

Nairobi Convention in TANZANIA



In 1964, the union of Tanganyika (mainland) and Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba islands) merged into the United Republic of Tanzania. Tanzania boasts a magnificent coastline, spanning **1424 km**, encompassing inner waters, major and small islands. The continental shelf, characterized by a narrow profile, features the 200m depth contour approximately 4km offshore, except in the Zanzibar and Mafia channels, where it extends up to 80km from the mainland coast.

Tanzania's territorial waters, span **64,000 km²**, and the exclusive economic zone (EEZ), covers an extensive **223,000 km²**, include the pristine islands of Zanzibar. The mighty Rufiji River, Tanzania's largest, gracefully flows into the Indian Ocean, adding to the diverse natural beauty of our nation.

With a population of **67.4 million people** as of 2023 ([UNFPA](#)), Tanzania is a vibrant and culturally rich country. Demonstrating its commitment to environmental stewardship, Tanzania has appointed a [Focal Point](#) to the Nairobi Convention, facilitating the coordination of efforts to protect, manage, and sustainably utilize the Western Indian Ocean at the national level.

Active participation in the Nairobi Convention underscores Tanzania's dedication to environmental responsibility. Tanzania ratified the Convention on March 1, 1996, and annually contributes **USD 45,302** to the Nairobi Convention Trust Fund.



Summaries of Nairobi Convention Activities in the United Republic of Tanzania | February 2024



Project Activity	Associated Project (s)	Funding Amount
Carrying out oceanographic surveys in Northern Tanzania Marine waters	SAPPHIRE	150,000.00
Updating the National Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analyses for Tanzania	SAPPHIRE	20,000.00
Strengthening community Ecosystem-based approaches in Subsistence and Small-Scale Artisanal Fisheries for Sustainable livelihoods and Management of Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA), Zanzibar, Tanzania	SAPPHIRE - 124,284.00 NC-SWIOFC 94,000	218,284.00
Facilitating community-based organizations in ocean resources management and livelihood improvements in Mafia Island, Tanzania	SAPPHIRE	79,956.47
The use of satellite technology to identify and delineate potential fishing zones for management of marine fisheries resources of Tanzania	SAPPHIRE	80,000.00
Protecting the Marine Environment from Land-Based Pollution through Strengthened Coordination of Global Action	ACP-MEA	110,000.00
Water Quality Assessment for Marine Coastal Waters of Zanzibar	ACP-MEA	112,150.00
Review and development of the general management plans for Dar es Salaam Marine Park and Reserve	ACP-MEA	100,000.00
Enhancing ecosystem-based management approach for improved livelihood to fisheries communities in Mkinga District	NC-SWIOFC	179,000.00
Developing Collaborative Management Plan and Sustainable Mangrove Restoration Model in Rufiji Delta, Tanzania	WIOSAP	160,650.00
Sustainable Catchment Management through Enhanced Environmental Flow Assessment and Implementation for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities in Tanzania	WIOSAP	280,000.00
Implement strategies of protecting the coastal and marine ecosystems from land-based sources and activities to provide essential goods and services on sustainable basis.	WIOSAP	59,991.20
Upscaling and Amplification of the Msingini Wastewater Treatment Facility Model in Chake Chake Town, Pemba	WIOSAP	298,500.00
Investment in Zanzibar/Pemba: US\$ 628,934.00 Investment in Tanzania mainland: US\$ 1,219,597.67		
TOTAL		1,848,531.67



Pemba Channel. Photo: Nairobi Convention

National Benefits for Tanzania

In 1997, the development of the **National Integrated Coastal Environment Management Strategy** marked a pivotal moment in the establishment of integrated coastal management (ICM) in the country. The identification of critical marine and coastal ecosystems, exemplified by the **creation of 99.9% of Tanzanian Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)** between 1990 and 2000, with the Menai Bay area serving as a notable example, showcases Tanzania's dedication to preserving its natural resources.

Additionally, the creation of the **Tanzania Atlas of Coastal Resources** in 2001 further emphasized the importance of sustainable environmental management.

Financial support has been extended to various projects, including the preparation and development of **Tanzania's national environmental action plan (2013-2018)**, the proposed **Marine Transboundary Conservation Area between Kenya and Tanzania**, and active participation in **projects executed by the Nairobi Convention**, such as the WIOSAP project (2017-2022) and the SAPPHIRE project (2017-2023). Further involvement includes the Partnership Project with FAO/SWIOFC (US\$8.3 million), the ACP MEAs 3 Programme (US\$2.0 million), and upcoming involvement in the Northern Mozambique Channel project (US\$1.5 million).