

## Gestion concertée des ressources marines et côtières du Nord du Canal du Mozambique

### NOTE D'OPPORTUNITE DE PROJET



**FONDS FRANÇAIS POUR  
L'ENVIRONNEMENT MONDIAL**

Comité de sélection du FFEM

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Secrétariat du Fonds Français pour l'Environnement Mondial

Libellé court du projet	Northern Mozambique Channel initiative (NMC)
Pays/région	Comoros, France, Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania
Institution membre porteuse	MAEDI, MEEM
Domaine d'application	International Waters
Thématique de concentration	Integrated management and resilience of coastal and marine zones
Co-financiers	GEF, SIDA, members of the WIOC
Contribution du FFEM	€ 1,5 million
Bénéficiaire	Nairobi Convention Secretariat (via UNEP) in partnership with CORDIO and WWF
Bénéficiaire final	Governments of the NMC area (Comoros Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania), Regional Organisations, and local authorities, Civil society, MPAs, economic operators/sectors.
Démarrage du projet	January 2018
Durée du projet	4 years
Rédacteur de la fiche	David Obura (CORDIO), Peter Scheren (WWF Afrique), Anne Chetaille (WWF France), Valerie Burgener (WWF International).

## I. DESCRIPTION SOMMAIRE DU PROJET

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### I.1 CONTEXT

The Northern Mozambique Channel (NMC) is under the jurisdiction of Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania, France, and the Comoros, covering an area of approximately 700,000 km<sup>2</sup>. The geology and oceanography of the channel, together with its diverse and valuable coastal and pelagic ecosystems, distinguish the NMC as a unique sub-region of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO). The region is one of the world's globally outstanding marine biodiversity areas and serves as a biological reservoir for the entire coastal East African region, in particular for coral reefs and associated ecosystems. Endemism is high and overall reef diversity is second only to Southeast Asia's Coral Triangle, with over 400 hard coral species. The NMC's strategic priority for biodiversity conservation has been confirmed by the Indian Ocean Commission's WIOMER process (2010), the UNESCO World Heritage Convention (2012) and the Convention on Biological Diversity "EBSA" process (2014). The importance of the region and its natural assets was also recognized at the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention, in Mahé, Seychelles (June 2015), when a decision (CP8/6) was issued requesting the Contracting Parties, the GEF and other partners, to support projects in the Northern Mozambique Channel as an example of Integrated Ocean Governance (IOG).

The coastal population of the NMC is currently 10 million - expected to grow to 22-25 million in 2050, and 40-60 million in 2100<sup>1</sup> - and is largely dependent on healthy and productive ecosystems through fishing, coastal agriculture, tourism and other activities. However, the region's critical ecosystems, such as coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, are in decline from the combined impacts of local use and global threats, including growing pressures from coastal infrastructure development, extractive industries, population growth and climate change. In particular, with the recent natural gas and oil discoveries adding to the riches of the NMC, the region is likely to go through an economic and population boom in coming decades. While this economic growth potential will provide much-needed development and welfare opportunities, the major developments expected to occur, particularly in oil and gas production, may significantly erode ecosystem health, and thus threaten the livelihoods and welfare of coastal communities. The resulting loss of ecosystem services, such as fish production, shoreline protection, carbon sequestration and the recreational functions that support a healthy tourism industry, negatively affect the nutrition and livelihoods opportunities of the population, in particular the poorest.

However, these impacts could be mitigated through appropriate integrated planning and management approaches, and through building community resilience and adaptive capacity. The focus of this project is on the NMC sub-region as a whole, to build on the ICM Protocol of the Nairobi Convention to extend spatial planning throughout the EEZ and territorial seas of the countries of the region to secure its environmental and social assets against threats from oil and gas development. In this regard, the project will provide a holistic approach towards ocean governance for the region, and will contribute to achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals with a focus on Goal 14 on Oceans. In doing so, the project builds on and brings together elements of past and ongoing initiatives in the region, notably the WIOSAP and SAPPHIRE projects<sup>2</sup>, and the Maritime Highway project<sup>3</sup>, under the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, and other regional projects such as the World Bank SWIOFish project and the IOC Biodiversity Project.

### I.2 PROJECT OBJECTIVES

**Overall objective of the project:**

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<sup>1</sup> Calculations based on Gridded Population data ([http://web.ornl.gov/sci/landscan/landscan\\_data\\_avail.shtml](http://web.ornl.gov/sci/landscan/landscan_data_avail.shtml)) in 100 km coastal strip, and UN projections on global population growth to 2100 – see NMC Background Document, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> Ces deux projets régionaux cofinancés par le Fonds pour l'environnement mondial ont démarré récemment : « WIOSAP- Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities » et « SAPPHIRE- Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reforms ».

<sup>3</sup> Le projet du FEM s'intitulait "développement de l'autoroute maritime dans l'océan indien occidental et prévention des contaminations marines et côtières". Il se concentrait sur la réduction des risques de navigation pour le transport du pétrole notamment dans la région NCM et s'attachait en particulier à la réduction des dommages environnementaux sur les plages et ressources marines liées aux déversements de pétrole et de produits chimiques.

By 2025, the Northern Mozambique Channel's high biodiversity value coral reef and associated ecosystems are maintained and enhanced through effective spatial management of marine uses, in particular the oil and gas sector, to secure a sustainable future for coastal communities and economies.

#### **Specific objectives of the project:**

- By 2021, the institutional and knowledge foundations are laid for a multi-stakeholder process for spatial planning and integrated management across the NMC region.
- By 2021, effective planning is promoted and best practices in the oil and gas sector are adopted by Governments and the private sector, leading to mitigation of impacts of the sector to the natural assets and communities in the NMC.
- By 2021, community livelihoods and wellbeing are secured through the sharing and replication of best practices in community-based marine resource management and population health environment approaches.

### **I.3 PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

Building on the foundations of strong regional cooperation and partnerships, the NMC region is well-placed to implement the aspirations and commitments made under the UN 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), with particular relevance to SDG 14 on Oceans. In this regard, the present project aims to secure the health and productivity of critical ecosystems in the region, with a particular focus on the rich coral reef, seagrass and mangrove habitats in the region. The project will be based on the legal foundations of the Nairobi Convention's Integrated Coastal Management Protocol (ICM), building capacity and the stakeholder involvement mechanisms to extend integrated management across all marine waters under national jurisdictions (component 1). This process will be based on integrated approaches to marine management and innovative decision-support tools, ensuring all economic sectors as well as local communities are engaged in assessing stakes, trade-offs and opportunities of future development pathways. The oil and gas sector presents one of the greatest development opportunities for the region, but also the greatest long term threat to environmental and social health, so is targeted to ensure appropriate legislation, threat response capacity, and best practices are adopted to mitigate impacts to the natural assets and communities in the NMC (component 2). From the environment and social perspective, particular emphasis will be put on scaling up and replication of successful models to improve livelihoods through community-based management of mangroves, seagrasses and coral reef and their associated fisheries resources, and in links between environment and human health (component 3).

Component 1: Implementation of a multi-stakeholder process for spatial planning and integrated management across the NMC region.

Led by The Nairobi Convention Secretariat, with key support from WWF, this objective is grounded in SDG 14 on Oceans and the ICM Protocol of the Nairobi Convention. The overall aim is to build capacity within the participating countries and at a coordination level in the Nairobi Convention Secretariat to enable the implementation of an integrated approach to marine governance through application of comprehensive spatial planning of marine uses. This will also contribute to the implementation of other important regional projects, such as of the SAPPHERE and WIOSAP projects<sup>4</sup>. This component will include capacity development and the compilation of relevant scientific data to support the spatial planning and decision-making processes mandated by the ICM Protocol.

A multi-stakeholder forum for spatial planning and integrated management will be set up in each country, founded in the national ICZM committees. These will interact with the government on national discussions on use and sharing of marine space. The multiple stakeholder fora will also facilitate their participants to integrate spatial planning perspectives within their national and sub-national programmes, projects and actions. At a broader scale links with relevant regional bodies will be promoted (e.g. Indian Ocean Commission, SADC, etc.), as well as globally (e.g. HELCOM and the Barcelona Convention<sup>5</sup>). The fora will be facilitated and coordinated by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and provide the principal mechanism for participation by stakeholders in the regional MSP and ICM processes of the NMC.

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<sup>4</sup> SAPPHERE Outcome 1.1 "Policy, legislative and institutional reforms and realignment ..." and Outcome 4.2 in "Delivering best practices and lessons through innovative ocean governance demonstration" and WIOSAP Component 4 "Governance and Regional Collaboration"

<sup>5</sup> HELCOM - Commission pour la protection des ressources marines de la Baltique – et la convention de Nairobi ont un accord de jumelage et des intérêts en commun dans la planification spatiale marine. La Convention de Barcelone dispose d'un protocole sur la GIZC.

Another set of activities will focus on mapping ecosystem health, drivers and pressures related to coral reefs, mangroves, seagrasses and key species, building on prior mapping efforts<sup>6</sup> and MSP pilots such as MASPAWIO, funded by the French Aid Agency. This will help to assess current and potential management and policy options for protecting them. Different scenarios and modeling, based on current and projected trends will be elaborated to support decision-making. Coordination with the CBD-SOI and AAMP will be assured, to build on the capacity building for marine spatial planning initiated through the SOI workshop in Madagascar in January 2016.

Component 2: Planning and adoption of environmental and social best practices in the oil and gas sector to mitigate the impacts of the sector in the NMC.

Decision CP8/7 of Nairobi Convention calls for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the oil and gas sector, the WIOSAP and SAPPHIRE projects have activities focused on reducing pollution and policy harmonization, and the Maritime Highway project focused on maritime sector oil spill and pollution prevention and response at multiple levels. This component will complement these through building participation of key stakeholders (the O&G industry, local experts, and Civil Society Organizations) to work with Governments around oil and gas sector projects, to share and disseminate good practices and improve compliance with legislation and good practice guidelines.

The first activity will identify key gaps in policy, capacity and technical guidance and identify opportunities to harmonize legal, policy and technical tools to prevent and minimize oil and gas sector risks to the environment and social sectors. Prior projects developed guidance on oil spills in relation to the shipping sector; this activity will add to these in relation to the oil and gas sector, for implementation by countries and industry actors, and identifying technical expertise needed to fill gaps. Building on the core competence of project implementers, and the multi-stakeholder focus for ICM in Component 1 and social/environmental health in Component 3, activities 2 and 3 will focus on strengthening governance, building multi-stakeholder relations and minimizing conflict.

The second activity will undertake a review of relevant good practice guidance for marine oil and gas operations (e.g. including the EITI, IPIECA, IFC-PS6, WB-ESF, FFI-GPG, etc.) considering the needs and priorities of NMC and its biodiversity. These will be collated and referenced for use in multi-stakeholder workshops on spatial planning (Component 1), and to develop national and regional road maps for building capacity, harmonise policy and integrate good practice. The results will also be applied specifically to the pilot site projects (Component 3) to safeguard environmental and social condition.

The third activity will support implementation of the road maps, focusing on filling capacity gaps, developing national policy and integrating these with regional bodies (e.g. COI, SADC, etc.). Ongoing meetings of key stakeholders and their participation in Component 1 will provide mechanisms for updating and renewal of priorities, and further steps for the sector. Activities under this component will be linked with other relevant projects in the sector, such as the COMBO project of WCS<sup>7</sup>, WIOSAP and SAPPHIRE.

Activities under this component will be guided by Fauna&Flora International (FFI) and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)

Component 3: Replication and upscaling of successful models for community-based resource management and improved livelihoods and welfare.

Coastal communities are most vulnerable to the consequences of the multiple threats affecting the NMC, as they will be the first to suffer from the loss and degradation of critical coastal habitats that support their livelihoods and welfare.

This component will focus on best practices in Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) and Population-Health-Environment (PHE) approaches to improve environmental and social conditions simultaneously. A survey will be undertaken of locations in the NMC with a history of CBNRM and/or PHE involvement to identify solutions (best practices) and set criteria for selecting sites to participate in the learning networks and as pilot sites for trialling and implementing solutions. Exposure and vulnerability to oil and gas sector risks, and engagement with the sector to minimize these (Component 2) will be a key criterion. All participating sites will be joined in a learning network for training and development of implementation plans for selected solutions, e.g. through peer to peer visits.

<sup>6</sup> There have been many assessments done in the region, such as WIO-LaB, ASCLME and Mozalink.

<sup>7</sup> COMBO : COnservation, Minimisation des impacts, et compensation au titre de la BiODiversité

The project will support a small number (e.g. 20) of solutions for implementation in pilot sites, on a scale of € 500-3000. These projects will be integrated into a Learning Network to promote capacity building, sharing of lessons learned and exchanges. Awareness of the community programmes will be raised to secure ongoing support e.g. through popularization of the learning networks and micro-grants in national and regional fora, within the industry and in popular media, as well as through other schemes, such as the GEF Small-Grants Program. Local and national business sectors will be encouraged to establish an ongoing support mechanism for implementation at further sites. The project will build a dynamic learning network of practitioners and communities in the NMC who will engage in the multi-stakeholder fora in Component 1, as well as facilitate and empower their peers to join and expand the learning network to upscale the adoption and implementation of solutions. A monitoring and evaluation tool (comprising a self-assessment survey form completed by the communities) measuring the adoption and impact of effective local interventions for CBNRM and PHE will be developed and implemented.

This component will be led by CORDIO and Blue Ventures, in coordination with the wider Northern Mozambique Channel (NMC) partnership.

#### **I.4 INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS**

The direct beneficiary of the project is the Nairobi Convention Secretariat (NCS), hosted at the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, and working in partnership with the WIOC, represented by its member NGOs WWF and CORDIO. The two partner organizations are members of the WIOC and have signed a memorandum of understanding with the NCS. The NCS will be the Implementing Agency in charge of general coordination of the project, relations with the donor and consolidation of technical and financial reporting of the project, and for ensuring coherence of the NMC initiative with the other regional initiatives and programmes supported by the NCS. The NCS will provide the overall vision and lead the articulation of the project with the countries, and with other regional projects (e.g. WIOSAP, SAPPHERE, etc.). One member of the the project team (recruited externally) will be hosted within the NCS for the coordination of Component 1, and to ensure links with the partners leading the other components. WWF and CORDIO will be the executing partners of the project, charged with implementing activities on the ground, with specific roles of other parnters of the WIOC depending on the Component (WCS, FFI and Blue Ventures). The two NGOs will make the most of their complementarity of knowledge and expertise. They will receive direct disbursements of funds from FFEM and will report through the NCS for general coordination. For WWF, WWF France will be in charge of relations with French institutions and the French donor. WWF Madagascar and CORDIO will coordinate activities within the region with principal technical and institutional partners. WWF Madagascar will disburse funds to FFI and WCS for execution of Component 2 and CORDIO will disburse funds to Blue Ventures for their part in execution of Component 3. Other members of the WIOC, notably Conservation International, IUCN, Birdlife International, Rare Conservation, and the Nature Conservancy (TNC) will be associated for specific activities.

A Steering Committee will be put in place to guide implementation of annual workplans. This will comprise the FFEM, the GEF and other donors (as observers), representatives from the countries of the sub-region (Tanzania, Mozambique, Madagascar, France and Comoros), the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention, WWF, CORDIO, the President of the WIOC, and relevant experts (e.g. IDDRI). At a higher level, the Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention will play a key role in facilitating decision-making between member countries. The government of the Seychelles will also be involved at a technical level, through its experience with MSP.

#### **I.5 DURATION, COSTS AND FINANCING PLAN**

Duration : 4 years

Financing plan: the total budget is estimated at 5 million euros, of which € 1.5 million is requested from FFEM.

	Budget total	FFEM	WWF	Cordio	PNUE/SCN	WIO-C partners	SIDA
<b>Composante 1 : Mise en place d'un processus multipartite de planification spatiale et gestion intégrée</b>	€ 2 150 000	€ 400 000	€ 350 000		€ 200 000	€ 100 000	€ 1 100 000
<b>Composante 2 : Planification et adoption des meilleures pratiques environnementales et sociales dans les secteurs du gaz et du pétrole</b>	€ 900 000	€ 450 000	€ 50 000		€ 50 000	€ 100 000	€ 250 000
<b>Composante 3 : Réplication et mise à l'échelle de modèles réussis de gestion communautaire des ressources marines et d'amélioration des moyens d'existence des communautés</b>	€ 1 300 000	€ 350 000		€ 100 000		€ 100 000	€ 750 000
<b>Coordination, gestion et évaluation projet</b>	€ 900 000	€ 300 000	€ 100 000	€ 0	€ 100 000	€ 0	€ 400 000
<i>* dont part frais de gestion : 10%</i>							
<b>Total projet</b>	<b>€ 5 250 000</b>	<b>€ 1 500 000</b>	<b>€ 500 000</b>	<b>€ 100 000</b>	<b>€ 350 000</b>	<b>€ 300 000</b>	<b>€ 2 500 000</b>

NB : The budget for coordination, project management and evaluation is included in the recruitment of a full time position hosted at the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention (400,000 euros).

## II. JUSTIFICATION TO FFEM

The project will establish the foundations for sustainable development and integrated management of marine and coastal resources and ecosystem services of the Northern Mozambique Channel. It will contribute to the implementation of the 2010-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular Aichi Targets 1, 3, 6, 10, 11 and 19, and implementation of SDG 14 to "conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development". The project also responds to the ongoing negotiations on the protocol for Integrated Coastal Management of the Nairobi Convention.

Engagement of the private sector in the promotion and sharing of good practices, building on the foundation of the Strategic Environmental Assessment approach, and the work on Marine Spatial Planning, will assure the ecological and social viability of the project. In addition, the focus on community based management of marine resources, exchange of good practices through learning networks, and the participatory approach to marine spatial planning will reinforce the social acceptability and fit of the project. These will ensure concerted action by stakeholders (national institutions working on the environment, the private sector, sub-regional organizations, local authorities, managers, the scientific community, civil society, etc.) on the salient issues and priorities related to the sustainable management of the marine and coastal resources of the NMC. The project's work on community-based activities bridges towards the related local development challenges. In relation to past and ongoing programmes in the region, the innovative character of this project is its holistic and multi-stakeholder approach. Further, it combines different levers for actions: institution-building for marine spatial planning, mobilisation of the private sector (notably oil and gas) in the processes for ICZM (Component 1), the dissemination and sharing of best practices in environmental and social in the oil and gas sector (Component 2) and in the support of community initiatives (Component 3), and support and dissemination of pilot actions on community based management of resources. Finally, the multi-stakeholder engagement, the coordination by the Secretariat of the Nairobi Convention for marine spatial planning, and the economic assessment work, will serve to mobilize decision-makers to adopt and institutionalize the NMC initiative, and thereby sustain its contributions into the future.