



**United Nations
Environment
Programme**

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**The First Bureau Meeting
to the Convention for the Protection,
Management and Development of the
Marine and Coastal Environment
of the Eastern African Region**

Maputo, Mozambique 19 to 20 August, 2010

UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme Application to Sida

The Secretariat prepared and submitted to Sida an application for US\$6,000,000 for a four year Africa marine and coastal programme to be implemented in the Sub-Saharan Africa including Small Island Developing States in the eastern Atlantic and western Indian oceans.

The proposed programme identifies a coherent set of interrelated projects to assist in implementing UNEP's Marine and Coastal Strategy (2009) for Africa and in line with UNEP's Programme of Work, UNEP's Medium Term Strategy and the Nairobi Convention Work Programme as guided by Africa's priority as agreed by the Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention. In particular, it aims to address identified marine and coastal environmental management and development challenges specific to Africa. These challenges include ecosystems degradation, declining productivity of ecosystems, pollution and adaptation to climate change all of which significantly impact on poverty in the region. As one of the world's least developed continents, Africa has little resilience to climate change and these trends are expected to be exacerbated by intensified and more frequent weather events, rising sea-levels, changing ocean currents and ocean chemistry.

The overall objective of the proposed programme is to assist in implementing UNEP's Marine and Coastal Strategy in Africa for 'prosperous and healthy oceans and coasts where conservation, productivity and resource use are sustainable'.

The proposed programme has five specific objectives and respective components:

1. Catalyze the application of integrated adaptive ecosystem-based management approaches in the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal ecosystems that support human well-being. *Contributing to: Decisions CP6/1, CP6/3, CP 5/1, CP 5/2 and CP 5/3*

2. Facilitate and support national and regional integrated assessments of the state of the marine and coastal environment, and help to build capacity on valuing ecosystem goods and services, including socio-economic assessments of the most vulnerable coastal cities and communities. *Contributing to: Decisions CP6/3, CP 5/3*
3. Mitigate environmental risks by implementing protocols concerning the protection, development and management of the coastal and marine environment from pollution from land-based sources and activities. *Contributing to: Decisions CP6/1, CP 5/1*
4. Provide capacity building services for integrated management of the coastal and marine environment for human well being, including the integration of ecosystem-based management approaches into development and planning processes specifically for adaptation to climate change to reduce vulnerability and to build resilience. *Contributing to: Decisions CP6/3, CP 5/3*
5. To support systems for better environmental governance with the aim of promoting intergovernmental dialogue as well as developing policies and laws for improved transboundary ecosystems based management. *Contributing to: Decisions CP6/ CP 5/1*

The programme aims to address the interactive and cumulative human impacts on marine and coastal resources and raise awareness of solutions to cope with the competing uses of these resources especially in alleviating poverty.

The proposed programme has five components:

1. Integrated ecosystem-based management of marine and coastal ecosystems including transboundary resources;
2. Assessments and capacity building on the valuation of coastal and marine ecosystems to contribute to regional and global assessments and capacity building;
3. Implementation of protocols concerning marine and coastal pollution from land-based sources and activities;
4. Adaptation to climate change to reduce vulnerability and build resilience; and
5. Environmental governance to strengthen regional instruments for intergovernmental dialogue and the development of policies and laws for transboundary ecosystems.

Through the implementation of these components the programme thus aims to improve environmental governance, promote synergies and strengthen the coordination mechanisms of regional initiatives for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment in Africa.

The programme will be implemented by the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions in partnership with regional organisations, national institutions and contracting parties to the two conventions in their respective areas of jurisdiction

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