Ocean, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat is creating an information management strategy (IMS). Information and data will provide critical support for the successful implementation of the ROGS; thus, it is important to ensure that the two processes are aligned. The information management strategy will: 1. identify sources of reliable data that can inform decision-making; 2. identify the data gaps; and 3. provide a guide for ensuring that data is accessible and policy-relevant. This session will open discussions on these technical issues to non-data specialists and explore how the IMS can facilitate coordination between data providers and deliver policy-relevant information for decision-makers.

**Approximately 25 participants** attended this session, co-chaired by:

- Ken Findlay, GOAP Africa Community of Practice
- Yvonne Waweru, GIZ

Average goal achievement was 4.40 / 5.00:

- **4.5 – Increase understanding of the WIO IMS** and co-development process
- **4.3 – Increase understanding of Ocean Accounts** as an integrated approach to information management
- **4.4 - Engage in discussion** on the IMS and Ocean Accounts

Please see the full Session Agenda 3 in Annex.

#### **Presentations and discussions**

In his opening speech **Dixon Waruinge**, Nairobi Convention Secretariat, emphasized the crucial need for a collaborative data processing system in the region. The focus was on establishing a clearing-house mechanism that goes beyond mere storage, aiming to facilitate the extraction of valuable products and information from the data. The proposed Information Management Strategy

(IMS) should be designed to be multisectoral, ensuring accessibility while supporting accountability and compliance. Inclusivity is a key principle, with a specific mention of incorporating indigenous data and crediting the communities from which it is sourced. The integration of the WIO platform into the existing clearing-house mechanism was discussed, and the process involves assigning clear roles to various stakeholders, with a designated individual to drive the process forward within specified timelines. This comprehensive approach sets the stage for a systematic and inclusive IMS tailored to the marine region's needs.

Based on a contextual input by **Yvonne Waweru**, GIZ, on the need for an IMS, **Sijali Pamba**, University of Dar es Salaam, and **Nadjim Ahmed**, University of Comoros, both members of the IMS Multi-Stakeholder Working Group, presented the full draft IMS, as well as lessons learned during the co-development process.

The presentation of the IMS co-development process included an explanation of the role of the Multi-Stakeholder Working Group (MSWG) comprising Nairobi Convention countries, NGOs, academia, and other stakeholders. Technical webinars covered topics such as ocean accounting and data-sharing frameworks. The strategy focuses on three clusters: Oceanography and Geomorphology, Ecological and Biological aspects, and Socio-economic aspects, including the importance of multidisciplinary approaches throughout Co-creation through engaging stakeholders was facilitated via Technical Dialogues, resulting in the final draft to be presented for adoption at the 11th Conference of Parties in Q1 2024.

The IMS includes an introduction highlighting the vision, objectives, and guiding principles. Core components address governance (in the context of the ROGS or platform governance?), standards and regulations, the WIO data and information platform, capacity enhancement, and strategy implementation targets and milestones. The guiding principles emphasize compliance with internationally recognised standards, intellectual property, confidentiality and licensing, and the use of trusted repositories. The regional data collection standards and regulations, data sharing agreements, and metadata quality management focus on transparency and trust-building.

The WIO data and information platform, hosted by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, will provide a centralized repository for datasets. Technical requirements ensure FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) handling of content, aligned with TRUST principles. Capacity development aims at fostering human and institutional capabilities, with a focus on political capacity through summaries and awareness programs targeting decision-makers.

In the context of changing ocean sciences, the IMS should focus on collecting and disseminating information that can be seamlessly integrated into models and ocean accounts. By developing scenarios and models, the IMS aims to facilitate a direct link between scientific insights and policy development, supporting a balanced approach to anthropogenic use of the ocean. The spatial approaches advocated by the IMS align with the need for sectoral economic considerations in the ROGS, providing a foundation for coherent and informed decision-making in ocean governance.

Moreover, the IMS must consider the interconnectedness of economic, social, and Earth systems, emphasizing the necessity for balance. This aligns with the broader goals of the ROGS, which seeks to create a harmonious relationship between economic activities, societal well-being, and environmental sustainability. By fostering transparency, adherence to standards, and the FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) principles, the IMS contributes to a comprehensive and integrated approach to ocean governance, aligning with the principles and objectives outlined in the ROGS. Together, these strategies aim to foster sustainable practices and ensure the responsible management of the ocean's resources for the benefit of current and future generations.

Lessons learned underscore the need for political will, a clear mandate, and continuous capacities in coordinating regional processes. The co-creation process involved a MSWG, physical meetings, and clear role assignments. Regional consensus and ownership, along with country participation, are enabling factors for mainstreaming the IMS into national planning processes. Continuous efforts and a long-term approach are emphasized for the successful development and implementation of the strategy.

**Ken Findlay**, GOAP Africa Community of Practice, emphasized that ocean values and the integration of different approaches in valuing the ocean are a developing area within ocean accounting processes.. Absolute values are often of less use than changes in relative value and the manner in which relative values provide benchmarked indicators of ocean change and ocean resource use change. Ocean accounting provides a mechanism to develop scenarios and models that can directly inform policy development and balance anthropogenic development and use of the ocean with sustainability and ocean protection..

**David Dyer**, AfriSeas Solutions (Pty) Ltd, introduced ocean accounts and their role in extending ocean value beyond GDP (as has historically been the valuation of oceans). Ocean accounts allow for the measurement of natural capital and sustainability, inclusivity and social equity, sectoral pressures and impacts and non-market values to be integrated in the ocean valuation process..

During the discussions, participants indicated that ocean accounts are complex and that countries need to pick and fit a selection of the components that they are interested in or in need of. The point is to identify components in the framework and their change, and that while it is not necessary to advance an entire ocean accounting framework, the positioning of accounts within an overarching common and internationally accepted framework is imperative. Participants also discussed how to build on existing bodies, include different languages and make sure there is sufficient understanding of related processes. They also discussed the need for a more extensive communication strategy.

### **Key messages**

- The need for political will, a clear mandate, and continuous capacities in coordinating regional processes are all important to ensure the enabling political, economic and knowledge based environments..
- The importance of a co-creation process through, for example, a working group, physical meetings, and clear role assignments contributes to the success of the IMS.
- Regional consensus and ownership, along with country participation, are enabling factors for mainstreaming the IMS into national planning processes.
- Continuous efforts and a long-term approach for the successful development and implementation of the IMS are important.
- The IMS proposes an information system, not a data system, meaning that accent is on analyzed information rather than raw data.
- The IMS should play a crucial role in informing the ROGS by addressing the evolving dynamics of the human-ocean nexus.
- The IMS will enhance the role of the ROGS in decision-making and can identify key areas of missing information and track progress through shared information.
- As ocean values are inherently complex, the IMS must integrate diverse approaches to valuing the ocean, recognising the need to account for changes and prioritize relative values (as benchmarked indicators) over absolute metrics.
- In the context of changing ocean sciences, the IMS should focus on collecting and disseminating information that can be seamlessly integrated into models (using ocean accounts) to inform adaptive policy cycles.

#### **Session 4.4 – ROGS Institutional Arrangements: Who does what, when and how?**

Co-Chairs: **Alex Benkenstein**, South African Institute of International Affairs; **Tim Andrew**, Nairobi Convention Secretariat

Rapporteurs: **Shannon Hampton, Hamza Buqaileh** – RIFS



Credit IISD

**Description:** The Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS) for the Western Indian Ocean region will include an implementation plan. However, determining an appropriate governance structure and how to allocate tasks and responsibilities is a significant challenge as there is no single authority that includes all relevant sectors. The mandate of the Nairobi Convention is focused on environmental issues, with other organizations managing commercial activities, such as fishing and shipping. The region is also covered by four regional economic communities (RECs) and the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). This session explored what kind of institutional arrangements and regional leadership is necessary to implement the ROGS.

**Approximately 40 participants** attended this session, co-chaired by...

- Alex Benkenstein, South African Institute of International Affairs
- Tim Andrew, Nairobi Convention Secretariat

Average goal achievement was 4.15 / 5.00:

- **4.1 - Increase shared understanding of the institutional landscape and mandates** of relevant regional governance institutions in the WIO
- **4.4 - Draw insights on institutional arrangements** for regional ocean governance from other regions
- **4.0 - Further explore and collect ideas for refining governance structures** to support the implementation of the WIO ROGS

Please see the full Session Agenda 4 in Annex.

## Presentations and discussions

**Alex Benkenstein**, South African Institute of International Affairs, provided a word of introduction after which Jean-Paul Adam, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, United Nations Secretariat, spoke to participants in a video message.

**Gina Bonne**, Indian Ocean Commission, elaborated on the WIO ROGS planned governance structures. She indicated there will be institutional arrangements composed of three platforms (policy, blue finance, and technical). The voices of all communities of practice will be involved in these platforms. For the policy platform, the African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) were the proposed hosts with a rotating chair amongst the Regional Economic Communities. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat and UNECA are the envisioned hosts for the technical advisory platform.

A panel composed of **Mahesh Pradhan**, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia, **Thandiwe Gxaba**, Benguela Current Convention, and **Christopher Corbin**, Cartagena Convention Secretariat, provided insights from other regions on integrated ocean governance. Chris emphasized that the Regional Seas Organisations evolve over time and that a recurring challenge is to bring private sector parties to the table.

Through a participant survey, participants identified some best practices for institutional arrangements for ocean governance in the WIO, namely creating continental platforms for overall guidance, having a Presidential champion, ensuring political support through Regional Economic Communities, and making use of existing platforms, knowledge, and expertise.

A second panel composed of **Georges Asseko**, African Union (AU), **Sibongile Mavimbela**, SADC, **Tim Andrew**, Nairobi Convention Secretariat, and **Yvonne Waweru**, GIZ, looked at how the WIO ROGS institutional arrangements plan can be refined.

During discussions, participants questioned how a new ocean governance structure can be embedded in existing systems, e.g., how can the WIO ROGS be hosted by the AU considering decisions at AU level have to be made by all States on the continent? Participants also wondered how the policy platform will make sure global commitments are met regionally. For the financing of the ROGS, some participants suggested using regional banks. Others suggested ensuring there is a mechanism to bring States on board and to have joint reporting obligations from countries.

## Survey Results

During the session, participants contributed their responses to this question: *What are selected best practices for institutional arrangements for ocean governance in the WIO?*

- Continental platforms for overall guidance
- Presidential champion
- Political support through Regional Economic Communities
- Making use of existing platforms, knowledge and expertise
- ESG indicators; Change mindset on utilizing ESG especially for private sector
- Acção conjunta para fiscalização e Marítima através de estabelecimento do Centro Regional de Coordenação de Monitorização, Controlo e Fiscalização (MCSCC) das Pescas da SADC

## Key messages

- The Nairobi Convention Secretariat mandate to develop the ROGS comes from the Member States, but the suggestions on the ROGS institutional arrangements currently do not include States sufficiently. This is something that should be addressed for future implementation of the ROGS.

- There are multiple frameworks and strategies in the region, so thinking about the implementation of the ROGS should focus on how to use existing efforts to take Africa forward.
- Different regional economic communities and IOC are keen to play a role in the implementation of the ROGS. Therefore, it is useful to see how to use existing mechanisms, for example, SADC can support the ROGS by providing technical support and resource mobilization.

#### Session 4.5 – Financing and Resourcing the ROGS

Co-Chairs: **Samantha Petersen**, WWF; **Simeao Lopes**, ProAzul

Rapporteurs: **Shannon Hampton**, **Hamza Buqaileh** – RIFS



Credit Empower

**Description:** This session reflected on funding opportunities and how the WIO’s Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS) can connect these to projects on the ground. The financing challenge is that there are many initiatives looking to finance projects, but the middle ground or connectivity is lacking. Current approaches for funding are piecemeal with limited coordination. There are possibilities to leverage funding from multilateral institutions. Private financing is also promising, as there is a clear appetite to invest in the region, however there are challenges in developing and presenting “bankable” projects. There is also a need to make the business case for investment in the ROGS to finance ministers.

**Approximately 45 participants** attended this session, co-chaired by:

- Samantha Petersen, WWF South Western Indian Ocean
- Simeao Lopez, ProAzul

Average goal achievement was 4.31 / 5.00:

- **4.5 - Increase shared understanding among participants** of the proposed WIO ROGS funding strategy
- **4.1 - Collect feedback from participants** on key pillars of the proposed ROGS funding strategy

- **4.3 - Explore how donors might enhance alignment and collaboration** in the WIO for ROG funding and projects

Please see the full Session Agenda 5 in Annex.

### **Presentations and discussions**

After introductory remarks from **Sam Petersen**, WWF SWIO, and **Aboud Jumbe**, Zanzibar Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, **Kieran Kelleher**, ROGS Advisor, told participants about the progress in developing a Blue Finance Architecture for implementation of the ROGS. He emphasized that a regional approach to aggregating finance could improve access, but it requires careful evaluation to address national financing gaps and replicate successful models. Kieran further explained that the supply of Western Indian Ocean (WIO) blue finance faces challenges. National public financing is scarce due to a weak tax base and high public debt. Commercial finance is costly due to interest, inflation, and risk factors. The enabling environment is weak with issues like reporting and transparency. The financing approach is mostly project-by-project, although there are some attempts at pooled finance and regional projects, with varying degrees of success. There is significant, untapped potential for private sector financing of the blue economy. Individually financed projects face high transaction costs and integration challenges with other initiatives, hindering effective assessment and impact attribution. Co-benefits are often inadequately reflected in evaluations.

**Sam Petersen**, WWF SWIO, provided a blue economy perspective on financing the ROGS and talked about the great value the ocean has for economies as well as society. UNEP has published a report identifying “Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles.” WWF is currently investigating whether investors in the WIO region align with these principles. She also mentioned that community enterprises are often small-scale, so it is harder to mobilize finance for them. Incubator programmes, such as seed investment, business planning, and capacity-building can help them unlock larger sources of sustainable finance.

**Sibongile Mavimbela**, SADC, highlighted that due to capacity constraints, many organizations do not have the expertise to assess available resources and outsource the proposal development to those who do not necessarily know the needs of the country.

**Cecilia Torres**, Blue Action Fund, spoke about the challenge in the WIO to absorb large funding and for organisations to tick all the requirements for funding.

**Valerie Hickey**, WorldBank, highlighted that money is spent on many activities that undermine sustainability, such as fisheries subsidies. She said there needs to be a shift from individual capacity building to institutional strength. Greening/blueing the financial sector cannot be done through voluntary principles alone. We need to focus on central and local banks to regulate the financial sector as well.

During the session, participants offered rich inputs on the question: *“What are your top ideas for how financing partners could enhance alignment and collaboration in the WIO for regional ocean governance?”* Their responses were clustered into the following categories:

- **WIO States** can harmonize policies, balance regional priorities, and collectively lead marine interventions.
- **Finance partners** can establish an overarching fund for pooling ocean governance resources and ensure that financed activities are embedded in the WIO context and complement one another. They can also promote innovative financing.
- **Practitioners** can 1) build capacity for institutional strength and for co-designing integrated projects that can attract funding at scale, 2) adopt an inclusive, results-oriented, and

multi-stakeholder collaboration approach, 3) promote exchange on and application of best practices and 4) measure progress to demonstrate compliance, profitability, and return on investments.

Please see the full Survey Results in Annex.

## **Conclusions**

Aboud Jumbe, Zanzibar Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, provided closing remarks and said the push for new sources of funding are inevitable as traditional sources of financing projects are inadequate. He mentioned the usefulness of non-political, inclusive fora like the Marine Regions Forum to make progress at a regional level.

## **Key messages**

- Challenges in blue finance include creating an enabling policy environment, community involvement, enhancing the role of commercial banks, and addressing sustainability and project impacts. Blending financing, ensuring ownership, and building capacity are also hurdles.
- Solutions involve engaging with financial facilities like the World Bank to support ocean conservation through investable programmes, which is not yet successfully mainstreamed on a smaller scale and need acceleration.
- A blue taxonomy can highlight where funding should be going. It can provide a structure to prioritize and guide sustainable investments (green taxonomy applied to the ocean).
- Link investments to impact. Ocean accounts can help standardize reporting and track impact.
- Efforts should focus on multi-year and multi-country funding as the ocean suffers from transboundary impacts.
- Large organizations can access funds because of their capacity to write proposals. Need to make sure that large funding comes with a string attached – they need to support a local organization. They need to get support on e.g., writing financial reports.
- Secretariats of regional bodies need to work together to access funding to support the countries.

## **ANNEX**

### **1. Participant List**

Each person listed below attended at least one ROG Strand session.

	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Surname</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Country</b>
<b>1</b>	Alessandra	Lamotte	European Commission	Belgium
<b>2</b>	Kpededji Lambert	Ayitchehou	Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport	Benin
<b>3</b>	Sibongile	Mavimbela	SADC	Botswana
<b>4</b>	Lorna	Inniss	IOC/UNESCO (IOCARIBE)	Colombia
<b>5</b>	Housoyni	Housseni	R-POC	Comores
<b>6</b>	Ambadi	Radja	Lawyer	Comoros
<b>7</b>	Kamal	Thabiti Soudjay	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment; University of Comoros	Comoros
<b>8</b>	Nadjim	Ahmed Mohamed	University of Comoros	Comoros
<b>9</b>	Mohamed Ali	Muse	IGAD	Djibouti
<b>10</b>	Mai	ElAshmawy	Collective Leadership Institute (CLI)	Egypt
<b>11</b>	Georges	Asseko	AUC	Ethiopia
<b>12</b>	Leah	Wanambwa	AUC	Ethiopia
<b>13</b>	Claudette	Briere Spiteri	IOC/UNESCO, IW-LEARN	France
<b>14</b>	Francis	Marsac	IRD	France
<b>15</b>	Cecilia	Torres	Blue Action Fund	Germany
<b>16</b>	Sibylle	Riedmiller	Chumbe Island Coral Park, Ltd.	Germany
<b>17</b>	Torsten	Thiele	Global Ocean Fund	Germany
<b>18</b>	Barbara	Neumann	RIFS	Germany
<b>19</b>	Hamza	Buqaileh	RIFS	Germany
<b>20</b>	Shannon	Hampton	RIFS	Germany
<b>21</b>	Kieran	Kelleher	ROGS Advisor	Ireland
<b>22</b>	Abdoulaye	Diagana	Abidjan Convention	Ivory Coast
<b>23</b>	Christopher	Corbin	Caribbean Sea Secretariat	Jamaica

24	Hadley	Becha	CANCO	Kenya
25	Robin	Farrington	GIZ	Kenya
26	Yvonne	Waweru	GIZ	Kenya
27	Violet	Asiko	International Conservation Caucus Fndn.	Kenya
28	Edwin	Mwashinga	IOC/UNESCO	Kenya
29	Robert	Kibiwot	KIBO	Kenya
30	James	Kairo	KMFRI	Kenya
31	Bellinda	Akello	National Environment Tribunal	Kenya
32	Aurelia	Care	Nairobi Convention Secretariat (NCS)	Kenya
33	Bonface Ngila	Mutisya	NCS	Kenya
34	Dixon	Waruinge	NCS	Kenya
35	Johannes	Robinson	NCS	Kenya
36	Tim	Andrew	NCS	Kenya
37	Erastus	Gitonga	NEMA	Kenya
38	Mubarak	Sodha	PMAESA	Kenya
39	Divon Mwamba	Mogaka	SWIOTUNA	Kenya
40	Doreen	Simiyu	SWIOTUNA	Kenya
41	Salim Ali	Mohamed	SWIOTUNA	Kenya
42	Nancy	Soi	UNEP	Kenya
43	Vatosoa	Rakotondrazafy	IUCN	Madagascar
44	Guy Celestin	Rakotovao	MIHARI Network	Madagascar
45	José Victor	Randrianarimanana	Ministry of Blue Economy	Madagascar
46	Jacquis	Rasoanaina	Ministry of Environment	Madagascar
47	Gina	Bonne	IOC	Mauritius
48	Nived	Seenundum	Ministry of Environment	Mauritius
49	Ulrike	Gunnartz	FAO SWIOF-C Nairobi Convention Partnership Project	Mozambique

50	Moniz	Munguambe	INAMAR	Mozambique
51	Hermes	Pacule	MTA	Mozambique
52	Simeao	Lopes	ProAzul	Mozambique
53	Thandiwe	Gxaba	Benguela Current Commission	Namibia
54	Aboubacar	Sidibe	Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project, FAO	Senegal
55	Djounaid	Mbousri	Ministry of Environment	Senegal
56	Paul	de Bruyn	IOTC	Seychelles
57	Denis Eddy	Matatiken	MACCE	Seychelles
58	Rodney	Quatre	MACCE	Seychelles
59	Sharon	Gerry	MACCE	Seychelles
60	Francis	Coeur de Lion	Ministry of Lands and Housing	Seychelles
61	Allen Vosrie	Cedras	Seychelles Parks and Gardens Authority	Seychelles
62	Hassan	Badal	MOECC	Somalia
63	David	Dyer	AfriSeas Solutions	South Africa
64	Lisolomzi	Fikizolo	DFFE	South Africa
65	Yamkela	Mngxe	DFFE	South Africa
66	Kenneth	Findlay	GOAP ACoP	South Africa
67	Judy	Beaumont	International Ocean Institute	South Africa
68	Peter	Manyara	IUCN	South Africa
69	Alex	Benkenstein	South Africa Institute for International Affairs	South Africa
70	Samantha	Petersen de Villiers	WWF-SWIO	South Africa
71	Dominic	Stucker	Collective Leadership Institute (CLI)	Spain
72	Ghaamid	Abdulbasat Hatibu	Conserve Afrika	Tanzania
73	Dismas	Mwikila	EAC	Tanzania
74	Any	Freitas	EU Delegation to Tanzania	Tanzania
75	Sarah	Pima	HUDEFO	Tanzania

76	Aboud	Jumbe	Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries	Tanzania
77	Hamad Bakar	Hamad	Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries	Tanzania
78	Flower	Msuya	University of Dar es Salaam	Tanzania
79	Siajali	Pamba	University of Dar es Salaam	Tanzania
80	Dustan	Shimbo	VPO	Tanzania
81	Wankyo Simon	Mkono	VPO	Tanzania
82	Arthur	Tuda	WIOMSA	Tanzania
83	Mahesh	Pradhan	COBSEA	Thailand
84	Gabriel Hoinsoude	SENGIAGBETO	University of Lomé	Togo
85	Tanguy	Nicolas	Fauna and Flora	United Kingdom
86	Ted	Schmitt	Allen Institute for AI	United States
87	Valerie	Hickey	World Bank	United States
88	Edith B	Tibahwa	COMESA	Zambia

## 2. Full Qualitative Participant Feedback Results (clustered)

### What did you like most about the ROG Strand sessions?

Inclusive, interactive, and empowering approach that allowed everyone to contribute

- Empowering
- It was very interactive
- Participatory, new style
- Everyone had a chance to contribute
- The platform for every delegate to express himself or herself if they wish to do so
- Open interactions
- Active participation and sharing ideas
- The interactivity
- The methodology
- It was very interactive and engaging
- Interaction
- It was a lively
- Diverse and multi sectoral approach
- Intersectoral integration
- Great session
- Should not end here

Diversity of speakers and quality of their presentations

- Diversity of speakers
- Diversity of speakers
- Diversity of speaker backgrounds

- Presentations on seaweed farming and fisherman
- Good presentations of different exhibitions. quite interesting and relevant topics
- Insights from the speaker
- Apresentacao de materiais
- Well informed session

#### Valuable exchanges among participants

- Sharing of knowledge
- The experiences shared
- Exchanges
- Interação entre os participantes e a plataforma de MRF
- Good lessons shared
- Some frank and honest things were said that almost never are. For that alone the conference was worth it.

#### Engaging group work

- Group work
- Collective group works
- Group work
- How to make clusters and label them
- Discussions

#### Great facilitation and organization

- Nicely moderated
- Great moderation
- Excelente organização
- Time allocation
- The structure

#### **What would you change for similar future events?**

Increase diversity of actors (e.g. decision-makers, youth, women, local and indigenous communities, fishers, legal sector)

- To have decision makers in such events
- Have more speakers from local communities
- Inclusivity (youth, women, local and indigenous communities)
- Involve more local fishers and local women reps
- I think we missed the legal sector

#### Increase time for in-depth discussion

- Allocate more time for discussion
- Smaller group, more time
- more time
- If there can be more time to discuss questions, comments during presentations
- Need more time
- Mais tempo de discussão dos temas
- Have more focused debates and dissect the topics greater details

#### Provide translation into key regional language(s)

- Translate in French

#### Include more success stories

- Maybe add 1 or 2 case studies (success stories)

### 3. Session Agendas

**Session 1 Agenda:** Inclusivity in Regional Ocean Governance for Collective Implementation, 7 Nov 2023

Time	Activity
14:00	<p><b>Welcome and Framing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chair:</b> Session goals and overview (5 min)</li> <li>● <b>Dr. Tim Andrew, Nairobi Convention Secretariat:</b> “Framing: What is ‘inclusion’ in the context of regional ocean governance?” (up to 7 min)</li> <li>● <b>Hadley Becha, CANCO Kenya:</b> “Framing: Modeling inclusivity and community engagement” (up to 7 min)</li> <li>● <b>Chair:</b> Welcome of participants: Who is in the room? (up to 10 min)</li> </ul>
14:30	<p><b>Real-time Survey for Participant Inputs: Technical Guidance</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Using the provided shared document, please offer your responses to these key questions inspired by and during Speakers inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Which actors</b> - from across sectors, levels, and societal groups - are essential to include for co-implementation of the ROGS?</li> <li>● <b>How can we increase meaningful inclusion</b> of these key actors in co-implementation of the ROGS?</li> <li>● <b>How can we help balance power differences</b> among these key actors to ensure that more marginal voices can be amplified and respectfully integrated into co-implementation of the ROGS?</li> </ul>
14:40	<p><b>Speakers: The Case for Inclusivity</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Introduction of speakers and moderation of brief Q&amp;A after each input</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Dr. Flower Msuya, University of Dar es Salaam:</b> “The case for involving women for the oceans: The example of seaweed farming” (10 min)</li> <li>● <b>Video:</b> “<b>Malagasy coastal communities</b> at the heart of sustainable management of oceans” (7 min)</li> <li>● <b>Salim Ali, SWIOTUNA:</b> “The case for involving small-scale fishers in ocean management and governance” (10 min)</li> <li>● <b>Ghaamid Hatibu, WIO Early Career Scientists Network:</b> "The case for involving young professionals and intergenerational collaboration for ocean management and governance," including 1-minute video on “<a href="#">The Ocean, Loss of it's Vitality</a>” (10 min)</li> </ul>
15:50	<p><b>Coffee / Tea Break</b></p>
16:10	<p><b>Group Work: Clustering Results</b></p> <p><b>Chair:</b> Divide into 3 groups, one per discussion question. Please discuss and <b>cluster</b> the responses you find in our shared document for your specific question. You have 25 minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Group 1: Which actors</b> - from across sectors, levels, and societal groups - are essential to include for co-implementation of the ROGS?</li> <li>● <b>Group 2: How can we increase meaningful inclusion</b> of these key actors in co-implementation of the ROGS?</li> <li>● <b>Group 3: How can we help balance power differences</b> among these key actors to ensure that more marginal voices can be amplified and respectfully integrated into co-implementation of the ROGS?</li> </ul> <p><b>Each group, please identify a presenter</b> to make a 3-minute summary of clustered results.</p>

<b>16:45</b>	<p><b>Presenting Results</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chair:</b> One presenter from each group kindly share summary of clustered results (5 min each)</li> </ul> <p><b>Plenary Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Chair:</b> What stands out to you about our clustered results? What patterns do you notice?</li> </ul>
<b>17:15</b>	<p><b>Summary and Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Sam Petersen, WWF:</b> “Summarizing key approaches/principles from our session for ensuring inclusivity in ROGS co-implementation” (10 min)</li> <li>● <b>Chair: Invitation to onward ROGS Strand sessions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 4.2. Sharing the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy process with the WIO and beyond</li> <li>○ 4.3. Information Management Strategy</li> <li>○ 4.4. Who does what, when and how?</li> <li>○ 4.5. Financing and Resourcing</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>17:30</b>	<b>Closing</b>

**Session 2 Agenda: Sharing the ROGS Process with the WIO and Beyond, 8 Nov 2023**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Welcome and opening of the Session</b>
9:00	<p><b>Welcome and opening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Session goals and overview: Dominic Stucker, CLI</li> <li>● Opening remarks: Tim Andrew, NCS; Christopher Corbin, Cartagena Convention Secretariat; and Claudette Spiteri, GEF IW:LEARN</li> </ul>
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Setting the scene</b>
9:15	<p><b>Keynote 1:</b> The Development of the Western Indian Ocean Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (WIO ROGS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Process: Dominic Stucker, CLI</li> <li>● The Strategy: Kieran Kelleher, ROGS Advisor</li> <li>● The Lessons and Best Practices: Gina Bonne, IOC</li> </ul>
9:40	<b>Questions and Answers</b>
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>ROGS in other regions</b>
9:50	<p><b>Keynote 2:</b> LMEs in advancing regional ocean governance and building partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Claudette Briere Spiteri, GEF IW:LEARN</li> </ul>
9:55	<p><b>Interactive Panel Conversation: Learning from other Regional Seas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thandiwe Gxaba, Benguela Current Commission</li> <li>● Aboubacar Sidibe, FAO Canary Current LME</li> <li>● Abdoulaye Diagana, Abidjan Convention</li> <li>● Mahesh Pradhan, Coordinating Body of the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lorna Inniss, IOCARIBE, UNESCO Sub-Commission for the Caribbean</li> </ul>
10:20	<b>Questions and Answers</b>
10:30	<b>Break</b>
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Interactive session</b>
10:50	<p><b>Group Discussions</b></p> <p><u>Group 1: From WIO ROGS to global ocean governance policy</u> How can regional ocean governance strategies inform and inspire the implementation of continental and global ocean governance strategies?</p> <p><u>Group 2: Regional ocean governance for sustainable blue economies</u> How can regional ocean governance support inclusive and sustainable blue economies?</p> <p><u>Group 3: National political will for regional ocean governance</u> How can national political will for collective implementation of regional ocean governance be enhanced, aligned, and prioritized?</p> <p><u>Group 4: Multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships</u> How can we best facilitate multi-stakeholder dialogue, collaboration, and credible decision-making for strengthening collective implementation of ocean governance strategies?</p> <p><u>Group 5: Role of fisheries organizations</u> How can coastal states collectively secure greater benefits from improved fisheries governance by the Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)?</p> <p><u>Group 6: Sharing best practices between regions</u> How can best practices on ocean governance (e.g. as you heard earlier from panelists) effectively be shared among regions, adapted, and applied? (Facilitation, e.g. from outside the region)</p>
11:25	<b>Reporting Back from Group Discussions</b>
<b>Part 5</b>	<b>Moving forward</b>
11:50	<b>Summing up and Reflection</b>
12:00	<b>Closing</b>

**Session 3 Agenda:** The WIO Information Management Strategy: Critical support for the ROGS, 8 Nov 2023

Time	Activity
13:30	<p><b>Welcome and Introduction</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ken Findlay, GOAP Africa Community of Practice</li> </ul>
13:40	<p><b>The Regional Need for an Information Management Strategy in the Western Indian Ocean</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dixon Waruinge, Nairobi Convention Secretariat</li> </ul>
13:50	<b>What is the IMS and lessons learnt during its development</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siajali Pamba, University of Dar es Salaam</li> <li>• Nadjim Ahmed, University of Comoros</li> </ul>
14:10	<b>How will the IMS inform Regional Ocean Governance Strategy</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ken Findlay, GOAP Africa Community of Practice</li> </ul>
14:20	<b>Ocean Accounts as an integrated approach to IMS to achieve sustainable and inclusive Blue Economies and Sustainable Ocean Plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Dyer, AfriSeas Solutions (Pty) Ltd.</li> </ul>
14:30	<b>GOAP approaches to Data Availability; Intellectual Property and Data Sovereignty; Veracity and Fit for Purpose and the needs for Partnerships for Data Sharing and Capacity Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tai Loureiro; GOAP Secretariat</li> </ul>
14:40	<b>Plenary Discussion</b>
15:20	<b>Wrap up</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yvonne Waweru, GIZ</li> </ul>
15:30	<b>Closing</b>

#### Session 4 Agenda: ROGS Institutional Arrangements: Who does what, when and how? 9 Nov 2023

Time	Activity
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Welcome and opening of the Session</b>
9:00	Welcome and framing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goals and agenda overview</li> </ul>
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Setting the scene</b>
9:10	<b>Inputs:</b> The challenges of integrated regional ocean governance: Mapping key actors and mandates in the WIO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jean-Paul Adam (<a href="#">video message</a>), Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, United Nations Secretariat</li> <li>• Alex Benkenstein, SAIIA</li> </ul>
9:25	<b>Input:</b> A proposal for WIO ROGS Governance Structures Emerging from Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop (22-25 May 2023, Zanzibar) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gina Bonne, Indian Ocean Commission</li> </ul>
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Insights from other regions</b>
9:45	<b>Panel: Insights from other regions on integrated ocean governance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mahesh Pradhan, Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia</li> <li>• Thandiwe Gxaba, Benguela Current Convention</li> <li>• Christopher Corbin, Cartagena Convention Secretariat</li> </ul> <b>Key discussion questions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>On key actors:</b> What kinds of actors are involved in the governance of your regional sea?</li> <li>• <b>On regional ocean governance approaches:</b> How do you approach governance in your regional sea? How do you assure policy coherence in your regional seas? How have you attempted to overcome siloed governance?</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Scenarios:</b> How do actors in your regional sea contribute to / participate in ocean governance?</li> </ul> <p><b>Questions, answers, and discussion</b></p>
<b>10:25</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Exploring and refining WIO ROGS institutional arrangements</b>
10:55	<p><b>Panel: Refining WIO ROGS institutional arrangements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Georges Asseko, African Union</li> <li>● Sibongile Mavimbela, SADC</li> <li>● Tim Andrew, NCS</li> <li>● Yvonne Waweru, GIZ</li> </ul> <p><b>Key discussion question:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Based on what we have heard from other regions, how might we refine our ROG in the WIO?</li> </ul>
<b>Part 5</b>	<b>Synthesis and Feedback</b>
11:50	<p><b>Synthesis remarks and participant feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Alex Benkenstein, SAIIA</li> </ul>
12:00	<b>Closing</b>

**Session 5 Agenda: Financing and Resourcing the ROGS, 9 Nov 2023**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>Part 1</b>	<b>Welcome and Opening of the Session</b>
13:30	<p><b>Welcome and Framing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sam Petersen, WWF SWIO <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Session goals and overview</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Aboud Jumbe, Zanzibar Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opening remarks</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Part 2</b>	<b>Setting the scene</b>
13:30	<p><b>Input:</b> “Progress in developing a Blue Finance Architecture for implementation of the ROGS”.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Kieran Kelleher, ROGS Advisor</li> </ul> <p><b>Input:</b> “A blue economy perspective on financing the ROGS”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sam Petersen, WWF SWIO</li> </ul> <p><b>Input:</b> “Financing and Resourcing the ROGS”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sibongile Mavimbela, SADC</li> </ul>
14:00	<p><b>Questions and Answers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clarifying questions</li> </ul>
<b>Part 3</b>	<b>Interactive Session</b>
14:10	<p><b>Participant Survey</b></p> <p>While listening to panel, please respond to this question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● What are your top ideas for HOW financing partners could enhance alignment and collaboration in the WIO for regional ocean governance?</li> </ul>

14:15	<p><b>Panel and Plenary Discussion:</b> Toward aligned action for resourcing ocean governance. moderated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Simeao Lopez, ProAzul</li> </ul> <p><b>With panelists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Sibongile Mavimbela, SADC</li> <li>● Valerie Hickey, World Bank</li> <li>● Cecilia Torres, Blue Action Fund</li> </ul> <p><b>Key discussion questions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● As financial partners, what constraints and opportunities do you see in taking a collaborative, regional approach, e.g. as described through the proposed Blue Finance Architecture?</li> <li>● What are your top ideas for HOW financial partners could enhance alignment and collaboration in the WIO for regional ocean governance?</li> </ul>
<b>Part 4</b>	<b>Moving Forward</b>
15:20	<p><b>Final remarks and participant feedback</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Aboud Jumbe, Zanzibar Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries</li> </ul>
15:30	<b>Closing</b>

#### 4. Full Qualitative Session 5 Survey Results (clustered)

*What are your top ideas for HOW financing partners could enhance alignment and collaboration in the WIO for regional ocean governance? (clustered)*

#### **WIO States: Harmonize policies, balance regional priorities, and collectively lead marine interventions**

- Harmonize policies - definition of BE varies from region to region e.g. fresh water systems do not feature in some strategy/policy documents.
- Balance regional priorities to avoid stepping on other sectors (which could be better funded).
- The need for States in the region to work together and harmonize their interventions in the marine space

#### **Finance Partners: Establish an overarching fund for pooling Ocean Governance resources and ensuring that financed activities are embedded in the WIO context and complement one another**

- To have single fund that will collect all the finances for blue economy
- To have a "clearing house" mechanism
- Universalization of Ocean Financing Mechanism
- Os parceiros financeiros devem financiar actividades que se complementam, isto é investirem fundos em componentes que se integram, e evitar financiar actividades que mesmas actividades.
- Financiers should find common objectives to mobilise their instruments/funds in their diversity
- Accreditation of pipeline projects investible under Ocean Finance
- It is important to be aware of regional contexts and to take them into account in order to ensure investment and achieve the desired outcomes
- Avoid use of consultants who do not understand the content of the project

#### **Finance Partners: Promote innovative financing and tools**

- Boost new finance approaches

- Explore and standardize tools
- Cut red tape

**For Practitioners: Build capacity for institutional strength and for co-designing integrated projects that can attract funding at scale**

- Build capacity
- Recipient institutional strength and resilience are key
- Regions need to have capacity to absorb funding
- Refrain from submitting fragmented projects
- Projects and those needing should be facilitated to work together and group their project to attract finance at the level that can match what financiers look for

**Practitioners: Adopt an inclusive, results-oriented, and multi-stakeholder collaboration approach**

- Social inclusion
- Tie tangible benefits to planned strategies
- Work together toward shared goals across stakeholder groups

**Practitioners: Promote exchange on and application of best practices**

- Exchange of information is important
- Incentivization of best practices

**Practitioners: Measure progress to demonstrate compliance, profitability, and return on investments**

- Documentation, documentation and documentation
- There should be data available to measure e.g. fish stocks and how they changes over time
- Compliance is important
- Central banks should ensure profitability
- Recipients of donor funds have to show return on investments

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