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

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Chargée de Mission**

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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**
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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*)

EACH ISLAND IS SPECIFIC

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

Axe 3: Environment and Climate Change



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Intervention Area

Ensuring an Environment well Preserved and Attractive

Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Resources

Disaster Risk Reduction and Adaptation to 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 and 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



Biodiversity and Sustainable management and coastal and marine resources

Projects - Biodiversity; BIOPAMA(ACP); GMES and Africa



Fisheries management Programme

Projects - ECOFISH , SWIOFISH;GMES and Africa



Waste Management Programme :

Project - Marine Pollution from Plastic Waste



Maritime Security and Safety Programme

Project : Maritime Security -



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 ecology (need to improve forecast systems, projection of risk and downscaling of models)**
 - ❖ **Human and financial capacity**
 - ❖ **Research and Innovation**
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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



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End of presentation and thank you for your attention