



# STATE OF THE REGION'S BLUE ECONOMY

## 2023 WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN SCIENCE POLICY PLATFORM (WIO-SPP)

*Addressing Global Targets in the WIO in support of a Sustainable  
Blue Economy*

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# CONTEXT

THE BE INITIATIVE & DEVELOPMENT OF IGAD'S BLUE ECONOMY STRATEGY BEGAN EARLY 2019 ...

**“ REGIONAL BLUE ECONOMY STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (2021-2025)**

AND AFTER FOR 5 YEARS WILL COME UP FOR REVIEW”



## WHAT IS THE IGAD'S BLUE ECONOMY ABOUT

- In The IGAD Context, The Blue Economy (BE) Encompasses Both Marine And Freshwater Environments. It Thus Relates To The Sustainable Use And The Conservation Of Oceans, Seas, Coastlines Banks, Lakes, Rivers And Groundwater.

# WHAT OBJECTIVES THE IGAD'S BLUE ECONOMY PROGRAMME .....

- IMPROVE the implementation of the BE in all IGAD members States;
- CONTRIBUTE to the implementation of the Africa Blue Economy Strategy;
- DEVELOP strong harmonizing regional BE initiatives;
- INCREASE cooperation and **regional integration** by using the **BE** as a catalyst to stimulate a converging dynamic of interests and efforts.

# WHAT IS THE IGAD'S BLUE ECONOMY.....

- **RESULT AREA 1:** *Blue Economy* approach in IGAD region harmonized and coordinated to harness the contribution of the different sectors.
- **RESULT AREA 2:** *The health of marine aquatic ecosystems* is improved and systems for managing, controlling and reducing aquatic pollution and waste are strengthened in IGAD coastal countries.
- **RESULT AREA 3:** *Blue Economy enhancing capacity, technologies and innovations* documented/disseminated and the project impact evaluated

## WHAT IS THE IGAD'S BLUE ECONOMY.....

Intervention activities for Result Areas 1&3 are going to be implemented in all IGAD MSs but Result Area 2 interventions are only for the four coastal countries (Djibouti, Kenya, Somalia and Sudan) of IGAD.



## CURRENT STATE OF PLAY

- Furthermore, the IGAD BE Strategy is meant act as a catalyst as it creates a new inclusive dynamic articulated around the **17 Sustainable Development Goals**.
- At the level of the IGAD member states, almost all of them have started to engage themselves into the development process of the BE. For a detailed presentation of the links between be and SDG's see *Africa's Blue Economy: a Policy Handbook*, UNECA(2016).

## CURRENT STATE OF PLAY

- With the Current BE Strategy & Implementation Plan (BESIP), The (IGAD), is currently continuing the work carried out for several years In the Framework of Programmes related to **Fisheries And Aquaculture, Environmental And Natural Resources Strategy, Coastal And Marine Biodiversity, Environmental Pollution, Maritime Safety Security, Etc.**
- **IGAD Fishery And Aquaculture Strategy Completed In 2016.**

See: [https://lgad.int/Attachments/159\\_igad\\_enr\\_strategy.Pdf](https://lgad.int/Attachments/159_igad_enr_strategy.Pdf)

Regional Strategy Completed In 2016.



# NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS : ANALYSIS OF THE BE'S STRATEGIES & POLICIES

- For the **POLICY** and **STRATEGY** documents drawn up, the BE is designed from a sectoral perspective with little to no room for initiatives bringing together several sectors.
- They present today a more or *less advanced* level of development in the elaboration of **STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS** as well as in the implementation of BE.

## NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS : ANALYSIS OF THE BE'S STRATEGIES & POLICIES IN PLACE

- Overall, **NONE OF THEM**, except **Kenya**, have completed national consultations, preceding the development of a **BE POLICY AND/OR STRATEGY**, Thus, the process of implementing BE remains broadly nascent apart from the **ACTIONS** and **INITIATIVES** carried out in a sectoral framework (fisheries, ports, tourism, etc.).
- Only Kenya now has an administrative entity specifically dedicated to BE but though still dependant on the the Ministry of Fishery (<https://mibema.go.ke/>)

## GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The BE Strategy should cascade and reinforce the commitments of African Countries to work towards the SDG's , particularly SDG 14 “life below water”, the vision of agenda 2063 and to accelerate implementation of AU Policies and instruments such as the AU 2050 African Integrated Maritime Strategy, the-Lomé Charter on Maritime Security, Safety and Development (2016) and the Revised African Maritime Transport Charter.

# NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS : ANALYSIS OF THE BE'S STRATEGIES & POLICIES

- Member-states/national governments' current approach remains compartmentalised with **LITTLE INTER-SECTORAL CONSULTATION AND ARTICULATION** between the needs of the different sectors and education and research (**particularly in the fields of oil and gas exploitation, and biotechnology**).
- **CAUTION !** *The concept of integration specific to BE is, therefore, not taken into account.*

# NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS : ANALYSIS OF THE BE'S STRATEGIES & POLICIES

- As such, what is presented resembles more to a standard policy for the development of the various sectors of the economy linked to the aquatic environment than to the implementation of an innovative policy based on unifying initiatives able to improve human well-being and the conservations of marine and aquatic ecosystems.

# FINALLY ...

No	Country	Date	Place
1	Ethiopia	16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Bahir Dar
2	Somalia	28 <sup>th</sup> to 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	Mogadishu
3	Kenya	15 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Naivasha
4	Uganda	20 <sup>th</sup> to 22 <sup>nd</sup> February 2023	Kampala
5	Sudan	26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Port Sudan
6	South Sudan	6 <sup>th</sup> to 8 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Juba
7	Djibouti	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Arta/ Djibouti City





**BJIG 75AMK VOZI**  
**FOR YOUR ATTENTION, !**