

Partners' Statement

GIZ is looking forward to continuing to work with the Nairobi Convention under the framework of the Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative (WIOGI) project, funded by BMZ. We look forward to promoting regional coordination and collaboration and contributing to the realization of the NC work plan, while working concretely on the ground to support governments and other actors in Mozambique and Tanzania. We are delighted to be here.

GIZ currently hosts the secretariat of the Our Blue Future Initiative, a multi-stakeholder initiative established, after a CoP10 decision, to enhance coastal and ocean stewardship to accelerate the transition to an inclusive and sustainable blue economy (ISBE). Our overarching vision is a healthy, prosperous and resilient WIO region for the benefit of communities, businesses and ecosystems.

We aim to achieve this by supporting a wide diversity of partners to:

- Build capacity of partners and key stakeholders to deliver on ISBE solutions.
- Identify, develop and implement impactful partnerships and projects
- Mobilise resources and investments
- Engage in joint advocacy and awareness raising

Some of WIOGI's achievements to note so far include.

- OBF has 26 partners from government, private sector, civil society and international organisations.
- OBF has established sector-focused Innovation Teams including; Blue Tourism, Community Livelihoods, Circular Economy, Ports and Shipping, Fisheries and Blue Finance to support these sectors' innovate and transition to an ISBE.
- Private sector engagement through technical dialogues and exchange forums to evaluate the needs of our partners and stakeholders and how to best support them
- Support to ProAzul, the Government of Mozambique Blue Economy Fund, to mainstream gender and diversify its portfolio
- Establishment of Friends of Maputo National Park Club, to engage private sector in collectively funding and up-scaling nature-based solutions in the marine reserve.

Outlook

- Sustaining and expanding impact of OBF, while implementing the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy

- Strengthening intermediaries to provide ISBE services to micro, small and medium sized-enterprises across the region.
- Supporting the development of an ISBE through collaborative projects with our partners at the regional level and in Mozambique, Tanzania, Somalia and Madagascar.
- Strengthening the governance structures to better support OBF.

Request Contracting Parties to:

To support the adoption of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development funded program, the Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative, WIOGI and Our Blue Future initiative to support the operationalization of the Regional Governance Strategy.

Thank you