

A STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION

THE VISION

By 2030, engagement with the private sector will help to reduce stress on the Large Marine Ecosystems of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region, in relation with water quality degradation, habitat and community modification and declines in living marine resources

THE MISSION

To promote partnerships with the private sector that contribute significantly and measurably to achievement of Sustainable Development Goals in the WIO region.

The partnerships should lead to reductions in the loss of marine biodiversity and marine pollution, address climate change and increase the resilience of coastal communities.

MAIN SECTORS

These four sectors were identified as priorities:

FISHERIES

Why: Diversity and high number of fisheries in the WIO region, including those of a small-scale and industrial scale; They support the livelihoods of thousands of people; Some catches are processed to high standards and exported to international markets.

TOURISM AND RECREATION

Why: this sector is an important part of the economies of almost all the WIO countries, as a contributor to GDP and as source of employment; Ecotourism can have a big impact to preserve marine ecosystems.

EXTRACTIVE INDUSTRIES

Why: There are potential reserves in some WIO countries that can be developed in the future for oil and gas operations; Great opportunities for partnerships with the mining sector.

SHIPPING AND PORTS

Why: Ships and ports are key for intercontinental trade; The risk of shipping accidents occurring means there is a need to improve capacity to respond in a regionally-coordinated manner.