



**Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop
for the
Regional Information Management Strategy (IMS)
and the
Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS)**

**CONCEPT
Objectives and Programme**

**22-25 May 2023
Hotel Verde, Zanzibar**



CONCEPT

At a world level, the predominant role of the oceans as a source of life and sustainable development has been considered extensively. Many coastal states are adopting new approaches based on an integrated and sustainable management of the marine areas within their jurisdiction. In this sense, the concept of ocean governance arises as a mechanism through which an integrated and sustainable approach may be developed. Ocean governance is therefore the integrated conduct of the policy, actions, and affairs regarding the world's oceans to protect the ocean environment, sustainable use of coastal and marine resources, and to conserve biodiversity.

The 2030 Agenda offers a concerted framework of action to set the ocean on a path to sustainability in alignment with a regional ocean governance that promotes sustainable blue economies. The 10 countries of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) depend on the coastal and marine environment for food security, economic development, technological innovation, environment and biodiversity conservation, disaster risk management and climate adaptation, as well as issues pertaining to human and social systems, scientific knowledge, social equity and gender considerations, and community health. In the WIO, regional ocean governance is founded on three main pillars: (i) regional political will; (ii) international legal obligations; and (iii) the benefits accruing from existing regional cooperation. A cross-sectoral, holistic approach to managing marine and coastal resources to deliver sustainable benefits for all is the basis for a regional ocean governance. However, the region's coastal and marine resources are currently managed by several different national and regional institutions, organizations, agreements, and commissions with independent and often overlapping mandates.

The path towards ocean governance and a sustainable blue economy requires all the nations to join efforts, mobilize resources, create innovative partnerships, and engage governments and peoples in integrated development planning. For example, the 10 countries of the Western Indian Ocean are also members of the Indian Ocean Rim Association ([IORA](#)) which is collaborating among its 23 member states, regional intergovernmental platforms, regional economic commissions, regional seas programmes, and regional fisheries management bodies to strengthen sustainable blue economies and in addressing regional ocean governance. IORA will hold the 9th Indian Ocean technical Dialogue on Innovation in Blue Economy in Zanzibar on 22-23 May 2023. A joint session with IORA on the technical dialogues has been proposed.

At the core of ocean governance in the WIO is the need to develop strategies that bring together different governance regimes and organizations operating at sub-regional, regional, continental and global governance levels in a coherent manner, and the involvement of a multiplicity of stakeholders. To meet this need, the 2021 Nairobi Convention Conference of Parties [Decision COP10/5](#) called for the development, with partners, of an ***ocean governance strategy for the Western Indian Ocean region as a contribution to the African ocean governance strategy (COP10/5(1) and a related regional information management strategy and mechanisms to address common challenges and informed decision-making for ocean governance (COP10/5(3).***

Pursuant to decision CP. 10/5, a Regional Ocean Governance Task Force (ROGS TF) and Information Management Strategy Multi-Stakeholder Working Group (IMS MSWG) with representation from Nairobi Convention Contracting Parties, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and non-state actors, were established and approved by the Nairobi Convention National Focal Points in 2022 to collectively lead the development of the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy and Information Management Strategy. Development of the two strategies is supported through the [SAPPHIRE](#) project, [ACP MEAs 3](#) Programme and the [WIOGI](#) partnership project.

The ROGS TF and IMS MSWG have benefitted from capacity building, collaboration networks, and technical inputs, and are now drafting their respective strategies. The Collective Leadership Institute (CLI) and the Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) are partners providing the necessary participatory process support and approach among the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) countries.

OBJECTIVES

Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop for the Regional Information Management Strategy and the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy will be held in Zanzibar from 22-25 May 2023. The specific objectives are:

1. Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS) Goals

- Convene 3-4 **Technical Dialogues** on key ROGS topics
- Engage in focused **drafting of ROGS** by the Task Force
- Collective leadership sessions, including: co-create and agree an **action plan** for onward development, validation, and finalization of ROGS

2. Information Management Strategy (IMS) Goals

- Convene 1-2 **Technical Dialogues** on key IMS topics (jointly with ROGS)
- Engage in focused **drafting of IMS** by the Multi-stakeholder Working Group
- Collective leadership sessions, including: Co-create and agree an **action plan** for onward development, validation, and finalization of IMS

3. Joint ROGS and IMS Goals

- Discuss and **integrate linkages between the ROGS and IMS strategies**
- Discuss and **integrate linkages between the ROGS and IMS finalization action plans**
- Collective leadership sessions, including: **Map and identify interlinkages between stakeholders required to implement** ROGS and IMS

Draft Overview Programme

	Mon, 22nd May	Tue, 23rd May		Wed, 24th May		Thurs, 25th May		Fri, 26th May
	ROGS IMS IORA	ROGS	IMS	ROGS	IMS	ROGS	IMS	Departures
08:00 - 13:00 (with break)	Technical Dialogues with IORA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ocean Governance and Blue Economy 	Technical Dialogues with IORA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing the Blue Economy 		Write-Shop Consolidate and do write-shop in respective cluster teams including technical dialogue topics	Write-Shop Consolidate and do write-shop in respective thematic groups including technical dialogue topics	Joint Strategy Discussion On IMS-ROGS strategy-level linkages and possible joint consultations		
		11:00: Joint IMS/ROGS Session Welcome to Leading Collectively Writeshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate process to date Input on Dialogic Change Model, Phases 1 and 2 				11:00: Action Planning Engagement plan toward Nairobi Convention 11 th Conference of Parties	11:00: Action Planning Engagement plan toward Nairobi Convention 11 th Conference of Parties	
13:00 - LUNCH BREAK								
14:00 - 17:00 (with break)	Technical Dialogues with IORA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Biotechnology, Research, and Development Advancing the Blue Economy Agenda 	Stakeholder analysis and initial engagement strategies with interest/influence mapping	Stakeholder analysis and initial engagement strategies with interest/influence mapping	Write-Shop Synthesize across clusters or TD topics and harmonize the strategy document	Write-Shop Synthesize across thematic groups or TD topics and harmonize the strategy document	Consolidation & next steps ROGS and IMS Support Teams consolidate the week's results and next steps 16:00 - Close		
		16:00: Joint Presentations and Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On mapping and engagement strategies Note mapping overlap, engagement strategy synergies 						

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