

UNITED
NATIONS

EP



United Nations
Environment
Programme



UNEP(Ecosystems Division)
2017

Distr.: General
14 April 2017

Original: English

CUMULATIVE PROGRESS REPORT 2011-2016

For the Support to the Africa Marine and Coastal Programme

Project Title: UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme

Requesting Agency: UNEP – Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Branch (MCEB)

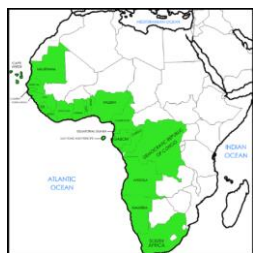
Executing Agencies: UNEP- Secretariats of the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions and Partners to the Conventions, WIO-C (WIOMSA, IUCN, WWF, IMS, BirdLife International etc)

Priority Issue Addressed: Assist in implementing UNEP's Marine and Coastal Strategy in Africa

Funding: SEK 29,281,475 (US\$4,367,777)

Regional Scope: Nairobi and Abidjan Convention Area

Period: 2011 to 2016



Abidjan Convention Region



Nairobi Convention Region

Contents

INTRODUCTION	3
PROGRAMME INCEPTION.....	8
CUMULATIVE PROGRESS REPORT 2011-2016	11
Component 1: Development and implementation of integrated Ecosystem Based Management	11
Component 2: Assessments and capacity building	15
Component 3: Implementation of LBSA Protocol.....	20
Component 4: Adaptation to Climate Change	24
Component 5: Environmental governance.....	27
Cumulative Financial Report January 2011 to 31 December 2015 – Abidjan Convention	33
Cumulative Financial Report January 2011 to 31 December 2015- Nairobi Convention	34
Cumulative Financial Report January 2011 to 30 June 2016 – Abidjan Convention	35
Cumulative Financial Report January 2011 to 30 June 2016 – Nairobi Convention.....	36

INTRODUCTION

The Swedish support to Africa through the UNEP Africa Marine and Coastal Programme was instrumental in a number of ways in catalysing national action at both the Nairobi Convention and Abidjan Convention countries.

The objectives of the Agreement were:

1. To conserve and sustainably use marine and coastal ecosystems for improved livelihoods and enhanced use of integrated-adaptive ecosystems-based management approaches,
2. To provide decision-makers with web-based information on the value of marine and coastal ecosystems services including socio-economic assessments of the most vulnerable cities and communities through national and regional integrated assessments,
3. To facilitate countries to ratify and implement protocols concerning the protection, development and management of the coastal and marine environment from land-based sources of pollution,
4. To integrate ecosystem-based management approaches including resilience building, vulnerability reduction and adaptation to climate change development and planning processes through strengthening integrated management capacities in the marine and coastal sector,
5. To improve environmental governance for sustainable management of marine and coastal ecosystems at regional and national levels through improved intergovernmental dialogues, information exchange and improved transboundary policies and laws based on ecosystem management principles,
6. To strengthen the capacity of the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions and other regional organizations to participate and collaborate in marine ecosystem management processes.

The greatest impact was at the regional level. Within the Nairobi Convention, for example, the support led to the preparation and subsequent approval of two GEF funded projects, namely: *'Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities'* (WIOSAP) and *The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reform* (SAPPHIRE).

At the national level in the Nairobi Convention area, the Swedish support catalysed national policy processes through sustained awareness on topical issues including; a) Blue economy; b) Ecosystem based approaches to management; c) Northern Mozambique Channel as a priority conservation area; d) Transboundary protected area between Kenya and Tanzania; e) Adoption and subsequent ratification of the protocol on land-based sources and activities; and f) preparation of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) protocol; preparation of the state of the coast report for the Western Indian Ocean region, and provided the baseline for future state of coast reports.

Within the Abidjan Convention, the support led to a number of achievements. These include a) adoption of a Regional Contingency Plans and other Means of Preventing and Combatting Pollution

Incidents (2011), b) additional Protocol to the Abidjan Convention Concerning Cooperation in the Protection and Development of Marine and Coastal Environment from Land-based Sources and Activities in the Western, Central and Southern African Region (the LSBA Protocol - 2012), c) the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Science and Technology (2014), and d) establishment of a Regional Coordination Centre for Marine Pollution Emergency of the Abidjan Convention. The programme realised the state of the coast report for Sierra Leone.

The support contributed to the recognition of the value of the Regional Seas programmes, including the contribution and capacities of both the Nairobi and Abidjan secretariats by the African Union as per the March 2015, [15th Cairo Declaration](#) of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment on Managing Africa's Natural Capital for Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication, Paragraph 1.5, 1.6, 1.8 and 1.14

“To agree to support activities on marine ecosystems, the development of marine spatial planning and area-based planning, marine protected areas and valuation and natural capital accounting tools in collaboration with regional seas programmes, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and regional fisheries management organizations”

“To agree to support the preparation of periodic reports by regional seas programmes on the status of the oceans, including land-based sources and activities and governance, biennially for the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment”;

“To reiterate our support for the regional seas programmes in Africa as regional platforms for the implementation of the Africa Integrated Marine Strategy 2050 and Agenda 2063 on Ecosystem-Based Management Approaches for marine resources in the exclusive economic zones and adjacent waters”

“To agree to develop a governance strategy, in accordance with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and regional seas conventions, on oceans and seas in Africa for the effective management of the region's shared maritime resources and call for a regional conference to address the matter by 2016”

The Swedish Support enabled the two conventions to develop a closer partnership with non-state actors. The Conventions are stronger as a result of the partnership with NGO's, UN agencies, research institutions and government institutions. This partnership has enhanced the Conventions visibility and generated opportunities that may lead to sustainable financing for the future. Most notably the support has enhanced the capacity of both the Secretariats of the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions to such a level that they are preferred implementation platforms for major activities in Africa. This is evidenced by the Nairobi Convention execution role for both the project on *Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities* (WIOSAP) and *The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reform* (SAPPHIRE).

Major achievements of the programme support (2011-2016)

Nairobi Convention

- a) Ratification of the Protocol on Land Based Sources and Activities (LBSA, adopted 31 March 2010) by so far three out of the 10 countries of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region (Mauritius, Seychelles and Mozambique). More countries are expected to ratify, with Tanzania planned for June 2017.
- b) Preparation of national state of coastal and marine environment reports as well as regional and thematic coastal and marine environment assessment reports and the Regional State of the Coast Report for the Nairobi Convention area.
- c) Creation of a Science to Policy Framework for the WIO Region.
- d) Preparation of the second Draft of the Protocol on Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in preparation for the third negotiations meeting for the ICZM Protocol.
- e) Drafting and finalization of a project proposal following a review of previously implemented demonstration projects in the WIO region in 2013. The outcome of the review, the LBSA protocol and the negotiations towards the ICZM protocol led to the preparation and approval of a US\$ 10 million Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded project on “*Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the Protection of the marine and coastal environment from land based sources and activities (WIOSAP)*”.
- f) Regional State of the Coast Report for the Western Indian Ocean region
- g) The Climate Change Strategy for the Nairobi Convention
- h) Capacity building on Ecosystem Based Management and Blue economy for the Nairobi Convention

Abidjan Convention

- i) additional Protocol to the Abidjan Convention Concerning Cooperation in the Protection and Development of Marine and Coastal Environment from Land-based Sources and Activities in the Western, Central and Southern African Region (the LSBA Protocol),
- j) Sustainable management of mangroves ecosystem Protocol (2015)
- k) Integrated coastal zones management protocol
- l) Environmental norms and standards for offshore oil and gas exploration and exploitation protocol
- m) Adoption of a Regional Contingency Plans and other Means of Preventing and Combatting Pollution Incidents in the Abidjan Convention area
- n) Establishment of a Regional Coordination Centre for Marine Pollution Emergency of the Abidjan Convention.
- o) Concept note on the Regional Coastal and Marine Integrated Management Policy
- p) Concept note on the establishment of a Network of Parliamentarians and local governments for the Abidjan Convention area
- q) Regional strategy on marine and coastal invasive species
- r) African Maritime Safety Charter

- s) Ocean energy potential of the West Africa region
- t) The *Ad Hoc* Committee on Science and Technology (2014)
- u) [Operation Phakissa](#) of the Government of South Africa designed to fast track the implementation of solutions on critical development issues. This is a unique initiative to address issues highlighted in the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030 such as poverty, unemployment and inequality
- v) State of Coast for Sierra Leone

Leverage of external financial support and Cost effective measures partnerships

As a result of the Swedish support to the Africa Marine and Coastal strategy, support by governments and partners was realized. In particular, the following are worth mentioning:

- a) Government of Seychelles supported the Eighth Conference of Parties (COP8) of the Nairobi Convention meeting held in Seychelles on 22-24 June 2015.
- b) Indian Ocean Commission ([IOC](#)) supported the second negotiations meeting on the Integrated Coastal Zone Management protocol by providing logistical support to all Island States of the WIO region to the negotiation meeting in Mauritius on 21-22 March 2016. IOC also supported the Science to Policy forum meeting held in Seychelles 11-14 October 2016.
- c) Convention for Biological Diversity contributed to the Sustainable Oceans Initiative workshop on Marine Spatial Planning held in Madagascar on 18-22 January 2016
- d) Wildlife Conservation Society contributed to the development of a regional report on sharks and rays in the Western Indian Ocean. The report will be validated in 2017.

The Swedish support catalysed a number of partnerships with both regional and international organizations which have greatly supported the work of the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions. The partnerships were based on a range of themes from ocean governance, science to policy, ecosystem based management, to ecosystems assessments.

The partnerships supported the:

- a. Establishment of a *Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean* ([WIO-C](#)) on climate change, blue economy, oil and gas issues, and marine protected areas management. The Consortium comprises IUCN, WCS, WIOMSA, WWF, EAWLS, CORDIO, and Nairobi Convention. Others include, Birdlife International, Wetlands International, Blue Ventures, Rare, TNC, Fauna&Flora International and CI.
- b. Resilient Coasts programme – a Partnership Programme developed by the Nairobi Convention, WIOMSA, CORDIO and IUCN eastern and southern Africa Regional Office for strengthening the resilience of coastal socio-ecological systems in the Western Indian Ocean region,
- c. Partnership between WWF, Nairobi Convention and CORDIO on North Mozambique Channel on developing and rolling out a scenario analysis and Marine Spatial Planning on the

- evolving oil and gas developments for secure sustainable futures and livelihoods for coastal communities and economies
- d. Land Based Sources and Activities (LBSA) protocol for the Nairobi Convention by the African Union,
 - e. development of the ICZM protocol to the Nairobi Convention by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC),
 - f. implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in particular SDG14 in the WIO region, by the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies ([IASS](#)) Potsdam, Germany, and the Paris-based Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations ([IDDRI](#)),
 - g. development of a Regional Strategy on climate change, impacts, adaptation and mitigation in the marine and coastal environment by the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association,
 - h. development of the *Regional Synthesis Report on the Status of Birds in the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Nairobi Convention Area* by Birdlife International,
 - i. development and implementation of a project on marine governance and background analysis on coastal and marine resources in the Mozambique Channel by WWF Madagascar,
 - j. Partnership between the Governments of Kenya and Tanzania, Nairobi Convention and WIOMSA on the Transboundary protected Area between the two countries.
 - k. Environmental security in the marine and coastal field in the Abidjan Convention area by United States Africa Command (US Africom),
 - l. Design of a format for national reporting on the state of marine and coastal environment in the Abidjan Convention area by GRID Arendal,
 - m. development of a Marine Protected Area (MPA) strategy in the Abidjan Convention area by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN),
 - n. development of environmental standards for oil and gas operations in Africa by the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI) and TOTAL Oil Company,
 - o. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) supported the implementation of the project on *Sustainable Fisheries and Management and Biodiversity of the Deep Sea-Living Marine Resources and Ecosystems in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)*.
 - w) Inputs to the World Bank's supported West Africa Coastal Areas ([WACA](#)) Management Program
 - p. Inputs to the Western Cape [Coastal Management Programme](#): 2016

PROGRAMME INCEPTION

The Programme Cooperation Agreement between the Government of Sweden and UNEP was signed on 8 December 2010 for the implementation of UNEP's marine and coastal strategy for Africa for the period 2011-2014.

The four year programme was for implementation in the Sub- Saharan Africa including Small Island Developing States in the western Indian and eastern Atlantic oceans. The Government of Sweden provided Swedish Kroner 29,200,000 for implementation of the programme by the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions in partnership with Contracting Parties to the two conventions, national institutions and regional organisations.

The programme 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 overall objective of the programme was to assist countries in the region under the Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions (32 countries) progress towards a prosperous and healthy oceans and coastal where conservation, productivity and resource use are sustainable. The support would enable the countries to respond to their marine and coastal environmental challenges, creating opportunities through partnerships and building on existing initiatives for the protection, management and development of the marine and coastal environment.

Programme Inception Report

Following the approval of the programme, the Secretariats in partnership with Contracting Parties and national and regional organisations successfully implemented the inception phase and convened intergovernmental meetings of Contracting Parties, experts and stakeholders to discuss and agree on the objectives, activities and outputs as well as implementation arrangements at the regional and national levels. In a meeting held at UNEP in February 2011 where representatives from the Secretariats of both Conventions and UNEP's Head of the Freshwater and Marine Ecosystems Branch were present, the inception period of the programme was defined as the six month period from the receipt of the first disbursement (January to July 2011). The Agreement envisaged that both the Nairobi Convention and the Abidjan Convention secretariats would report on progress annually.

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