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12 August 2020











SAPPHIRE Project Focal Points Meeting

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SAPPHIRE Project Progress Summary 2020

- **SAPPHIRE overall objective** is to achieve effective long-term ecosystem management in the Western Indian Ocean LMEs in line with the Strategic Action Programme as endorsed by the participating countries.
- Five integrated components
- **Component 1:** Supporting Policy Harmonization and Management Reforms towards improved ocean governance.
- **Component 2:** Stress Reduction through Community Engagement and Empowerment in Sustainable Resources Management.
- **Component 3:** Stress Reduction through Private Sector/Industry Commitment to transformations in their operations and management practices
- **Component 4:** Delivering best practices and lessons through innovative ocean governance demonstration
- **Component 5**: Capacity Development to Realise improved ocean governance in the WIO region.

Component 1: Supporting Policy Harmonization and Management Reforms towards improved ocean governance

- Updating national marine ecosystem diagnostic analysis (MEDA) in all participating countries
- West Indian Ocean source to sea transboundary diagnostic analysis(TDA) development process has began
- Supported the UN Decade of Ocean Science Regional Consultation Workshop for Africa and the Adjacent Island States was held from 27-29 January 2020
- Demonstration projects: on national level policy review, dialogue and realignment: Comoros, Madagascar, Mozambique
- Support to national Blue Economy strategy development: Kenya and Tanzania
- State of ocean governance in the WIO region background document ready for publication
- Development of regional ocean governance strategy: key partners/ Regional Economic Communities (REC) consultation process postponed due to COVID 19
- Collaborative and cooperative mechanisms agreed and strengthened between national and regional partners and stakeholder including government institutions, IMO, IOC, KMFRI, IMS, Nelson Mandela University, WIOMSA, SAIIA, etc.

Component 2: Stress Reduction through Community Engagement and Empowerment in Sustainable Resources Management:

Focuses on supporting demonstration projects in selected sites and countries to:

- Integrated Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM) approach into local livelihoods activities in selected communities at a pilot level
- Supporting small scale fishing communities and deliver artisanal fisheries management plans
- Demonstration projects proposals submitted by Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique and Seychelles and Tanzania



Component 3: Stress Reduction through Private Sector/Industry Commitment to transformations in their operations and management practices

- In partnership with SAIIA (of South Africa) a private sector engagement strategy is under development
- In partnership with IMO, prepared background report on Oil Spill Preparedness and Regional Cooperation in East Africa and the Western Indian Ocean and,
- Organized Regional workshop on cooperation in preparedness and response to marine spills and partnership with IOC, IMO and other partners. SAPPHIRE will support the implementation of agreed action plan by the participating countries



Component 4: Delivering best practices and lessons through innovative ocean governance demonstration

- Build technical and management capacity in support of marine spatial planning and effective management of coastal and marine ecosystem
- Support the designing of regional Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) strategy in partnership with Nelson Mandela University (joint initiative)
- Partnership with IMS (Tanzania) and KMFRI (Kenya) on oceanographic research: to develop a data and information system along with a programme of data capture and gap-filling as a foundation for evidence-based decision making and adaptive ocean management
- Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) online data resources established, associated metadata content for all datasets developed with secure data backup to support ABNJ management

Component 5: Capacity development to realise improved ocean governance in the WIO region:

As reported earlier, planned training activities to take place in 2020 have been postponed due to COVID 19 including;

- Capacity building training for national data managers including compiling oceanographic data, country profile and webpage in partnership with the CEDARE
- The leadership renewal training for WIO leaders and Scientists (women)
- Regional ocean governance training for government officials and experts: in partnership with IOI (South Africa);
- Training on Marine spatial planning, ecosystem health and water quality monitoring for national experts are some of the planned activities postponed due to the pandemic

