**Guidelines on Methodologies for the Valuation of Coastal & Marine Ecosystems**

**Policy/Expert Evaluation Form**

The Contracting Parties to the Nairobi Convention have received funding from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to implement a Programme entitled ‘*Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities*’ (WIOSAP). The Project being implemented by the UN Environment and executed by the Nairobi Convention is intended ‘*to reduce impacts from land-based sources and activities and sustainably manage critical coastal and marine ecosystems through the implementation of the agreed WIO-SAP priorities with the support of partnerships at national and regional levels’*.

The Project has four main components: **Component A**: *Sustainable management of critical habitats;* **Component B**: *Improved water quality;* **Component C**: *Sustainable management of river flows* and **Component D:** *Governance and regional collaboration.*

At the same time the Secretariat is executing the “Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reforms (SAPPHIRE) project financed by Global Environmental Facility (GEF). The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Regional Service Centre for Africa is implementing the SAPPHIRE project and providing oversight in its execution. The project seeks to achieve effective long-term ecosystem management in the WIOLMEs in line with the Strategic Action Programme for sustainable management of the WIOLMEs as endorsed by the participating countries. The project has five integrated components: **Component 1**: Policy harmonization and management reforms; **Component 2:** Stress reduction through community empowerment **Component 3:** Stress Reduction through Private Sector/Industry Engagement; **Component 4:** Innovative ocean governance demonstration and, **Component 5:** capacity development.

The Secretariat is putting strong effort to coordinate the implementation of joint thematic areas of the two projects for cost effectiveness and wider impact, that was requested by the participating countries during the inception workshops of the two projects and last December 2018 at the Joint Project Focal Points meeting.

Accordingly, under WIOSAP, components (A to C) and for SAPPHIRE components (1 to 4) demonstration projects financed *through a competitive Call for Proposals scheme* will be implemented with the objective of reducing stress from land-based sources and activities and for improved ocean governance in WIO region. It is anticipated that the sum of the learning derived from these projects will be significantly enhanced if the projects within each component share standardised approaches to their design and implementation, to subsequent analyses and reporting of results. To facilitate this, a set of Guidelines/Toolkits are being developed to be made available to be used by the participating countries for successful implementation of the demonstration projects.. One of these Guidelines is on **“Valuation of Coastal & Marine Ecosystems”.** A draft of the Guideline has been developed by the consultant and input by regional experts will be key to ensure that it addresses the regional context and captures appropriate case studies. Kindly review the draft Guideline based (but not limited) on the following criteria and give recommendations as appropriate:

1. **Background**: Is this sufficient:
2. **Business case**: Is an adequate business case made on the relevance and application of economic valuation of coastal and marine resources?
3. **Process of undertaking EV:** While methods are important, the rationale of the Guideline is to provide a step by step process on how to plan, execute and report results from an EV assessment. Is the step by step process clear, simple, logical and applicable to the WIO context?
4. **Methods:** Is appropriate guidance given on choice of methods?
5. **Analysis and reporting:** Is appropriate guidance given on the analysis of data and reporting of the same to relevant constituencies?
6. **Mainstreaming into policy:** This often tends to be the weak link thus constraining decision making. Is a clear strategy on mainstreaming of EV information and data into policy making processes given?
7. **Challenges in undertaking EV**: Have they been identified and possible mitigating actions proposed?
8. **Case studies:** Have appropriate case studies on EV from the WIO region been provided?
9. **Guideline structure**: Is the structure of the Guideline sufficient and coherent?
10. Any overall comments/recommendations?

Thank you.