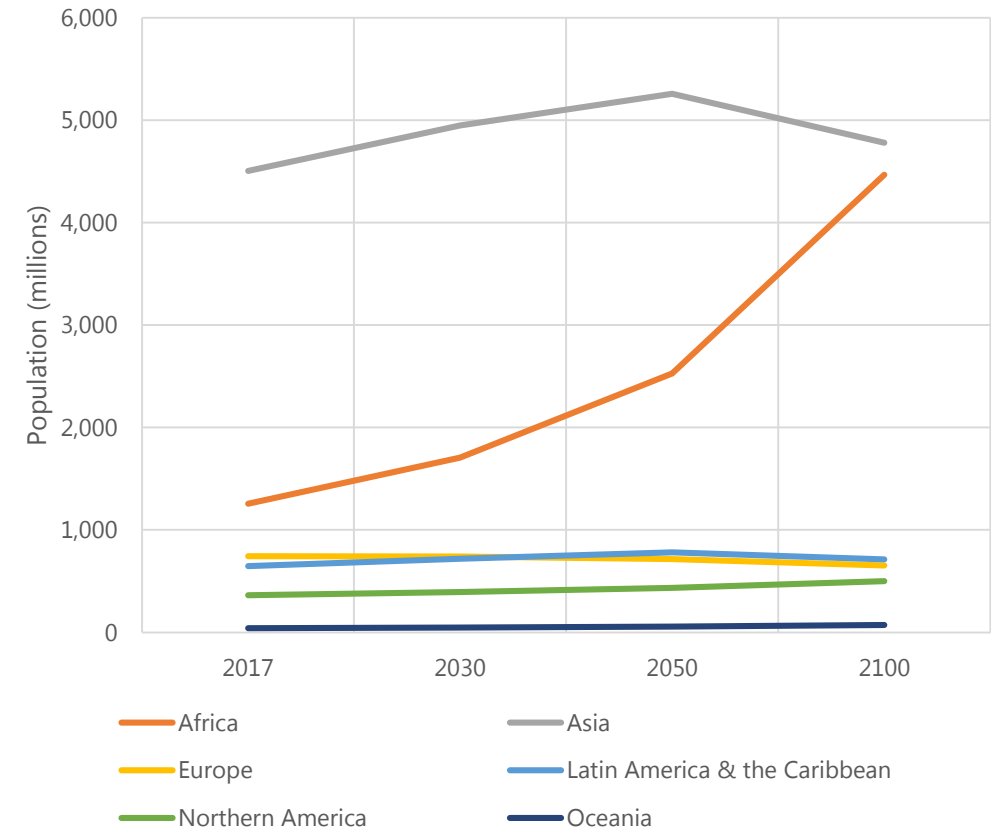


# **Building partnership for coastal cities in WIO region**

**WIOMSA/ Nairobi Convention Secretariat**

# Why cities

- Cities and urban settlements have developed in coastal zones for millennia - resource-rich and strategic from transport, trade and defence perspectives.
- Although cities only cover 2 percent of the world's land surface, the activities within their regional boundaries consume over 75 percent of the planet's material resources (International Resource Panel, 2018)
- the ratio of urban to rural dwellers is that some 55% (approximately 4.2 billion people) reside in urban areas, with this projected to grow to almost 70% by 2050
- Nearly 90% of the anticipated growth in urban populations by 2050 is anticipated to occur in Asia and Africa
- coastal cities on the continent will absorb a great deal of the future urban growth projected
- increased demand for resources, basic urban services such as solid waste management, drinking water and sanitation; as well as worsening impacts on the receiving terrestrial, coastal and marine environments



# Key urbanisation themes - The Weight of Cities: Resource Requirements of Future Urbanisation

- **Rethinking the role of cities** - cities themselves are approached as agents of change and are empowered to think about ways in which governments, the business community and local communities can significantly improve their collaboration to shift onto this alternative trajectory
- **Urban density** - more and more space is being converted to urban landuse, often at the expense of natural and untransformed areas
- **Demand for resources is increasing, and so is waste output** - At the city level, the total urban DMC between 2010 and 2050 for Africa is projected to increase by 790%, if consumption trends remain at current levels
- **Beyond resource efficiency** - how to meet the twin goals of ensuring sufficient resources for the future and social inclusion
- **The importance of urban green spaces/natural assets** - High-density and sprawling urban environments depend increasingly on the establishment and maintenance of a network of green open spaces.
- **Technological innovation** - reduce their resource consumption and contribute to mitigating global environmental challenges
- **Urban planning and policy**
- **Urban research**

# Global processes



Goals 6, 11 & 12 target untreated wastewater (6.3), municipal and other waste management (11.6); environmentally sound management of chemicals and wastes throughout their life cycle (12.4), and overall waste reduction (12.5)

Goal 14, target 14.1 with a particular focus on sources from land-based activities

## The Paris Climate Accord

- The role of cities and local governments: recognising the crucial role that non-nation state actors play in achieving mitigation and adaptation goals

## New Urban Agenda

In line with the SDGs & Paris Agreement

# **Priority Pressures/Threats from GEF-funded processes in the WIO region**

## **African Process**

- The loss/modification of ecosystems
- The over-exploitation of resources
- The modification of stream flow
- The use of destructive fishing practices

## **WIO-Lab Project**

- Water and sediment quality degeneration due to pollution from land-based sources
- Physical alteration and destruction of habitats
- Alteration in freshwater flows and sediment loads from rivers

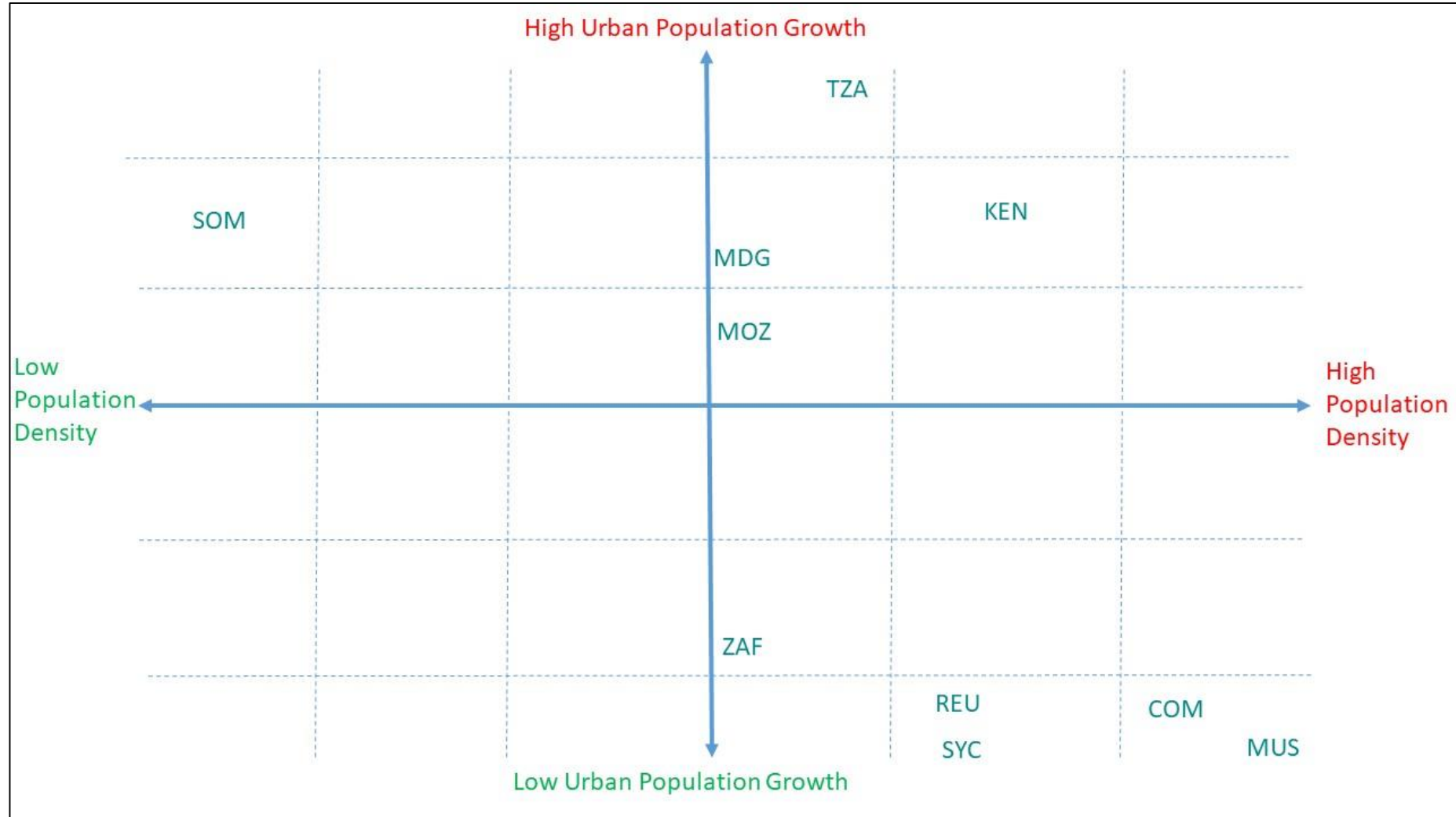
## **ASCLME/SWIOFP**

- Water Quality Degradation
- Habitat and Community Modification
- Declines in Living Marine Resources
- Unpredictable environmental variability and extreme events

# WIO Cities

- Most, if not all of the challenges prioritised are associated with an increase in coastal population growth, urbanisation and increased human activities in the coastal zone. Linked to coastal cities
- The coastal zone of the region hosts major cities such as Mombasa, Dar es Salaam, Beira, Maputo and Durban, harbours, industries and other development infrastructure that is increasingly posing a threat to the integrity of the coastal and marine ecosystems.
- There are already several large ports in operation in some countries of the WIO, including Durban, Richards Bay, Maputo, Nacala, Dar es Salaam, Mombasa, Port Louis and Tamatave, and the development of several other large ports are planned, including one in Lamu, Kenya & Bagamoyo, Tanzania.

# Comparison of population growth and population density



# Cities and Coasts Project

The objectives of the C&C Project will be achieved through involvement of academia, scientific bodies, other research organizations and agencies, city and regional governments, central government policy-makers, NGOs, communities, and the private sector, to:

- improve scientific knowledge and to stimulate research underpinning effective and efficient responses of coastal cities to challenges facing them through supporting high quality, demand-driven, policy-relevant action research;
- support capacity building and the transfer of knowledge and expertise;
- support sharing knowledge with and from cities in the region, cost effective and minimal technology solutions, as well as successful community engagement;
- forge partnerships among academic, practitioner, private sector, and coastal cities policy-making communities.



# Methodological priorities for Cities & Coasts

- **Holistic management** – promotion of cross-boundary approaches include but are not limited to catchment to coast, source to sea, and ridge to reef methods
- **Nexus approaches** - recognise and account for the systemic and interconnected nature of environmental and urban systems
- **Monitoring, evaluation & learning** - research methodologies incorporate monitoring, evaluation and learning mechanisms from concept design stage
- **Co-design and co-development** - to achieve buy-in and contextual relevance
- **Mainstreaming coastal and marine biodiversity issues** - incorporation of key marine and coastal biodiversity issues into core city functions such as spatial planning, land-use management, local economic development and infrastructure design
- **Nature-based solutions** - consideration should be given to low-impact methods and materials that incorporate natural systems, materials and methods
- **Alignment with existing targets (global, national and regional)**

# Project Components

- **Building a knowledge base** - Both the ‘open’ and ‘commissioned’ competitive research grants will be used for research support on cities and coasts. Country-specific (case studies) proposals will also be invited to address priority regional issues.
- **Building capacity for coastal cities governance**
- **Knowledge uptake and actions** - Supporting technical working groups and networks & Identify and implement proven solutions to improve the engagement between scientists, policy-makers and practitioners
- **Influencing policy and practice** – Work with one or two selected coastal cities to set up a baseline for target 11.6 (by 2030, reduce the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality, municipal and other waste management) and track progress over time.
- **Establishment of strategic partnerships** – establishment of working partnerships with UN-Habitat, ICLEI, etc.

# Suggestions for consideration

- With the recognition by the UNFCCC Process and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, of the role played by cities and urban stakeholders in sustainable development agenda, the role of coastal cities in WIO region in building resilience and reduction vulnerability to natural and human-made hazards, should be recognized and acknowledged by the Nairobi Convention;
- The Nairobi Convention should recognize coastal cities as additional to national delegations and promote their role in the sustainable development of the coast as a resource;
- The Nairobi Convention should explore possibilities of establishing agreements/collaborative activities with organizations working on coastal cities such as UN-Habitat, UNFCCC and UNDP.
- Recognise the role of coastal cities, especially those with ports, for their contribution to national accounts, but also their important role to play in the sustainable development of coastal and marine resources and the contribution of ecosystem services.
- Explore the role of coastal cities with regards to their contribution to national and regional Blue Economies, as well as recognise the importance of Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Integrated Coastal (Zone) Management (ICZM) for cities.