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Forestry, Fisheries and the Environmen
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA







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A Northern Mozambique Channel TFCA?

- Potential value end need for a SADC TFCA in the Northern Mozambique Channel.
- Recognising Marine and Coastal OECMs.

Facilitator: **Aruna Jagaroo**, South Africa

Presenters:

Colum Zhuwau - SADC Secretariat
Adv. Radia Rasack - DFFE
Samantha Petersen - WWF SWIO
Daniel Marnewick - IUCN

Value, establishment and governance of Transfrontier Conservation Areas

What they could mean for the Northern Mozambique Channel

Colum Zhuwau

SADC TFCA PROGRAMME

Why this conversation, and why now

1 **Heads of State mandate**
May 2025 TFCA Summit (Harare): promote coastal and marine TFCAs and jointly manage shared marine ecosystems.

2 **A globally significant seascape**
The Northern Mozambique Channel is the world's second most important tropical marine biodiversity hotspot, shared by several SADC States.

3 **Today's question**
Would a TFCA add enough value to justify feasibility for Northern Mozambique Channel TFCA?

2nd

most important tropical marine biodiversity hotspot globally

Coral, seagrass and mangrove systems shared by Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania and neighbours

This presentation

What TFCAs are | **The value they add** | **Establishment & governance** | **SADC enabling instruments**

What is a Transfrontier Conservation Area?

SADC Protocol on Wildlife Conservation and Law Enforcement (1999)

"An area or component of a large ecological region that straddles the boundaries of two or more countries, encompassing one or more protected areas, as well as multiple resource use areas."



Article 4(2)(f) commits Member States to establish TFCAs.

Three pillars of SADC TFCAs

Conservation
Shared ecosystems managed as one

Socio-economic development
Tourism, livelihoods and benefit sharing

Regional integration
Cooperation, peace and harmonised policy

TFCAs work at sea too

SADC already recognises marine forms – Transfrontier Conservation Marine Areas (TFCMA) and Transfrontier Marine Parks (TMP) – linking land, coast and ocean.

Six ways TFCAs add value

Political commitment & integration
Heads of State summits and ministerial platforms keep shared priorities on the regional agenda

Harmonised policies & laws
Aligned legislation, codes of conduct and species strategies across borders

Joint science & management
Synchronised surveys, shared data and joint law enforcement plans

Tourism & economic growth
One destination, easier travel (UniVisa), joint marketing

Communities & resilience
Livelihoods, benefit sharing and climate-smart demonstration projects

Finance & partnerships
Access to the TFCA Financing Facility and partner programmes

Examples follow from KAZA, Great Limpopo, Lubombo and other SADC TFCAs

1 Political commitment & integration



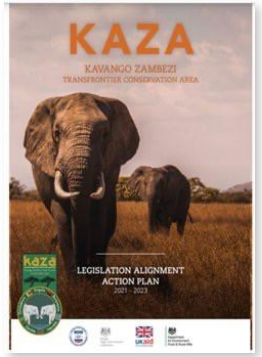


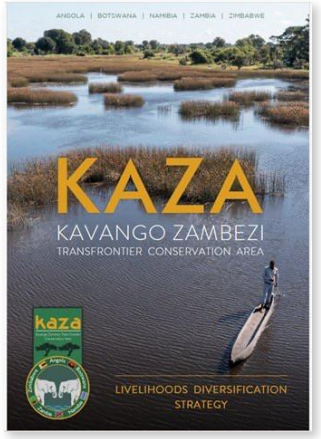
2024 KAZA Heads of State Summit: political reaffirmation of a shared vision

- Summits and ministerial committees give TFCAs high-level ownership that outlasts individual projects
- TFCAs act as a platform for the sustainable development nexus: food security, security, energy, water, biodiversity, trade infrastructure and sustainable financing
- May 2025 TFCA Summit: urged Member States to promote coastal and marine TFCAs and implement the Blue Economy Strategy, delivering benefits to communities, the regional economy and biodiversity

2 Harmonising policies and actions

Natural resources	Tourism	Legal
• Wildlife corridors • Management of shared watercourses for fisheries • Single-species management & conservation	• Address leakages via economic linkages • Commitment to responsible tourism • Payment via single pay point	• Formal legal recognition of TFCAs – the basis for legal harmonisation





KAZA results

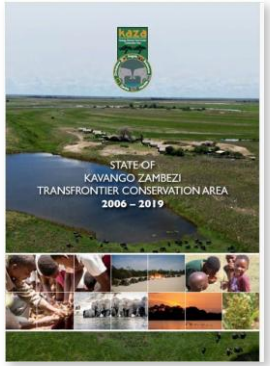
- Legislation Alignment Action Plan
- Livelihoods Diversification Strategy
- Kwando–Linyanti–Chobe Code of Conduct
- Carnivore, giraffe and bird strategies

At sea: shared rules for fisheries, turtles, corals and surveillance

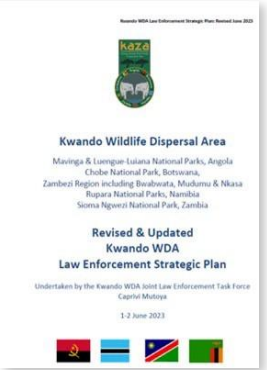
3 Joint science, planning and management

227,900

elephants counted in the first-ever synchronised KAZA Elephant Survey (2022) – all five Partner States, one standard method



State of the TFCA reporting



Joint law enforcement planning



Digital tools for common permits

Why it matters for a seascape

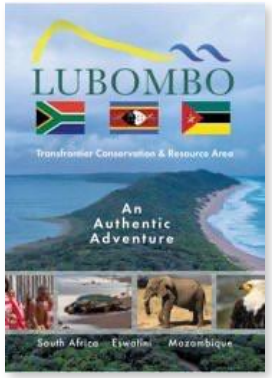
- Migratory species and fish stocks ignore maritime boundaries – only joint surveys give a true picture
- Ponta do Ouro (Mozambique) and iSimangaliso (South Africa) already link their turtle monitoring programmes
- Shared data underpins joint law enforcement against IUU fishing and wildlife crime

4 Tourism and economic growth

KAZA UniVisa

- One US$50 visa, valid 30 days for Zambia and Zimbabwe, plus day trips to Botswana via Kazungula
- More than 47,000 visitors used it during the 2014–15 pilot





Regional tourism tools

- SADC UniVisa pilot: Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe
- Boundless Southern Africa brand: trade fairs (ITB Berlin, Africa's Travel Indaba), press & tour-operator trips
- Tourism Market Development Strategy for TFCAs
- “Bush-to-beach” maritime routes for island states

For the NMC

Diving, island and coastal tourism marketed as one multi-country destination – with revenue shared along the coast.

5 Communities and climate resilience





Lubombo TFCA
Climate-smart agriculture, cross-border hiking trails, Youth Ambassador Programme

Malawi–Zambia TFCA
Scaling climate-smart agriculture from Zambia into Kasungu–Lukusuzi (Malawi)

Greater Mapungubwe
Herding for Health in the Zimbabwean component

Benefit sharing is built in: TFCAs aim to deliver sustainable livelihoods, employment and revenue-sharing mechanisms for the communities living in and around them – in a seascape, small-scale fishers and coastal villages.

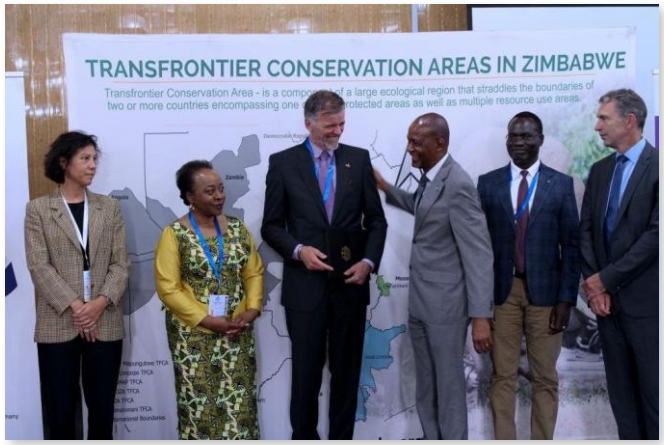
6 Access to finance and partnerships

€44m German Government commitment to the SADC TFCA Financing Facility

€10m EU (NaturAfrica) support to the Facility

€17m SADC/GIZ C-NRM programme (BMZ €13m, EU €4m)

Being a recognised SADC TFCA opens the door to these windows – a marine TFCA would be eligible.



- Facility established 2020; IUCN is the executing agency, governed through the SADC Technical Committee on Wildlife
- Fast-track €2m COVID-19 grants – first recipient: ANAC with Peace Parks Foundation for Mozambique's Lubombo TFCA
- Third open call for concept notes issued December 2025

Establishing a TFCA: the process

1 — Identification & proposal
Ecological, economic and social factors; concept proposed to governments

2 — Feasibility studies
Biodiversity, ecosystem services, tourism potential, community impacts

3 — Stakeholder engagement
Build support, address concerns, ensure inclusive participation

4 — MoU signed
Purpose, objectives and management framework – Category B

5 — Treaty / Agreement
Binding legal basis and defined boundaries – Category A

6 — Institutional framework
Secretariat, committees or board to oversee implementation

7 — Funding & resource mobilisation
Governments, ICPs, TFCA FF, EU NaturAfrica

8 — Implementation & monitoring
Management plans, benefit sharing, adaptive management

Highlighted steps 1–2: where the NMC is today

Long-term sustainability requires long-term commitment and cooperation amongst all stakeholders

TFCA categories: a stepwise path

A

Category A – Formalised

Legal mandate, clearly defined boundaries, established through a binding Agreement / Treaty by the Partner States.

e.g. KAZA TFCA (Treaty, 2011); Great Limpopo TP (Treaty, 2002)

B

Category B – Proposed

Signed MoU with a description of the proposed location; an interim arrangement while negotiating a binding Agreement.

C-NRM supports TFCAs moving C → B → A (e.g. LZMP, GMTFCA, ZIMOZA)

C

Category C – Conceptual

Partner States have an official intent to establish a TFCA; no binding Agreement or interim MoU yet.

A Northern Mozambique Channel TFCA would start here

Each step deepens commitment – and each can be supported by SADC and partners

Governance: the KAZA model

Ministerial Committee
Policy direction; supported by a rotating Coordinating Country

Committee of Senior Officials
Oversight of implementation

Joint Management Committee
Technical oversight; specialist Working Groups & task forces

TFCA Secretariat
Coordination & stakeholder engagement

National Committees
Implementation in each State

KAZA: Secretariat based in Kasane, Botswana; currently supported by 13 Working Groups

Adapting it to a seascape

- Bring in ministries of fisheries, maritime affairs and the blue economy alongside environment and tourism
- Build on the Nairobi Convention and the existing NMC Initiative rather than duplicate them
- Working groups on fisheries & MCS, turtles and corals, marine spatial planning, tourism
- Community and private-sector seats (fishers, tourism, shipping, oil & gas)

SADC enabling protocols and strategies

Protocols (legal basis)

Wildlife Conservation & Law Enforcement (1999)

Fisheries (in force 2003)

Shared Watercourses (2000)

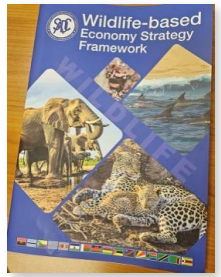
Forestry (2002)

Development of Tourism (1998, amended 2009)

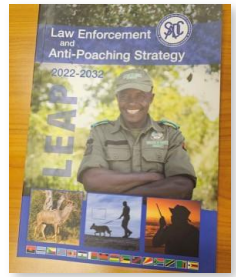
Environmental Mgmt for Sust. Development (2014)

A marine TFCA would rest on the Wildlife and Fisheries Protocols together

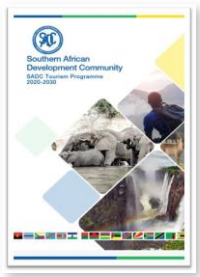
Strategies & programmes



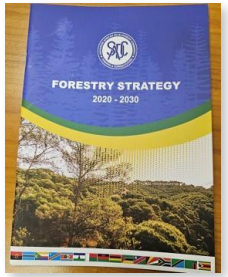
Wildlife-Based Economy Framework



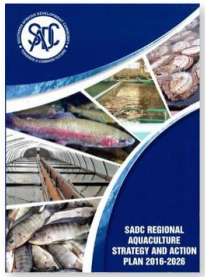
LEAP Strategy 2022–2032



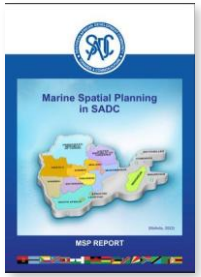
Tourism Programme 2020–2030



Forestry Strategy 2020–2030



Regional Aquaculture Strategy



Marine Spatial Planning in SADC

TFCA Programme 2023–2033 • Blue Economy Strategy & Implementation Plan • Climate Change Strategy & Action Plan • RISDP 2020–2030

Secretariat implementation tools

TFCA Financing Facility
Demand-driven grants for TFCA establishment and management

TFCA Network & Portal
Network set up in 2014 with ~800 members; tfcaportal.org knowledge hub

Focal Points & training
Country roadshows, TFCA short course, resource mobilisation training manual

Monitoring tools
LEAP Monitoring Tool; WBE costed action plan & monitoring tool; forestry reporting template

Tourism instruments
Boundless Southern Africa, UniVisa pilot, TFCA tourism market strategy

Fisheries & blue economy
Regional MCS Coordination Centre (MCSCC), PROFISHBLUE, marine spatial planning

Partners: C-NRM (GIZ/EU), NaturAfrica, Peace Parks Foundation, IUCN, WWF

What a TFCA could add in the NMC

A recognised platform
SADC-mandated cooperation framework for the four affected States, working with the Nairobi Convention

Joint management
Harmonised approaches to shared fish stocks, turtles, corals, mangroves and MCS

Finance & partners
Eligibility for TFCA FF and partner windows; a vehicle for marine OECMs and MPAs

Shared benefits
Coastal tourism and livelihoods for fishing communities, with benefit sharing

Proposed next step for discussion

Agree in principle to a joint feasibility study for a Northern Mozambique Channel TFCA, examining:

- Ecological value, with existing MPAs/OECMs as building blocks
- Socio-economic case – fisheries, tourism, communities – and stakeholder views

Thank you



Shared Waters, Shared Leadership

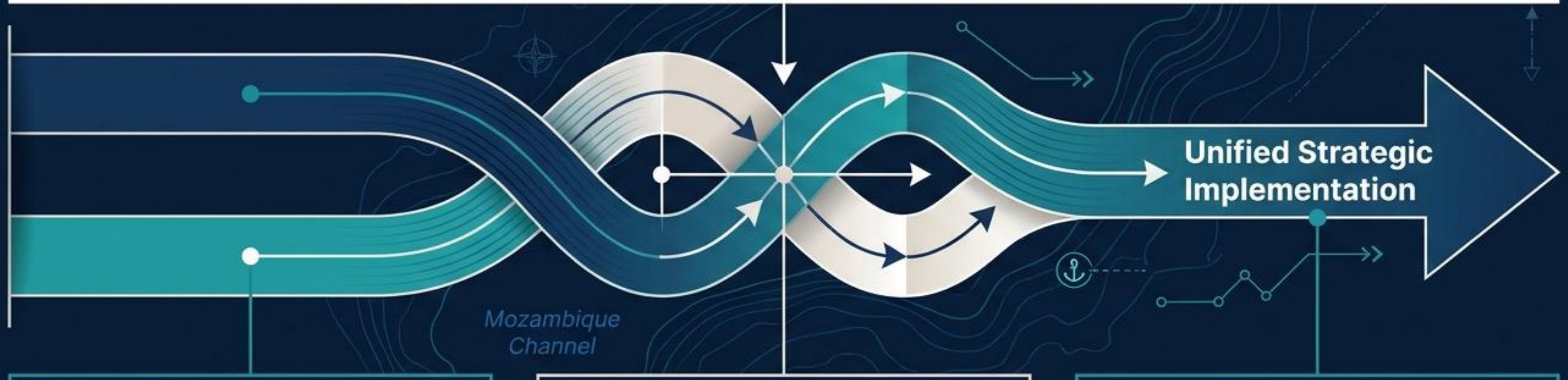
Aligning the SADC Marine TFCA with Nairobi Convention Priorities for the Northern Mozambique Channel

Strategic Synthesis & Implementation Pathway

Gemini Notebook

A Complementary Pathway, Not a Departure

The proposed **SADC marine TFCA** is an **implementation vehicle for transboundary objectives already established** by successive Nairobi Convention COPs. It draws on established cooperation **to strengthen, rather than compete with, existing institutional arrangements.**



Anchored in Policy

Builds on historic COP8/COP9 decisions.

Driven by Technical Reality

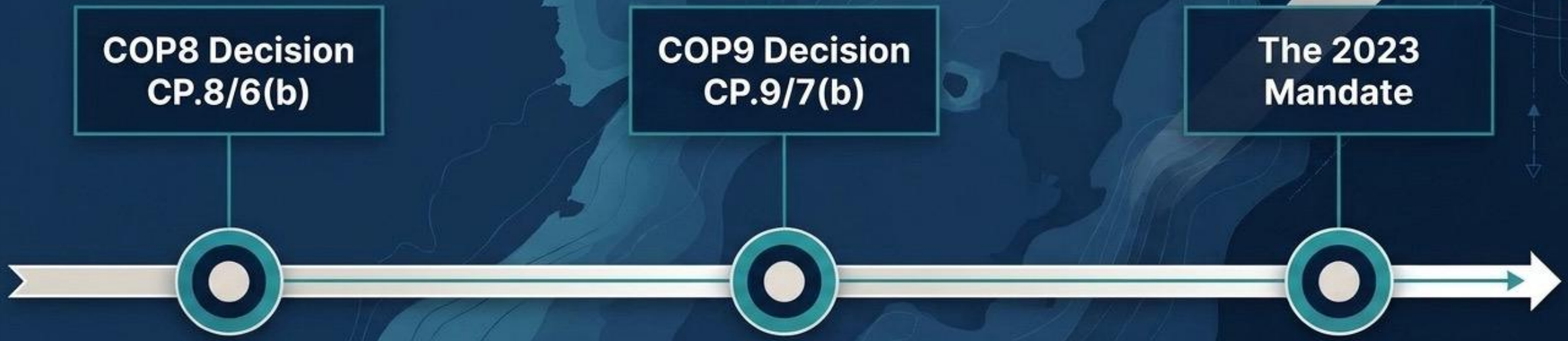
Aligns with active Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) harmonization.

Catalyzed by COP12

Delivers the framework required by October 2026 mandates.

Gemini Notebook

A Long-Standing Vision for the Channel



According to the official 2023 Western Indian Ocean Science–Policy Platform Compendium, these historical decisions explicitly support an integrated ocean management approach and recognize the critical need for transboundary protection in the Northern Mozambique Channel. The policy basis precedes recent developments by years.

Gemini Notebook

Moving from Policy to Practical Planning

April 2025 Regional Workshop (Zanzibar)

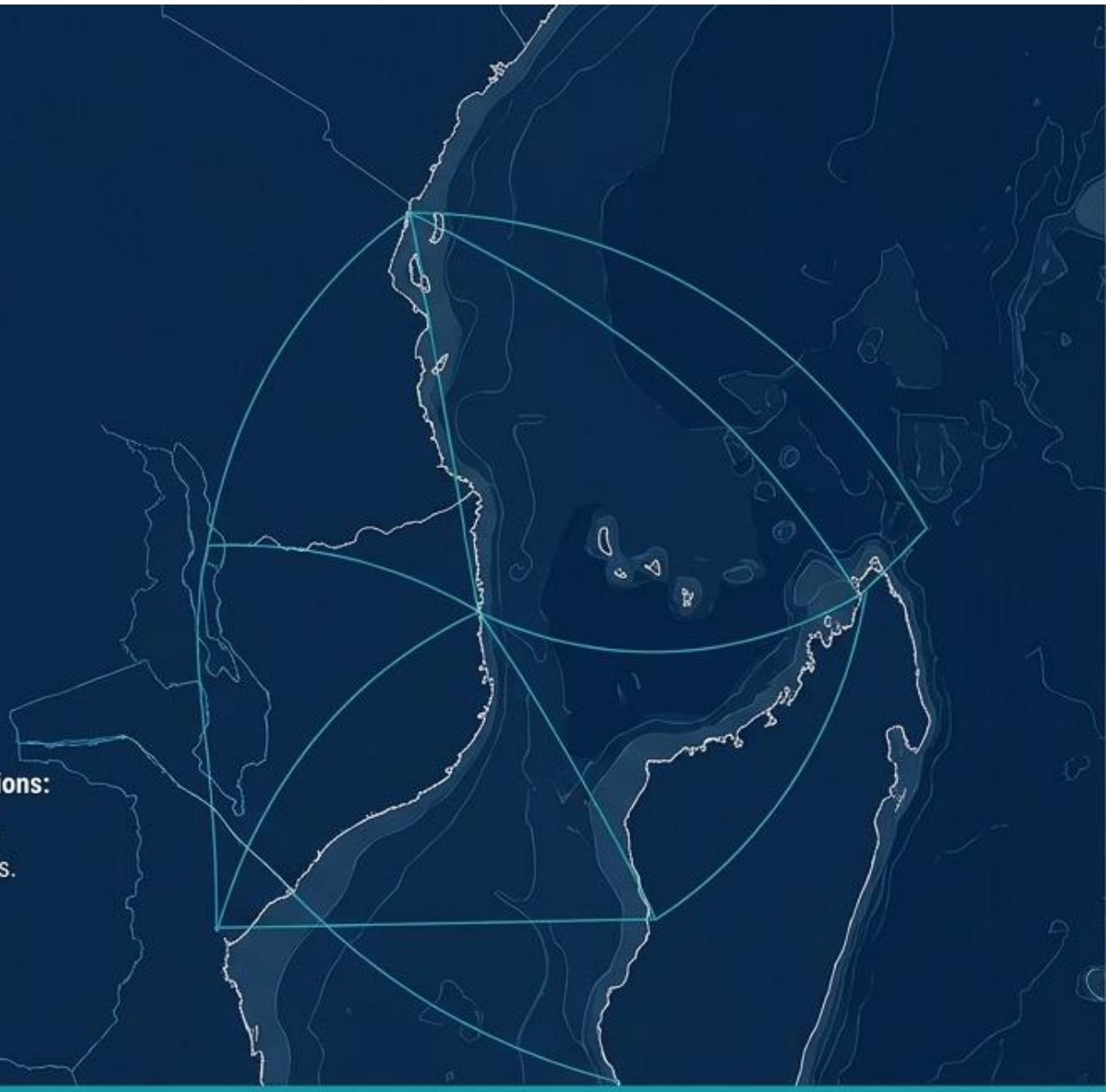
Organized by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat and WWF (NoCaMo Project).



MSP Guidelines: Developing technical tools for the Northern Mozambique Channel.

National Alignment: Crafting a coherent subregional approach to align sovereign planning processes.

Transboundary Solutions: Actively addressing shared transboundary governance challenges.



Technical cooperation is already operational. The **SADC TFCA** offers a **spatial container** to **formalize** this ongoing work.

Gemini Notebook

COP12 Reinforces the Regional Framework

On 9 October 2026, COP12 adopted **15 decisions** (UNEP/NC/COP.12/6e) reinforcing the Convention **as the central platform for ocean governance**.



Regional Ocean Governance: Operationalizing the Regional Ocean Governance Strategy

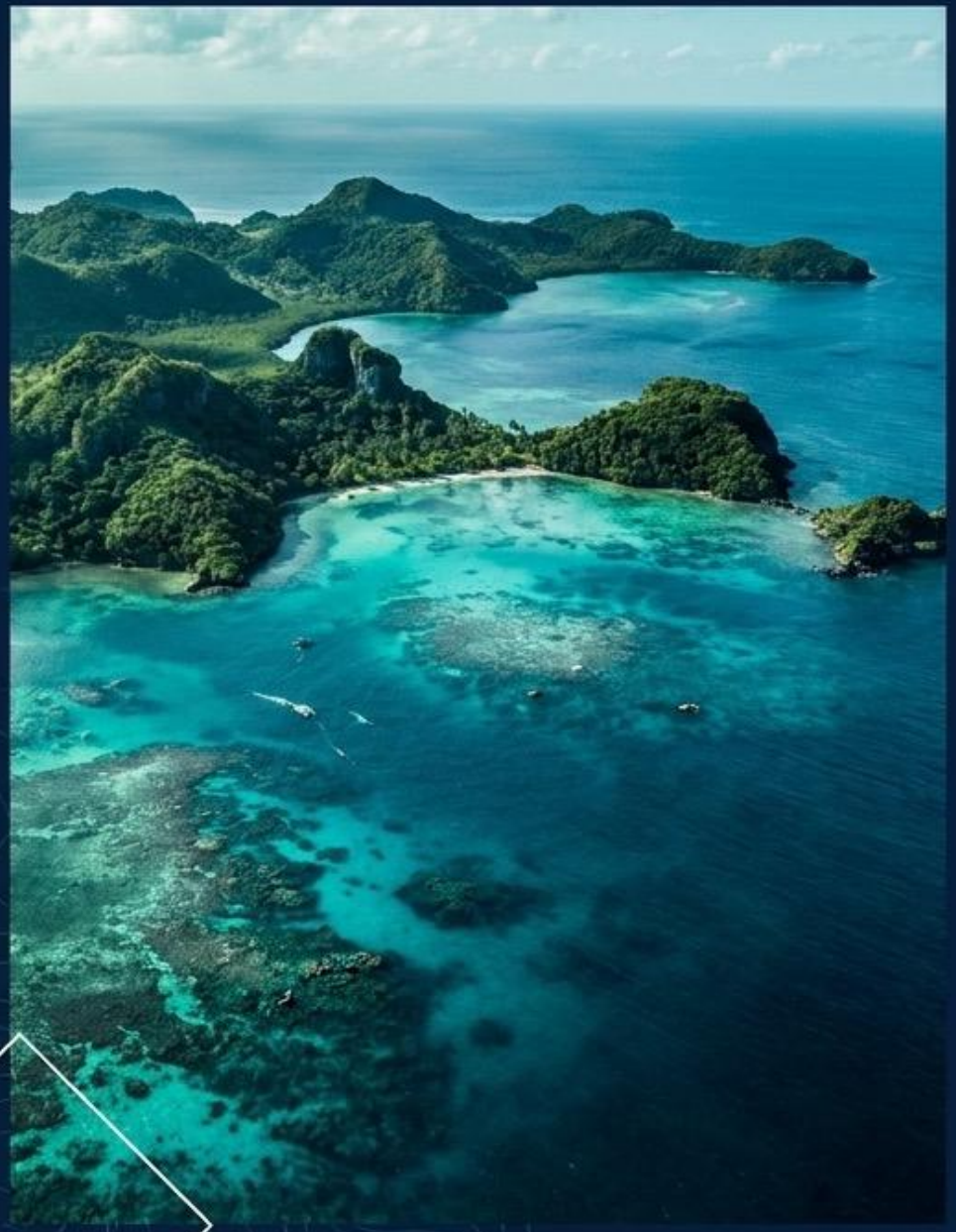
Marine Spatial Planning: Strengthening and harmonizing MSP across borders

Biodiversity & Habitats: Expanding marine protected areas and OECMs

Blue Finance: Expanding sustainable partnerships

Note: While COP12 outcomes provide a highly supportive policy framework, they do not specifically mandate a SADC TFCA—making the TFCA an opportunistic, voluntary implementation tool for these mandates.

Gemini Notebook



Island States Champion the NoCaMo Vision

Event Focus Panel

COP12 Side Event: From Shared Waters to Shared Leadership: The Case of the Northern Mozambique Channel.

Co-organized by Madagascar (Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development) and Comoros (Ministry of Environment and Tourism).

Step 1

Endorsement: Formalize the shared NoCaMo vision and roadmap.

Step 2

Coordination: Establish a political coordination mechanism by COP13.

Step 3

Capitalization: Mobilize a regional investment and financing package.

Key Insight: The political appetite for shared sovereign leadership is already formalized among key Western Indian Ocean states.

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Bridging the Gap: How the TFCA Delivers on COP12

Nairobi Convention Mandate	SADC TFCA Capability
UNEP/NC/COP.12/6e requirement for strengthened Regional Ocean Governance.	Provides a legally recognized, sovereign-respecting vehicle for joint transboundary management.
Operationalizing Marine Spatial Planning and Critical Habitat Protection.	Translates theoretical MSP guidelines into a defined spatial implementation zone.
Mobilizing Blue Finance and Regional Investment Packages.	Unlocks targeted conservation trust funds and donor capital specifically earmarked for formal TFCAs.

Credit: Pearl

Gemini Notebook

A Unified Approach for 2028



April 2025

Practical Planning
(Zanzibar NoCaMo MSP Workshop).

October 2026

Mandate Established
(COP12 Outcomes & Island State Side Event).

Present Day

Strategic Exploration
(Designing the SADC TFCA to absorb existing mandates without duplicating institutions).

2028 Target

COP13 Readiness

(Presenting a fully developed, integrated, and locally championed implementation mechanism for final political coordination).

Exploring the SADC TFCA model now ensures the Northern Mozambique Channel is ready for decisive, shared leadership at COP13.

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Transboundary Marine Conservation in the Western Indian Ocean (SADC TFCA)

Subject: Key Stakes, Governance Framework, and Roadmap for the Protection of the Mozambique Channel and the Western Indian Ocean (WIO).

Nirinahoelisoa Ratrimoson

1. Geographical Scope and Shared Ecosystems

- **Regional Actors:** The initiative centers on a core group of **5 countries and territories** in the Mozambique Channel (Madagascar, Tanzania, Mozambique, Comoros/Mayotte, and Seychelles), embedded within the broader group of **7 SADC coastal states** (which also includes South Africa and Mauritius).
- **Broader Regional Partnerships:** The WIO region extends beyond SADC to include key partners such as Kenya, Somalia, and France (Réunion), which already participate in several joint regional programmes.
- **Critical Natural Heritage:** These countries share interconnected marine ecosystems—including the Mozambique Channel (and Northern Mozambique Channel), the East African Coastal Current, and the Agulhas Current. This seascape supports coral reefs, seagrass beds, **5% of the world's mangroves**, and strategic fisheries (such as tuna and shrimp).

- **Severe Human Pressures:** Marine ecosystems face major threats driven by mining projects, oil and gas exploration, and the overexploitation of fisheries resources.
- **Scientific Priority:** Conducting a baseline study is considered essential to assess the current state of resources and inform decision-making.

2. Identified Threats and Scientific Needs

- **Severe Human Pressures:** Marine ecosystems face major threats driven by mining projects, oil and gas exploration, and the overexploitation of fisheries resources.
- **Scientific Priority:** Conducting a baseline study is considered essential to assess the current state of resources and inform decision-making.

3. Constraints and added value

Alignment Between SADC and Existing Frameworks

- **Principle of Complementarity:** Transboundary cooperation led by **SADC** (through Transfrontier Conservation Areas – TFCAs) must **complement, rather than duplicate or replace**, existing broader regional mechanisms.
- **The Nairobi Convention Foundation (1985):** Existing governance is anchored in this regional framework and its core instruments: the Regional Marine Protected Areas (MPA) Network, the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) addressing land-based pollution and coastal degradation, collaborative fisheries governance (combating IUU fishing), climate change adaptation initiatives, and scientific support from **WIOMSA**.

4. Governance, Mobilization, and Next Steps

- **Political Leadership and Civil Society:** Mobilizing strong government leadership across the concerned countries is critical, building on last year's SADC TFCA meeting that identified potential sites. This momentum is supported by active advocacy and the **WIOC** consortium (bringing together key NGOs such as **WWF**, **WCS**, and the **MIHARI** network).
- **Roadmap and National Dialogues:** Immediate priorities include developing a shared roadmap for the 5 Mozambique Channel countries under a coordinated WIO regional vision, and organizing national dialogues (notably in **Comoros** and **Madagascar**) to align and inform all partners.
- **Madagascar's Commitment:** Madagascar has expressed its readiness to engage and develop its National Action Plan, ahead of a major TFCA milestone meeting scheduled for **October 18**.

WIO-C
Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal & Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean

UN environment programme

Nairobi Convention

The Northern Mozambique Channel: From shared waters to shared leadership

WORLD RESTORATION FLAGSHIP
Restoring the Northern Mozambique Channel Region

History of the NMC

SDG 14 Flagship

2015

Recognises NMC as a priority seascape

COP 8/6(b)

COP 9/7(b)

NoCaMo Project led by NCS & WIO-C

MSP strategy - NMC a flagship

COP 10

COP 11

ROGS - NMC Nat Cap and FF

Shared Vision and Roadmap

COP 12







UN DECADE OF RESTORATION FLAGSHIP AWARD





UN environment programme

Nairobi Convention

WORLD RESTORATION FLAGSHIP

Restoring the Northern Mozambique Channel Region

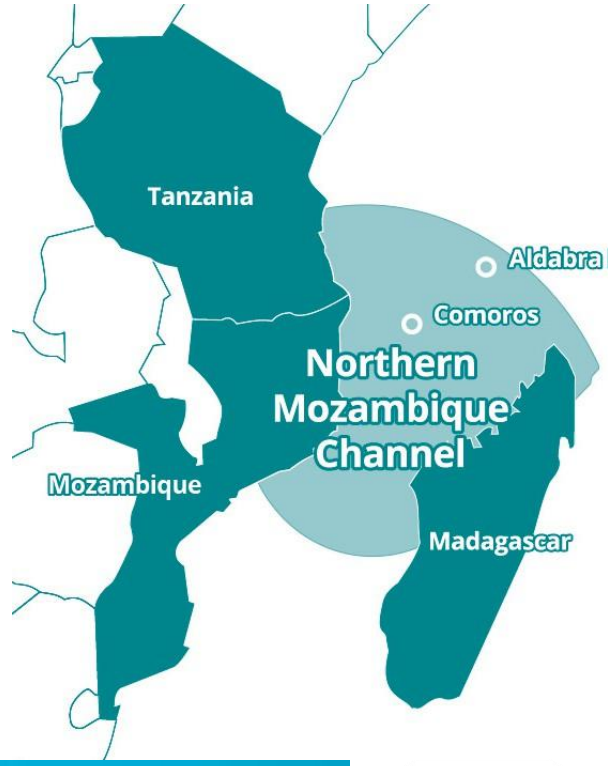
WWF

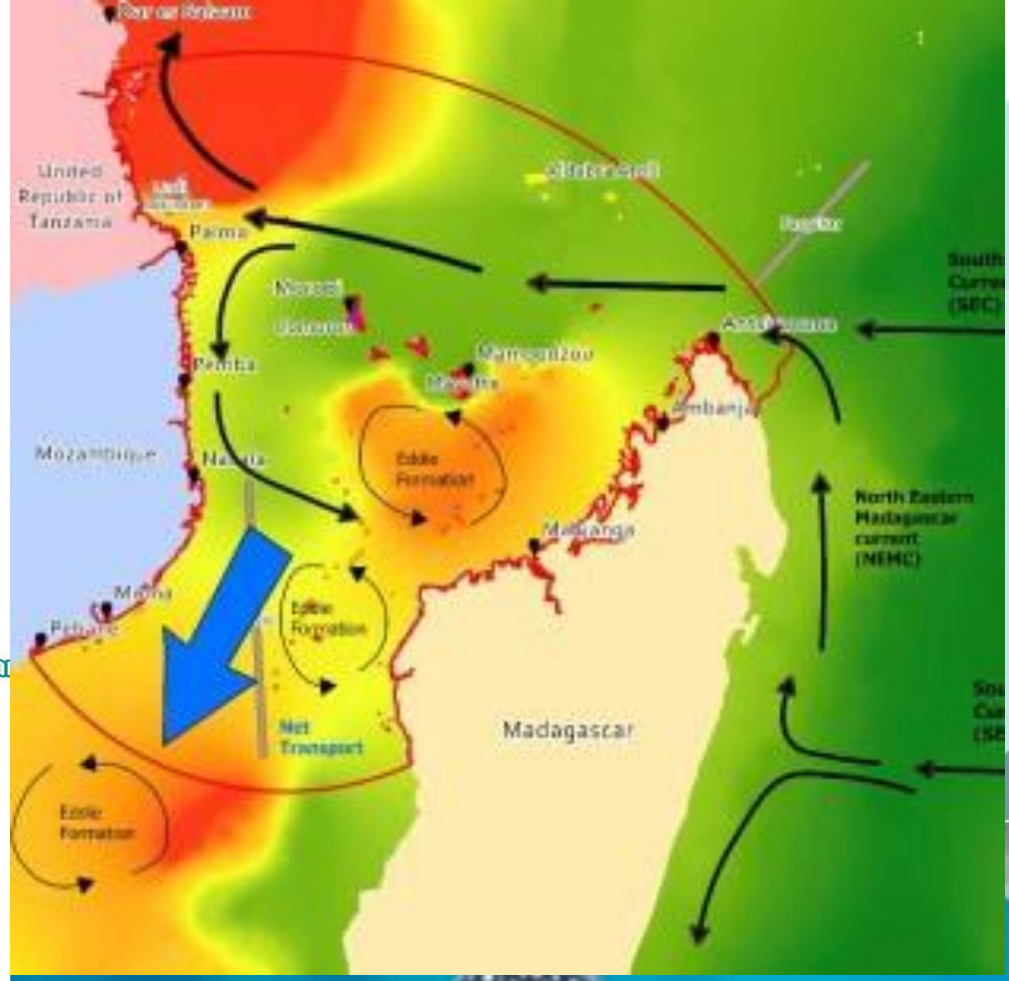
WIO-C

Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal & Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean

Transfrontier region of the Northern Mozambique Channel - Africa's most biodiverse oceanic hotspot

- Important corridor due to high productivity
- High connectivity
- A key feeding area for tropical tuna and a major spawning area for skipjack tuna







UN environment programme

Nairobi Convention

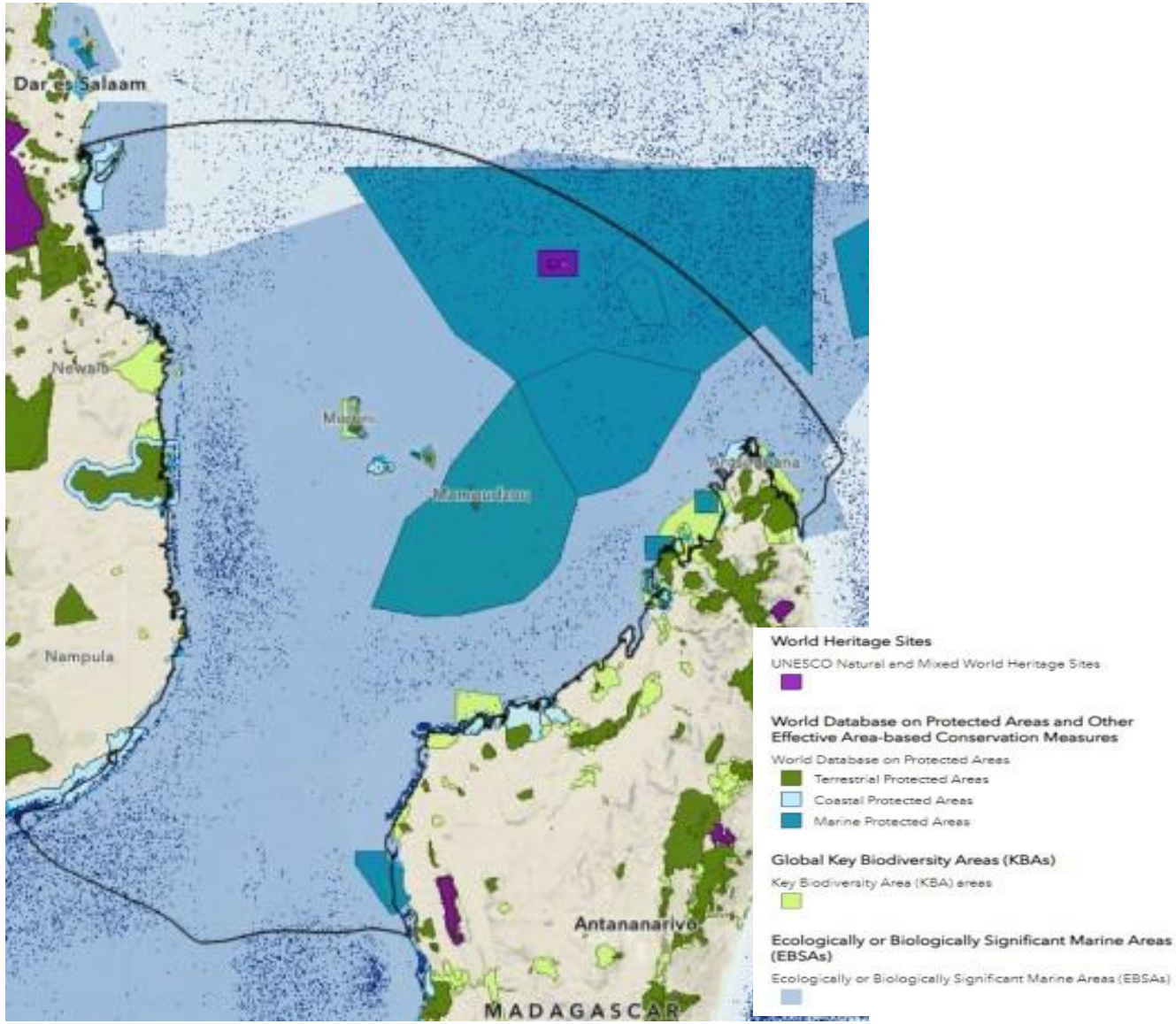
WORLD RESTORATION FLAGSHIP

Restoring the Northern Mozambique Channel Region

WWF

The importance of the NMC region

The Northern Mozambique Channel – a recognised ecologically or biologically significant area – has long been a **haven for marine and coastal biodiversity**

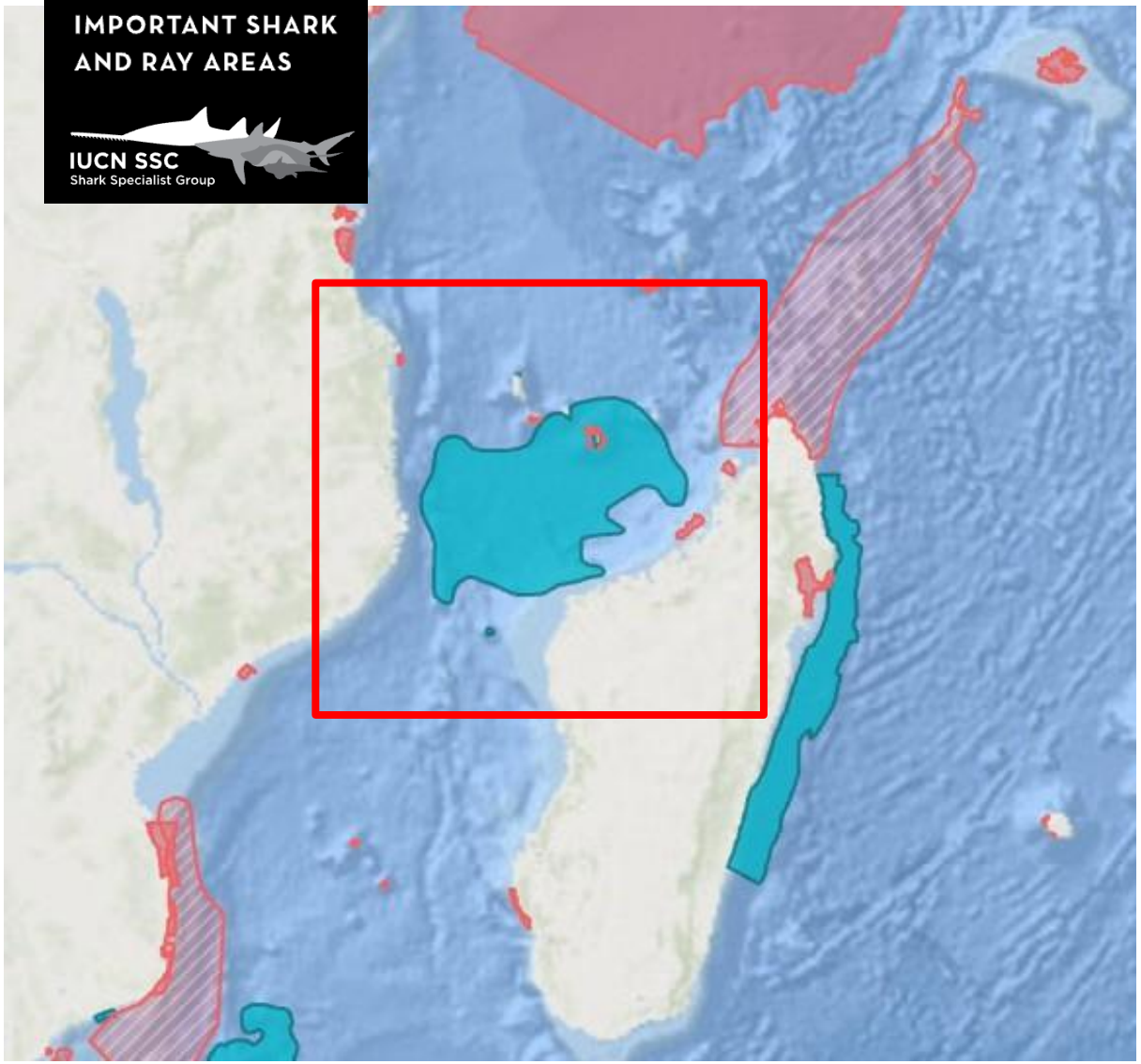






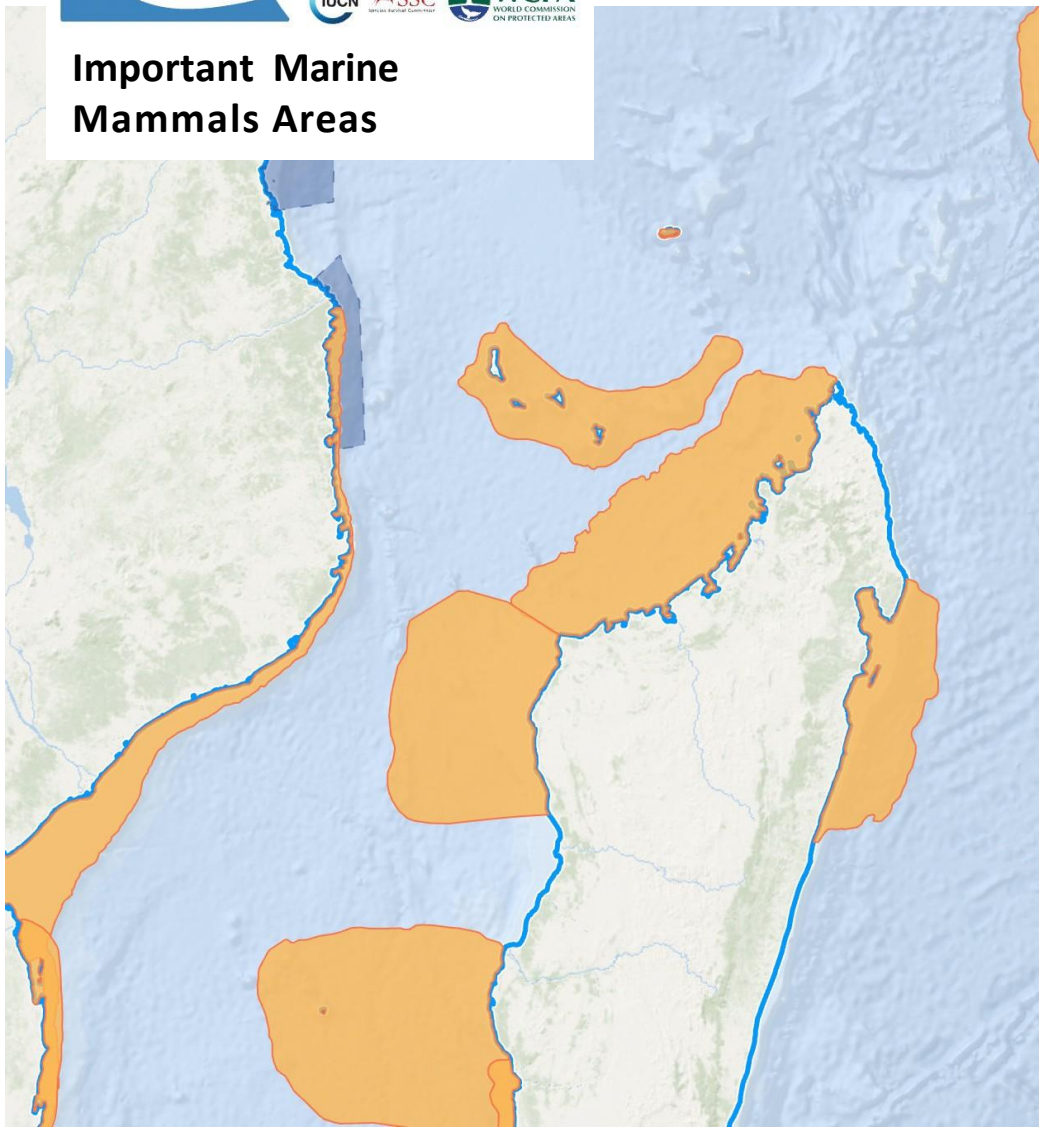

The ecological heart of the Western Indian Ocean …

ISRA
IMPORTANT SHARK AND RAY AREAS
IUCN SSC
Shark Specialist Group



MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTED AREAS TASK FORCE
IUCN SSC WCPA WORLD COMMISSION ON PROTECTED AREAS

Important Marine Mammals Areas



Growing risks

Oil and Gas

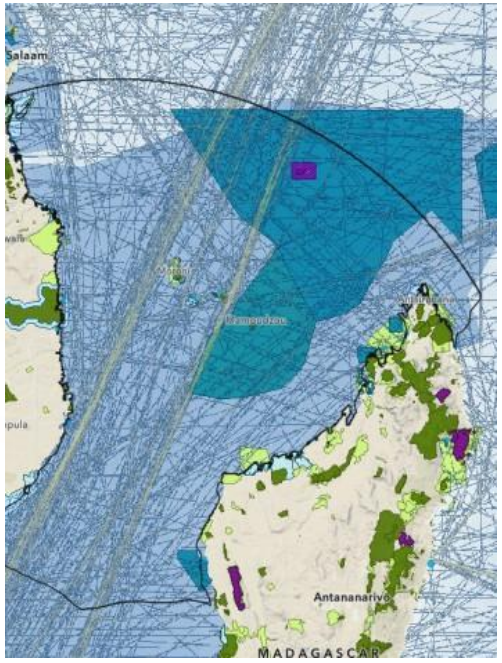




Shipping

The NMC region exhibits **high overlap** (>500 000 AIS positions/km²) between **commercial shipping** and biodiversity, especially in **KBAs, EBSAs** and **IMMAs.**





Vital blue foods at risk from illegal fisheries

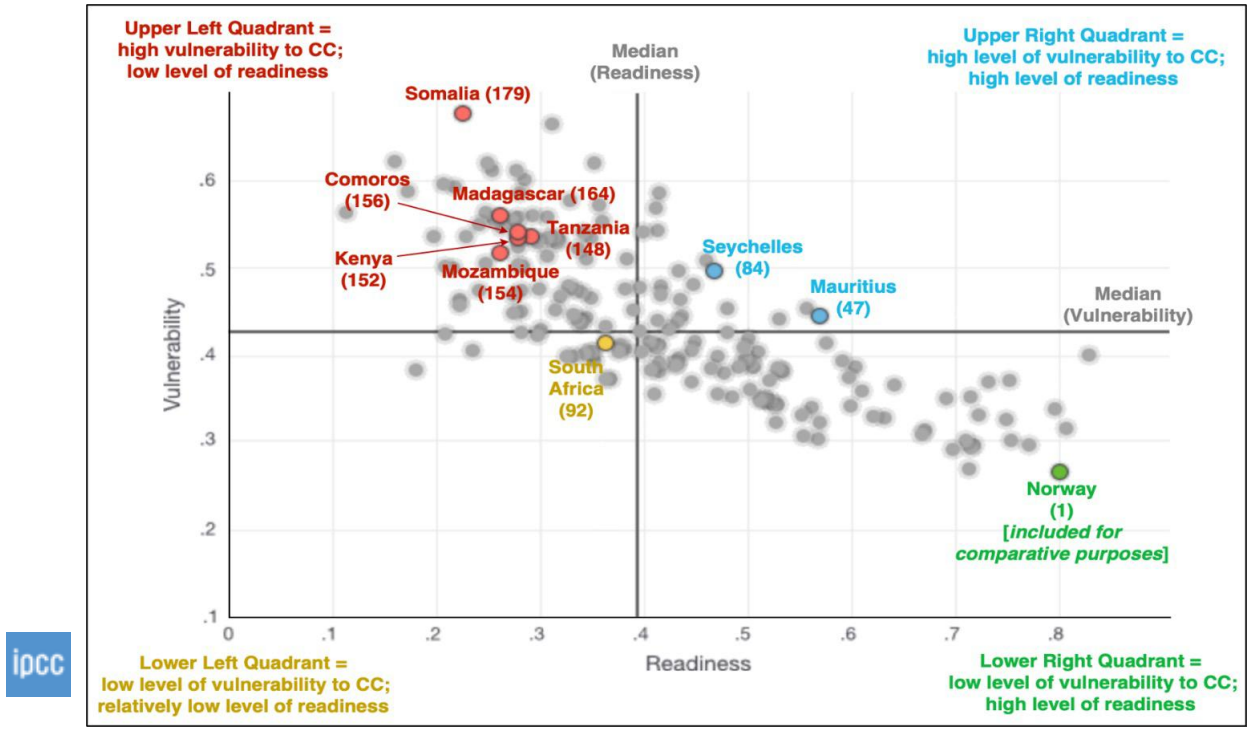


Low levels of protection

0.30% of the Northern Mozambique Channel are currently under strict protections.

One of the most climate vulnerable regions in the world

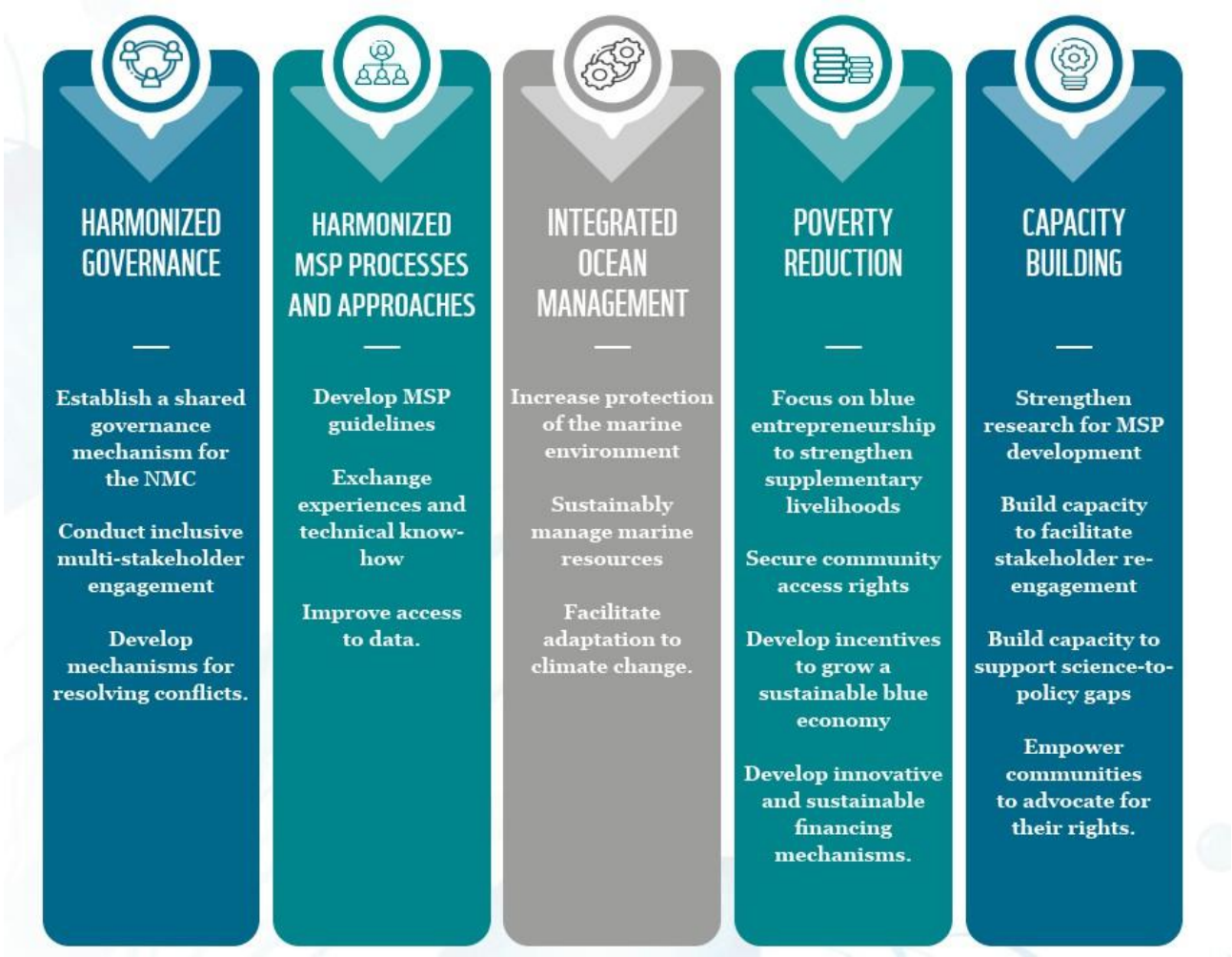
- **One of the most climate vulnerable and least prepared**
- **Near permanent state of heatwave** - Ocean warming is damaging coral reefs
- **Fisheries and food security are at risk** - changes fish distribution, abundance and productivity. These changes threaten small-scale fishers, coastal livelihoods and the supply of affordable animal protein, with particularly serious consequences for communities

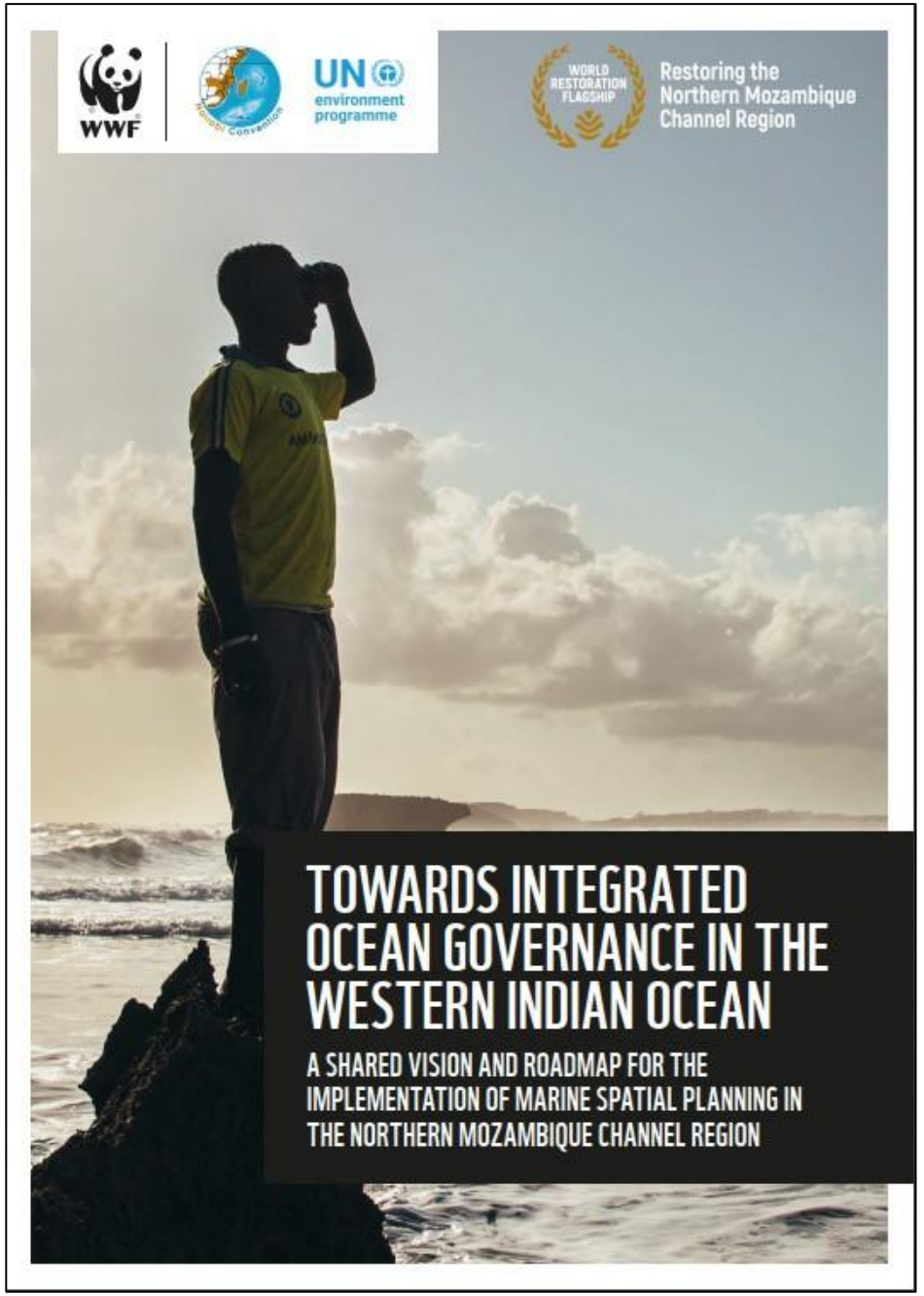




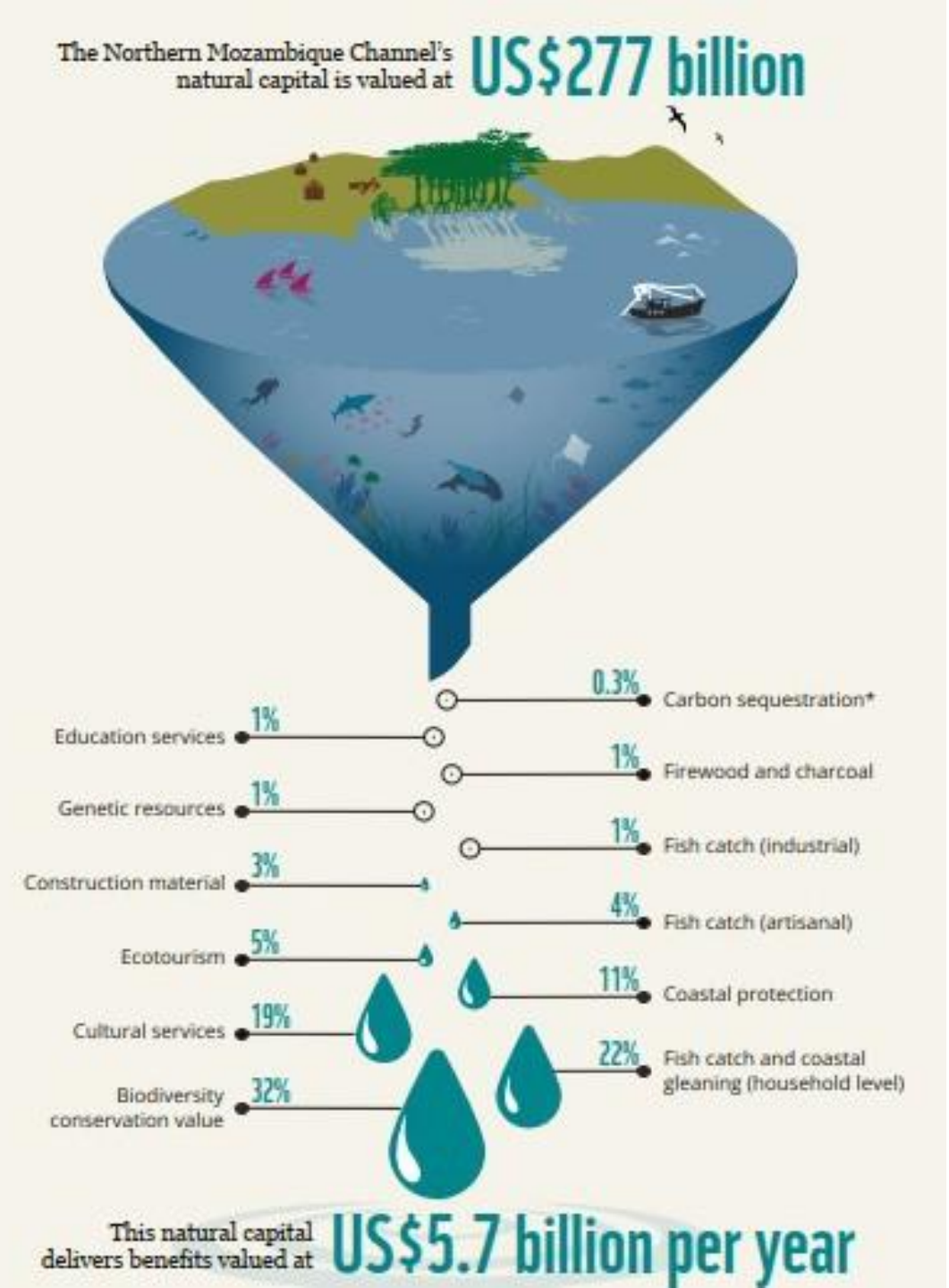
Mozambique, Madagascar and Tanzania are the three African countries most vulnerable to nutritional insecurity due shifts in fish harvests caused by climate change and overfishing

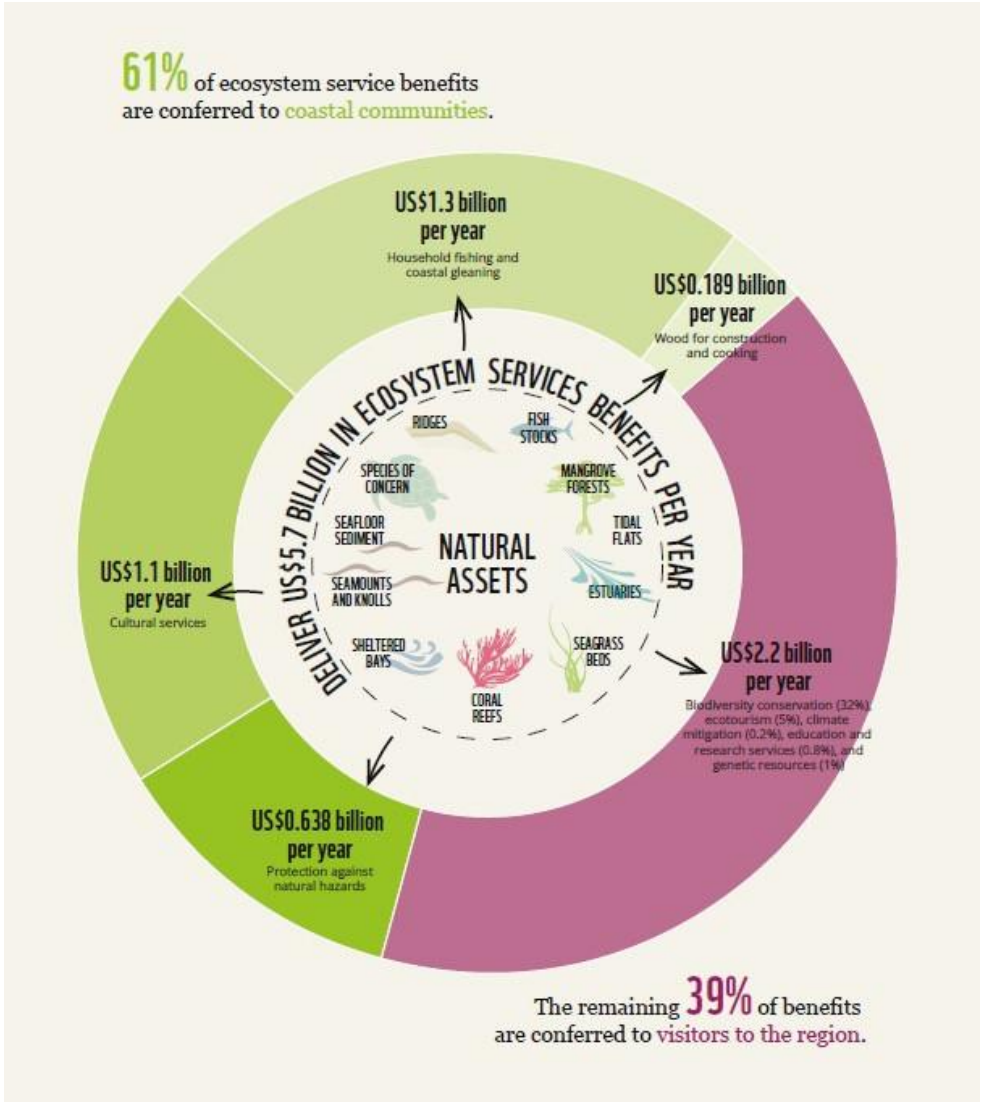
NMC countries have come together to develop a Shared Vision and Roadmap for Integrated ocean governance of the NMC





One of the most valuable ecosystems on the plant





Video: Valor do Capital Natural do Canal Norte de Moçambique



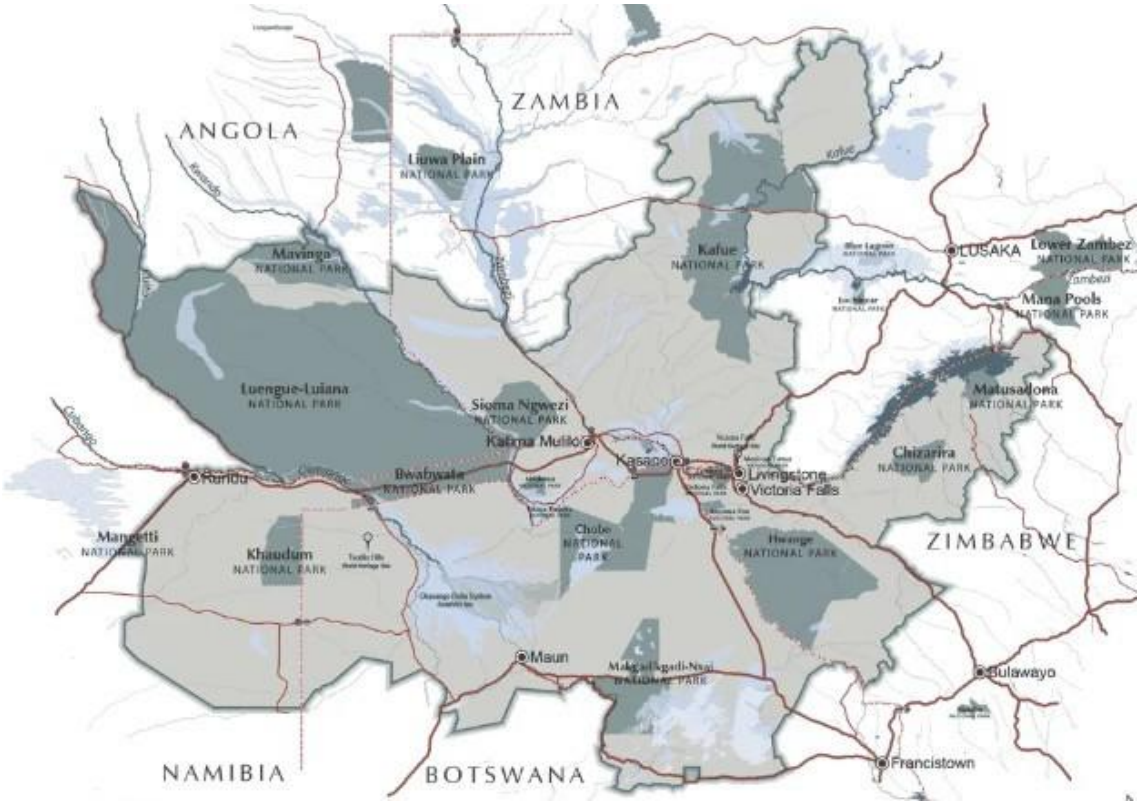




The **Northern Mozambique Channel** is therefore poised to become the **largest Marine Transfrontier Conservation** Area off the African Continent securing the food security and livelihoods of **10 million people**, underpinned by healthy ocean ecosystems vital to an **inclusive and sustainable blue economy.**

Case study: KAZA in SADC

- Multi-country area very similar to NMC
- Motivated by high levels of connectivity
- Shared governance through Kaza secretariat
- Led by governments of the 5 states with the highest authority being the Ministerial Committee



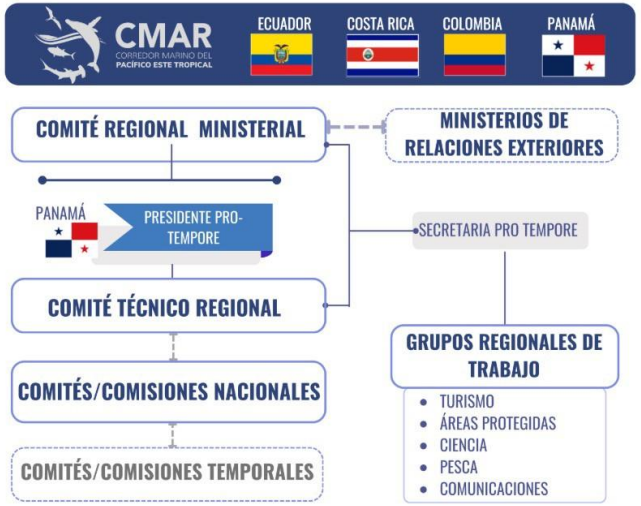


https://kavangozambezi.org /

CMAR, the Eastern Tropical Pacific



- Multi-country (5 states) area very similar to NMC
- 2 million km2 - Motivated by high levels of connectivity
- 20 years to establish
- Provides a cautionary tale - commit to a secretariat without providing dedicated capacity to run it and a financial mechanism to enable delivery
- Ministerial council
- However, it indicates that the World Bank is willing to support the establishment such cross-border secretaria t



CMAR
CORREDOR MARINO DEL PACÍFICO ESTE TROPICAL

https://www.cmarpacifico.org/

Exploring the establishment of the

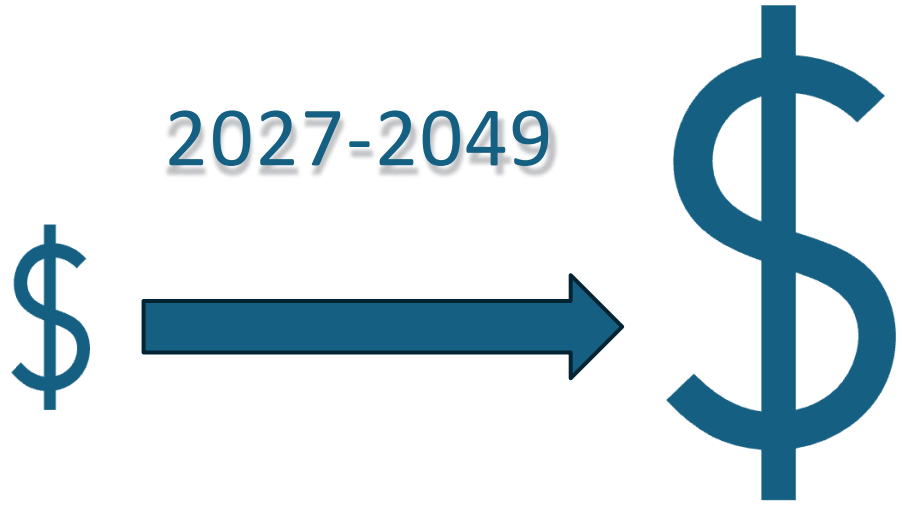
Northern Mozambique Channel Financing Facility

NMC Financing Facility

2026

40 million Sub-ordinated finance

2027-2049



Leverages 167 million US$ in grant funding for conservation

1:4 Ratio

2049 outcomes

Nature

- **10 million ha seascape secured**
- **85 Million USD endowment to secure these outcomes into perpetuity**

Blue SMMEs

- 100 community businesses - 30% income uplift
- SSF cold chain investment leading to 30% reduction in post harvest loss
- 30 bankable businesses
- Unlocking further private investment

Carbon finance

- 10 000 ha Mangrove restoration
- 150 000ha of mangrove conservation
- Unlocks further private investment

Triggering a virtuous cascade

Thank you!





OTHER EFFECTIVE AREA-BASED CONSERVATION MEASURES

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Implemented by:
giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

SADC
SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE



A. Why, What, Who & Where of OECMs
B. Marine OECMs – sharing lessons

Why?

Convention on Biological Diversity

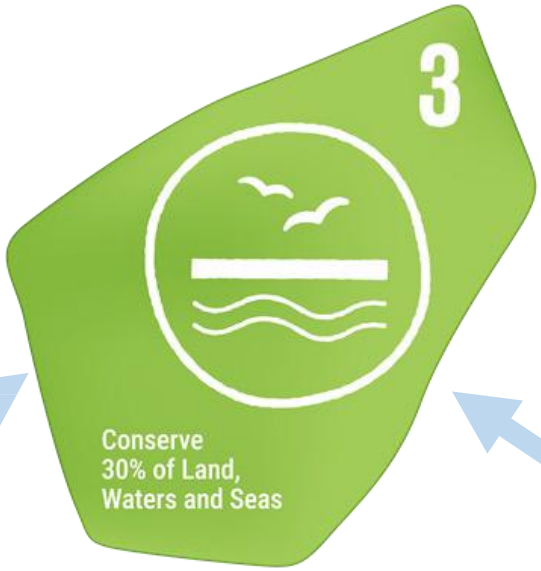


(30x30)

- 30 per cent
- importance for biodiversity & ES
- effectively conserved and managed
- equitably governed
- ecologically representative, well-connected systems of PAs and **OECMs**,
- recognizing indigenous and traditional territories
- Supporting compatible sustainable use

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Why?



Protected areas

OECMs

Indigenous & traditional territories

Let’s break it down…

What are OECMs

This is a summary of the full CBD definition (CBD, 2018).

1. A geographically defined area
2. other than a Protected Area
3. which is governed and managed
4. …achieve positive, sustained long-term conservation outcomes
5. with associated ecosystem functions and services
6. and where applicable, cultural, spiritual, socio–economic, and other locally relevant values.

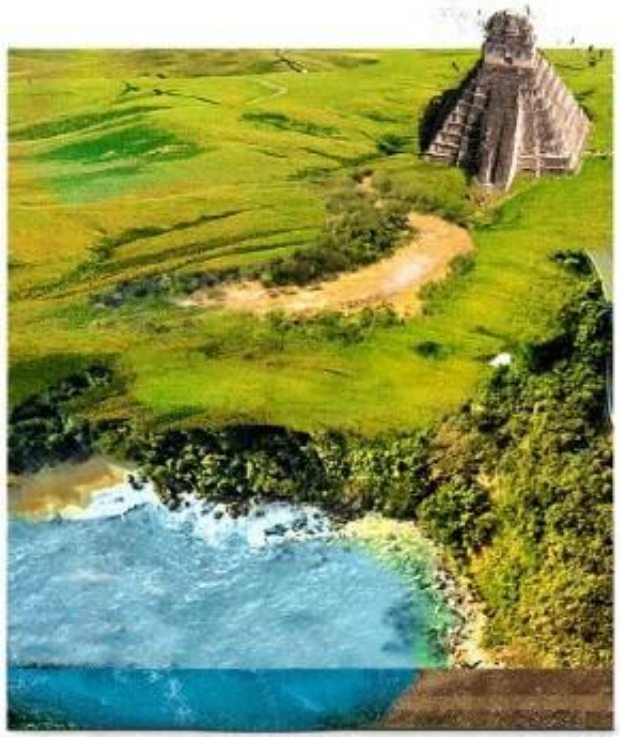
Management objectives for OECMs



Primary Conservation
A site where the conservation of biodiversity is the primary management objective. Example: privately governed area where the rightsholders do not want the site classified as a protected area.



Secondary Conservation
A site where the conservation of biodiversity is the secondary management objective.
Example: watershed protection area.



Ancillary Conservation
A site that delivers in situ biodiversity conservation as a by-product of management activities, even though this is not a management objective.
Example: archeological site.

Who Governs OECMs?

OECMs can be governed by:

A) government agencies,

B) private actors,

C) Indigenous peoples and local communities,

D) shared arrangements

Where?



Where?
Biodiversity Values

Target 3

… especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services ….

KBA
KEY BIODIVERSITY AREAS

IMPORTANT MARINE MAMMAL AREAS SPECIALIST GROUP
IUCN SSC WCPA

unesco
World Heritage Convention

RED LIST OF ECOSYSTEMS

RED LIST

Ramsar

unesco
Man and the Biosphere Programme



Not the same as PAs, but complimentary

OECMs can strengthen connectivity

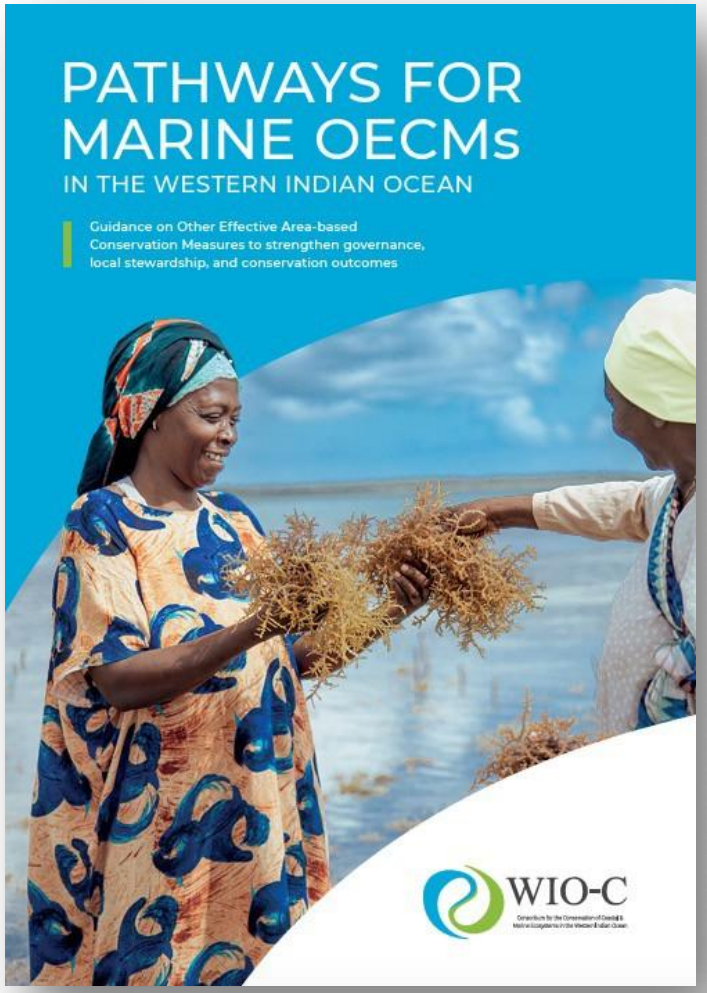


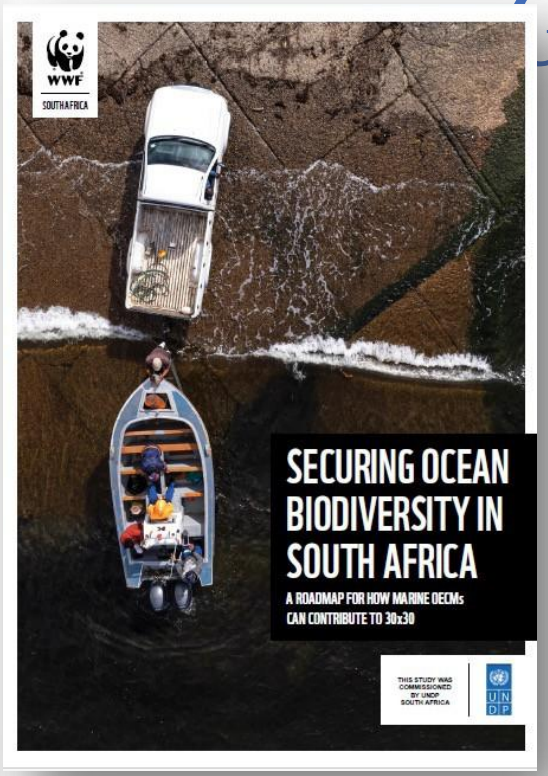
Marine OECMs

Lessons from the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem:
Angola, Namibia, South Africa



Marine OECM Guidance







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TOWARDS A COMMON FUTURE

BCLME Regional

- Technical Guidance, &
- Policy Brief

Communities

Governance & Small Scale Fisheries

The Exclusive Economic Zones are State owned and governed, so States are always part of marine OECM governance and management

The opportunity

- Customary rules and local enforcement can already deliver
- Recognition can strengthen tenure, legitimacy and access to support
- Community-led models in Madagascar, Kenya and Tanzania
- SSF communities are powerful conservation allies

Critical cautions

- **The stepping-stone fear**
  OECMs must not be a pathway to MPA restrictions
- **Elite capture**
  Benefits may be captured by larger actors
- **Tokenistic consultation**
  Communities must co-design from the start
- **Unresourced participation**
  Engagement needs time, travel and capacity

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Marine Specific Challenges?

The Governance Mosaic Challenge

What is being assessed: one measure, many layers



1 Unit of recognition

A single measure, a combination, or a whole seascape?

No rule yet for drawing the boundary

2 Protection in three dimensions

A seabed closure leaves activity above it

OECMs should not face stricter standards than MPAs

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implemented by: giz

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Who and What do we Assess?

The Governance Mosaic Challenge

Who is accountable, what recognition means, and evidence

3 Split mandates, unclear accountability

Fisheries, environment, oil and gas and transport each hold a piece.

4 Recognise what exists, keep it lasting

Add permanence, not new rules.

Permit conditions should not be changed or removed.

5 Target 3 or Target 10?

Area-based conservation or sustainable fisheries reporting?

No agreed test yet.

6 Minimum evidence, duty to monitor

User knowledge, eDNA and catch data were accepted.

Who monitors and pays is still open.

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How?

The Governance Mosaic Challenge

Where the expert groups landed

Where the groups agreed

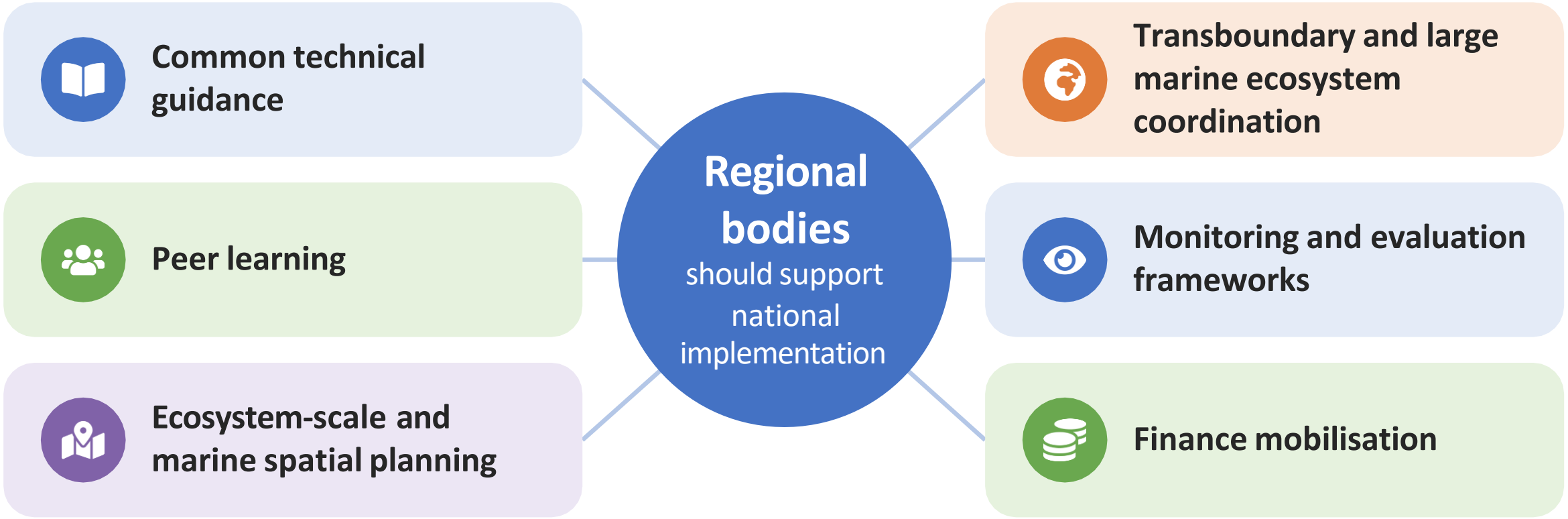
- Judge outcomes, not labels
- Assess measures together
- Early, voluntary and transparent participation
- Site-based monitoring with clear incentives

Still open

- The unit of recognition
- Treatment of the whole water column
- Target 3 versus Target 10
- Long-term monitoring finance

Regional Support

National Dialogues Supported by Regional Functions



NOT one prescribed national model

RESULT shared tools, own pathways



THANK YOU / OBRIGADO / MERCI / ASANTE

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