



Western Indian Ocean Resilience & Prosperity Initiative

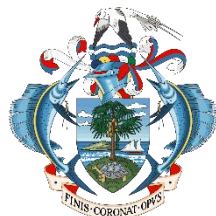
Proposed Nairobi Convention Project
by the Government of Seychelles



WIO-Resilience & Prosperity Initiative

(WIO-RPI)

- ▶ **Ambition:** to support, build on and strengthen existing regional initiatives and create a complimentary governance, financial and scientific implementation framework within the region to coordinate sustainable ocean development underpinned by science-based management and protection.
- ▶ **Objective:** WIO Governments to co-define a regional ocean strategy and policy for ratification at Nairobi Convention COP11.
- ▶ **Approach:** WIO-RPI to be a Project of the Nairobi Convention
- ▶ **Coordinating nation:** Government of Seychelles
- ▶ **In partnership:** Danny Faure Foundation and Nekton (technical partners)



Our challenge

WIO on the brink of transformational change

- ▶ **Population rising** from 240 million to at least 306million by 2030, to 818million by 2100.
- ▶ **WIO total ocean asset base** (or “shared wealth fund”) at least US\$333.8 billion (*not including the intrinsic value of biodiversity and potentiality of other resources.*)
 - ▶ Fisheries: \$135billion
 - ▶ Gross Marine Product (combined economic value of the WIO ecosystems goods and services): US\$20 billion (per year)
 - ▶ Services supported by the ocean - e.g. marine tourism: US\$10.4billion (per year)
 - ▶ Adjacent coastline benefits - e.g. carbon sequestration: US\$2.9billion (per year)
- ▶ **7% WIO EEZs in MPAs** (excluding Somalia)
- ▶ **Biocapacity deficit:** Current trajectory points towards environmental degradation and “biocapacity deficit”, jeopardizing long-term prospects and social and economic security.
- ▶ **Prosperous and resilient WIO is essential** to ensure sustainable economic growth, to enhance food security and to strengthen resilience to climate change consequences.



Nairobi Convention Projects

Status: September 2021

Active

- ▶ **WIO-LME SAPPHIRE:** The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reforms
- ▶ **WIOSAP:** Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities
- ▶ **NoCaMo:** Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse and Information Sharing System
- ▶ **WIOGI:** Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative

Proposed

- ▶ Transboundary Marine Protected Area between Kenya & the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ Oil and Gas Exploration and Development
- ▶ Northern Mozambique Channel Initiative (NMC)
- ▶ Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation of Deep-sea living Marine Resources and Ecosystems in the Areas beyond National Jurisdiction



Other major regional initiatives incl.

- **WIO Marine Protected Areas Outlook** (published July 2021)
- **WIO Symphony Project** -
 - ▶ Supporting ecosystem based Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) with Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)
 - ▶ Capacity development of MPA managers, with WIOMSA & WIOMPAN (launched in June 2021),
- ▶ **Biological Area Protective Management (BIOPAMA)** - Vanga-Tanga eco-region, Northern Mozambique Channel (IUCN)
- **The Great Blue Wall** - IUCN
- **African Ocean Observation** - UNESCO-IOC
- **Kenya & Tanzania Marine Spatial Planning & Conservation financing** - TNC
- **Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments (CCVA)** in Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and Madagascar, part implementation of the Climate Change Strategy for the Nairobi Convention.
- **SWIOFC: Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission**
- **ACP MEAs 3 Programme**



Summary of needs

WIO Strategy & Policy

- ▶ To address current and future critical WIO ocean related challenges
- ▶ To support, build on and strengthen current and future Nairobi Convention Projects and other regional programmes to help maximise impact
- ▶ To create an integrated, multi-disciplinary WIO strategy with measurable targets
- ▶ To provide a structure and surety for international financing for WIO activities

Leadership & Stakeholder engagement

- ▶ Committed and visionary regional leadership with successful stakeholder engagement will be required to co-create and co-implement a world-first regional ocean policy



WIO-Resilience & Prosperity Initiative

Co-developed & co-delivered by WIO Governments

Objective

- ▶ **To create a Western Indian Ocean Strategy & Policy**

Four proposed focus area

- ▶ **Enhance Marine Science**
- ▶ **Harness a Sustainable Blue Economy**
- ▶ **Strengthen Natural Resilience & Restoration**
- ▶ **Advance Ocean Governance**



Enhance Marine Science

Objective

- ▶ To inform and coordinate decisions on the sustainable use and management of marine resources and priorities for restoration and resilience

Details

- ▶ Synthesise current research knowledge and identify knowledge gaps to establish research priorities.
- ▶ Identify focal areas for marine science policies to better understand the biodiversity, ecosystem services and connectivity of the WIO, 'blue carbon', fisheries (offshore and near-shore), maritime safety and security, sustainable port infrastructure, resilient coastal development (including tourism), pollution events and climate change consequences.
- ▶ Identify mechanisms to develop human and institutional capacity and knowledge exchange in marine science in the WIO

Potential technical partners: *UNESCO-IOC, WIOMSA, IRD, CORDIO, WCS*



Harness a Sustainable Blue Economy

Objective

- ▶ To support the development of a sustainable blue economy plan that delivers resilience, jobs and a just, equitable transition

Details

- ▶ Identify sustainable blue economy opportunities and pathways for investable projects that meet the nexus of climate and biodiversity challenges with people's needs - including nature-based solutions that can increase resilience to climate change, enable dynamic management of marine resources and enhance.
- ▶ Develop and define a comprehensive approach to WIO ocean accounts including blue natural capital of EEZs and BBNJ.
- ▶ Identify and develop support mechanisms and financing formats that can assist the development of a sustainable blue economy including innovative frameworks and approaches to facilitate significant new funding flows.
- ▶ Determine strategy to develop, share and strengthen knowledge amongst WIO nations on the Blue Economy

Potential technical partners: *UNEP-GEF, TNC, IGAD, WWF, FAO, COMESA*



Strengthen Resilience & Restoration

Objective

- ▶ To establish a just, equitably designed and managed connected network of ecologically and culturally representative protected areas in national and international waters, complementing global targets.

Details

- ▶ Support the development of the WIO MSP Strategy including covering territorial waters, transboundary areas and the high seas to strengthen the WIO-MPA Network and define the basis for an equitable marine management strategy.
- ▶ Create a WIO marine habitat and human use atlas to support the development and implementation of the WIO MSP Strategy and inform the creation of a connected network of marine protected areas across both territorial and international waters (complementing global targets)

Potential technical partners: *WWF, TNC, CORDIO, WCS, IRD, COMESA, RARE, IUCN, WIOMSA, Blue Nature Alliance*



Advance Governance

Objective

- ▶ To advance governance and management for the sustainable use and management of marine resources and protected areas

Details

- ▶ Develop and support the activation of the 'Draft Cooperative Ocean Governance Strategy for the Western Indian Ocean' with inclusion of national and transboundary protected areas along with the High Seas.
- ▶ Define affordable, practical, and enforceable approaches to maritime security, surveillance, patrolling, intelligence sharing, IUU fishing and improving safety at sea.
- ▶ Support the development of existing proposals for the creation of a regional ocean governance institution.

Potential technical partners: *UNEP, COI, TNC, IGAD, WIOMSA, WWF, CORDIO, WCS, IRD, IUCN, Blue Nature Alliance*



Organisational Structure

The WIO-RPI would be implemented through the following proposed structure:

WIO-RPI Executive Committee

Chaired by the Government of Seychelles and with appointed representatives from WIO Governments and other regional and international experts across ocean governance, finance, and science.

WIO-RPI Secretariat

Located in Seychelles, working hand-in-hand with the *Nairobi Convention Secretariat* - to provide management and coordination of the WIO-RPI.

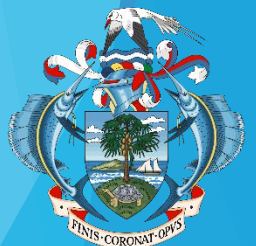
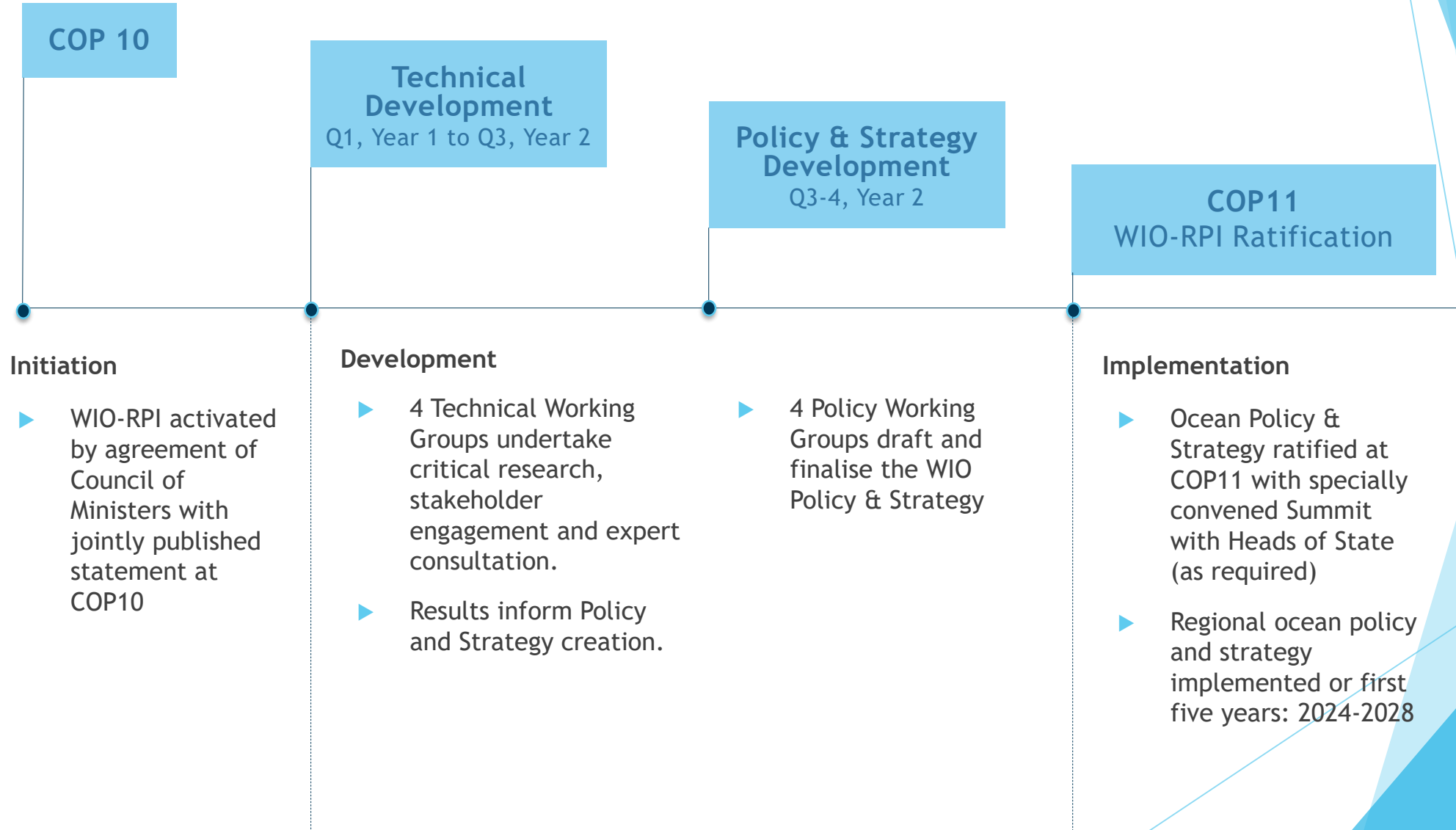
WIO-RPI Technical Working Groups

Technical experts appointed from countries of the WIO and internationally (as required). The technical activities will be put out to tender during Q1, Year 1 to potential partners who will then be selected to complete the end of Q2 Year 2 to inform the *Policy Working Groups*.

WIO-RPI Policy Working Groups (6months)

From Q3, Year 2, Policy experts drawn from WIO Governments will co-develop the specific content of the WIO Policy and Strategy across all four WIO-RPI Pillars, drawing on key information from the *Technical Working Groups*. Ministerial and Head of State presentation and endorsement of the WIO Policy and Strategy will be undertaken in Q4, Year 2 ahead of COP11.

Milestones & Timelines



Partners & Contacts



Government of Seychelles

- ▶ Minister Flavien Joubert, Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment
- ▶ Denis Matatiken, Principle Secretary, dmatatiken@env.gov.sc

Danny Faure Foundation

- ▶ Danny Faure, Former President, Seychelles
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Nekton

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