



GEF LME:LEARN 2nd Annual Africa Regional Network Meeting

Dakar, Senegal
3-4 September 2018



SUMMARY

The [Second Annual Africa Regional Network meeting](#) was organised by GEF LME:LEARN and the IOC-UNESCO Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA) at the Radisson Blu Hotel Dakar Sea Plaza (3-4 September 2018). The primary objectives of the second meeting were to evaluate the status of the network, evaluate the twinning and Inter-project Collaboration Opportunities offered by GEF LME:LEARN and discuss how these have progressed with identified partners, foster an environment for regional private sector engagement, engage members in science-management discussions and how best practice could be replicated in the region.

During the 2-day meeting, 30 participants from 14 countries attended with the group composition summarised in Figure 1.

2nd Annual Africa Regional Network Meeting

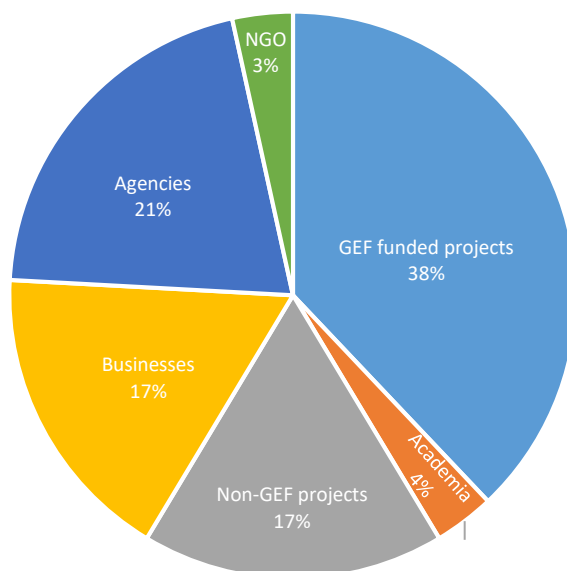


Figure 1. The meeting was attended by 11 GEF funded projects (International Waters, Biodiversity, Climate Change focal areas); 6 agencies (Food and Agricultural Organisation of the United Nations, United Nations Development Programme, UN Environment, Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Center de Suivi Ecologique (CSE); 1 Academic Institute (National Academy of Sciences and Techniques of Senegal (ANSTS); 5 companies (CMA – CGM, Union des Pêcheurs Exportateurs et Mareyeurs du Senegal (UPAMES), Groupement des Industriels et Armateurs de la Pêche Maritime au Senegal (GAIPES), Agence Nationale de l’Aquaculture (ANA), NGOM Freres), 2 Non-GEF projects (MAMIWATER, STRONG High Seas), and 1 NGO (World Ocean Council).

Targeted outcomes of the meeting included:

- Recommendations to the GEF LME:LEARN project for enhancing support to the network;
- Establishment of a foundation for private sector engagement at a regional level;
- Suggestions for replicating best practice in science-management;
- Action plan for sustaining the network.

ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

Twinning

1. Thus far, only one GEF LME:LEARN supported twinning exchange has occurred between members of the Africa Regional Network ([GEF-UNDP Environmental Management Information System \(EMIS\) project and the West African Coastal Observation Mission \(WACOM\)](#)). Bernard Brou presented the results.
2. Lessons learned from the exchange included:
 - The need to have stronger leadership of the Ministry of Environment in these activities;
 - Sustainability of the EMIS geoportal tool lies in good governance arrangements;
 - Using project implementation activities to collect and update data is very important.

Inter-project Collaboration Opportunities (ICO)

1. The Africa Regional Network is currently undertaking two ICOs.
2. The first ICO is being undertaken by the Benguela Current Convention and the Barcelona Convention with specific objectives to:
 - Exchange and transfer knowledge and experiences on transboundary, regional and sub-regional MSP;
 - Establish expert-to-expert and inter-LME experiences on MSP; and
 - Develop knowledge products that will include a policy brief and ICO note.
3. The second ICO has already been completed by the [GEF-UNDP EMIS project together with partners from the West Africa Coastal Observation Mission \(WACOM\) and the Abidjan Convention](#).

Informal Network Sharing

1. Regional network members are currently working on training/capacity building, platforms for collaboration, innovative communication, gender empowerment, upcoming side-events, geodata management, community projects, products and services on earth observation data for decision makers.

PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

The following findings emerged from the session:

1. When things are well defined and clear, then projects can work with private sector and succeed;
2. Projects need to understand that businesses have constraints too in day business and this needs to be taken into account;
3. Companies prefer to be approached by projects when they have a clear business plan to present;
4. Credibility of the project and the project manager needs to be sound, because companies also do their research;
5. If projects can demonstrate with one private sector partner that you have succeeded they will have more chance bringing in others;
6. The private sector is not just a funder, it is a partner, projects need to reframe the way they think about them.

SCIENCE TO MANAGEMENT: HIGHLIGHTING BEST PRACTICES IN USING SCIENCE TO INFLUENCE POLICY

The following conclusions were made:

1. There are many shortcomings; lack of funds is a big problem, as well as access to data.
2. There needs to be more synergies-WIOMSA is a good model of this.
3. Use the regional network meetings as a model to bring scientists and decision makers together.
4. Lots of data is being produced, but it isn't being used and it needs to be found out why.

Best practice from the GEF/World Bank Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Strategic Ecosystem Management project:

- Creation of MPA networks require regular assessments of key sites;
- Specific Regional Action Plans for Key Habitats and Species should be created; and
- Specialised programmes should be established to influence behaviour.

Best practice from the Benguela Current Convention:

- It is science that convinced Parties to work collaboratively at regional level;
- As a transboundary LME which is very complex, transboundary research collaboration on both the marine environment and on resources is essential; and
- The regional approach for eventual joint / aligned policies of maritime activities is fundamental and this is recognized by the participating States.

Key messages from the STRONG High Sea project:

- STRONG High Seas Project has a 5 year mandate focusing on several objectives among which is the carrying out of transdisciplinary scientific assessments that will provide decision-makers with improved knowledge and understanding on High Seas biodiversity in both concerned regions; and
- The project identifies best practices and provides support to regional institutions and national authorities for implementations for regional instruments.

AFRICA REGIONAL NETWORK LOOKING FORWARD

Participants were divided into three groups to discuss the sustainability of the network. They reported after the exercise and the following take-home messages were prominent:

- Annual meetings should be held and GEF IW/LME:LEARN should continue to lead the efforts;
- Virtual communication between meetings has been well received and must continue to maintain the network;
- The network does require a/the coordinator, however all network members should be actively contributing to sustain the initiative via the recommendations outlined

Follow up actions for the GEF LME:LEARN PCU:

1. Upload all presentations from the meeting (please find them [available here](#));
2. Write up and dissemination of the meeting report;
3. Compilation and dissemination of the [full list of members](#) (including those that could not attend the meeting); and
4. Disseminate link for the [LME Massive Open Online Course](#).

Follow up actions for the Africa Regional Network:

1. Participate in the Lightning Chats and nominate experts. More information on the next chat will be circulated with all network members.
2. Keep the spirit of the network alive by sharing updates, news and useful documentation on our Africa Network on Slack.com, and via our emailing list (africa-regional-network@googlegroups.com). If you are not already part of our online community on Slack, please join us by using the following link: [Africa Regional Network](#).
3. Help grow the network by encouraging non-GEF funded projects, academia, NGOs and businesses to be part of our community (a 1 page flyer is available for distribution).

marine.iwlearn.net

INTRODUCTION

The Strengthening Global Governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and their Coasts through Enhanced Sharing and Application of LME/ICM/MPA Knowledge and Information Tools, or [LME:LEARN project](#), seeks to improve global ecosystem-based governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and their coasts by generating knowledge, building capacity, harnessing public and private partners and supporting south-to-south learning and north-to-south learning. This project is funded by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and executed by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC).

A key element of this improved governance is mainstreaming cooperation and coordination between LME, MPA, MSP and ICM projects with overlapping themes and geographic areas, both for GEF projects and for non-GEF projects.

GEF LME:LEARN aims to reach a variety of marine and coastal stakeholders including project managers, international and local project staff, government officials, implementing agency staff, nongovernmental organizations, business community, academia and others through our Regional Networks. Our community interacts via annual face-to-face meetings arranged in each region, which serves to gather the network to enhance collaboration and partnership building among its members, but also to identify constraints and opportunities. Each network also has a dedicated online platform on Slack.com. Members share their news, stories, activities and photos with their community, and have access to Lightning Chats for solution exchanges. The online platform is accessible by signing up via africaregionalnetwork.slack.com.

WELCOME MESSAGES AND OPENING REMARKS

Ivica Trumbic, Chief Technical Adviser, GEF LME:LEARN, welcomed everyone to the second annual meeting and felt positively encouraged by the number of new members joining the network. Mr. Trumbic stressed that the network was still in its early stages and that members should continue to help positively grow and sustain what has been set in motion by the GEF LME:LEARN project.

The participants of the meeting then introduced themselves and stated their expectations for the meeting and the network:

Bernard Brou was happy to attend his second annual meeting and looked forward to sharing the experience of the EMIS project with current and new members. **Moussa Sall** expected to be able to share the activities WACOM was working on and to develop new partnerships. **Marieme Soda Diallo** mentioned that it was her first time attending a regional network meeting and looked forward to learning more. **Maimounatou Ndiaye-Diop** wanted to learn more about what others were doing in the region and to identify areas of collaboration. **Gabrielle Johnson** mentioned her work in MPAs and wanted to learn, share, and help strengthen capacity. **Kandey Bangoura** expressed his expectation to gain experience from others, especially from Senegalese institutions. **Salif Diop** wanted to see how to better coordinate activities from a national to regional level. Professor Diop felt that it was time to see what everyone was doing, to ground this activity, from reporting to action. **Sheila Kong Mukwele** stated that she wanted to go back with policies to help with implementation in Gulf of Guinea and the STRONG High Seas project. **Christine Valentin** hoped that the network could start building for the future with the private sector. **Viviane Kinyaga** mentioned that she was new to marine work, want to learn what is happening in the

region, to share experiences on building a network, and to share experience from the Benguela Current Convention. **Marie Chorr Bah** looked forward to the twinning session and to learn from various experiences. Ms. Bah also hoped to create a tangible workplan for the network, not just on paper but going forward. **Ahmed Khalil** stated that his expectations were to share experience from the SEM project and PERSGA. As they are in the closing phase of project, Dr. Khalil wanted to share experiences and the exit plan to sustain their project work. **Bashar Al-Bataineh** wanted to share experiences and success stories, but also to learn more and exchange knowledge. **Alison Amoussou** looked forward to contributing to the network and wanted to learn from other experiences. **Tanya Bryan** spoke about the three centres of expertise created by the MAMIWATER project and was interested to see how the network could help support these centres. **Fatou Tamba** expected to find new partnerships for the implementation of the Canary Current LME SAP. **Birane Sambe** shared information on the progress of the Guinea Current and the upcoming Steering Committee meeting in December 2018. Under the new project there are lots of partner activities, a new website and the involvement of many scientists. During the meeting, Mr. Birane hoped to share experience to help implement the SAP and establish a plan to implement activities. **Chrispin Vangu** expected to share experiences and knowledge in ICM and fighting coastal erosion.

REGIONAL NETWORK UPDATES

Natalie Degger, GEF LME:LEARN, provided [updates from the project](#) and what has been achieved thus far. An overview of activities from the other regions were also provided.

Key project services and developments included:

- Thematic toolkits available online and in pdf versions (<https://iwlearn.net/manuals>)
- Massive Open Online Course on Large Marine Ecosystem Assessment and Management (<https://iwlearn.net/marine/news/large-marine-ecosystems-assessment-and-management>)
- LME Hub- a tool for Outreach and Visualization of LMEs (<https://iwlearn.net/marine/services/lme-hub>)
- Database of marine and coastal projects from multiple focal areas (<https://www.oceanexpert.net/searchProjects>)
- Large Marine Ecosystems Portal (<https://iwlearn.net/marine/portfolio>)

ACTIVITIES IN THE REGION

Twinning

Thus far, only one GEF LME:LEARN supported twinning exchange has occurred between members of the Africa Regional Network ([GEF-UNDP Environmental Management Information System \(EMIS\) project and the West African Coastal Observation Mission \(WACOM\)](#)). Côte d'Ivoire has the second longest coast in West Africa, offering 550 kilometers of rich and unique biodiversity, which the country relies on for key ecosystem services. It is estimated that 40% of the population are settled in coastal zones creating intense pressure from urbanization, fishing and tourism. These pressures are exacerbated by the effects of climate change, in particular coastal erosion caused by rising sea-levels and land degradation which has become a real threat to these coastal communities and their livelihoods.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) financed, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) implemented Environmental Management Information System (EMIS) project based in Abidjan is addressing some of these challenges by providing a mechanism for environmental data, information and knowledge management through their national Geoportal for information sharing on Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) in Côte d'Ivoire. However, the project team expressed a desire to strengthen their capacity to capture and promote national and local information on the coastal areas.

Key outcomes as a result of this twinning exchange were shared with participants:

- The EMIS Geoportal will be the national platform that will be fed with the data collected by the WACOM national Focal Point. The Geoportal will be a channel whereby the Regional WACOM will access Cote d'Ivoire data and information on coastal zone management. A technical mechanism will be put in place within the EMIS project Geoportal so that a connection could be made online with both data bases;
- A specific MoU will be established between the GEF EMIS Project and the Tropical Geography Institute (IGT) hosting the WACOM national focal Point so that the institution could contribute to the updating of data within the Geoportal and provide technical and scientific supports to the team in charge of the management of the Geoportal;
- The data and information on the coastal zone within the EMIS Project Geoportal will be reorganized according to the 7 sectors of Cote d'Ivoire Coastline established by Regional WACOM;
- The Cote D'Ivoire set of data already in WACOM data base will be shared with the EMIS project Geoportal to contribute to the dissemination of information at national level;
- The Inter-sectoral committee involved in the fight against coastal erosion will be used as the governance body of the EMIS geoportal. A workshop on this took place with the members of this national committee to present the EMIS Geoportal and the results of WACOM.

Inter-project Collaboration Opportunities (ICO)

The Africa Regional Network was awarded two Inter-project Collaboration Opportunity grants.

One ICO is being undertaken by the [Benguela Current Convention and the Barcelona Convention](#). The collaboration will inform and strengthen the application of in-country and cross-border MSP in two transboundary LME contexts by enhancing capacities through inter-Conventional dialogue as well as knowledge generation and exchange. The specific objectives of the ICO are to:

- a. Exchange and transfer knowledge and experiences on transboundary, regional and sub-regional MSP; and
- b. Establish expert-to-expert and inter-LME experiences on MSP.

The second ICO has already been completed by the [GEF-UNDP EMIS project together with partners from the West Africa Coastal Observation Mission \(WACOM\) and the Abidjan Convention](#). On 21-22 June 2018 in Grand-Bassam, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, seventy-three high level representatives met for a validation workshop in support of the West Africa Coastal Area Master Plan (SDLAO). The activity was initiated by the "Strengthening the Environmental Information Management System for Coastal Zone Development in Côte d'Ivoire in Response to the Objectives of the Rio Conventions", or EMIS project, which is funded by the GEF, implemented by UNDP and executed by the Ministry of Environment Cote d'Ivoire. Participants to the workshop included the Inter-ministerial Committee for the Control of Coastal Erosion

(CILEC), decision-makers (mayors, regional councils, and sectoral ministries), Academia and Research Institutes, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Dakar, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Abidjan and San-Pedro Ports Authorities, and the Abidjan Convention. The EMIS project, together with partners from the West Africa Coastal Observation Mission (WACOM) and the Abidjan Convention, were awarded an Inter-project Collaboration Opportunity (ICO) grant by GEF LME:LEARN to support the validation of the updated West Africa Coastal Area Master plan by key stakeholders and decision-makers. The validation of this plan would not only benefit the coastline of Cote d'Ivoire, but also countries of West Africa and their two important Large Marine Ecosystems (Canary Current and Guinea Current) with respect to the collection and access of Integrated Coastal Zone data for sustainable management of the coastal zone. Under the ICO grant two activities were proposed, the first being the aforementioned workshop. The second activity took place from 27-30 August in Dakar, Senegal, which was a technical mission to enable the harmonisation of EMIS data according to the sectors defined in the updated West Africa Coastal Area Master Plan.

SPECIAL THEMATIC SESSION ON SCIENCE TO MANAGEMENT IN THE AFRICA REGION

Professor Salif Diop opened the session with a [presentation](#) on the importance of the advancement of ocean sciences and the need to better integrate knowledge in decision-making in Africa, which was part of a national consultation held in Dakar in May 2018. Some key messages from Professor Diop included:

- It is important for Africa to fully integrate the African Union (AU) vision on sustainable development of oceans according to the strategic orientations of the Agenda 2063 of AU, in particular, AIMS Strategy /African Integrated Marine Strategy 2050 (AU / AIMS 2050);
- The Action Plan from the Summits of Yaoundé and Lomé that put emphasis on the protection and the sustainable use of the African maritime domain for the creation of wealth, peace and security is also important;
- Science to management is a long and tedious process;
- There is a need to put transparency on good practice by bringing law and economics together with science;
- Discussions need to be triggered, we need to make use of the data, transform the data and get it out there to decision makers

The session moved to sharing examples of best practice from around the region, how science has helped to inform/influence policy and what contributions are being made by the projects.

Ahmed Khalil, Regional Programme Coordinator for the Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden ([PERSGA](#)), gave a background to the region, the convention and regional protocols, and also shared [examples of science based approaches and practices](#).

Viviane Kinyaga, Project Manager of the [Benguela Current III Programme](#), spoke about the journey of the Benguela Current Convention and [how science has played an integral role](#) in enabling the Parties to the Convention working together at a Regional Level.

Sheila King Mukwele, [STRONG High Seas project](#), provided participants with an overview of the five-year project (2017-2022) and the [use of science in strengthening governance of the high seas](#). The project aims to carry out transdisciplinary scientific assessments that will provide decision-makers with improved knowledge and understanding on High Seas biodiversity in concerned regions.

As part of the discussion, **Natalie Degger** asked what is the best way to replicate models for science to management, or rather, how can successful models be replicated in the region?

Birane Sambe, Canary Current LME, shared that in frame of fisheries, Canary Current works with the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF). CECAF's strategy is to establish working groups who develop stock assessments. When they produce these documents they talk about state of the stock. This then goes to scientific subcommittee who report back to all stakeholders and give advice to whole of CECAF. This is another good example of science to management, which could be replicated in a fisheries context.

Ahmed Khalil weighed in that he found many similarities between PERSGA and the Benguela Current Convention. Ahmed felt that in his experience it is important to keep academia on board with you. A problem in the PERSGA region is that there is weak science capacity (human capacity, institutions etc.) which really influences what could be done. A suggested method to overcome this is involving the communities in citizen science, which could help address manpower and resource gaps. Finally, he stated that he has not been satisfied with the use of science. There are many shortcomings, such as lack of funds and access to data.

Viviane Kinyaga shared that with regional working groups the challenge exists in keeping them active when there is no funding, and asked if anyone could offer another mechanism. Secondly, scientists have their own agenda, and the question is how do we improve this so that we receive the science we need.

Salif Diop mentioned that it was a pity that WIOMSA could not attend the meeting as they have a good model of synergies. We don't see many synergies in western Africa. How do the conventions fit in? Will all LME programs become Conventions? There is a lot of overlap and repetition. In West Africa this is not easy to tackle. How do we make this coherent? Do we make the sub regions like the LMEs or how? This is not a simple issue.

Ahmed Khalil felt that there would always be replication on one or more levels.

Birane Sambe believed that we cannot ever have satisfaction in scientific advice but we can indicate some progress made. For example, in the 1980s some ministries said fish stocks could not disappear, but now they agree that there is a problem and science is being used to find solutions and make progress. He also shared an example of his experience trying to engage communities in what is happening with their fisheries. The communities and not the scientists wanted an MPA. Many international projects have limited time span, but communities which are engaged will work long term to protect the environments. Secondly, mariculture can replace overfishing and have communities feel responsible and undertake activities that are beneficial to the ocean.

Marie Chorr Bah had similar views to Salif, stating that there is room for improvement, such as better coordination, and a holistic approach to management.

Moussa Sall shared that the WACOM network have developed relationships with scientists in West Africa and a mechanism to share the result with decision makers. They have two committees, one of which is a scientific committee that contributes to enhanced collaboration and validation of processes in WACOM. Are we satisfied with this? Yes, because they have a dynamic relationship between scientists and WACOM.

Viviane Kinyaga felt that we need to have sessions like this when we bring scientists and governments together. Capacity development and training is one mechanism of bringing all stakeholders together.

Salif Diop mentioned that long term thinking was critical to ensure existing conventions and documented recommendations are implemented.

Ahmed Khalil believes that one thing we should do is identify why the data isn't being used, this needs to be researched.

Ivica Trumbic concluded the session by stating that scientists might not be producing the right data to be used and we need to bring closer together what scientists are doing with what decision makers need. Ivica hoped this discussion would help participants to chart the course for this.

PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT AT THE REGIONAL LEVEL

Christine Valentin, COO and Board Member of the World Ocean Council (WOC) gave an introduction on Ocean Business Leadership and Collaboration on Sustainable Development. During her talk, Ms. Valentin highlighted the work of WOC, their regional business networks and the various sectors their members represented.

The session then turned to the companies in attendance to give the perspective from the private sector:

Mr. Amadou Dia, Operational Director of CMA – CGM, provided on [overview of the company and their strict environmental strategy](#). The company's adoption of new technology (Liquefied Natural Gas Propulsion engines) is helping them make great strides in demonstrating their commitment to the environment. Thus far, between 2005 and 2015, CMA CGM's Carbon efficiency was improved by 50 % per teu-Km. In 2017, CO² efficiency was further improved by 10 % per teu carried, which is one year ahead of their 2025 goal.

Mr. Makhtar Thiam, Coordinator, Union des Pêcheurs Exportateurs et Mareyeurs du Senegal (UPAMES) spoke about [the work of UPAMES and how they participate in most private and public structures](#) of fishery management and industrial development in Senegal, such as the Senegal Emergent plan, the Industrial Redeployment Unit (CRI), and the Export Promotion Agency (ASEPEX). UPAMES also collaborates closely with the fisheries administrative services (DITP, DMP, DPSP, etc.), as well as with most NGOs, organisations and donors projects such as JICA, EU, and the World Bank. In 2015, UPAMES with a private company, launched the first sustainable seafood label in West Africa, named "[Beg Ellek](#)" whose framework is based on the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of FAO and is inspired by current best practices in some artisanal Senegalese fisheries.

Mr. Alassane Dieng, Deputy Secretary General, Groupement des Industriels et Armateurs de la Pêche Maritime au Senegal, (GAIPES), provided a history of GAIPES, their markets and products, their role in the Senegalese economy, and [some of their criteria for investment decisions](#). These include the current state of the environment, the governance of the fisheries sector, and the business environment (political stability, guarantee of secure investment).

Mr. Magatte Ba of the Agence Nationale de l'Aquaculture, (ANA) [introduced the agency](#) and their role in the Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy under the Emerging Senegal Plan with aquaculture as a

main project. Some of their challenges include creating 20 000 jobs by 2023, and adopting an aquaculture code. The opportunities, presented by ANA, include stability and political will, incentives to attract the private sector, training centres, research institutes and research.

A panel roundtable discussion then followed and the companies were joined by UNDP (Bernard Brouyard), Benguela Current Convention (Viviane Kinyaga), Mamiwata Project (Tanya Bryan), and the Abidjan Convention (Alison Amoussou). Six key outcomes from the roundtable discussion included:

1. When things are well defined and clear, then projects can work with private sector and succeed
2. Projects need to understand that businesses have constraints too in day business and these need to be taken into account
3. Companies prefer to be approached by projects when they have a clear business plan to present
4. Credibility of the project and the project manager needs to be sound, companies also do their research
5. If projects can demonstrate with one Private Sector partner that you have succeeded they will have more chance bringing in others
6. The private sector is not just a funder, it is a partner, projects need to reframe the way they think about them

Notes from the panel discussion can be found in [Annex A](#)

AFRICA REGIONAL NETWORK LOOKING FORWARD

Participants split into three groups to address sustainability of the network and to propose recommendations. The questions developed for the exercise are included in Annex B. A summary of the discussions are reflected below:

Annual Network Meetings

- These meetings are useful, should be twice a year if possible, and should be conducted with input from thematic working groups;
- Most felt they would attend without travel support if they were from GEF-funded projects, others find it difficult to attend otherwise;
- The group felt that the GEF should continue to finance the meetings, with implementation by GEF IW:LEARN;
- Meetings should continue to be arranged by GEF IW:LEARN with support of network members;
- A suggested date for the next meeting was September 2019 in Northern Africa or Southern Africa (Namibia);
- A final suggestion was that no new members be added, but current membership nurtured to ensure consistency

Virtual Communication Between Annual Meetings

- The regional mailing list (africa-regional-network@googlegroups.com) is useful, members need to be encouraged to share information;
- The global mailing list (marine-learn@googlegroups.com) was not used by members;
- The Lightning Chats are useful, need to be done every few months, and a list of experts created;
- A regional newsletter is useful, but should be done twice a year instead of only in December;
- All current activities are useful in keeping the network momentum going;
- It was felt that the responsibility of these communications fell to the Network Coordinator;
- A suggestion to include other languages in these communications (French, Portuguese) was proposed

Regional Network Coordination

- The network wants a coordinator to lead the group and maintain the effort;
- The group felt that currently no coordination functionality was missing;
- The coordinator should be in contact with the network quarterly at least;
- It was agreed that it is the responsibility of the coordinator to grow the network, but support should be provided by the members when requested;
- Members felt that they should share responsibility for the network and contribute actively by providing feedback to the coordinator;
- The participants agreed that every member of the network should make simple, voluntary commitments to sustain the network e.g. once a year sharing a success story, or a lesson learned

CLOSING OF THE MEETING

Natalie Degger thanked the network for their time and contributions to the discussions of the meeting, stating it had been a very fruitful event. **Ivica Trumbic** thanked the participants for their commitment, for making the time to attend the meeting and for their willingness to establish and sustain the network in the region.

Notes

Tanya: Provided an overview of the [Mamiwater project](#). Regarding the value proposition, Tanya felt that for marine projects and private sector to work together, the private sector should look at projects as service providers, which can help lower risk.

Alison: Introduced the Abidjan convention and felt they could link services that they provide to the companies, for example to link ecosystem services to companies so they understand the value.

Viviane: Spoke about the BCLME III project and their objective to strengthen private sector involvement. The BCC wishes to see the three countries of convention gain more employment opportunities for the people and ensure equity in terms of access to resources. Private sector could help them reach this objective. By working together, we can create the enabling framework for ocean sustainability.

Bernard: Introduced his portfolio and felt that interactions between projects and private sector shows that there is a will to set up an enabling environment. The key to have them involved, they should be a driver of change because they have the finance and means to make the change. We cannot achieve SDGs without the private sector. They (private sector) say data is confidential, but there needs to be common ground so they can add to the basket.

Amadou: What we need is to understand your project, we need to see what the positive results will be, need to know what you want and where you are going, then we can go together. When things are clear then we can go together and succeed.

Alassane: The private sector needs to be involved as early as possible as things are being defined so that projects understand the constraints we have. As the project is developed, need to consider Private sector as part of the project and take into account their needs. Also be aware that time for the private sector is different for administration as opposed to other stakeholders. We have constraints too in day-to-day business therefore these need to be taken into account. Concerning protection of data or information, projects need to understand that in the business world there is competition, so data has to be confidential. It is also in relation to how the actors work between themselves, this has to be understood. Projects should make the different actors of blue economy understand that being involved is for their future- frame it in this way then we will want to invest in your work.

Magatte: Ghandi once said, “If you are not with me you’re against me”. You have to integrate the leaders in the entire process and the value chain. Networking is very important with the whole region. In aquaculture there is potential for whole of Africa, this is important for any marine project wanting economic growth and protection.

Makhtar: Tilapia is the best product for the market, we need to invest in aquaculture, but don’t have the framework. If you are working in this we are happy to work with projects, but nobody ever comes back to us. We are ready to work with you, we know the pressure on resources, there will not be fish in the future. You have to learn to trust us. The fisherman know they have to protect their interests, governments makes laws to protect the small guy. We have local experience, the government doesn’t call us, until now we don’t have political push to engage us. Our challenge is to protect the private sector. Sometimes we are

not well organised and we have difficulty showcasing the balance between profit and protection. We like to work with local communities and discuss with them together to create a framework for cooperation. If we invest we are not protected due to the laws that want to create no take areas, please work with us.

Alison: I have a question- how do we work with you? We want to work with companies but they ask us what would be the benefit. How do we convince them? We have long-term results, you want short term returns, how do we convince you if this is the case?

Alassane: Using an example, if you have a project in fish stocks, how do you get us to participate? We know it takes time to regenerate fish stocks. You need to demonstrate to companies that if they don't do it, they will have to travel further, get licences to travel somewhere else, these localities may be stricter or different and this will cost them more. This is the argument for doing the investment now.

Amadou: I agree, when you want to work with us you need a clear business plan. If there is a plan, there is a clear possibility of succeeding regardless of how long (5 or 10 years). It is the same as when you get a loan from the bank. We need to have reliability; we need to have safe money management. Once all this is clear and we decide to go with you, we will help you wherever possible. However, we need to be involved with projects with less risk. You succeed or you fail. How do you minimise that failure?

Bernard: I want to build on what you just said and give an answer. To get companies involved it is clear that we need to inform them, give maximum information so they are aware of where they are going. A key element of this information is to show them why they should get involved. Marine resources are finite. If we over exploit them we are in trouble. Demonstrate that if companies do not become involved in this, it will affect their business; this is how to frame it. Secondly, since they are private they like good images, they do not want controversy, thus through our projects we help make their image more sexy/attractive. It is also key to incentivise the private sector, otherwise they will not get involved. Maybe the law does not work in favour of your business, but if we work together, we can help you overcome this.

Viviane: To answer the second question we have to think about what we want from the private sector, what will be their role? An e.g. from the Southern African region, some Private Sector are involved in monitoring, but they don't have the capacity so they engage academia to do it and they pay. Some do their own monitoring but we in the LME want to work on the whole ecosystem.

Makhtar: I've managed companies spanning 21 countries. My experience is that the credibility of the project and the manager needs to be sound. Define a clear vision and objective, companies will follow you for sure. How will you achieve your goal? If you are clear, you are credible. Show them why they should be involved and show them success cases. If you can demonstrate with one partner that you have succeeded, you will have more chance bringing in others.

Amadou: If you want finance, we need to know what you are going to do and how you are going to use the money. We want to see where the money is going. We need to understand the project fully, give all the information so that they can feel comfortable engaging. Even working with government is the same, we approach this the same way. If you show that you are helping people to live better, we want to be involved.

Makhtar: Credibility also concerns data.

Tanya: What I'm hearing is that there is no lack of passion, we all want the same thing. How do we manage expectations? When I try to develop a project with a funder, for me to engage with private sector is difficult. We need to learn how to sell a project; we are not taught this i.e. creating a business plan, returns etc. Only this grabs private sector. We need to know how to do this better, help projects look at their role in a different way. Its not always popular but it is necessary. Consequences of failure for a company is different for them then for us, we don't think about this when we try to sell it.

Moussa: Environmental issues can be a good point of convergence for private sector and projects.

Marie: From the discussion it looks like there is a lot of opportunities for networking and also to work together. Please leave your contact details.

Jared: This is an interesting discussion going on. Talks involving private sector often open ended, at this meeting we are dealing with specifics which is great. It was not always easy to engage private sector. This is happening now and this is progress. Why should private sector think about sustainability? They think about profits and base line. We are managing resources that they need for profit.

Christine: Propeller clubs an example of private sector to engage, they are all around the world, and they have access to other sectors. Panel, please give your final words.

Amadou: We need to be involved, we want to work with you, some intermediaries are useful, they can make a file and talk to companies to convince them.

Alassane: Working with intermediaries varies according to the project; the project needs to define what it needs, show outputs or best practice, and to continue the networking and to have these types of exchanges once projects are closed.

Magatte: If it fails, you learn from failure, you will do things differently next time

Makhtar: We need intermediaries, but their role should be to build confidence between projects and companies. There needs to be consolidation of results. World Bank is the last project here, but nobody is talking about it anymore. Networking and best practices need to be shared.

Bernard: Intermediaries must bear in mind that they should use negotiating approach by putting forward interest of the companies and build trust. This can be done bilaterally or through platforms (has advantage of gathering stakeholders and favouring dialogue). Projects need accountability, how did you use the funds, what did you do? Projects must be accountable. Need to show successful partnerships and how others can build on the success.

Viviane: We are IGO we need to be mindful of sovereign rights and they have different interests. There is a trust issue between countries and private sector. It took the BCC a long time to engage companies because of trust. As projects, we struggle with expectations of governments and their approach to development. They want projects that involve as many people as possible, but if you want to engage companies, they want targeted interventions where responsibilities are clear. There is a role for private sector for project sustainability.

Alison: What I learned from GEF LME:LEARN MSP course, all parties should be involved at the same time, that they all have same level of information.

Tanya: This panel has been illuminating. This is a testament to everyone's involvement.

VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ANNUAL MEETINGS

WHAT DOES GEF LME:LEARN CURRENTLY PROVIDE THE NETWORK?

- Regional Mailing list
 - Network members can message all group members by using the following email address:
africa-regional-network@googlegroups.com
- Global mailing list
 - Network members can message a global list-serve on the following email address:
marine-learn@googlegroups.com
- Lightning Chats (Solution Finding Sessions) every two months on Slack.com
 - Network members can access the chats via africaregionalnetwork.slack.com
 - Link for signing up here: [Invitation Link](#)
 - Network members can share information under specific thematic channels which are automatically archived
- Annual Newsletter disseminated in December
- Regional Network Brochure

VIRTUAL COMMUNICATION BETWEEN ANNUAL MEETINGS

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY THE GROUP:

1. Is the regional mailing list useful?
 - i. If not, what alternatives do you suggest?
 - ii. If yes, how could this be improved to keep the network in contact?
2. Is the global mailing list useful?
 - i. If not, what alternatives do you suggest?

- ii. If yes, how could this be improved to keep the network in contact?
- 3. Are the Lightning Chats (solution finding sessions on Slack.com useful?
 - i. If not, what alternatives do you suggest?
 - ii. If yes, how can they be improved
 - iii. Are the surveys done beforehand useful?
 - iv. How often should they be?
 - v. Where can we find experts?
 - vi. Should we create a list of experts?
- 4. Is the Newsletter useful?
 - i. If not, what alternative do you suggest?
 - ii. If yes, how can this be improved?
- 5. Do you have any suggestions for keeping the momentum of the network going between meetings (think in terms of sustainability of the network)?
- 6. Who should be responsible for virtual communication between the meetings?
 - i. Should full responsibility fall on the Network Coordinator?
 - ii. How can we create buy-in from the network members to contribute to the virtual communication?
- 7. Do you have any additional suggestions?

ANNUAL NETWORK MEETINGS

WHAT DOES GEF LME:LEARN CURRENTLY PROVIDE THE NETWORK?

- Organisation of Annual Network meetings
 - 1st meeting in Zanzibar, Tanzania August 2017
 - 2nd meeting in Dakar, Senegal September 2018
- Travel support offered to participants to attend the meetings
 - DSA and flights
- Meeting report developed and disseminated to the whole network

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY THE GROUP:

1. Are the annual meetings useful?
 - i. If not, what alternatives do you suggest?
 - ii. If yes, how can these be improved?
2. If there was no travel support to attend, would you still join the annual meeting?
3. How can future meetings be financed?
4. Who should be responsible for arranging future meetings?
5. When should the next annual meeting be held (suggested dates)?

6. Where shall the next annual meeting be held (suggestions for host institutes welcomed)
7. Do you have any additional suggestions regarding the meetings?

REGIONAL NETWORK COORDINATION

WHAT DOES GEF LME:LEARN CURRENTLY PROVIDE THE NETWORK?

- Create, compile and maintain the network contact database containing all information for each network member
- Create and disseminate surveys for Lightning Chats (solution finding sessions)
- Find experts to participate in the Lightning Chat
- Create and disseminate Lightning Chat announcement and times
- Maintenance of the Slack.com workspace
- Dissemination of network news and announcements
- Develop and disseminate the network newsletter
- Plan and execute annual meeting and training events
- Develop the meeting agenda
- Create budgets for events and allocate travel support funds accordingly
- Identify and contact potential speakers or sectors of interest
- Process end-of-meeting reports
- Process end-of-meeting evaluations

QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY THE GROUP:

1. Is the role of a Regional Network Coordinator necessary?
 - a. If yes, please elaborate why?
 - b. If no, please elaborate why?
2. Are there any coordination functionalities that are missing?
 - a. If yes, please make suggestions
3. How regularly should the Regional Network Coordinator be in contact with the network?

4. Is it the sole responsibility of the Regional Network Coordinator to grow the network?
 - a. If yes, please state why and provide suggestions how the coordinator can grow the network
 - b. If no, please suggest how other members can help grow the network
5. Should the regional network be formalised?
 - a. If yes, please state why and suggest how this should be done
 - b. If no, please explain why
6. Should members share responsibilities for the network?
 - a. If no, please explain why
 - b. If yes, how can we share the responsibility?
7. Should members make simple, voluntary commitments to help sustain the network?
 - a. If no, please explain why
 - b. If yes, should these commitments be made at the end of this meeting and can you suggest some examples?

Annex C

List of Current Network Members

Africa Regional Network

Project/LME/Institute/Company	GEF ID	Agency	Name	Email
		UNDP	Yves de Soye	yves.desoye@undp.org
		UNDP	Akiko Yamamoto	akiko.yamamoto@undp.org
		United Nations Environment	Yegor Volovik	yegor.volovik@un.org
		UNDP Angola	Goetz Schroth	goetz.schroth@undp.org
Abidjan Convention		United Nations Environment	Abou Bamba	Abou.bamba@un.org
Abidjan Convention		United Nations Environment	Alison Amoussou	alison.amoussou@un.org
Adaptation to Climate and Coastal Changes in Tunisia	3202	UNDP		fadhel.baccar@undp.org
Adapting Coastal Zone Management to Climate Change in Madagascar Considering Ecosystem and Livelihoods	4568	UNEP		ermira.fida@unep.org
Addressing Urgent Coastal Adaptation Needs and Capacity Gaps in Angola	5230	UNEP		Barney.Dickson@unep.org
Agence Nationale de l'Aquaculture, ANA			Magatte Ba	magatte_ba@hotmail.com
BCLME III	5753	UNDP	Viviane KINYAGA	viviane@benguelacc.org
Benguela Current Convention			Hashali Hamukuaya	hashali@benguelacc.org
Benguela Current Convention			Thandiwe GXABA	thandiwe@benguelacc.org
Canary Current LME	1909	FAO	Birane Sambe	bsambe@yahoo.fr

Canary Current LME	1909/ 9940	FAO	Birane Sambe	bsambe@yahoo.fr
Canary Current LME	1909/ 9940	UNDP	Fatou Tamba	fatou.tamba@fao.org
CMA - CGM			Amadou Dia	DKA.ADIA@cc-inland.com
Comoros Protected Areas Network and Villages [Bio]	5062	UNDP	Fouad Abdou Rabi	fouad.abdourabi@undp.org
Creation of Loungo Bay Marine Protected Area to Support Turtles Conservation in Congo	5806	UNEP	Constantin MBESSA	mbessaconstantin58@gmail.com
Egypt Nile Delta ICZM/Climate Adaptation [CC]	3242	UNDP	Mohamed Ahmed Ali	afmahh@hotmail.com
Egypt Strengthening Protected Area Financing [Bio]	3668	The World Bank	Adel Soliman	adelnbu@yahoo.com
Enhancing Climate Change Resilience in the Benguela Current Fisheries System	5113	FAO		Cassandra.deyoung@fao.org
Enhancing Resilience Of Liberia Montserrado County Vulnerable Coastal Areas To Climate Change Risks.	8015	UNDP	Henry Rene Diouf	henry.rene.diouf@undp.org
Enhancing the Climate Resilience of the Moroccan Ports Sector	6951	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development	James Falzon	FalzonJ@ebrd.com
Focal Point Senegal GSP		UNDP	Khatary MBAYE	khatarymb@unops.org
Gambia Adaptive Capacities for SSE and Coastal Fisheries [Climate]	9194	UNIDO	Juliet Kabège	J.KABEGE@unido.org
Gambia Coastal Areas Resilience	4724	UNDP	Marie Chorr Bah	marie.chorr@gmail.com
Gambia Coastal Areas Resilience [CC]	4724	UNDP	Dodou Trawally	dodou.trawally@undp.org
GEF IW and LME: LEARN	5278/ 5729	IOC-UNESCO	Natalie Degger	natalie@iwlearn.org
GEF IW and LME: LEARN	5278/ 5729	IOC-UNESCO	Mish Hamid	mish@iwlearn.org
GEF LME: LEARN	5278	IOC-UNESCO	Ivica Trumbic	i.trumbic@unesco.org

GEF small grants programme Mauritius			Pamela Bapoo-Dundoo	pamela.bapoo.dundoo@undp.org
GEF small grants programme Seychelles			Lyndy Bastienne	lyndy.bastienne@undp.org
Groupeement des Industriels et Armateurs de la Peche Maritime au Senegal, GAIPES			Alassane Dieng	alassane_dieng@hotmail.com
Guinea Coastal Zone Adaptation [CC]	3703	UNDP	Bangoura Kande	kandebangoura@gmail.com
Guinea Coastal Zone Adaptation [CC]	3703	UNDP	Bangoura Kande	kandebangoura@gmail.com
Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Dar Es Salaam			Yohanna Shaghude (IMS)	yohanna.shaghude@gmail.com
INBAC			Marta Zumbo	mnsambalex@gmail.com
		IOC-UNESCO Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA)	Mika Odido	m.odido@unesco.org
IOI-Africa			Adnan Awad	aawad@ioisa.org
Kenya Coastal Resilience and Livelihoods [Climate]	5794	UNIDO	Bassel Alkhatib	B.ALKHATIB@unido.org
Liberia Coastal Area Mangroves [Bio]	5712	Conservation International	Victor E. Smith	vsmith@conservation.org
Liberia Coastal Area Resilience [CC]	3885	UNDP	Jefferson Wylie	jeffersonwylie@yahoo.com
Mainstreaming Biodiversity into the Management of the Coastal Zone in the Republic of Mauritius	5514	UNDP	Satyajeet Ramchurn	satyajeet.ramchurn@undp.org
MAMIWATA Project		GRID/GIZ/Abidjan/Resili enSEA	Tanya Bryan	Tanya.Bryan@grida.no
Mauritania Mainstream Biodiversity to Oil and Gas [Bio]	3576	UNDP	Hacen Khounaa	melkhouna@gmail.com
Mitigating Key Sector Pressures on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity and Further Strengthening the National System of Marine Protected Areas in Djibouti	9215	UNDP	Yves Desoye	yves.desoye@undp.org

National Academy of Sciences and Techniques of Senegal (ANSTS)			Salif Diop	esalifdiop@gmail.com
NGOM Freres			Ababacar Ngom	babsngom2@gmail.com
Nairobi Convention		UN Environment	Dixon Waruinge	dixon.waruinge@un.org
Red Sea Ecosystem	3809	The World Bank	Bashar Mohammad Al-Bataineh	bashar.bataineh@persga.org
Red Sea Ecosystem	3809	The World Bank	Ahmed Khalil	ahmed.khalil@persga.org
Resilience of Muanda's Communities from Coastal Erosion, Democratic Republic of Congo	5280	UNDP	Chrispin Vangu	v.ngombo@gmail.com
Second South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Project (SWIOFish2)	9692	world bank	Daniel Mirasalama	dmirasalama@worldbank.org
Seychelles' Protected Areas Finance Project	5485	UNDP		fabiana.issler@undp.org
Strengthened Environmental Management Information System for Coastal Development to Meet Rio Convention Objectives	5101	UNDP	Bernard Brou	bernard.brou@undp.org
Strengthening Climate Resilience of Infrastructure in Coastal Areas in Togo	5279	African Development Bank	Maimounatou NDIAYE DIOP	M.NDIAYE-DIOP@afdb.org
STRONG High Sea Project/ Ministry of Cameroon			Sheila KONG MUKWELE	mukwelesundi@gmail.com
Tunisia Coastal Area Vulnerabilities [CC]	5105	UNDP	Fadhel Baccar	fadhel.baccar@undp.org
UNESCO Dakar			Anthony Maduekwe	a.maduekwe@unesco.org
Union des Pêcheurs Exportateurs et Mareyeurs du Senegal, UPAMES			Makhtar Thiam	makhtarthiam@gmail.com
WACOM			Moussa Sall (WACOM)	sall@cse.sn
WACOM			Marième Soda Diallo	soda.diallo@cse.sn
West Africa Coastal Areas Program (WACA)		The World Bank	Nathalie Abu-Ata	nabuata@worldbank.org

West Africa Regional Fisheries	3558	The World Bank	Demba Youm Kane	kdemba@gmail.com, demba.kane@spcsrp.org
Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonization and Institutional Reforms (SAPPHIRE)	5513	UNDP	Sinkinesh Beyene	sinkinesh.beyene@undp.org
Western Indian Ocean LBSP SAP Implementation	4940	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Jared Bosire	jared.bosire@un.org
WIOMSA			Julius Francis (WIOMSA)	julius@wiomsa.org

marine.iwlearn.net

Agenda

MONDAY, 3 September 2018	
Session	Registration and Opening of the Meeting
Venue	Room DIGITATA 1, Radisson Blu Hotel, Dakar Sea Plaza
Time	
08:30 09:00	Registration
09:00 10:30	Welcome message and opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ivica Trumbic, Chief Technical Advisor, GEF LME:LEARN Short introduction by and expectations of the participants Overview of the Agenda
Session	Regional Network Updates
Chair	Ivica Trumbic
Content	This session provide participants with updates on the GEF LME:LEARN project (toolkits, services) and share experiences from the Latin America-Caribbean and Asia-Pacific Regional Networks.
10:30 11:00	Updates on the GEF LME:LEARN project and other Regional Networks - <i>Natalie Degger</i>
<i>Coffee break and group photo (11:00 – 11:30)</i>	
Session	Activities in the Region
Chair	Natalie Degger
Content	Regional Network Members who have undertaken GEF LME:LEARN twinning and ICO exchanges will report back to the network on their experiences and lessons learned. This session will also allow members to share what activities they are currently working on that may be of interest to the network.
11:30 13:00	Twinning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GEF UNDP EMIS project and WACOM- Bernard Brou and Moussa Sall ICO Exchanges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Benguela Current Convention and Barcelona Convention- Viviane Kinyaga GEF UNDP EMIS project, WACOM and Abidjan Convention- Bernard Brou and Moussa Sall Informal network sharing- Are you doing something similar or different that you would like to share? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlight 2-3 things which you are doing in your own work that is unusual or may be of interest to the network

Lunch break (13:00 – 14:30)	
Session	Science to Management in the Africa Region
Chair	Ivica Trumbic
Content	This session will inform participants on the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030). It also focuses on the value in using science to make management decisions, best practices in engaging the scientific community, and steps towards facilitating the science to management interface.
14:30 15:00	United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Natalie Degger How science works along with policy and governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professor Salif Diop, Academy of Science, Senegal
15:00 15:30	Examples of best practice from around the region <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Sea and The Gulf of Aden- Bashar Mohammad Al-Bataineh • STRONG High Sea – Sheila Kong Mukwele • Benguela Current Convention- Viviane Yinyaga
Coffee break (15:30 – 16:00)	
16:00 17:00	Moderated Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How could successful science-management models be replicated in the region? • What are the emerging areas for targeted research and its application? • Are their mechanisms for improving knowledge exchange among scientists, projects and decision-makers in the region?
17:00	Closing
18:00 19:00	Marketplace Cocktail: Needs and Offerings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What opportunities does your project, institute or organisation have to offer? • What does your project, institute or organization need help with? Venue: Terrace Ocean, Radisson Blu Hotel, Dakar Seaplaza

TUESDAY, 4 September 2018	
Session	Private Sector Engagement at the Regional Level
Chair	Natalie Degger, GEF LME:LEARN
Content	<p>In order to bring transformational change to the global ocean environment, marine projects, institutions and the private sector must identify new ways of working together.</p> <p>Examples of successful partnerships with large corporate actors include the Globallast partnership with shippers and the International Maritime Organization, as well as Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) and Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) working with the private sector to promote innovative, market-based approaches fostering good fishing practices and fishery management.</p> <p>To foster these partnerships there needs to be a better understanding of the challenges faced by both the private sector and marine projects in engaging with one another; how to better communicate the investment potential of marine projects, and the opportunities for investment by the private sector at the regional level.</p> <p>The best way to advance and align business, environmental and social objectives is by learning first about the drivers of the businesses in the Asia-Pacific Region. Most businesses approach the environment through the lens of risk, in other words how does the availability of natural resources impact their business?</p> <p>During this session participants have the opportunity to hear from a few businesses operating in the Asia-Pacific Region. More specifically this session will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New issues, risks and opportunities are emerging that may have material impact on ocean industry operations; • The criteria these companies use to make investment decisions; • Examples of investments that have succeeded or failed in the past, and why?
Time	
09:00 10:30	<p>World Ocean Council -Christine Valentin, COO and Board Member</p> <p>WOC: Ocean Business Leadership and Collaboration on Sustainable Development</p> <p>Framing questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the global and regional priorities and opportunities regarding sustainable development from the ocean business community? 2. What are the needs and opportunities to collaborate across the sectors/at a regional scale? 3. How can other stakeholders best work with and through intermediary organizations to engage the private sector? 4. How can we develop an Africa ocean business leadership community for ocean sustainable development?
Coffee break (10:30 – 11:00)	
11:00 13:00	<p>Round table Moderator: Christine Valentin</p> <p>Participants:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector representatives • Regional intermediary organizations • Regional project representatives <p>Framing questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the value proposition for both the marine projects and the private sector partners? 2. How to work with and through business organizations? 3. What should marine projects/institutes be aware of? 4. How can intermediaries facilitate the engagement of companies with the projects?
Lunch break (13:00 – 14:30)	
Session	Africa Regional Network: Looking Forward
Chair	Ivica Trumbic
Content	This session will be dedicated to action planning for sustaining our Network to enhance coastal and marine management in the Region
14:30 15:30	Action planning for next steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 minute introduction on the exercise • Participants will form into their groups and work together
Working Coffee break (15:30 – 16:00)	
16:00 17:00	Reporting back <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback from groups and reactions
17:00 17:30	Meeting Wrap Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up actions • Closure of the meeting