

## Partnership meeting with Regional Economic Commissions in the Western Indian Ocean

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# **Outline of Presentation**

- Overview of the Organisation
- Strategic Framework and Areas of Intervention
- Programmatic intervention for Coastal and Marine Resource Management
- Collaborating Partners
- Way forward



# **Overview of the Indian Ocean Commission**

 Intergovernmental organisation for regional cooperation



- Founded in 1982 and formalised in 1984
- Comprising solely of island (Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Reunion Island of France)
- Governance: Council of Ministers (Rotational 1yr)
- Secretariat : Located in Mauritius

Head by a Secretary General (4yrs mandate)



# Role as a regional organisation

### FACILITATOR

- Promote dialogue amongst MS
- Advocate at regional and international level
- Resource
  mobilisation
- Strengthen capacity

### **SUBSIDIARITY**

- Respect the sovereignty of each member state
- Complement national efforts in specific areas identify by the country

### PROMOTE COLLABORATION

- Shared values
- Generate ideas
- Long term solutions



# **Strategic Framework & Areas of Intervention**

#### Peace and Stability

Cooperation to promote peace ,good governance, maritime security, combat transboundary crimes

#### Economic development

Cooperation to create a conducive environment for economic growth , private sector, ensure food security, responsible fisheries development , blue economy

#### Environment and Climate Change

Support sustainable development while safeguarding the natural resources for the well being of the population

#### Human Development

Cooperation in education, research and innovation, health, gender, culture and mass communication



# **IOC and International Frameworks**

### **Regional Context**

Countries are at different level of development

- Comoros and Madagascar low income countries
- Mauritius upper-middle income countries
- Seychelles: high-income country
- Reunion (French overseas department –EU)

### **International Frameworks**

- S.A.M.O.A Pathway (Comoros, Mauritius and Seychelles)
- Sendai Framework –All countries
- Paris Agreement All countries
- Sustainable Development Goals All countries

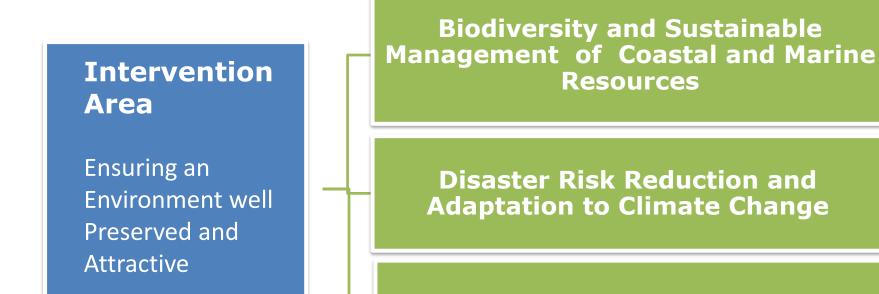
### **Regional Frameworks**

- Regional Seas Convention (Nairobi Convention) All countries
- AUC Agenda 2063, Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles

### EACH ISLAND IS SPECIFIC

# Axe 3: Environment and Climate Change





### **Sustainable Tourism**



## **Ocean Governance Frameworks**

- Regional Framework for Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Resources (coastal fisheries, marine ecosystems...)
- Regional mutual agreement to combat IUU fishing and Fisheries Strategy ad action Plan
- Regional mutual agreement for response to Marine pollution ( oil spill and noxious waste)
- Ministerial declaration for Surveillance and Maritime Security
- Cooperation Agreement on Maritime Security and transboundary Crimes
  - Waste Management Action Plan Land and Marine







# **Progress in Ocean Governance**

### Supporting regional programs and main actions

### **Biodiversity**

- Legal and institutional frameworks ;strengthening the capacity of national institutions, support to Non State actors in the management of ecosystems.
- Integrated approach to Coastal Zone Management and Marine Protected Areas to include coral reefs and sea grass
   Empowerment of local communities to manage protected areas
- Coastal Contamination Prevention



## **Progress in Ocean Governance**

### **Fisheries**

- Fisheries Management : Governance , Institutional capacity and legal frameworks to include Regional Fisheries Surveillance Plan to reduce IUU fishing and operation at sea
- Improve knowledge on fisheries stock and management plan
- Improved technologies (VMS, AIS, Satellite imagery)

### Maritime Security and Safety

- Combatting piracy in the region and improve navigation
- Information systems and exchange mechanisms (Centre in Madagascar )
- Operation at sea (Operational and Response Centre in Seychelles )



## **Partnerships**

### Funding Agencies – Regional Indicative Programme

- Main partners : EU, AFD, WB
- Others: FFEM; AFD

### • Institution Partners

- UN specialised agencies UNDESA, UNEP (Nairobi Convention);UNOCD; IOM, WMO, FAO,
- ACP Secretariat
- AUC Formalising observer status
- Regional Economic Communities via projects

### • Technical Partners: Through MoU or Partnership arrangements

• WIOMSA, IUCN, IRD, CIRAD – through MOU; RFMO –IOTC & SWIOFC



## Challenges

- Piracy off the coast of Somalia (reduced but remains a concern)
- Delimitation of EEZ ( Zones being contested by some island States )
- Exploration of oil and gas
- Increasing maritime traffic in the region
- Climate Change and its impacts on economies, livelihood and ecoloogy (need to improve forecast systems, projection of risk and downscaling of models )
- Human and financial capacity

Research and Innovation



# **Moving forward**

## • **Projects in the pipeline – opportunities for collaboration**

- Swiofish 2 ongoing
- Maritime Security on going
- Climate simulation on going with Meteo France on going

### **Due to start**

- EcoFish
- GMES and Africa Component on management of coastal and marine resources in partnership with MOI

### **Formulation**

Coastal resilience ; Plastic Waste with AFD

Climate and Disaster Risk Reduction - EU



### End of presentation and thank you for your attention

