

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

Report



22-25 May 2023
Hotel Verde, Stonetown, Zanzibar

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Background

The path towards integrated ocean governance and a sustainable blue economy requires all nations to join efforts, mobilize resources, create innovative partnerships, and engage governments and peoples in integrated development planning. 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. Towards this end, the 2021 Nairobi Convention Conference of Parties [Decision COP10/5](#) called for the participatory 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 the COP decision above, 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, the African Union, Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Commissions, and non-state actors – were established and approved by the Nairobi Convention National Focal Points in 2022 to collectively lead the development of the “sister” ROGS and IMS. 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 from their Support Teams, and are now drafting their respective strategies. The Nairobi Convention Secretariat (NCS) and WIOGI are providing convening and expert regional support, the Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) and the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) are providing technical inputs and guidance, and the Collective Leadership Institute (CLI) is providing the necessary participatory process support and approach among the involved WIO countries.

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. The ROGS TF and IMS MSWG were invited to participate in the 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue on Innovation on Blue Economy to share insights on key

topics that have been identified as priorities for the ROGS. (For full background information, please see the Concept in Annex.)

Programme Overview

The workshop was structured to include the “9th Indian Ocean Dialogue on Innovation in Blue Economy” and related Technical Dialogues, joint Collective leadership sessions for the ROGS TF and the IMS MWSG, and Write-Shops for both strategies, as shown in the table below.

| | Mon, 22nd May | Tue, 23rd May | | Wed, 24th May | | Thurs, 25th May | |
|---------------|---|--|-----|---|---|--|---|
| | ROGS & IMS | ROGS | IMS | ROGS | IMS | ROGS | IMS |
| 08:30 | 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue with IORA Technical topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ocean Governance and Blue Economy | 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue with IORA Technical topics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financing the Blue Economy | | Write-Shop Consolidate strategy content in respective cluster teams | Write-Shop Consolidate strategy content in respective thematic groups | Joint Strategy Discussion on IMS-ROGS strategy linkages | |
| | | | | | | Action Planning ROGS process architecture toward 11 th NC COP | Action Planning IMS process architecture toward 11 th NC COP |
| 13:00 | LUNCH BREAK | | | | | | |
| 14:00 - 17:00 | 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue with IORA Technical topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Biotechnology, Research, Development Advancing the Blue Economy Agenda | Joint IMS/ROGS Workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrate process to date Input on Dialogic Change Model, Phases 1 and 2 | | Write-Shop Consolidate strategy content in respective cluster teams | Write-Shop Consolidate strategy content in respective thematic groups | Joint Presentations: Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On process architectures for strategy submission Gratitude and Closing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the ROGS and IMS Support Teams From the NCS From the Government of Zanzibar | |
| | Stakeholder mapping for ROGS implementation | Stakeholder mapping for IMS implementation | | | | | |
| | Joint Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On mapping for strategy implementation | | | | | | |

The first day of the workshop was dedicated to the 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue (9th IOD) on Innovation in Blue Economy, hosted by the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA; in rose color) which was designed to discuss several technical topics. (Please see Agenda in Annex). The ROGs TF and IMS MSWG were invited as participants for the 9th IOD. Members were provided with shared technical sheets by their Support Teams prior to the workshop. In real time, they recorded

responses to key questions in these documents that directly informed their respective strategies. (Please see the ROGS and IMS Technical Sheets in Annex.)

After the IORA Dialogue closed on 23 May, the ROGS TF and IMS MSWG transitioned to the Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop 23-25 May 2023. These were co-organized with their respective Support Teams and moderated by CLI. (Please see daily Agendas in Annex.)

Programme Goals

Tailored goals related to the ROGS TF and IMS MSWG, as well as joint goals, included:

With the ROGS TF

- Convene 3-4 Technical Dialogues on key ROGS topics
- Engage in focused drafting of ROGS by the ROGS TF
- Collective leadership sessions, including:
 - Map stakeholders required to implement ROGS
 - Co-create and agree an action plan for onward development, validation, and finalization of ROGS

With the IMS MSWG

- Convene 1-2 Technical Dialogues on key IMS topics
- Engage in focused drafting of IMS by the IMS MSWG
- Collective leadership sessions, including
 - Map stakeholders required to implement IMS
 - Co-create and agree an action plan for onward development, validation, and finalization of IMS

Jointly with the ROGS TF and IMS MSWG

- Discuss and integrate linkages between the ROGS and IMS strategies

The above goals were achieved during the joint workshop in Zanzibar, described and assessed below, and documented further in the Annex.

Days 1-2: 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue on Innovation in Blue Economy

Opening

Opening remarks by Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Head, UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat

Mr. Waruinge thanked the government of Zanzibar for hosting the meeting and extended appreciation to IORA for having invited the Nairobi Convention to the meeting. He recognized the efforts and leadership of the Permanent Secretary for Zanzibar Ministry for Blue Economy, Dr. Aboud Jumbe in organizing the meeting as an extended platform for dialogue and exchange of knowledge in the Indian Ocean. Equally, Mr. Waruinge expressed his gratitude to the governments and donors that facilitated the meeting, including the Government of Germany through the Federal Ministry for International Cooperation and Development (BMZ) that supports the Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative (WIOGI) project on ocean governance and information management; the EU funded third phase of the initiative of the Organization of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States Multilateral Environmental Agreements (ACP MEAs 3 Programme); the GEF and their support to UNDP for the SAPPHIRE project that is supporting development of a regional ocean governance framework and strategy; and, most significantly, the Contracting Parties of the Nairobi Convention, including the United Republic of Tanzania that has consistently supported the Secretariat, including with fundraising.

Mr. Waruinge underscored ocean governance as a necessary process to sustain the structure and functions of ocean ecosystems. This covers the coordination of various uses of the ocean and protection of the marine environment. In other words, ocean governance for a blue economy generally means the sustainable use of ocean resources for improved livelihoods and economic growth, while preserving the health of marine ecosystems.

Sustainable use of the ocean is the objective of the Nairobi Convention, specifically: to conserve, protect, and develop the marine and coastal environment. The Convention's Contracting Parties have therefore periodically adopted programmes that serve the bigger vision of the people of the region prospering from a healthy ocean. In the short to medium term, the objectives of the Convention include development of the following at a regional scale: an ocean governance strategy; an integrated information system; a marine litter action plan; an integrated coastal zone management protocol; a protocol on protected areas wild fauna and flora that is responsive to the Kuming Montreal

Global Biodiversity Framework and Marine Spatial Planning Strategy; and a periodic review of the State of the Coast for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO).

Mr. Waruinge mentioned that the Nairobi Convention was delighted to join hands with IORA and the Government of Zanzibar in this exercise to share experience from the entire Indian Ocean rim and to discuss how better to advance the development of the ocean governance strategy as the foundation of a sustainable blue economy in the WIO.

Opening Remarks by Ms. Rina Setyawati, Director, Blue Economy and Fisheries Management, IORA Secretariat

Ms. Setyawati began by extending her sincere appreciation to the First Vice President of Zanzibar, Hon. Othman Masoud Othman, for being present and opening this meeting. On behalf of IORA, she welcomed all the participants to the 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue on Innovation in Blue Economy and its Role in GDP Contribution, jointly organized by the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries of Zanzibar, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of Tanzania, the UNEP-Nairobi Convention, GIZ, and the IORA Secretariat.

She presented the mandate of IORA related to the blue economy and aimed at sustainable development and balanced growth in the Indian Ocean region through regional cooperation on concrete projects. These included:

- The establishment of the Working Group on Blue Economy and the Core Group on Fisheries Management;
- Capacity building programmes; and
- Strengthening cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including Member States, dialogue partners, and international organizations.

She highlighted that the purpose of the meeting was to articulate and discuss challenges for effective implementation of blue economy projects. Indeed, advancing the blue economy agenda in the region is a challenging, but necessary task, requiring the collaboration of regional and international partners. The purpose of the 9th IOD was to:

- To identify the common challenges and best practices that exist within the Indian Ocean region, and
- To find practical solutions going forward to address blue economy challenges that would contribute to GDP

She highlighted the themes of the meeting: (i) Making the Case for Blue Economy Dialogue; (ii) Ocean Governance and Blue Economy; (iii) Marine Biotechnology, Research and Development; (iv) Advancing the Blue Economy Agenda in IORA; and (v) Financing Blue Economy in IORA. At the end of the sessions, an outcome

document - the Zanzibar Consensus - built from the key takeaways of each session and input from the IORA Member States would be adopted.

She concluded her remarks by thanking the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries of Zanzibar for the excellent arrangements in hosting the meeting and the support from the UNEP Nairobi Convention and GIZ. Ms. Setyawati underscored that IORA stands ready to continue working with Tanzania in promoting the blue economy sector in the Indian Ocean region.

Introductory Remarks by Dr. Aboud Suleiman Jumbe, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar

Dr. Aboud Jumbe welcomed all the partners to the meeting and writeshop and highlighted the purpose of the workshop. He emphasized how ocean dialogues are a pathway for restoring a blue economy from the shocks of COVID 19. IORA is one of the regional programmes that supports harnessing the blue economy in the region through capacity building on sustainable use and opportunities for protection of biological resources and resilience of the ocean. Dr. Jumbe stressed the need to embrace a multi-sectoral approach in management to ensure a sustainable blue economy for creating jobs and enhancing sustainable livelihoods. As champions today for nature and climate, he encourages the participants to work together for a common goal through differentiated responsibilities.

Welcoming Remarks by the Honorable Minister Masoud Suleiman Makame, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar

In his remarks, the Hon. Makame welcomed all the governments, partners, and donors who supported and facilitated the meeting. He also extended his gratitude to IORA for hosting the ocean dialogue, providing an opportunity for contribution towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). He also emphasized the need for new momentum for achieving a blue economy after the COVID 19 pandemic. As such, the United Republic of Tanzania recognizes IORA's commitment towards the blue economy aspirations through integrated development to create job opportunities. Hon. Makame reiterated that the Government of Tanzania and Zanzibar are committed to management and development of ocean resources for the benefit of people. In his conclusion, he encouraged participants to make the event a success.

Opening Speech by H.E. the Hon. First Vice President of Zanzibar Masoud Othman Masoud

H.E. Hon. Masoud recognized and welcomed all the partners in the meeting and conveyed apologies and greetings from the President of Zanzibar, Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi. He framed the 9th IOD as a great platform to discuss blue economy achievements and opportunities. Hon. Masoud expressed his gratitude to IORA for their support and leadership in planning the ocean dialogues. Hon. Masoud

stressed the need to forge concrete blue economy partnerships and the political will to support their development. There is a need to leverage community empowerment, capacity building, and SBE financing for addressing topics such as pollution, conservation, and environmental security in the region. In order to achieve blue economy aspirations, Hon. Masoud underscored the importance of regional collaboration to enhance financial muscle and political will. He concluded by thanking the partners for advancing the blue economy for sustainable development while enhancing impactful partnerships for African Development Agenda.

Technical Dialogues

The ROGS and IMS Support Teams shared Technical Sheets for the ROGS TF and the IMS MSWG that paralleled the IORA agenda with lead questions for gathering content from the 9th IOD relevant to each strategy. Both the ROGS TF and IMS MSWG were able to interact with speakers in each of the 9th IOD sessions related to:

- Ocean Governance and Blue Economy (high seas, fisheries, MSP, ocean accounting)
- Marine Biotechnology, Research, and Development (capacity building, climate change, digital solutions, marine litter and plastics)
- Advancing the Blue Economy Agenda (regional and international collaboration for Indian Ocean and WIO)
- Financing the Blue Economy (tourism, marine conservation, investment in fisheries and aquaculture, blue carbon financing)

WIOMSA and ZMT reviewed and integrated elements of these Technical Sheets into the emerging drafts of the ROGS and IMS along with the support of both ROGS TF and IMS MSWG members. (Please see ROGS and IMS Technical Sheets in Annex.) Below is a high-level summary of 9th IOD inputs.

Treaty of the High Seas / Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) by Ms. Yvonne Waweru, Senior Ocean Governance Advisor, GIZ

Ms. Waweru gave an overview on the mandate and principles of the Treaty of the High Seas/BBNJ. Specifically, the Treaty focuses on current and future conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). The Treaty's main provisions and themes are highly relevant in the WIO region in support of protection and conservation of marine ABNJ Following Nairobi Convention Decision COP 10/5 to develop a Regional Ocean Governance Strategy (ROGS), she presented on the progress and process undertaken by the ROGS TF. Hitherto, ROGS priorities and technical dialogues have been clustered into Blue Economy and Maritime Security, Environment and Natural Resources, and Science and Knowledge.

Sustainable Fisheries, Combating IUU, and enhancing Maritime Security by Dr. Emmanuel Sweke, Director General, Tanzania Deep Sea Fishing Authority (DSFA)

Dr. Sweke presented on the status and trends of world fisheries and how IUU has impacted global catches over the past decades. New fishing methods and expanded fishing areas have led to collapses in fish populations. He underscored the need to fight and combat IUU and enhance maritime security in the region. Going forward, Dr. Sweke proposed actions including proper safety and security protocols, sharing of information, and training and capacity building on the impacts of IUU.

Marine Spatial Planning and ICZM for a Sustainable Blue Economy by Mr. Zahor Kassim El-Kharousy, Director, Department of Blue Economy Development and Coordination, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar

Mr. Kassim gave a presentation on the integrated approaches of MSP and ICZM in coastal and marine conservation and management. These approaches are tools that attempt to replace conventional sectoral approaches that lead to disconnected decisions and missed opportunities for more sustainable coastal development. On the same thread, Dr. Paul Nyangu emphasized that MSP is seen as a tool for implementing ICZM in the marine part of the coastal zone since its application encompasses the UR Tanzania's marine waters. As such, there have been government efforts on initiatives to support MSP through sectoral policies and legislations that are geared towards coastal and marine protection and management.

Ocean Accounting and the Global Ocean Accounting Partnership (GOAP) by Prof. Ken Findlay, IORA Academic Group, South Africa

In his presentation, Prof. Findlay gave an overview of the human-ocean nexus centered on resource uses and related pressures. Addressing such challenges requires good ocean governance that ensures sustainable and inclusive ocean development as a basis for blue economies. He highlighted that integration of these "sustainability pillars" is not yet well defined within the ocean space. Prof. Findlay pointed out that evidence-based, adaptive ocean policy development and governance requires both information on ocean changes and the integration of the above "sustainability pillars."

Moreover, he highlighted the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP), an open, multi-stakeholder partnership that enables countries and other stakeholders to apply ocean accounting to go beyond GDP to measure and manage progress towards sustainable ocean development in line with SDGs 14, 15.9, and 17.19, as well as various national and international goals, e.g. the Kunming-Montreal GBF T14 and Ocean Action 2030 SOPs.

Climate Change, Scientific Knowledge, and Research by Dr. George Rushingisha, Senior Research Scientist, Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI)

Dr. Rushingisha pointed out that the Indian Ocean is under threat due to climate change and disasters, jeopardizing blue economies. He explained that the path towards sustainable blue economies requires data and information trends, strong collaborations and partnerships in ocean governance, resource mobilization, and innovation. He further underlined data reliability, availability, and accessibility as the biggest challenge in the WIO region, confirming that a regional Information Management Strategy (IMS) is very essential as it will improve data quality and sharing mechanisms for informed decision-making and lead to development of standardized protocols and platforms for data integration and analysis. He ended by calling upon everyone to join in advocating for increased investment in research to foster innovation and embrace sustainable approaches, ensuring that the blue economy continues to thrive while preserving the health and integrity of our oceans for future generations.

Digital Solutions for Blue Economy by Dr. Baraka Kuguru, Principal Research Officer, Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI)

Dr. Kuguru highlighted the different challenges in the blue economy related to fisheries, such as locating areas where fish concentrate, accessing profitable fishing areas, accessing markets, and applying management tools. He then described digital solutions for addressing these challenges and gave examples of those that are readily available and being used by TAFIRI.

Blue Carbon Overview by Ms. Elisabetta Bonotto, Project Coordinator, International Partnership for Blue Carbon, IOC-UNESCO

Ms. Bonotto outlined “blue carbon” and “nature-based solutions” as defined respectively by the IPCC in 2019 and by UNEP in 2022. She pointed out the benefits of coastal blue carbon ecosystems, the threats to these ecosystems and impacts of degradation, and the opportunities for national action towards the protection of blue carbon. She concluded by outlining IOC-UNESCO’s work on blue carbon which include the Blue Carbon Initiative (BCI), International Partnership for Blue Carbon (IPBC) and the Global Ocean Decade Programme for Blue Carbon (GO-BC).

Action Plan to Combat Marine Plastic Pollution in the Western Indian Ocean by Mr. Kieran Kelleher, Regional Ocean Governance Adviser, WIOMSA/Nairobi Convention

Mr. Kelleher presented the proposed action plan which was prepared with the assistance of the Indian Ocean Commission. He linked the action plan to Nairobi Convention Decisions and the UNEA ‘plastics treaty’ negotiations. He suggested that the action plan needs to focus on root causes of plastic pollution, the entire

plastics life cycle, and improved waste management systems. The action plan recommends that national action plans should be the pillars of regional actions and that regional alignment is fundamental. The action plan prioritises regional alignment on trade in plastics and plastic waste; and the development of a “blue finance architecture” to finance improved solid waste management and development of a circular economy. The plan also highlights the need for capacity building and knowledge exchange. (Please see draft Plastics Action Plan in Annex.)

Our Blue Future and current priorities in the WIO by Dr. Edward Kimakwa, Senior Marine Advisor and Our Blue Future Coordinator, GIZ

Dr. Kimakwa presented an overview and the mandate of Our Blue Future, a multi-stakeholder initiative for an inclusive sustainable blue economy in the WIO region. The initiative focuses on enhancing healthy and thriving ecosystems, resilient coastal communities, inclusive and participatory governance, and sustainable economies. As a young initiative, Our Blue Future envisages growing membership and strengthening partnerships, developing bankable projects for regional financing mechanisms, engaging in policy work, and co-developing capacity building modules to strengthen management and protection of blue resources.

Regional Indian Ocean Dialogue Experience and Current Priorities by Dr. Aboud Suleiman Jumbe, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar

Dr. Aboud Jumbe made the case that IORA has evolved and come of age with regional experience in ocean dialogues. The 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue served as a platform to discuss matters on ocean governance, science to policy, ICZM/MSP for a blue economy, tourism, fisheries, aquaculture, maritime security, energy, environment, biodiversity, climate and blue carbon, pollution and waste management, among others.

Advancing Blue Economy Agenda in IORA by Mr. Tembaletu Tanci, Chair of the IORA Working Group on Blue Economy, South Africa

Mr. Tanci presented a case on how innovation for a blue economy is essential for contributing to a country's GDP. WIO states have managed to strengthen partnerships in the region, e.g. on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture management, combating IUU, implementing open market fish trade and aquaculture, and mapping resources for renewable ocean energy technologies, among others. Despite existing challenges, the Working Group on Blue Economy stands to leverage further opportunities such as funding, collaboration with other international organizations, and dialogues to foster project implementation. The Working Group envisages socially and economically inclusive, and environmentally sustainable development of the blue economy.

Investment and Financing Opportunities in Fisheries and Aquaculture by Dr. Nazael Madalla, Director of Aquaculture, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Tanzania

Dr. Madalla highlighted the conducive climate for investment in fisheries and aquaculture and gave examples of investment opportunities. He further explained that for the investment opportunities to be undertaken, there is a need to ensure enabling factors for transitioning from subsistence/artisanal practices to commercial production.

Blue Economy Financing by Dr. Aboud Suleiman Jumbe, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar

Dr. Jumbe pointed out the high value of the blue economy, estimated at between US\$3 trillion to US\$6 trillion per year globally. There is a key challenge, however, on how to develop and implement innovative financing models (blue funds/sustainable blue financing) and financing sources. He further highlighted the trends in sustainable blue economy finance and related principles; barriers to sustainable blue economy financing; and opportunities for action, as well as sources of capital and investment models for blue financing.

Financing Zanzibar's Marine and Biodiversity Conservation by Dr. Makame Omar Makame from the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar

Dr. Makame started by highlighting the context of marine conservation in Zanzibar. He then went on to explain the economic importance of marine conservation areas and the conservation financial gap; current revenue generation; and options for sustainable finance of marine conservation areas for Zanzibar.

Zanzibar Consensus

In closing the 9th Indian Ocean Dialogue, IORA presented a “Zanzibar Consensus” that consolidated key outcomes of the event (please see Annex). The consensus acknowledged the participation and discussion of numerous expert speakers on four major themes: (i) ocean governance and the blue economy; (ii) marine biotechnology, research, and development; (iii) advancing the IORA's blue economy agenda; and (iv) financing the blue economy in IORA.

In this regard, the 9th IOD recommended further engagement and partnership with international and regional organisations working on areas of common interest, with the aim of consolidating, developing and detailing cooperation and effectiveness to achieve the common objectives of ocean governance in the Indian Ocean region.

Day 2: Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop

Welcome Session

In line with the agenda, ROGS TF and IMS MSWG members were welcomed into the Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop sessions by the following persons.

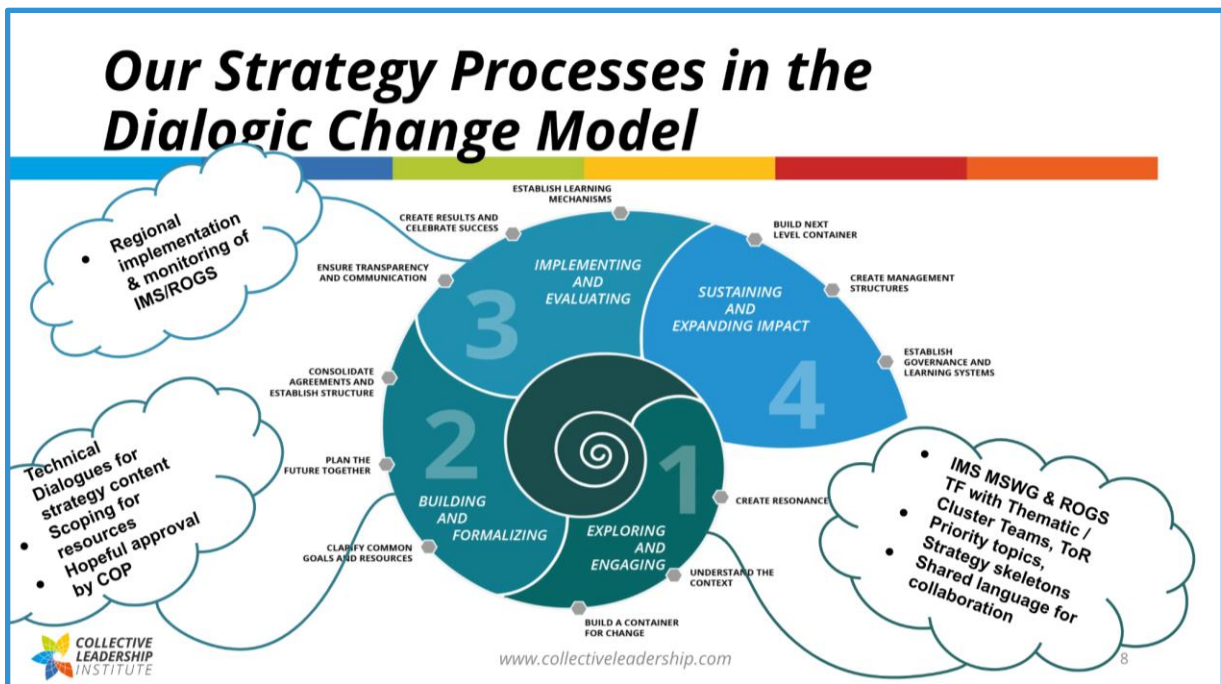
- **Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Head, UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat (NCS)**, emphasized the aim and purpose of the ROGS and IMS in the protection, management, and development of the coastal and marine environment of the WIO region. He pointed out that the databases available are at global level thus there is need extract and localized the data to support proper decision making and governance aspects. As such, Mr. Waruinge challenged the participant's governments on ensuring availability and accessibility of the data at the national ministries. He mentioned that there is a need for searchable databases at the regional level, as this information is pertinent and underpins the development of the blue economy for national, economic development and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Dr. Aboud Suleiman Jumbe, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar**, pointed out that that both ROGS and IMS development are of interest in Zanzibar-Tanzania in advancing ocean sustainability and that they thus support the process fully. As such, he stressed the need to bring institutions together in the region through a multi-stakeholder approach to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. Concerning the ABNJ, Dr. Jumbe mentioned that development partners had requested the Secretariat to develop ROGS and IMS as mechanisms to address the common challenges within the region. He emphasized the key pillars that are geared towards infrastructure of green ports as well as science and monitoring to address the emerging issues. Dr. Jumbe also highlighted existing gaps that needed urgent regional attention, such as pollution and lack of monitoring compliance among others. In his conclusion, he stressed the importance of having strategies for addressing crosscutting thematic areas in the region through a common policy intervention.
- **Dr. Timothy Andrew, Senior Programme Manager, NCS**, gave an overview of the ROGS and IMS development processes and how NCS is keen in engaging all relevant stakeholders, taking a collaborative approach in their development and implementation. He highlighted the role of Collective Leadership Institute in facilitating the workshop and writeshop

days of the meeting, and introduced the consultants that were assisting in development of ROGS and IMS.

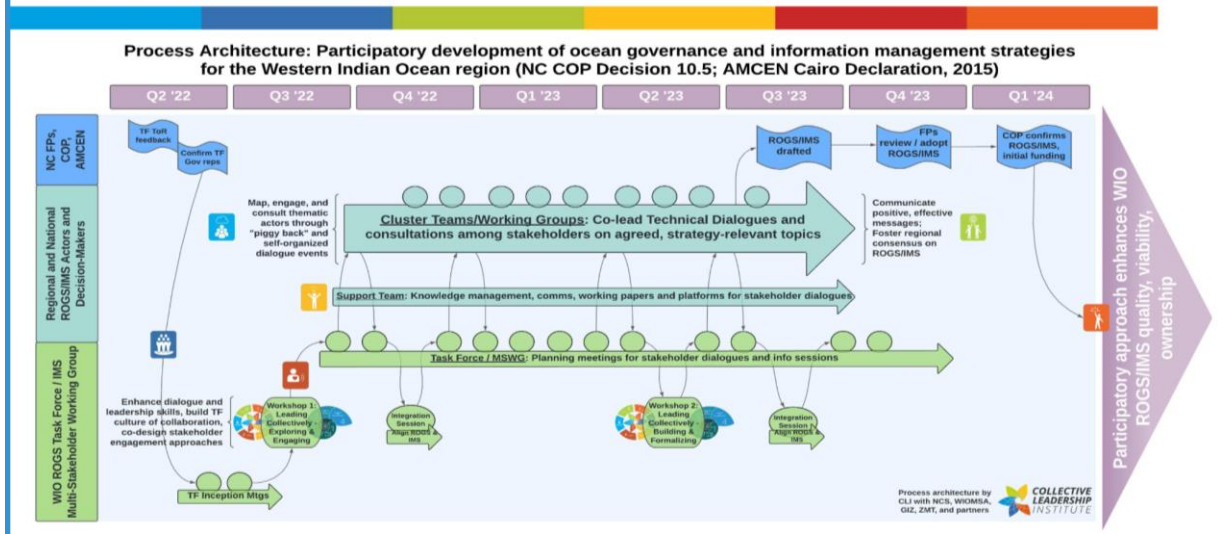
Collective Leadership Institute's (CLI's) Mr. Dominic Stucker and Ms. Mai ElAshmawy moderated all subsequent sessions, starting with an overview of the agenda and goals and an interactive introduction of participants.

Celebrating the IMS and ROGS “Sister” Strategy Processes

Drawing on their “Dialogic Change Model” and the ROGS/IMS Process Architecture, below, CLI described and celebrated the participatory strategy development processes to date, moving from “Exploring and Engaging” through “Building and Formalizing” toward “Implementing and Monitoring.”



The Sister IMS and ROGS Processes



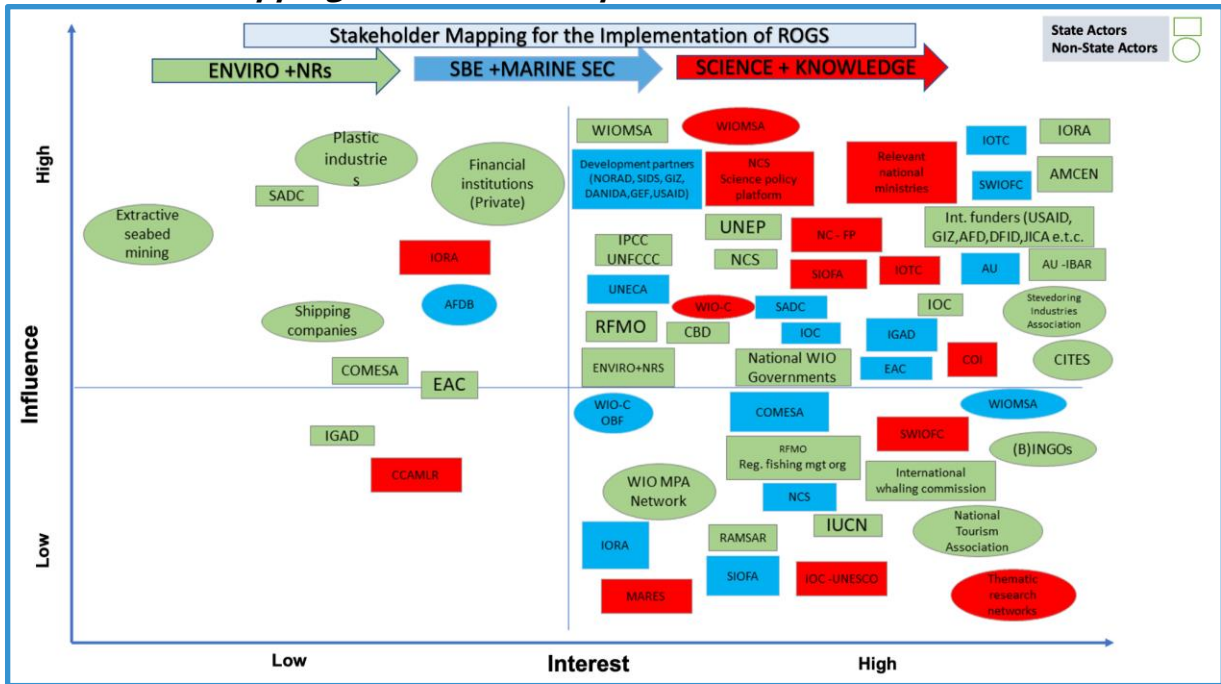
Future Gazing: Stakeholder Mapping to Support the Implementation of the ROGS and IMS

Looking beyond a potential decision to support the ROGS and IMS by the Nairobi Convention Conference of Parties (NC COP) in early 2024, CLI guided participants in creating two stakeholder “interest/influence” maps, below. The intention was to identify those actors, especially at regional level, who are seen to have both an interest in and influence on implementation of the two strategies.

To conduct the mapping, the ROGS TF’s Cluster Teams (Environment and Natural Resources, Sustainable Blue Economy and Maritime Security, and Science and Knowledge) and the IMS MSWG’s Thematic Teams (Socio-Economic, Oceanography, and Biology) carried out the group exercise. Each team added to their map in a color-coded fashion, with state actors indicated on square cards and non-state actors in oval cards. Please see the results and a light analysis of the results, below.

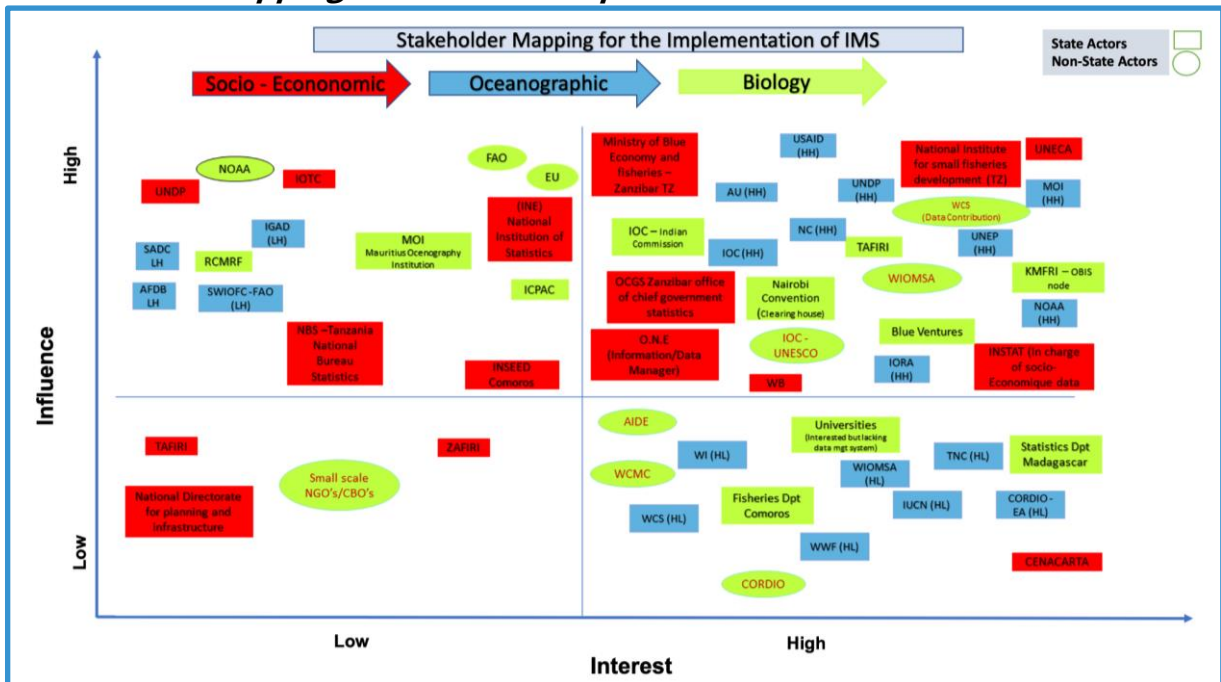
The stakeholder mapping for ROGS, below, shows that a group of influential, regional actors would be needed to implement the ROGS after a potential decision in this regard by the COP in April 2024: e.g. the AU, NCS, RECs, IOC, development partners, WIOMSA, IORA, IOTC, SIOFA.

Stakeholder Mapping for eventual implementation of the ROGS



The stakeholder mapping for IMS, below, shows that a group of influential, regional actors would be needed to implement the IMS after a potential decision in this regard by the COP in April 2024: e.g. IOC, WIOMSA, NCS, UNEP, UNECA, IORA, KMFRI, TAFIRI.

Stakeholder Mapping for eventual implementation of the IMS



Day 3: Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop

ROGS Results

Building on summary inputs from Mr. Kieran Kelleher, WIOMSA Ocean Advisor and moderated by Mr. Stucker, the ROGS TF discussed and came to consensus on enhanced regional ocean governance institutional arrangements and financing, described below. Special guidance was offered by ROGS TF members from RECs and the IOC:

- Ms. Edith Tibahwa, COMESA
- Ms. Sibongile Mavimbela, SADC
- Ms. Gina Bonne, IOC

Enhanced institutional cooperation

ROGS Task Force members agreed that reinforced institutional cooperation arrangements at regional level are required to implement the ROGS, to inform decisions, to drive consensus on regional policies, and to provide a framework for a WIO blue finance architecture at a regional scale. There was broad consensus on the proposed arrangements to provide for formal, but flexible relationships on oceans between the Regional Economic Commissions (COMESA, EAC, IGAD, SADC), the Indian Ocean Commission, the Nairobi Convention and other key regional institutions. The proposed arrangements should be designed to reinforce, redeploy or realign existing processes in a more effective manner, rather than creating new institutions, except where critical gaps are apparent.

Subject to the COP decision, dialogues on the proposed institutional arrangements outlined below would be initiated by the NC Secretariat in close association with the other regional organisations.

| High-Level Platforms: Roles and Members | | |
|--|---|---|
| Ocean Policy Platform | Blue Finance Platform | Technical Platform |
| Provides technical recommendations on all ocean policy issues | Provides technical solutions to bridge the ocean finance gap (high-level oceans and finance technical officers) | Synthesises all technical advice generated by the four ROGS clusters. Serves as the main regional ocean science to policy platform. |
| RECs, Indian Ocean Commission, Nairobi Convention, with possible AU/ECA Secretariat role | Countries via the RECs, key financial institutions, national and regional development banks, and private financial institutions | Chairs and key officers of the four cluster platforms: Maritime Security; Blue Economy; Environment and Natural Resources; and Knowledge Management and Capacity Building |

High-level platforms

Three 'high-level' platforms were discussed and co-designed that are envisaged to provide consensus/regional advice on: (i) policy, (ii) blue finance pipeline; and (iii) technical issues in the major ocean sectors and across ocean thematic areas.

The Ocean Policy Platform (OPP)

The OPP would comprise a core group of high-level officials representing the four RECs (COMESA, EAC, IGAD and SADC), the Indian Ocean Commission and the Nairobi Convention. The UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the African Union (AU) Secretariat are envisaged as assuring a secretarial function on matters in their area of competence (such as, maritime security and blue economy) while the NC Secretariat would provide support on matters pertaining to the ocean environment. Reporting would be through the RECs to the countries and through the NC parties to the Convention and to the AMCEN.

The Blue Finance Platform (BFP)

The BFP is envisaged as an open-ended forum tasked with bridging the financing gap between the regional demand for blue finance and the affordable supply of green and blue funding. The BFP would compile demand for finance into a regional blue portfolio to provide the scale required to access major funding (e.g. climate funds), to leverage different sources of finance, to create synergies and to reduce transaction costs. It would build a blue taxonomy to link the investments to the SDGs, to the net zero CO2 targets and to construct a common set of indicators across investment categories. The role of the BFP would be to facilitate access to blue finance by spreading risk, reducing transaction costs, providing common means of assessment across sectors and countries, and providing the scale required to attract major funding sources over the medium and long term.

The Technical Platform

The Technical Platform proposes to group the four cluster platforms (see below) to provide collective, science-based consensus advice to policy makers and to report on the environmental, social, and economic status and trends of the WIO, in particular in relation to the investments undertaken in advancing healthy oceans and the wellbeing of the coastal and dependent populations and the ocean economies.

The ROGS groups the regional priorities in four 'clusters' to facilitate synergies between sectors and regional institutions, some of which have a relatively narrow mandate. The clusters, which share many cross-cutting issues, are: Maritime Security; Environment and Natural Resources; Blue Economy; and Knowledge Management and Capacity Building.

Regional Ocean Accounts

The Task Force agreed that the monitoring and evaluation of the ROGS will use the ocean accounting framework. This framework will draw on national ocean accounts and progressively build regional ocean accounts, initially for priority sectors and indicators of ocean health to reflect trends in the blue economy, the wellbeing of coastal peoples, and the effectiveness of ocean governance. The ocean accounts framework will also provide common metrics for funding agencies and avoid duplication in project-by-project monitoring requirements.

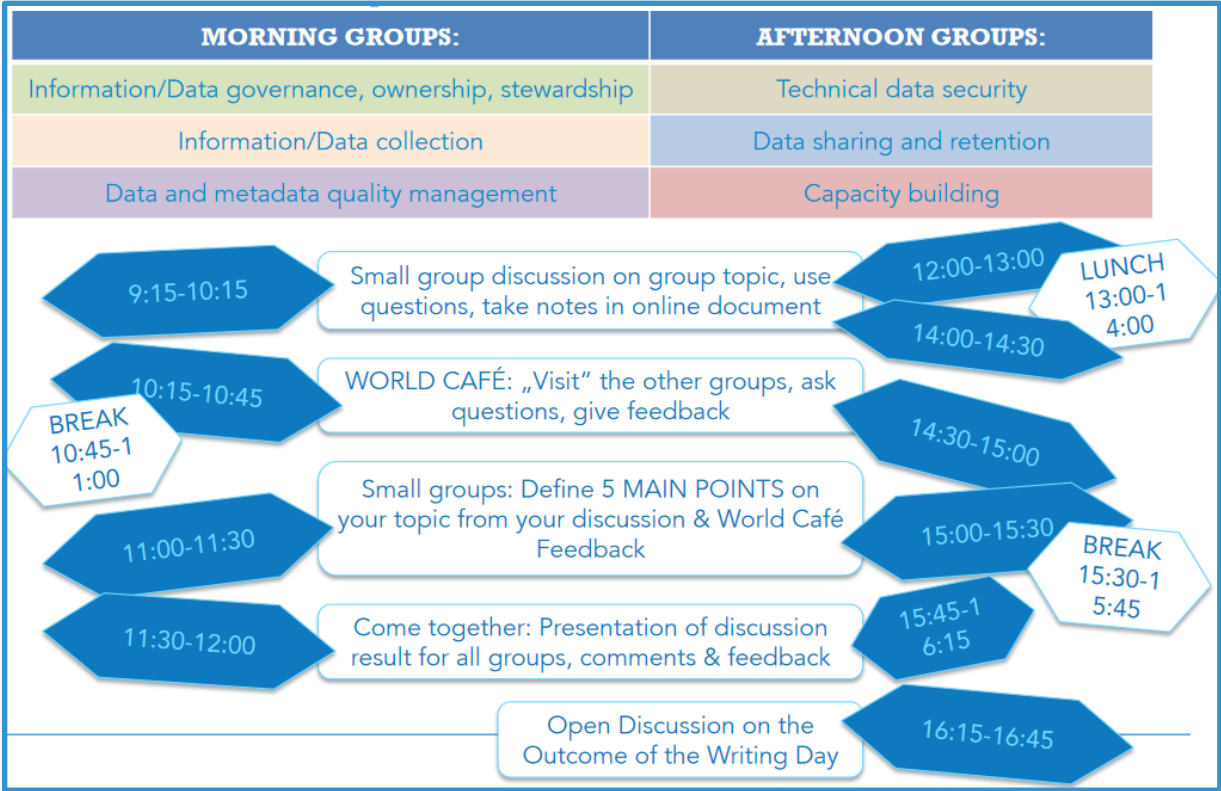
IMS Results

The writing day for the IMS was built upon the results of previous working phases. The writeshop was facilitated by Ms. Alexandra Nozik, ZMT and focused on developing core components of the IMS. Around 25 stakeholders were involved in the exchange of ideas and decision-making on various topics, including:

- Data/Information Governance
- Data/Information Ownership and Stewardship
- Data/Information Collection
- Data/Metadata Quality Management
- Technical Data Security
- Data Sharing and Retention
- Capacity Development

The stakeholders worked in smaller groups to discuss and further develop the above topics. The process was divided into four phases to ensure that everyone had the opportunity to contribute to each topic: (1) Each small group received specific questions to foster in-depth conversations with the goal of creating a

comprehensive and well-balanced strategy. (2) All groups participated in a digital "World Café" session where they could read and comment on the discussion points raised by other groups. This allowed for direct interaction and the opportunity to ask questions. (3) The small groups integrated the comments and summarized their discussions into five key points for their respective topics. (4) These final points were presented to the entire MSWG as the key outcomes and were further discussed for a general consensus.



Day 4: Joint Collective Leadership and Technical Dialogues Writeshop

An Overview of the ROGS and IMS Sister Strategies

Ms. Gina Bonne, ROGS TF member from the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), offered an input recapping the previous day’s ROGS write-shop, including on the ROGS structure and institutional arrangements. Dr. Harrison Ong'anda, IMS MSWG member from the Kenyan Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI), offered an input recapping the previous day’s IMS write-shop, including on the IMS structure.

ROGS/IMS Linkages

Mr. Dominic Stucker, CLI, moderated an interactive plenary discussion that led to consensus for cross-referencing the strategies by including this draft text in each:

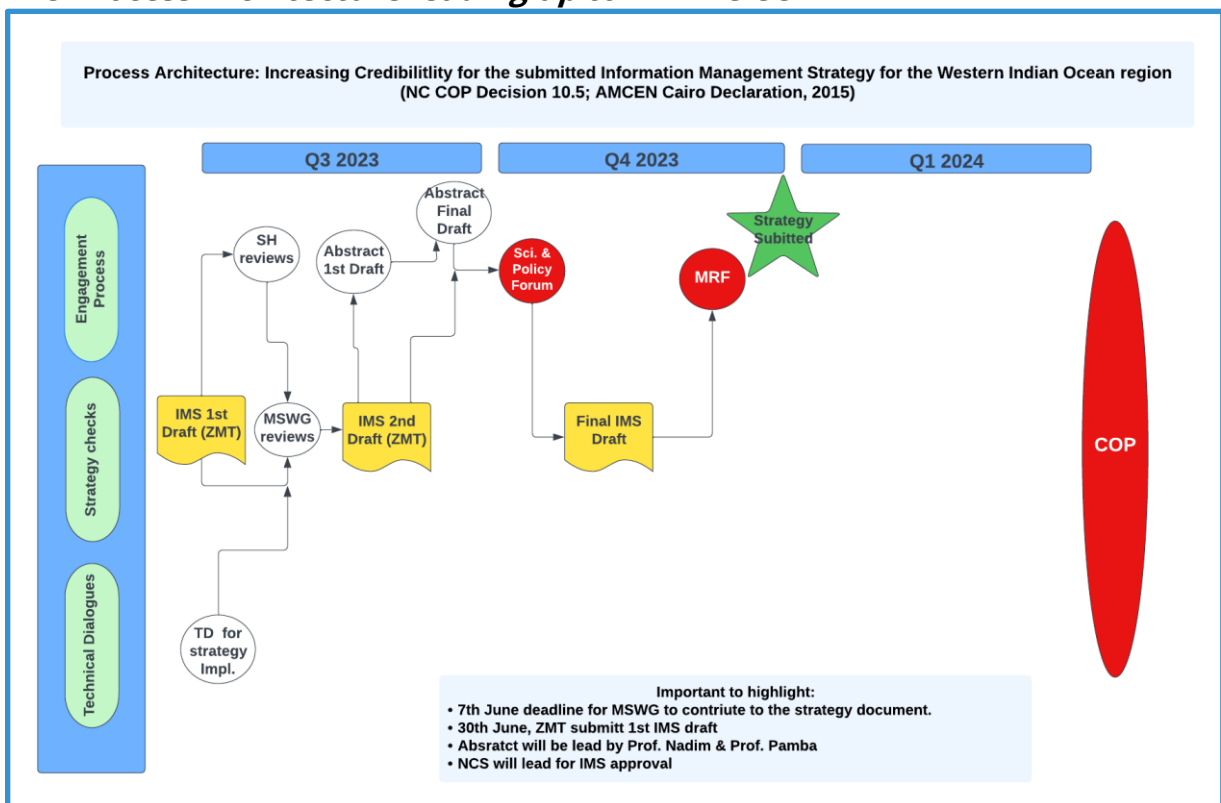
“Drawing on the mutually supportive ROGS and IMS, diverse, multi-stakeholder and multi-level WIO actors can help enhance:

- More inclusive and equitable ocean governance decision-making processes
- Identification of key areas and data gaps for information needs to support policy processes and implementation of the strategies
- Setting baseline and tracking progress toward shared information management and ocean governance goals”

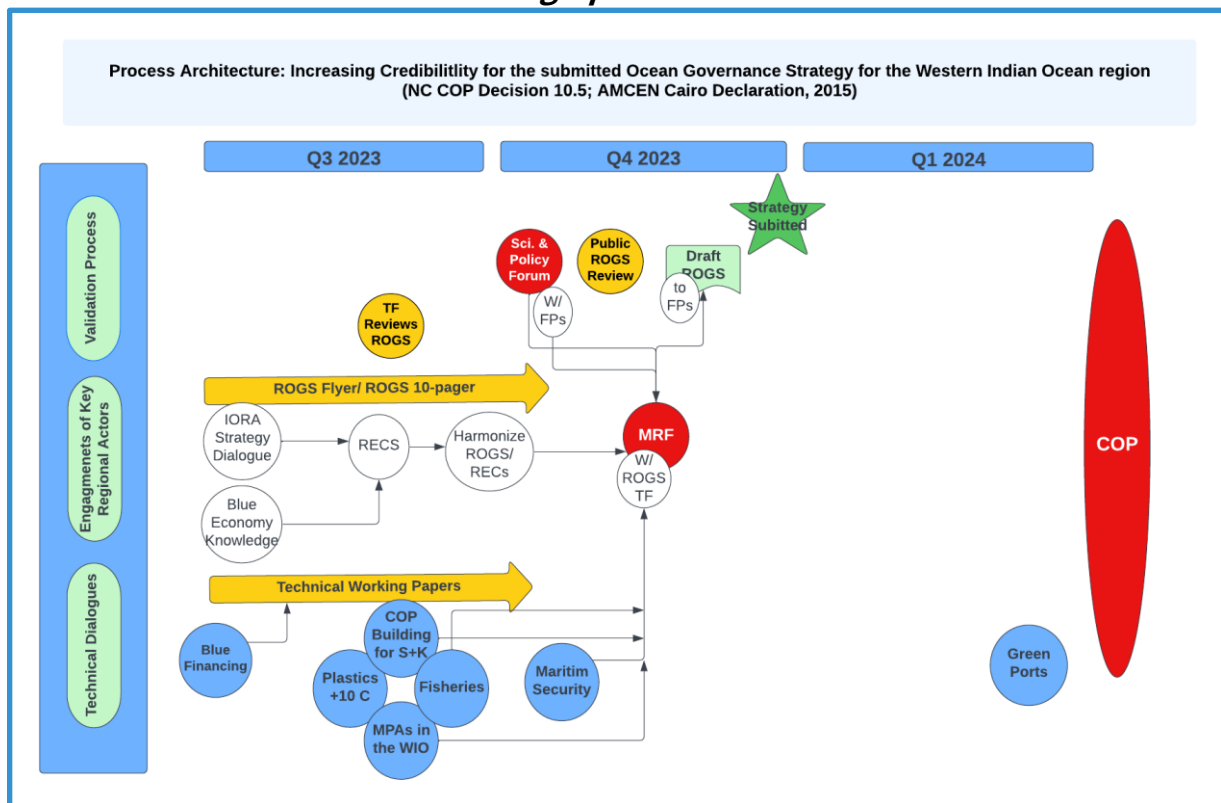
Journey to the Nairobi Convention 11th COP

Dr. Tim Andrew, NCS, offered a framing input on key strategy approval milestones leading up to the COP in early 2024, as well as existing opportunities for support with onward Technical Dialogues. This supported two interactive discussions - one among IMS MSWG and Support Team members and the other among ROGS Task Force and Support Team members - that resulted in the development of respective IMS and ROGS Process Architectures, below, leading up to a potential decision on the strategies at the NC COP.

IMS Process Architecture leading up to 11th NC COP



ROGS Process Architecture leading up to 11th NC COP



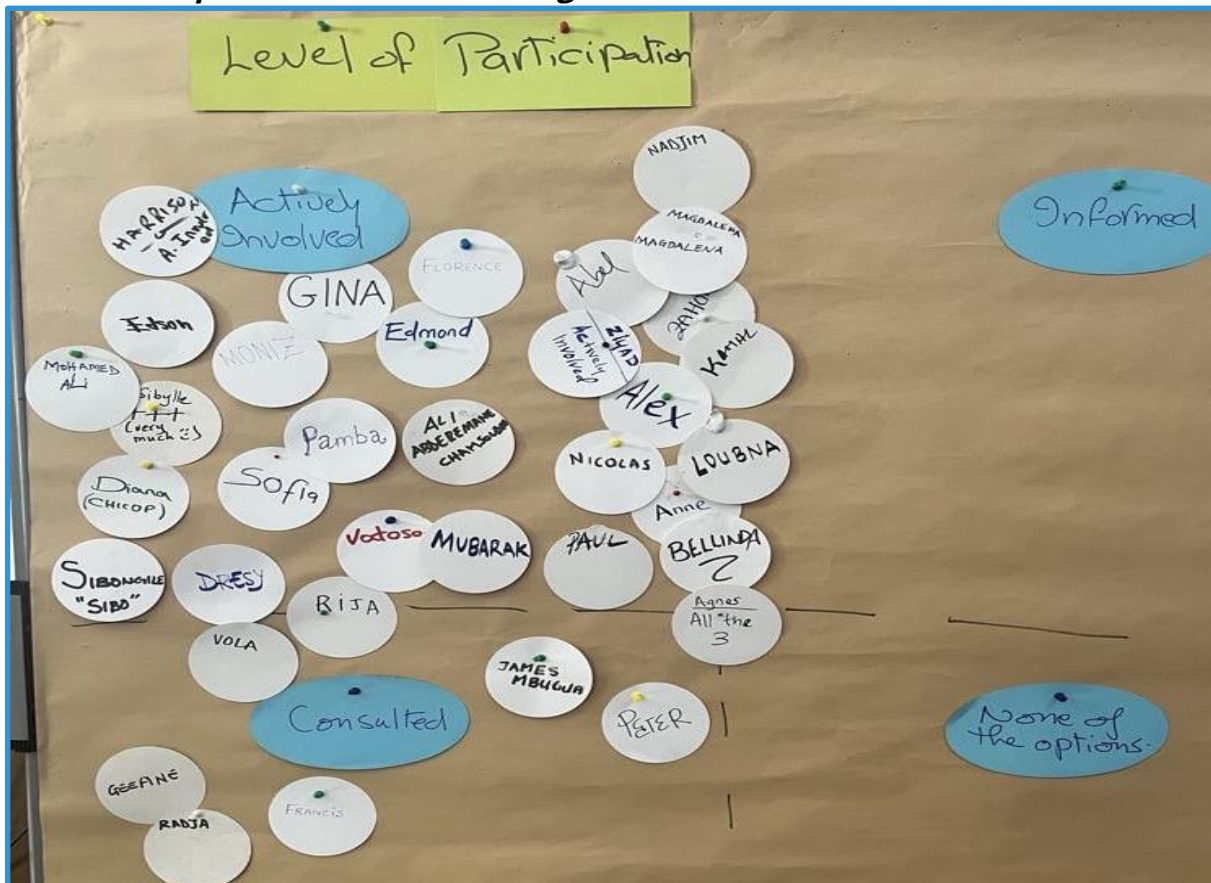
These process architectures represent parallel, but related, next steps for completing the IMS and ROGS co-development processes.

Exploring Potential Onward Involvement of ROGS TF and IMS MSWG Members

Dr. Timothy Andrew, NCS, offered an input on hypothetical scenarios for involvement of ROGS TF and IMS MSWG members to support the implementation of the strategies beyond the 2024 NC COP. Participants then discussed such possibilities and responded to the survey question: How would you like to be involved in potentially supporting strategy implementation? Choices included: actively involved, consulted, informed, and none of the above.

Shown below, 30 participants indicated that they would like to be “actively involved” in the implementation of the strategies. (8 of these individuals also want to be “informed” and 2 also want to be “consulted”). An additional 6 individuals only want to be “consulted.”

Desired level of participation of ROGS TF and IMS MSWG members during eventual implementation of strategies



ROGS TF, IMS MSWG, and Support Team members were equally glad to see such high levels of desired continued engagement.

Gratitude and Closing

Mr. Dixon Waruinge, Head of NCS, and Ms. Farhat Mbarouk, Director of Environment at the First Vice President's Office, Zanzibar, offered words of appreciation to those gathered and encouraged active implementation of plans developed.

Participant Feedback

Just before closing the workshop, 34 participants completed a workshop feedback form with the following results:

Goal achievement

Overall goal achievement was rated at a 4.5 on a scale from 1-5 (1 = not at all achieved; 5 = fully achieved). Please find further detail on each stated goal here:

- 4.6 - Engage in technical dialogues on key IMS and ROGS topics

- 4.6 - Engage in focused drafting of key elements of the IMS and ROGS
- 4.4 - Identify and map key stakeholders required to implement the IMS and ROGS
- 4.5 - Discuss and identify linkages between IMS and ROGS
- 4.5 - Co-create and agree on a process architecture / roadmap for onward development, validation, and finalization of the IMS and ROGS

Both organization and facilitation of the workshop were rated at 4.7.

What did you like most about our event?

Qualitative responses were clustered, with the following number of voices for each topic:

- 16x - Highly participatory approach
- 10x - Excellent organization and facilitation of the workshop
- 9x - Building relationships and strengthening a “team” feeling
- 8x - Rich dialogues, exchange, and learning

Select quotes, showing what participants liked:

- “The multi-stakeholder engagement; creating resonance among divergent stakeholders.”
- “The rich discussions, very accessible participants, and nice relationships built.”
- “The excellent facilitation and good balance between providing structure and allowing for dialogue and flexibility.”

What would you change for similar future events?

Qualitative responses were clustered, with the following number of voices for each topic:

- 10x - Change nothing
- 4x – Integrate/add opportunities to get outside, socialize, explore
- 4x - Increase duration of workshop
- 3x – Shorten/focus duration of workshop
- 2x – Involve more private sector and civil society members
- 2x - Ensure robust content understanding

Annex

The following annexes have been compiled in this [Documentation Folder](#).

- Concept and Programme Overview (see also below)
- Indian Ocean Dialogues Agenda
- Indian Ocean Dialogues Participants (see also below)
- Indian Ocean Dialogues “Zanzibar Consensus”
- Detailed Results of Technical Dialogue Sessions: ROGS
- Detailed Results of Technical Dialogue Sessions: IMS
- Joint ROGS and IMS Collective Leadership and Writeshop Agendas
- Participants from the ROGS TF, IMS MSWG, and Support Teams (see also below)
- Detailed Participant Workshop Feedback

Concept and Programme Overview

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

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. [For the Programme Goals and Overview Table, please see pages 4-5 of this report.]

9th Indian Ocean Dialogue Participants Only

| Title | First Name | Last name | Member States/ Partners | Organisation | Position |
|--------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Mr | Mohammad Rafiqul | Alam | Bangladesh | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Director General (Maritime Affairs Unit) |
| Mr | Ali Abderemane | Chamsoudine | Comoros | Comoros National Fishing Company | General Administrator |
| Dr | Sadre | Alam | India | Ministry of External Affairs | Director |
| Dr | Pragya | Pandey | India | Indian Council of World Affairs | Research Fellow, Indian Council of World Affairs |
| Mr | Alex | Mpangala | IORA Secretariat | IORA Secretariat | Director of Corporate Services -IORA |
| Ms | Rina | Setyawati | IORA Secretariat | IORA Secretariat | Director |
| Dr | Shamimtaz Bibi | Sadally Roomaldawo | IORA Secretariat | IORA Secretariat | Senior Programme Officer |
| Ms | Melyne | Tarer | IORA Secretariat | IORA Secretariat | International Technical Expert |
| Mr | Irfan Kurniawan | Danuwidjaja | Indonesia | Coordinating Ministry for Maritime and Investment Affairs | Policy Analyst at the Deputy for Maritime Sovereignty and Energy Coordination |
| Mr | Behzad | Azarsa | Iran | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Senior expert |
| Mr | Simon | Clementinah | Kenya | Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs | Principal Fisheries and Blue Economy Officer |
| Mr | Dennis | Olila | Kenya | The National Treasury | Economist |
| Mr | Rakotosoa | Rado Aime | Madagascar | Ministère de la Pêche et de l'Economie Bleue | Directeur Général de l'Economie Bleue |
| Ms | Munshidha | Ibrahim | Maldives | Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture | Director of Fisheries Management |
| Mr | Devendra Kumar | Bedacee | Mauritius | Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade | Deputy Director Co-operation, Regional Integration Division |

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|----|---------------------|------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Dr | Nadir | Alabri | Oman | Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources | Head of Marine Science and Fisheries Center |
| Ms | Gabriella | Gonthier | Seychelles | Department of Blue Economy | Senior Monitoring and Evaluation Officer |
| Mr | Abdifitah Ahmed Ali | Biyod Ahmed Abdirahman | Somalia | Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy | |
| Dr | Kenneth | Findlay | South Africa | Afriseas Solutions (Pty) Ltd | Specialist Consultant - Ocean Accounting |
| Ms | Nitasha | Baijnath-Pillay | South Africa | National Department of Forestry, Fisheries & the Environment | Specialist Advisor: Blue Economy |
| Mr | Tembaletu | Tanci | South Africa | Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment | Chair: IORA Working Group on Blue Economy |
| Ms | Elisabetta | Bonotto | United Nations | IOC-UNESCO | Project Coordinator |
| Ms | Pinar | Saral Başkurt | Turkey | Ministry of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change | Head of Section |
| Ms | Joelene | Josse | United Kingdom | British High Commission | Political Officer |

ROGS Task Force Participants

| Name | Country | Organization | Position |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---|---|
| Sibongile Mavimbela | Botswana | SADC | Senior Programme Official Environment and Climate Change |
| Ambadi Radja | Comoros | Independent | Lawyer |
| Mohamed Ali Muse | Djibouti | IGAD | Coordination of Fisheries, Coastal Development, and Management |
| Florence Galletti (virtual) | France | IRD, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development | Director of Research, Law of the Sea and Environmental Law, International Affairs and Partnerships Biodiversity and Ocean |
| Francis Marsac | France | IRD, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development | Dept of Oceanography, Exploited Marine Ecosystems |
| Ann Wanjiru | Kenya | Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute | Impact Officer |
| Bellinda Akello | Kenya | National Environment Tribunal | Chief Executive Officer |
| Mubarak Sodha | Kenya | PMAESA | Projects Development and ICT Officer |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--|---|
| Vatsoa Rakotondrazafy | Madagascar | MIHARI Network | President of the Board |
| Gina Bonne | Mauritius | IOC | Chargé de mission, Officer in Charge |
| Geeane Gagendra | Mauritius | Ministry of Blue Economy, Marine Resources, Fisheries and Shipping. | Ag. Scientific Officer |
| Moniz Munguambe | Mozambique | MIMAIP, Ministério do Mar, Águas Interiores e Pescas | Head of the Department of Fisheries Affairs, at the National Directorate of Maritime and Fisheries Policies |
| Alex Benkenstein | South Africa | SAIIA, South African Institute of International Affairs | Programme Head, Governance of Africa's Resources |
| Arthur Tuda | Tanzania | WIOMSA | Executive Secretary |
| Clara Makenya | Tanzania | UNEP | Programme Management Officer |
| Dismas Mwikila | Tanzania | EAC | Environment and Natural Resources Management |
| Julius Francis | Tanzania | University of Dar es Salaam; formerly WIOMSA, WIO Marine Science Association | Advisor; formerly Executive Secretary |
| Hamad Bakar Hamad | Tanzania / Zanzibar | Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries | Director, Blue Economy Development and Coordination |
| Sibylle Riedmiller | Tanzania / Zanzibar | CHICOP, Chumbe Island Coral Park Ltd. | Director |
| Farhat Mbarouk | Tanzania / Zanzibar | First Vice President's office: Department of Environment | Environmental Impact Assessment officer |
| Tanguy Nicolas | United Kingdom | Flora & Fauna International | Programme Manager (Marine), Africa |
| Edith B Tibahwa | Zambia | COMESA | Programme Manager, Climate Change Programme |

IMS Multi-Stakeholder Working Group Participants

| Name | Country | Organization | Position |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| Kamal Thabiti Soudjay | Comoros | General Directorate for Fisheries Resources, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment; Faculty of Sciences and Techniques, University of Comoros | Economist and Researcher |
| Loubna Mohamed Salami Hamidi | Comoros | Association d'Intervention pour le Développement et l'Environnement (AIDE) | Chargée de Programme Genre et Changement Climatique |
| Nadjim Ahmed | Comoros | Université des Comores | Biological oceanography, marine ecology |
| Edmond Kuto | Kenya | Wetlands International Eastern Africa | Regional GIS Officer |
| James Mbugua | Kenya | CORDIO East Africa | GIS and data management |
| Harrison Ong'anda | Kenya | Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute | Marine ecology, data management, GIS, and remote sensing |
| Dresy Lovasoa | Madagascar | Northern Mozambique Channel Initiative (NMCI) WWF Madagascar | Senior Fisheries Officer |
| Rakotonjanahary Vola | Madagascar | Ministry of Fisheries and Blue Economy | Director of Study, Statistics and Planning |
| Ranaivosoa Rija Mamitiana Olivier | Madagascar | National Office for the Environment of Madagascar (ONE) | GIS, remote sensing; Data Scientist |
| Edson Anselmo Jose | Mozambique | RARE | Senior Manager for Data and Monitoring |
| Sofia Chambe | Mozambique | Ministry of Land and Environment | Land Planner |
| Abdulqadir Ziyad | Somali | Marine Science Department | Research Scientist |
| Peter Manyara | South Africa | International Union for Conservation of Nature | Regional Program Manager of Coastal and Ocean Resilience |
| Emmanuel Mpina | Tanzania | The Nature Conservancy (TNC) | Marine Spatial Planning Coordinator |
| Magdalena Gerald Ngotolainyo | Tanzania | Vice President's Office | Senior Environmental Officer |
| Masumbuko Semba | Tanzania | The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST) | Oceanographer and Data Scientist |
| Siajali Pamba | Tanzania | University of Dar es Salaam | Physical Oceanography |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| Nassor Abdalla Nassor | Tanzania / Zanzibar | Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Department of Fisheries Development and Marine Research | Head of ICT and Fisheries Statistics |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---|--------------------------------------|

ROGS and IMS Support Team Participants

| Name | Country | Organization | Position |
|--|----------------|---|---|
| Both ROGS and IMS Support Teams | | | |
| Mai ElAshmawy | Egypt | Collective Leadership Institute (CLI) | Project Manager |
| Dixon Waruinge | Kenya | Nairobi Convention Secretariat (NCS) | Head, Nairobi Convention Secretariat |
| Evans Muthoka | Kenya | NCS | Finance and Budget Assistance |
| Yvonne Waweru | Kenya | GIZ, WIOGI | Senior Advisor |
| ROGS Support Team only | | | |
| Agnes Mukami | Kenya | NCS | Programme Assistant |
| Edward Kimakwa | Kenya | GIZ, WIOGI | Senior Advisor |
| Timothy Andrew | Kenya | NCS | Senior Programme Manager Coordinator, SAPPHIRE Project |
| Kieran Kelleher | Ireland | WIOMSA | Ocean Governance Advisor |
| Dominic Stucker | Spain | CLI | Managing Partner |
| IMS Support Team only | | | |
| Abel Kiprono | Kenya | NCS | Programme Assistant |
| Theuri Mwangi | Kenya | NCS | National Project Officer |
| Alexandra Nozik | Germany | Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) | Geodata Specialist |

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