



2021 United Nations Decade
2030 of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Ocean Decade in Africa and Blue Carbon Ecosystems

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Chair
Africa Ocean Decade Taskforce

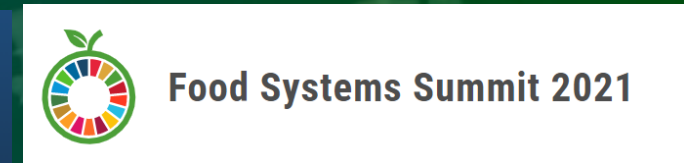
Why an Ocean Decade?



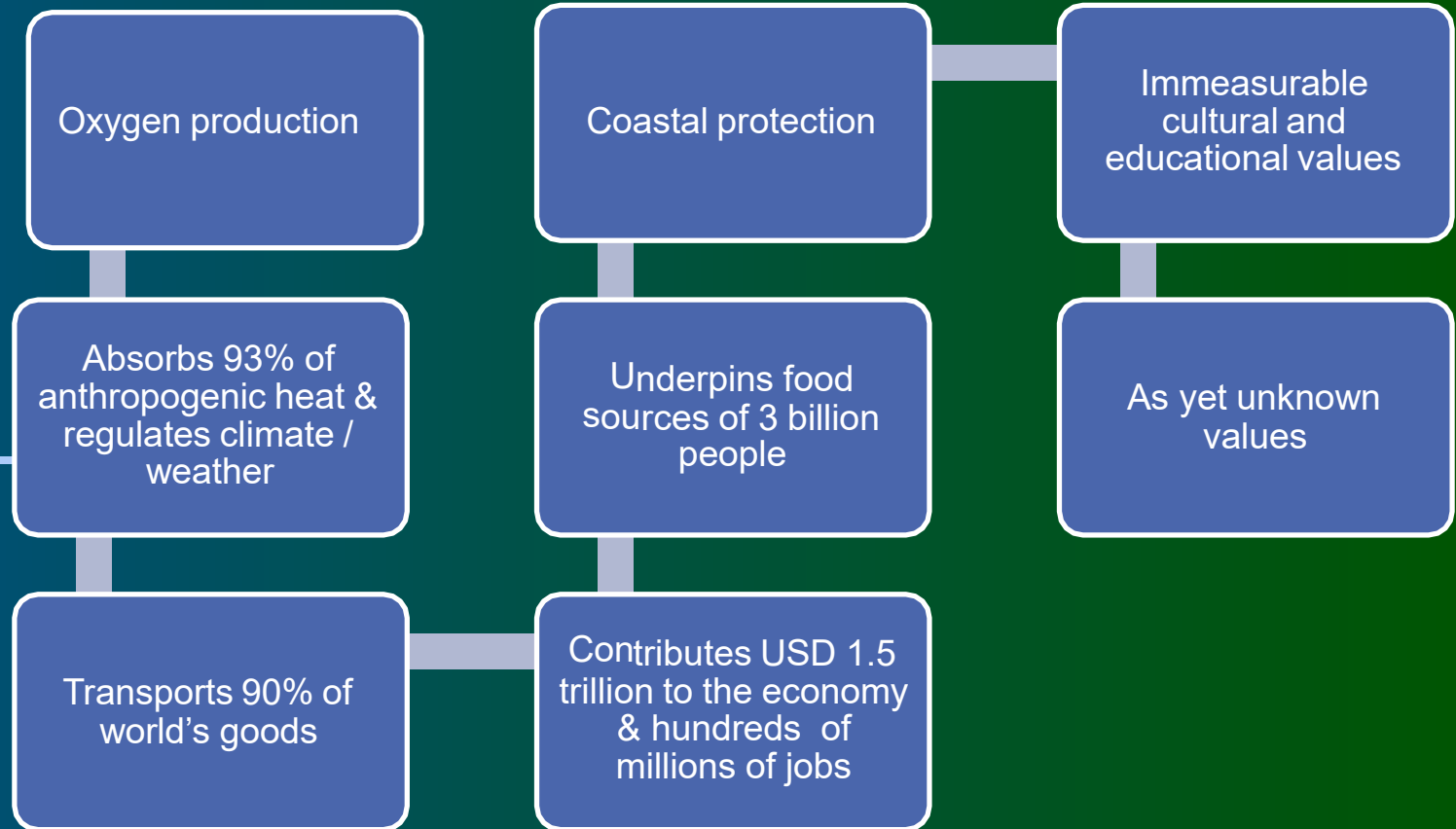
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“Humanity is running out of time to manage the ocean sustainably...”

2016 World Ocean Assessment



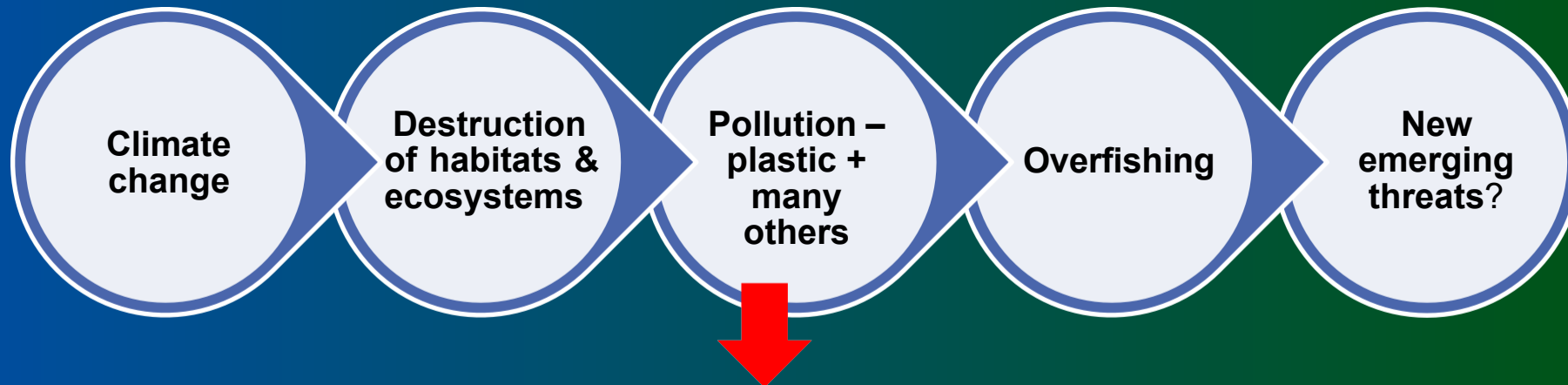
Why an Ocean Decade? ...because humanity depends on the ocean...





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...but the ocean is under threat



No longer linear nor predictable - potential for negative feedback loops via ocean-climate nexus

Decade Action Framework

Vision

The science we need for the ocean we want

Mission

Transformative ocean science solutions for sustainable development, connecting people and our ocean.

2030 AGENDA & REGIONAL AND GLOBAL POLICY FRAMEWORKS



DECADE OUTCOMES

"THE OCEAN WE WANT"



OCEAN DECADE CHALLENGES

The most immediate and pressing needs of the Decade, Challenges may evolve throughout the Decade and new Challenges will be added. Each Challenge contributes to one or more Decade outcomes.



DECADE OBJECTIVES

The steps in the process from the ocean we have to the ocean we want. Objectives are relevant to all Challenges. Prioritisation and translation of objectives into Actions will vary depending on context.



DECADE ACTIONS

The tangible initiatives and endeavours that will be implemented by a wide range of Decade stakeholders to fulfil the objectives and thus achieve the Challenges.

Knowledge & Solutions Challenges:

1. Marine Pollution
2. Protect and Restore Ecosystems
3. Sustainable Blue Food
4. Sustainable Ocean Economy
5. Ocean-Climate Nexus

Infrastructure Challenges:

6. Community Resilience
7. Ocean Observations
8. Digital Ocean

Foundational Challenges:

9. Capacity Development
10. Behaviour Change



Decade Programmes, Projects, Activities and Contributions solicited on a regular basis

Call for Decade Actions/Programmes



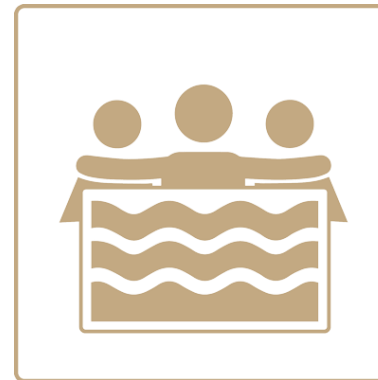
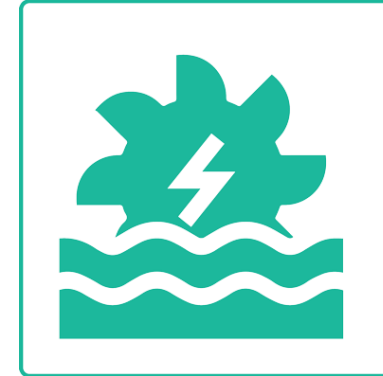
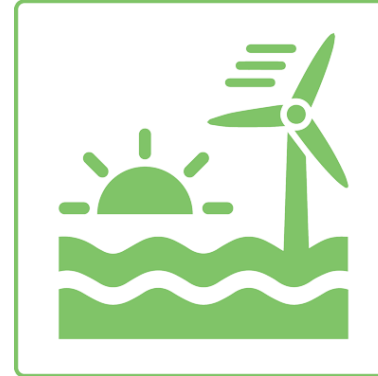
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Commission

Expressions of Interest for potential Decade Programme proposals that aim to address any of the 10 Decade Challenges



Decade Reference Documents

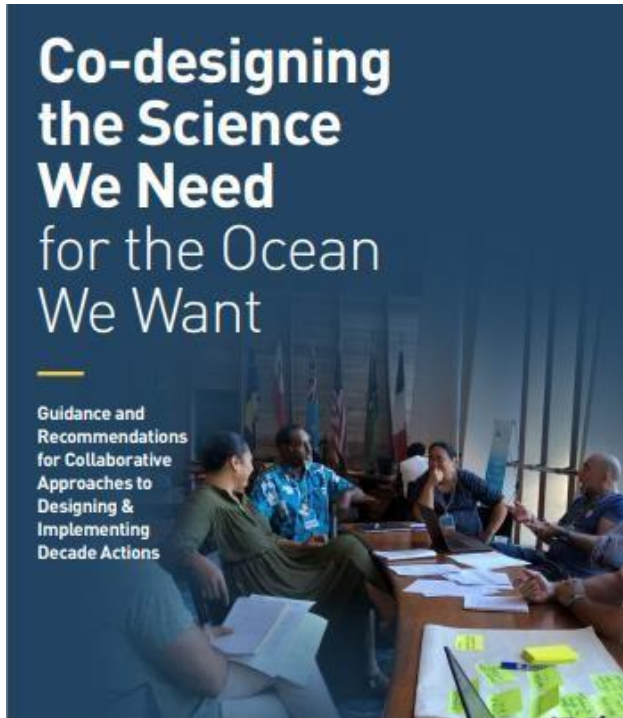


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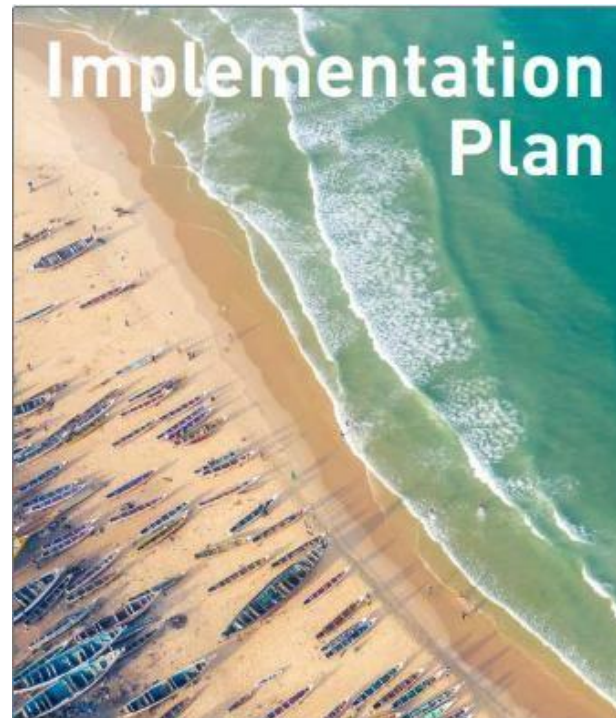
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Co-designing the Science We Need for the Ocean We Want

Guidance and
Recommendations
for Collaborative
Approaches to
Designing &
Implementing
Decade Actions

The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development
2021-2030



Implementation Plan

The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development
(2021-2030)



<http://oceandecade.org>



48 PROGRAMMES
276 PROJECTS
84 CONTRIBUTIONS
539 ACTIVITIES

As at June 2023



DECADE ACTIONS LED
BY PARTNERS FROM
60
COUNTRIES

DECADE ADVISORY BOARD

15 MEMBERS
14 COUNTRIES
8 WOMEN
7 MEN
5 MEETINGS



REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COORDINATION

7
REGIONAL
TASKFORCES
AND PROGRAMMES

12
DECADE
IMPLEMENTING



36
NATIONAL
DECADE
COMMITTEES

10
DECADE
COLLABORATIVE CENTRES/



Endorsed Actions in Africa



Title	Country	Type of Action
The Ocean Matter (TOM)	Liberia	Project
The Western Indian Ocean (WIO), Productivity under climate change	Kenya	Project
Nature based Solutions for Mitigation of Watershed pollution: Cross-habitat facilitation by coastal seagrass meadows (SOMWAT)	Germany; Tanzania; South Africa	Project
Blue carbon for sustainable development	Kenya	Project
Virtual Platform for Sustainable Ocean Education	Seychelles	Project
High resolution seafloor habitat mapping – WIO	Kenya	Project
West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use: Cabo Verde Graduate School on Climate Change and Marine Sciences	Cabo Verde	Project
Sustainable Ocean Management Education Programme Strengthening the Blue Economy	Seychelles	Project
Enhancement of hydrographic and oceanographic observations in support of marine scientific research (Coastal and natural resources, deep and ultradeep seabed geoscientific mapping, etc.)	Morocco	Project
Low cost real-time monitoring of pollutants and water quality along the coral reefs in Tanzania: Supporting effective ocean management	Tanzania	Project
Protecting the estuaries of WIO region	Tanzania	Project

- From five Calls for Decade Actions
- Only 1 Endorsed programme from Africa
- 20 endorsed projects

Ocean Literacy Educational Program (Ocean health and protection)	Cabo Verde	Project
Institutional capacity building towards the sustainability of ocean science in light of COVID-19 pandemic.	Tanzania	Project
Enhancing ocean observing system within The Republic of Mauritius	Mauritius	Project
Fenoy-X: A data domain system of ocean knowledge for the future prosperity of ocean resources in the Western Indian Ocean. (Fenoy: Malagasy name for filling the gaps) (X: is for the decade)	South Africa	Project
Global Coastal Ocean Restoration and Resilience	South Africa	Project
Ocean to climate seamless forecasting in Africa	Benin	Project
Participatory Modeling for Nature-based Solutions in the WIO-Region (PaMoNBS)	Germany; Tanzania; Madagascar	Project
Oceanographic and Ecological data for Nature-based coastal protection in Tunisia (ORIENTATE-TN)	Germany; Tunisia	Project
Mangroves as Nature-based Solutions to Coastal Hazards in Eastern Ghana (MANCOGA)	Germany; Ghana	Project
Global Environment Monitoring System for the Ocean and Coasts (GEMS Ocean) Programme	Kenya	Programme

DECENTRALIZED COORDINATION STRUCTURES



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Decade Coordination Offices

Scoping for
IOCAFRICA

Decade Collaborative Centers

Ocean
Prediction
(Mercator
Ocean
International)

Decade Implementing Partners

National
Institute of
Oceanographic
and Fisheries,
Egypt

National Decade Committees

Angola, Benin,
Cabo Verde,
Madagascar,
Morocco and
Nigeria

OCEAN DECADE AFRICA ROADMAP



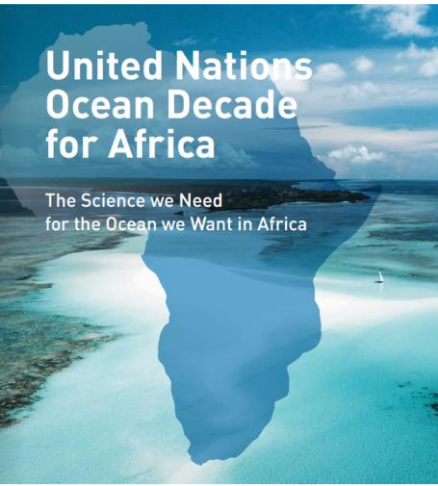
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Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap

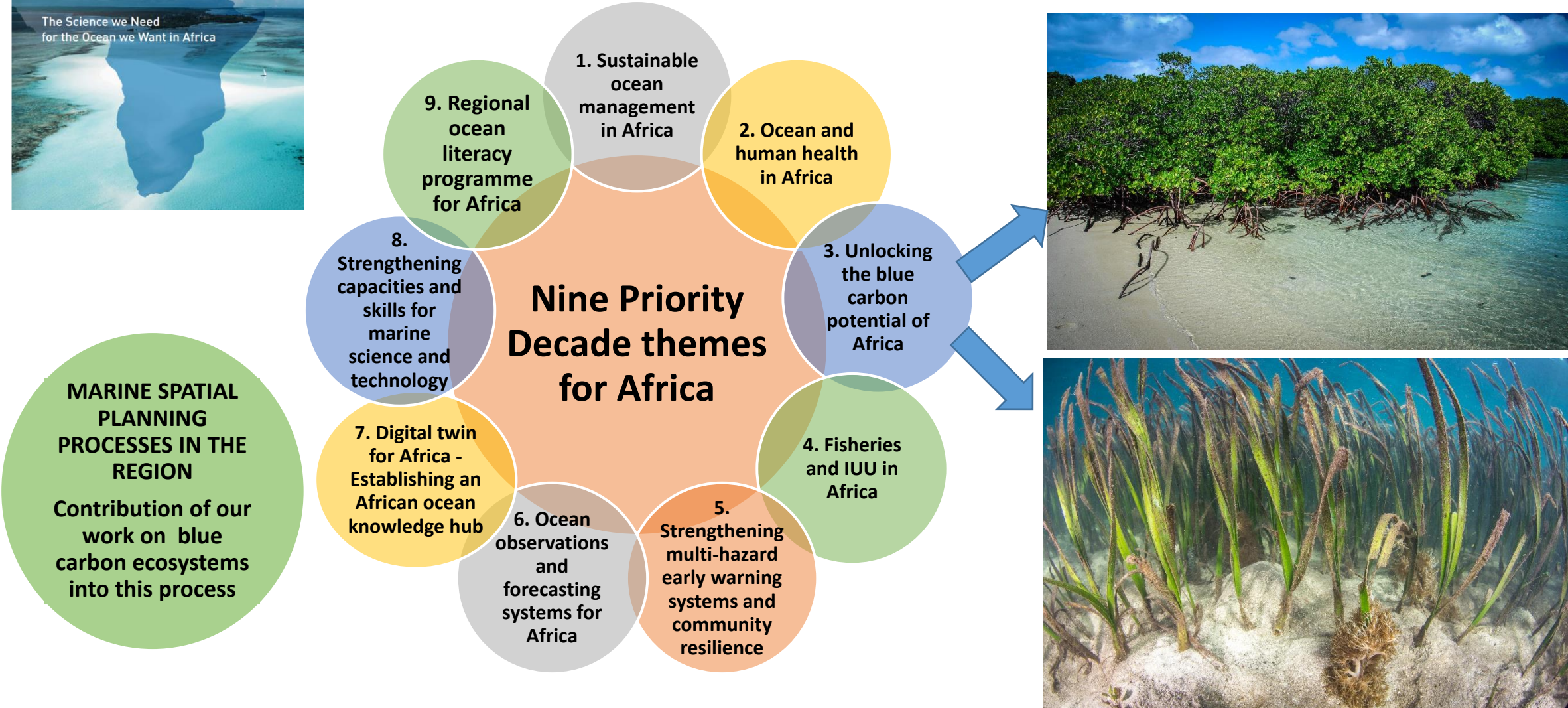
- Launched in May 2022
- Developed through a highly consultative process(Nairobi consultation workshops, Regional Gap Analysis and Pre-conference workshops
- Provides a framework for the Decade in Africa
- Identifies nine priority areas for focus in Africa
- Has linkages with other regional frameworks

The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development
2021-2030





OCEAN DECADE AFRICA ROADMAP



Credits: Images from Ocean Image Bank (Mangroves and Seagrasses: Matt Curnock)



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Commission

**UNLOCKING
THE BLUE
CARBON
POTENTIAL OF
AFRICA**

This Action is expected to advance the following:

1. Mapping of blue carbon,
2. Identification of mangrove and seabed restoration needs,
3. Provide an assessment of the blue carbon potential at the regional level,
4. Capacity enhancement and ocean literacy elements.

Players in this process include the finance sector, industry and site managers to develop and test innovative financing mechanisms linked to blue carbon.

Engagement with government partners and local communities to develop participatory subnational and national policies are also required to optimize the role of blue carbon as a sustainable source of financing and as a generator of economic and social co-benefits.



Established in October 2022

Multistakeholder- Civil Society, Intergovernmental Organizations, Private sector, multilateral institutions

Mandate: Oversee and promote the implementation of the Africa Roadmap and the enabling environment

14 individual members and 6 institutional members

Chair and 2 Vice Chairs

Africa Ocean Decade Taskforce Roles

Communications & outreach

Creating and Building Partnerships

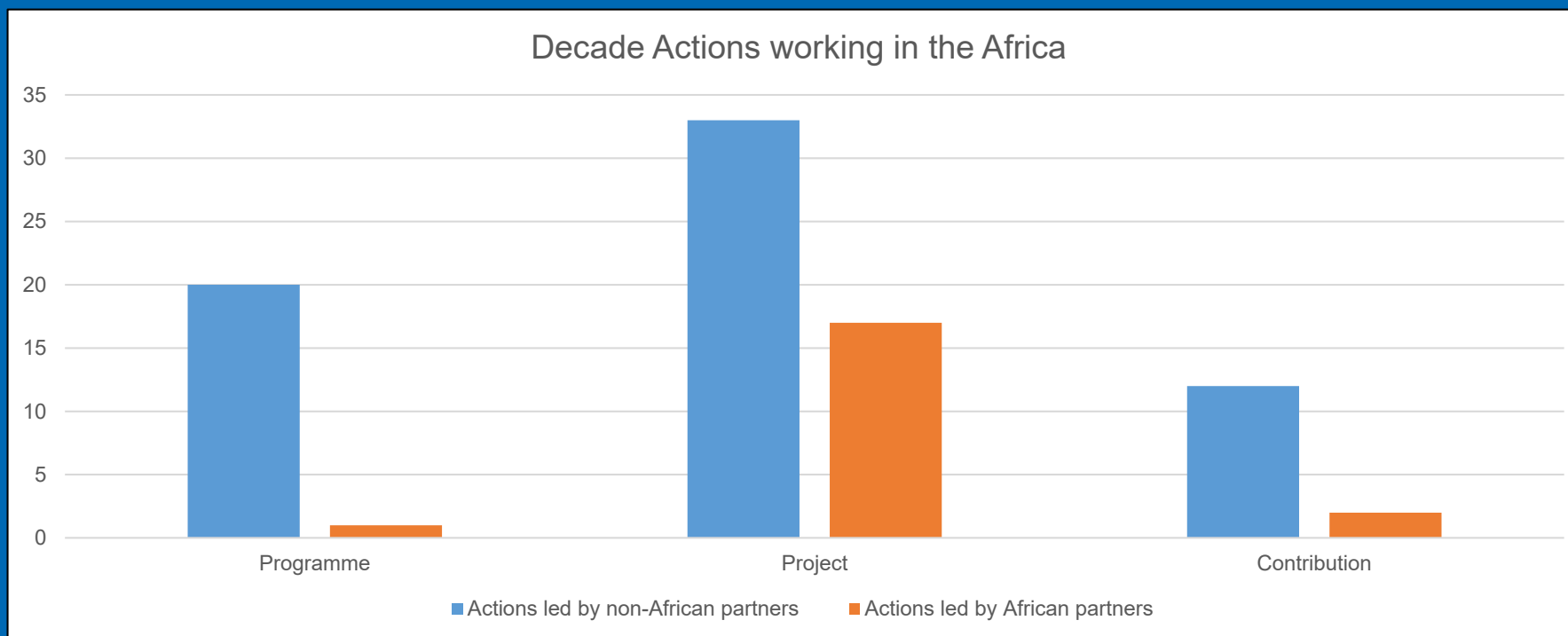


Monitoring, Evaluation & Coordination

Resource Mobilization

The Ocean Decade in Africa...

- Very few endorsed programmes from Africa
- Around 44% of Programmes have been or will be working in the African countries in the next 12 – 24 months (majority of these are not led by African institutions/organizations)
- The number of actions spearheaded by non-African partners significantly surpasses those led by African partners



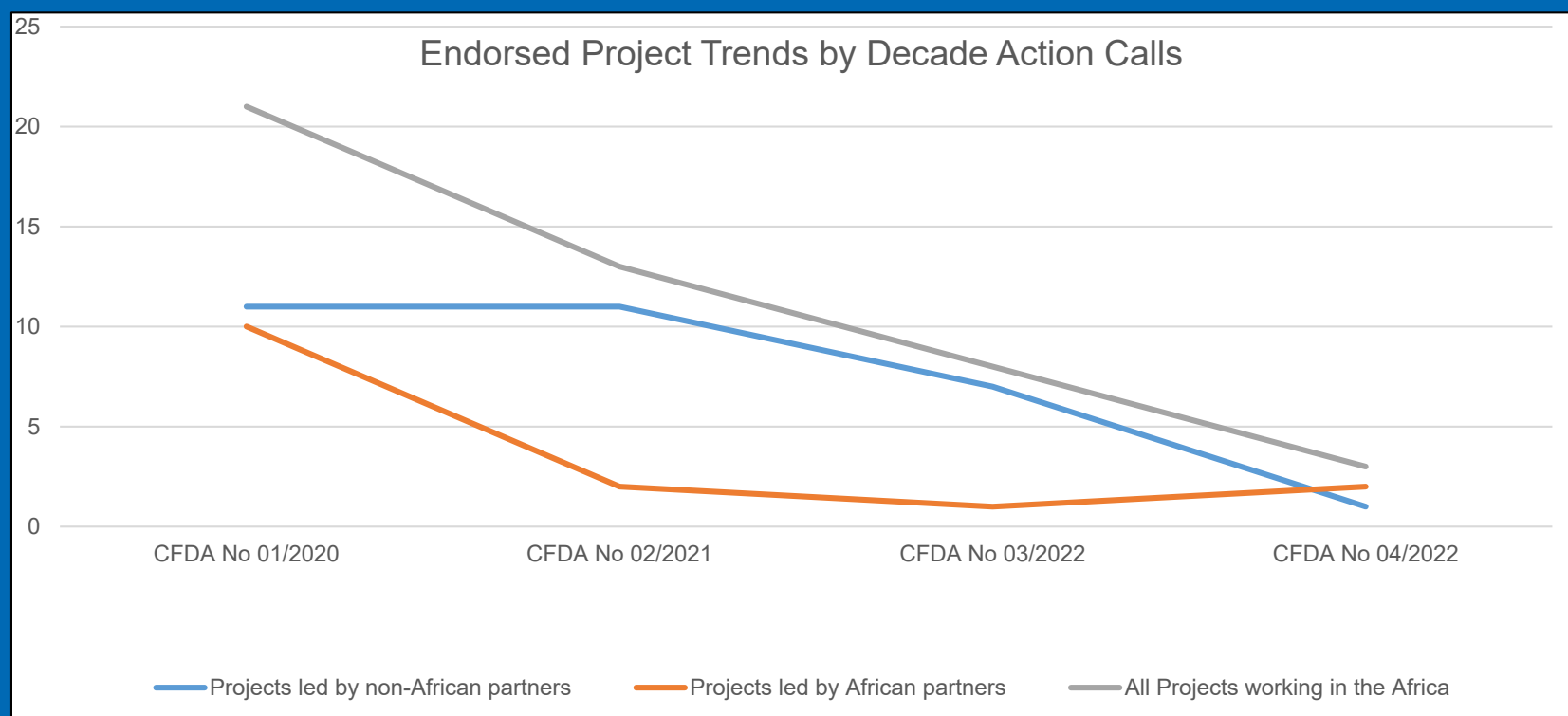
The Ocean Decade in Africa...



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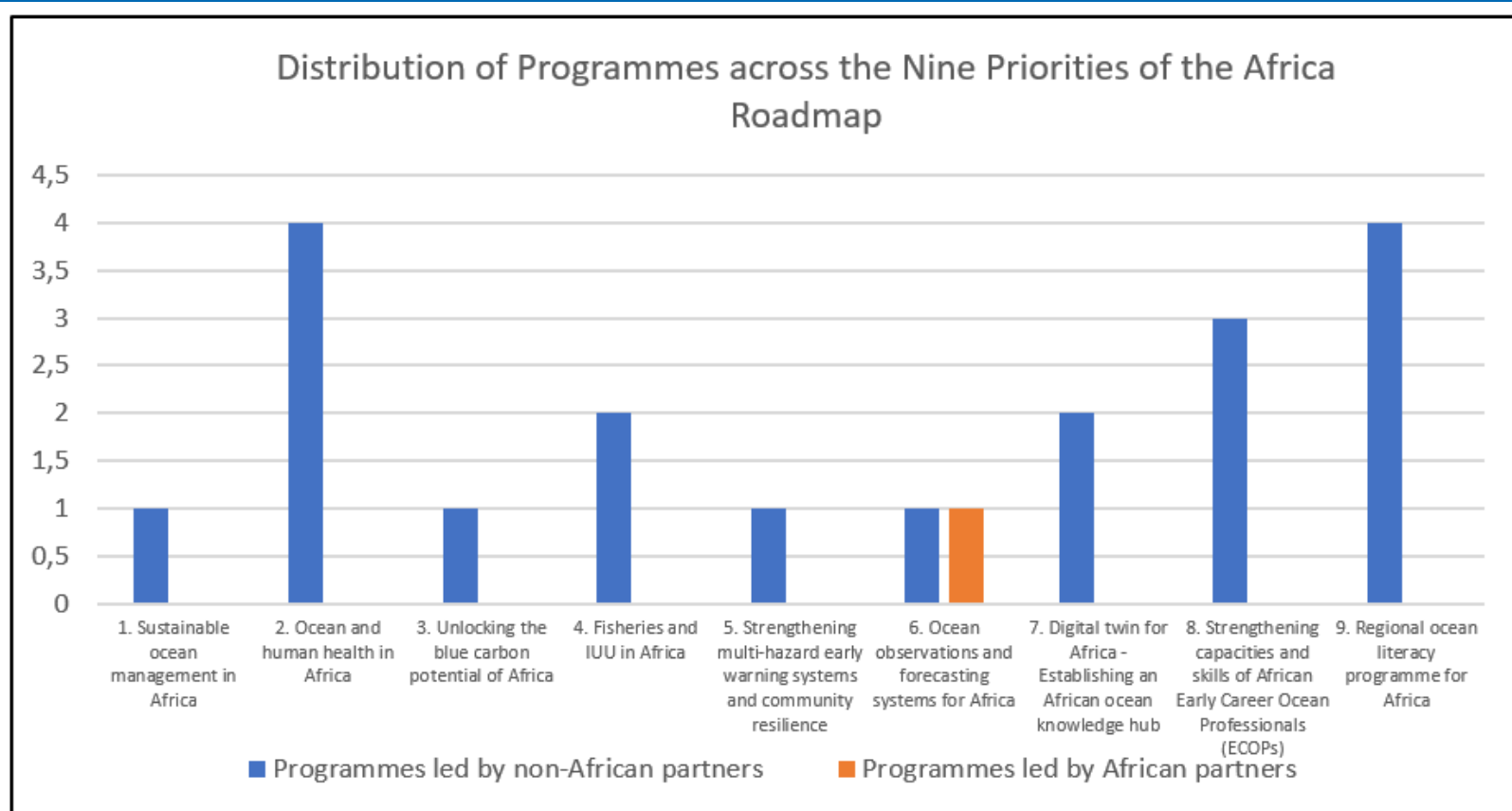
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Decreasing trend in endorsed projects in Africa with each call although this trend has been significantly reversed with Call for Decade Actions No. 06/2023 with 24 submissions for co-design ideas



The Ocean Decade in Africa...

Most frequently addressed priorities by Programmes are “Ocean and human health in Africa,” “Strengthening capacities and skills of African Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs),” and “Regional ocean literacy programme for Africa.”



Graph 4: Distribution of Programmes across the 9 Priorities of the Africa Roadmap

In contrast, notable gaps are evident in “Sustainable ocean management in Africa,” “Unlocking the blue carbon potential of Africa,” and “Strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems and community resilience.”



SEAWARD AFRICA Programme



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Programme Layout

Science and Knowledge for a Resilient and Sustainable Ocean Economy in Africa (SEAWARD Africa)

Sustainable
Management
of Marine
Resources

Climate
Change and
Marine
Biodiversity

Tracking
Ocean
Pollution for
Enhanced
human Health

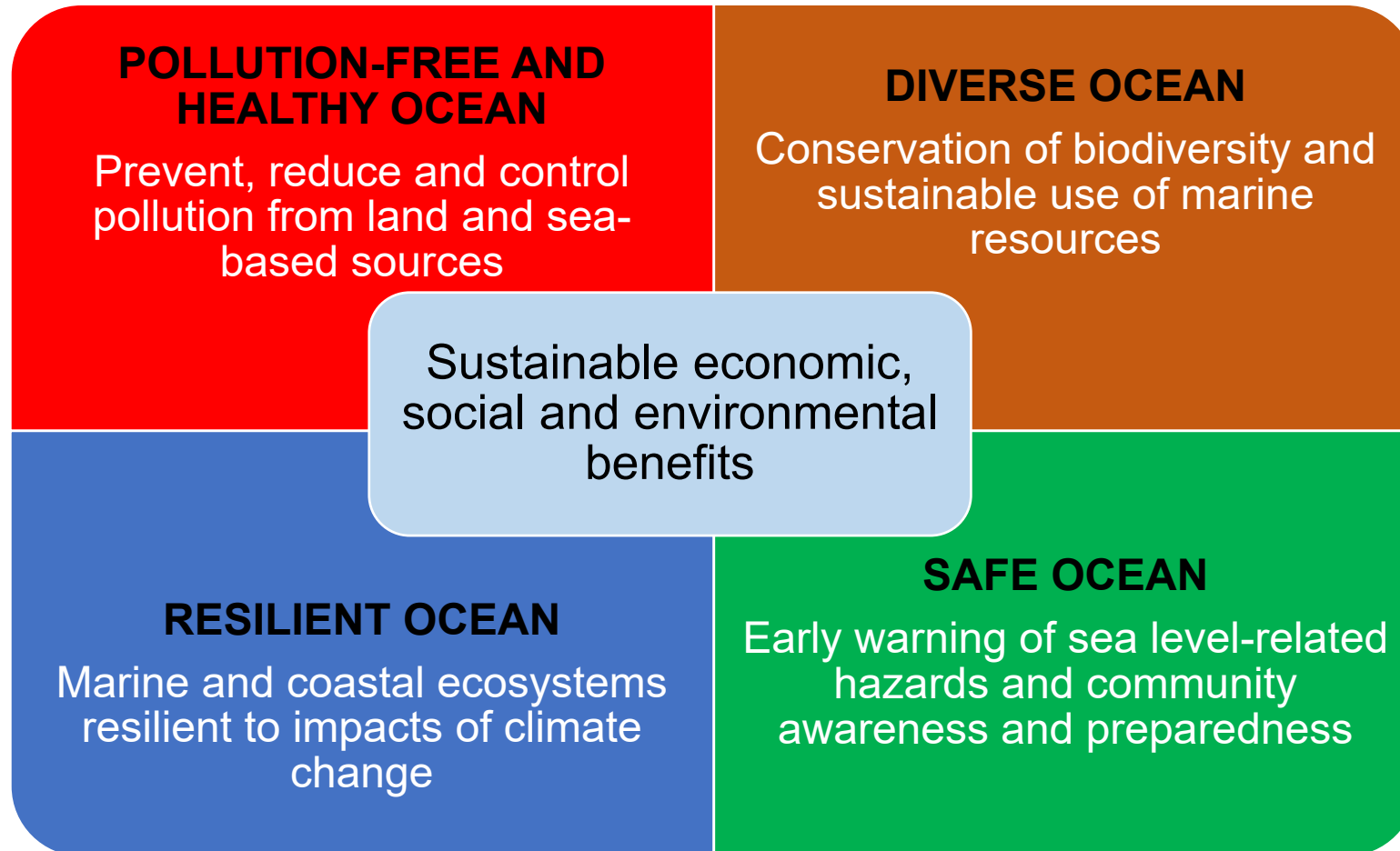
Extreme
Events and
Disaster Risk
Reduction

ENABLERS: 1) Capacity Development; 2) Technology Innovation and Blue Entrepreneurship; 3) Knowledge Generation and Dissemination; 4) Ocean Literacy


Ocean observations and modelling including data and information (Physical, Biological, Chemical, Environmental, Socio-Economic)



Programme Strategic Objectives




Going forward



Kenya

SEAWARD Africa

This Programme will provide a coordinated framework for implementing the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap, uniting diverse stakeholders around a common set of priorities for the region.

Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

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#OceanDecade
Endorsed Actions

- *SEAWARD Africa is part of the 4 Ocean Decade programmes endorsed in June 2024*
- ***Projects and actions in Africa** to submit for endorsement as Decade Actions under the programme through calls for Decade Actions.*
- *National Decade Committees to align their agendas based on the programme structure and the priorities of the Africa Roadmap*
- *Partners are invited to collaborate with the Africa Ocean Decade Taskforce for the Implementation of the Programme*

Engage in the Decade



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WELCOME TO

The Ocean Decade Network

Dive into the Ocean Decade Network and connect with a global community of ocean-minded professionals co-designing and co-delivering the science we need for the ocean we want

How to engage with the Ocean Decade Network



Update your profile

Complete your profile by adding a photo and information about yourself and how you hope to engage with the Ocean Decade. Click the top right hand corner of the window to make changes to your profile.



Join groups of interest to you

Join Open Groups and Communities of Practice matching your interests.



Post on the live feed

Introduce yourself and share your work with the Ocean Decade Network community.



Learn about the Decade Actions

View the Decade Action pages to learn more about the global array of Ocean Decade Programmes, Projects and Contributions.



Africa Community of Practice (COP)



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THANK YOU

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