



# Regional Blue Carbon Workshop in the Western Indian Ocean

*Regional Ocean Governance for Blue Economy including BCE Management*

Bonface Mutisya



*Zanzibar, Tanzania  
22 - 24 October 2024*

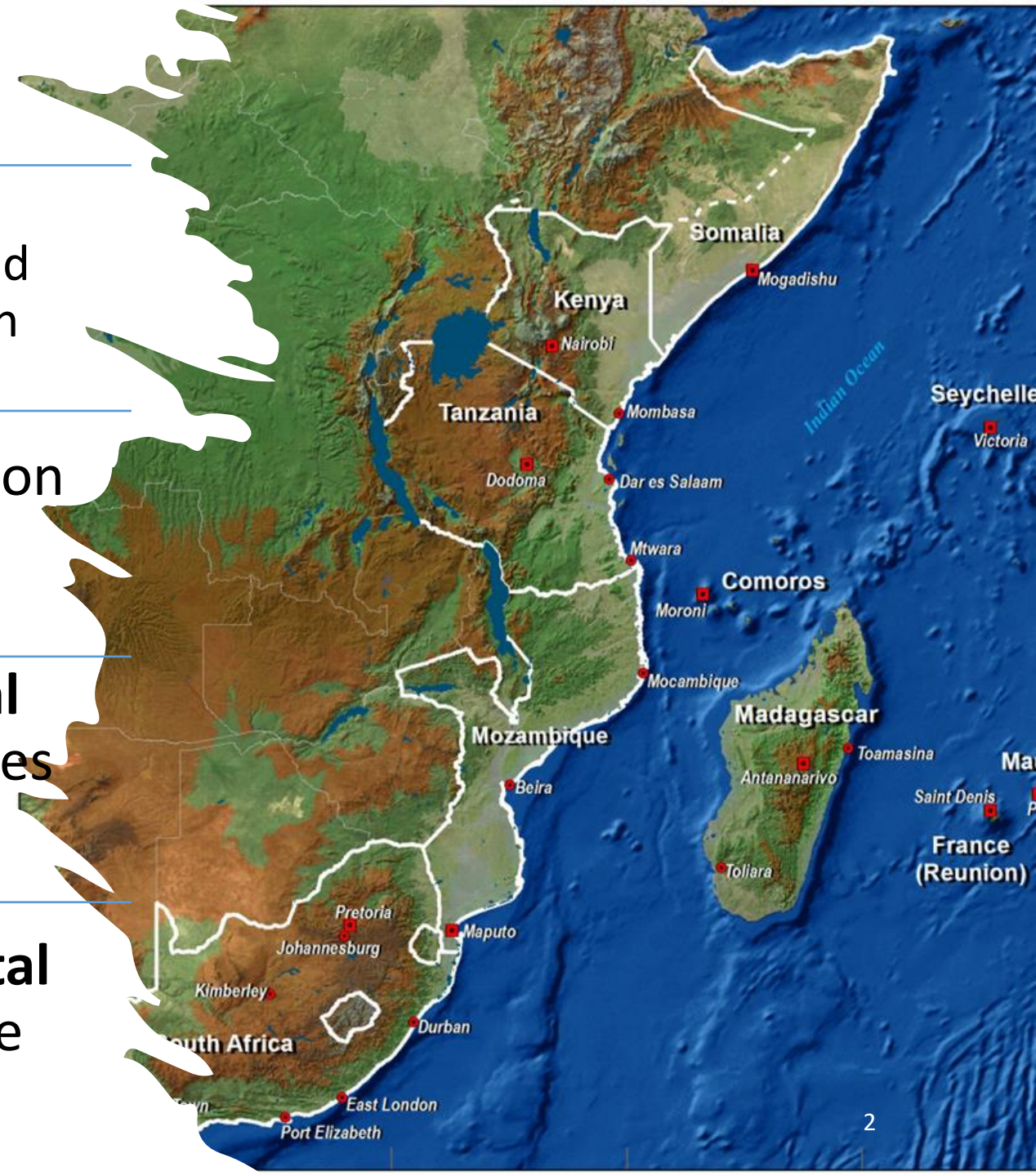
# The Nairobi Convention

The Nairobi Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Western Indian Ocean

A **legal framework** for regional collaboration between countries and partners

Provide a **platform for inter-governmental discussions** to address environmental issues in the regional

Facilitate **assessment of the state of coastal and marine environment** and Promote the **sharing of information and experiences**



# Mandate in Blue Carbon Ecosystem Management

- Decision on sustainable mangrove
- Decision on knowledge

for ...

ness

## PROTOCOL CONCERNING PROTECTED AREAS AND WILD FAUNA AND FLORA IN THE EASTERN AFRICAN REGION

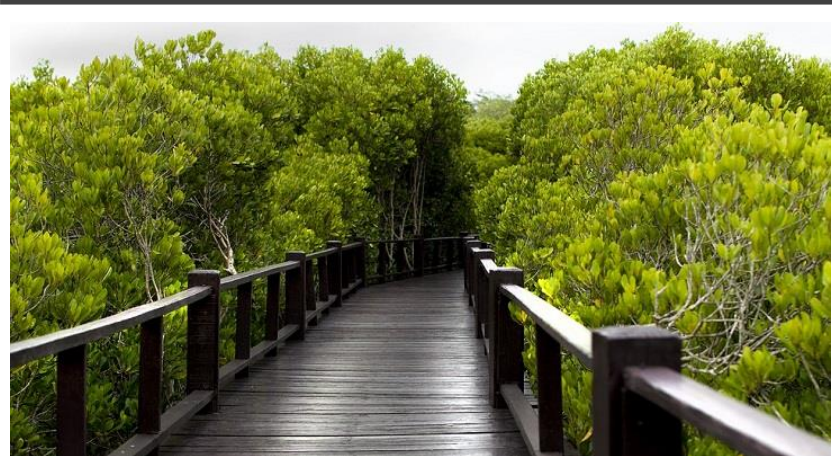
*The Contracting Parties to the present Protocol,*

*Being Parties to the Convention for the Protection, Management and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment of the Eastern African Region, done at Nairobi on 21 June 1985,*

*Conscious of the danger from increasing human activities which is threatening the environment of the Eastern African region,*

*Recognizing that natural resources constitute a heritage of scientific, cultural, educational, recreational and economic value that needs to be*





- The blue economy refers to the **sustainable use of ocean resources** for economic growth and improved livelihoods while **preserving the health of the ocean ecosystems**
- Healthy critical marine ecosystems are the **foundation of the blue economy**
- The Nairobi Convention's entry point in Blue Economy is in **preserving the health of the ocean ecosystems**



**Seagrass Restoration**



**Constructed Wetlands**



**Coastal Forest Restoration**

# **NCS Initiatives in Support of BCE**

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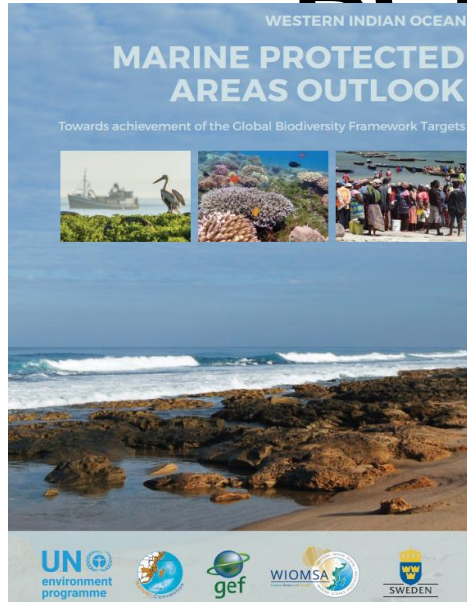


**Mangrove conservation and restoration**

**2022  
POLICY  
BRIEF**

**NORTH KENYA BANKS:  
OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS**

# NCS Initiatives in Support of BCE

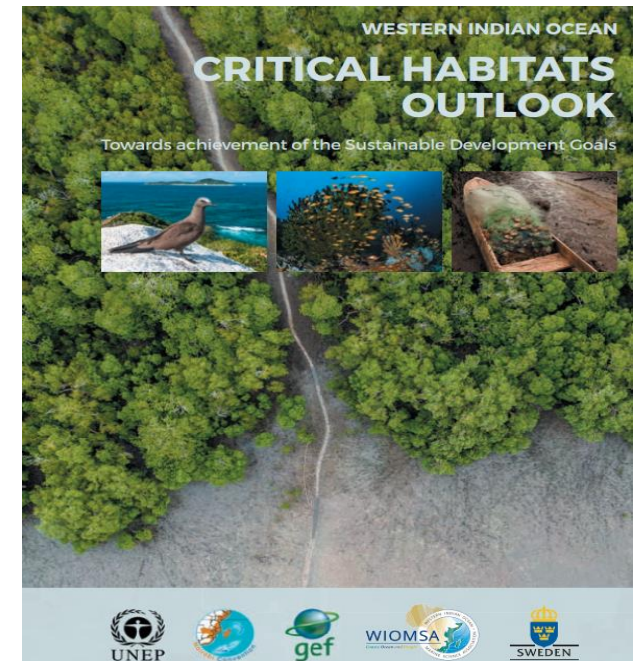


## MPA Outlook

- Documents **progress made by countries** in the region towards the achievement of SDG 14.5
- Provides **lessons and opportunities** to accelerate achievement of post-2020 GBF targets

## Critical Habitats Outlook

- Reviews **dependence of coastal communities on marine habitats**
- Reviews the **current levels of protection and identify areas and opportunities** for increasing protection





## Ocean Governance for Blue Economy

- ❖ **Oceans are interconnected** hence the need for governance that ensures **ocean resources are utilised sustainably**, and the **benefits shared equitably** among stakeholders.
- ✓ **Decision CP.9/6.3:** ...the secretariat to work with partners to **develop an ocean governance strategy for the Western Indian Ocean region** that will contribute to the African ocean governance strategy; (2018)

# Mandate for the Regional Ocean Governance

## AMCEN (Africa Environment Ministers)

- Continental Ocean Governance Strategy

## Nairobi Convention COP decisions

- Participatory process
- Engage with the Regional Economic Communities and other Stakeholders
- Regional Ocean Governance Strategy



CONTINENTAL

REGIONAL SEAS  
Abidjan, Nairobi  
Barcelona, Jeddah





# Scope, Objective & Vision

- **Scope:** “*the relevant jurisdictional areas of the parties to the Nairobi Convention and the adjacent oceans*”
- **Objective:** “*To develop a regional mechanism through which the key regional stakeholders can cooperate in a coherent and structured manner to achieve the vision.*”
- **Vision:** “*A peaceful stable WIO region with ... a blue economy based on protection and conservation of natural resources that delivers sustainable benefits with due regard to equity and wellbeing.*”

# Key Technical Dialogues in ROGS Development



**Decision CP 11/6.1:** ... the Contracting Parties to **adopt and implement the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy** at regional level and align their national policy frameworks to the Strategy



# Marine Spatial Planning Strategy

- **MSP Strategy** - to support the region to address transboundary and cross-sectoral marine management challenges
  - Cross sectoral collaboration for ocean resource management
- **WIO Symphony** in collaboration with SwAM – a tool to supports MSP in the WIO by assessing **cumulative environmental impact from human activities**



A REGIONAL MARINE SPATIAL  
PLANNING STRATEGY FOR THE  
WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN



# Opportunities for Blue Economy Financing



**Governments grants** for research institutions and universities to support research activities



World Bank's Blue Economy Program



Carbon financing

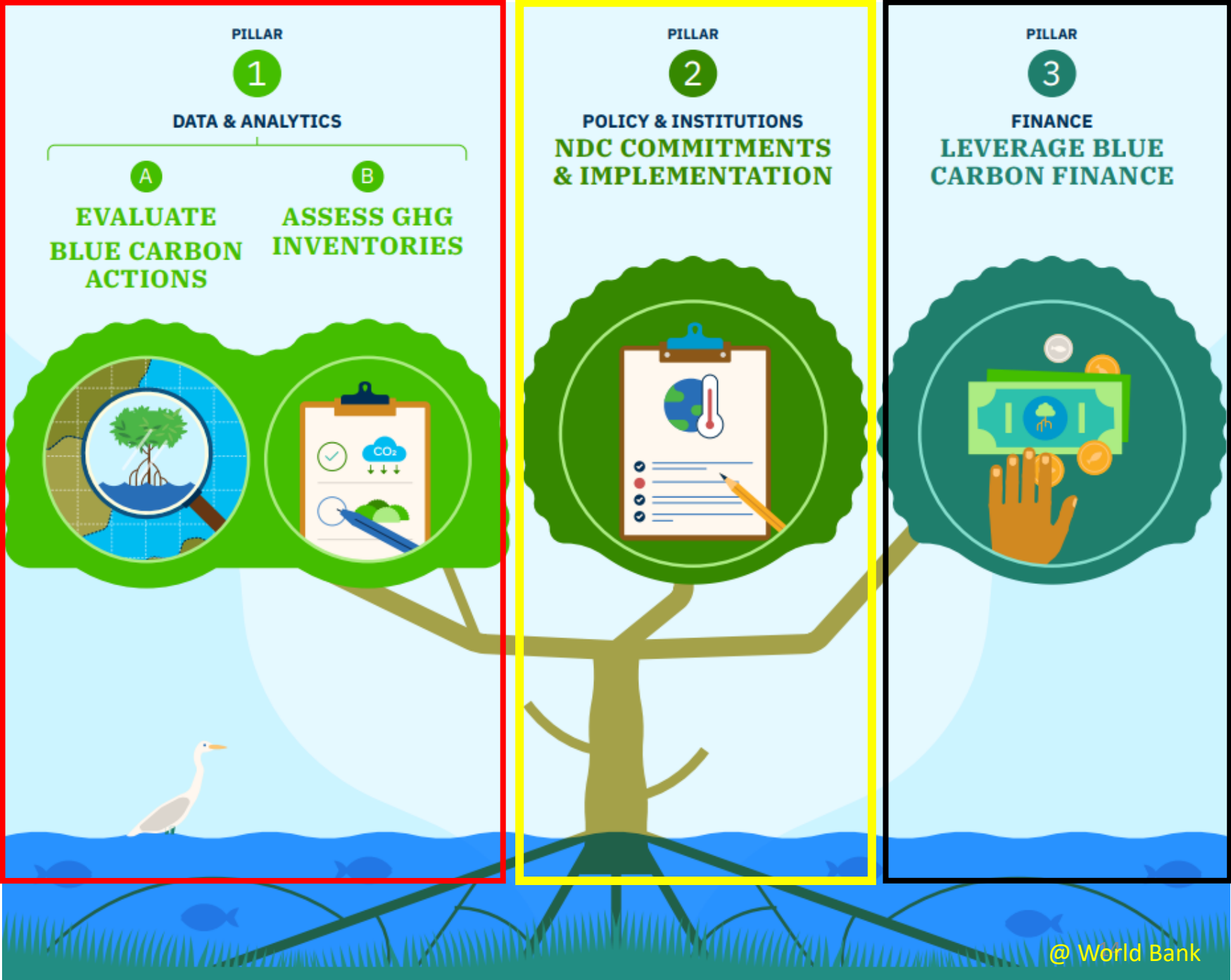


Private philanthropy;  
Private finance (project development, and carbon markets)

# Deep Breath!



# Blue Carbon Readiness Framework

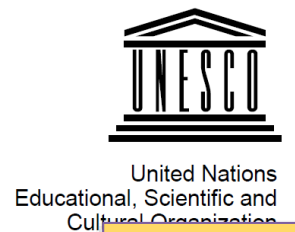


# Action for Blue Carbon Readiness

1. Strengthen enabling environment to **develop GHG inventories** for above and below-ground carbon
2. Promote the Use of **Ecosystem Valuation in Decision Making**
3. **Strengthen institutional structures**, and **design specific policies** to facilitate implementation of Blue Carbon commitments
4. **Adopt integrated planning** and Blue Carbon Strategy to enhance local benefits
5. **Leverage partnerships** between governments, private sector, international financing institutions, and philanthropies



Forum of Academic and Research Institutions in the Western Indian Ocean Region (FARI)



**Decision CP 11/16: Support for Projects and Partnerships**  
- To urge Contracting Parties to establish partnerships and programmes with partners on ocean action



Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal & Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean

SYDNEY · AUSTRALIA

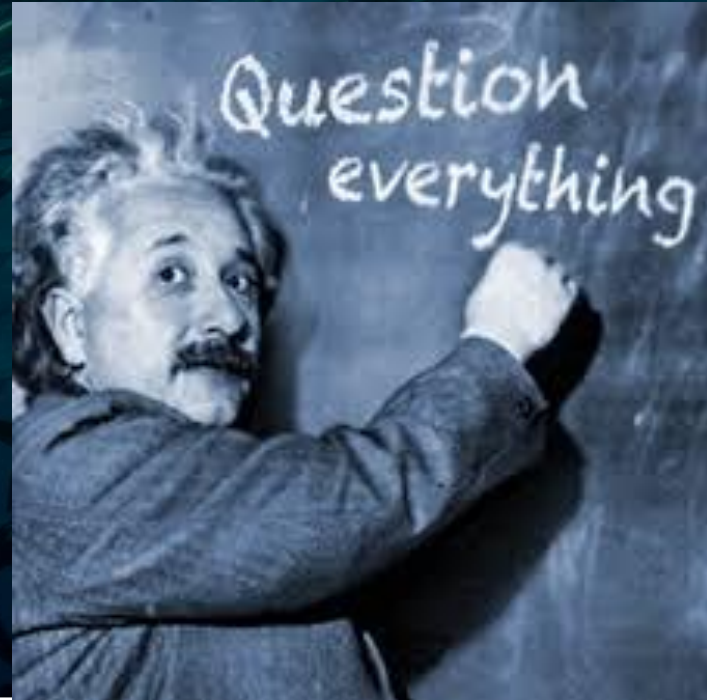


REGIONAL OFFICE AFRICA





**Thank you. Asanteni.**



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[nairobi-convention.org](http://nairobi-convention.org)