**Guidelines on Seagrass Ecosystem Restoration for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region**

**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.*

Covering Components (A to C), 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 in the WIO. 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 countries to support demo project implementation. One of these resource materials is on **“Seagrass Ecosystem Restoration Guidelines for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region”.** A draft of the Guideline has been developed by the consultant and input by policy makers and 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 for each criterion:

1. **Background**: Is the background given on seagrass restoration succinct and sufficient?
2. **Rationale**: Is there adequate justification on the necessity to support seagrass restoration? Are different restoration approaches/types highlighted and a logical process on identifying which approach may be suitable for different contexts? Are the merits and demerits of each restoration approach addressed and appropriate recommendations made?
3. **Restoration process:** Is there a step by step process on conducting restoration and is it clear, simple, logical and applicable to the WIO context?
4. **Stakeholder engagement:** Are the roles of relevant stakeholders identified and highlighted including community participation?
5. **Monitoring:** Is the process of restoration monitoring clearly explained including indicating of the critical parameters for monitoring including data analysis and presentation?
6. **Integration into wider management:** Restoration is not a standalone management intervention. Has it been clearly indicated how restoration should be part of the wider ecosystem management planning and implementation?
7. **Challenges in seagrass ecosystem restoration**: Have they been identified and possible mitigating actions proposed?
8. **Case studies:** Have appropriate case studies on seagrass ecosystem restoration 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.

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