



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования
науки и культуры

• Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission

• Commission
océanographique
intergouvernementale

• Comisión
Oceanográfica
Intergubernamental

• Межправительственная
океанографическая
комиссия

United Nation's Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and its Relevance for Africa

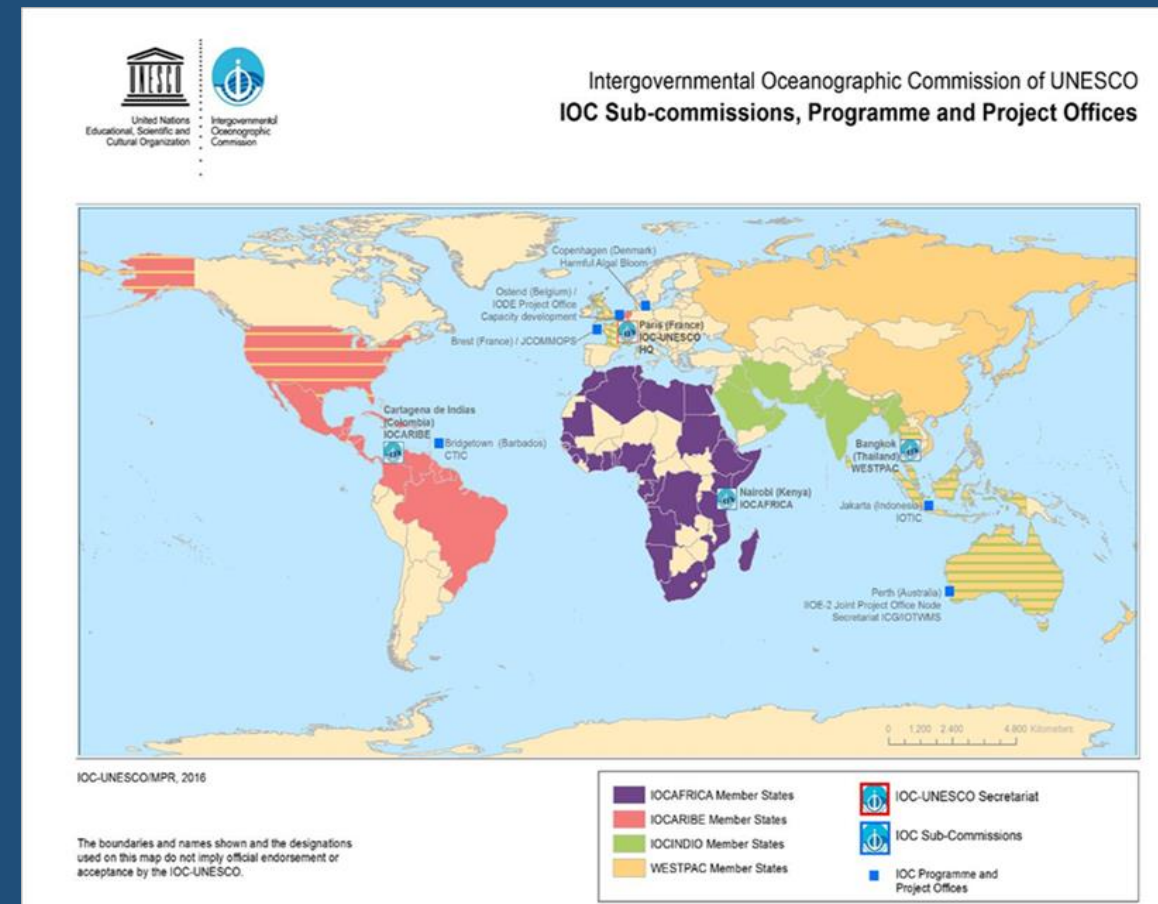
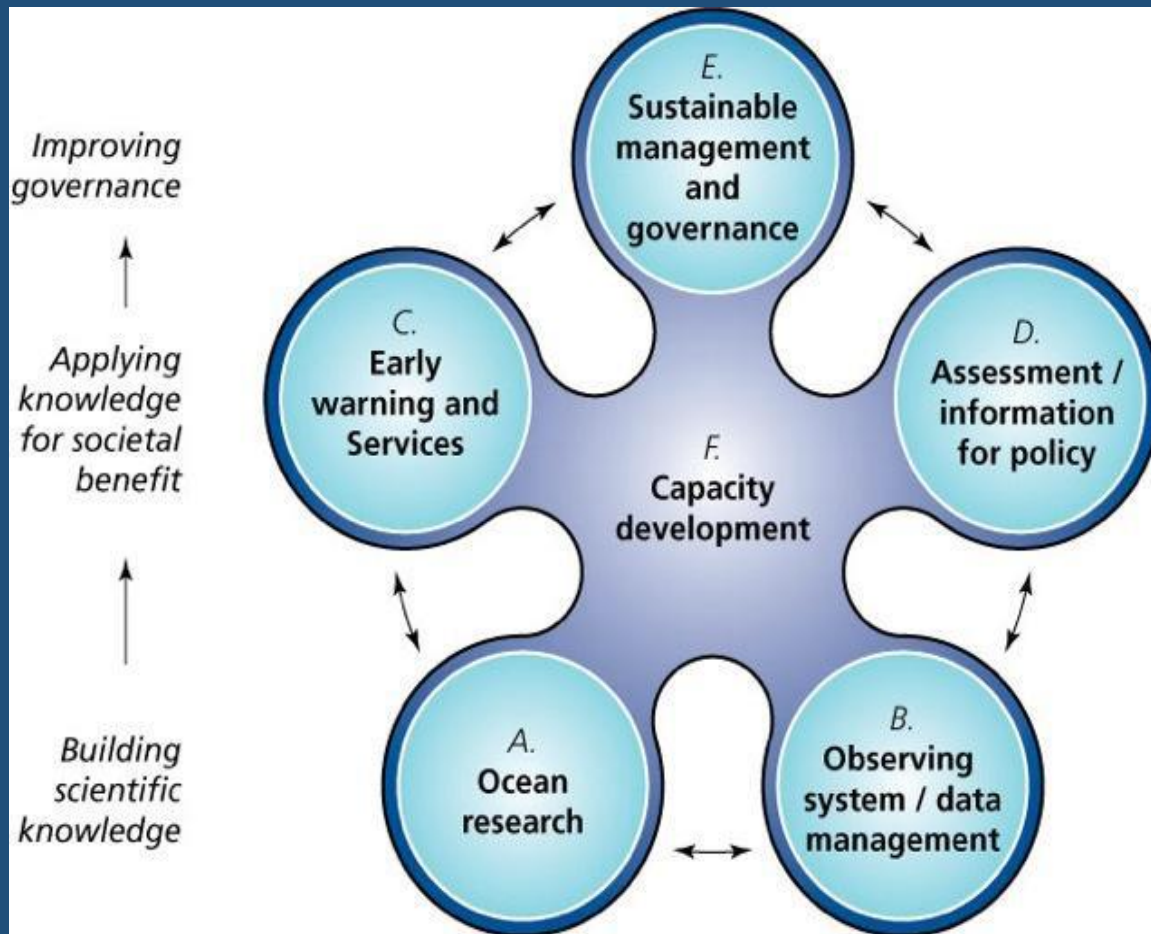
Mika Odido

IOC Coordinator in Africa

UNESCO/IOC's Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO, 1960->, 150 Member States

- Intergovernmental body of the UN system for **ocean science, observations, data exchange, services, capacity development, and science-to-governance work**

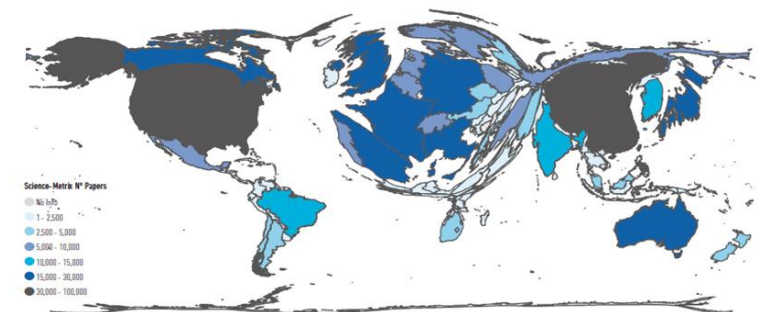


FOCUS AREAS OF IOCAFRICA.

- **Ocean Observations and Data and Information Management:**
 - ✓ Oceanographic Expeditions & Coastal Observation platforms
 - ✓ Climate variability and climate change (weather forecast & extreme events)
 - ✓ Marine Spatial Planning, Coastal/ Marine Atlases, Marine Biodiversity
- **Ocean Science and its Application to Management:**
 - ✓ Modeling and forecasts of ocean state
 - ✓ Assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems in Africa
 - ✓ Vulnerability & adaptation of marine/coastal ecosystems to climate change
 - ✓ Harmful Algal Bloom: Detection and Early Warning
 - ✓ Ocean Acidification: Observation and Research
 - ✓ Marine Pollution: Survey and assessment
- **Capacity Development for Marine Science and Technology and Ocean Literacy:**
 - ✓ Basic training in the ocean sciences (UNESCO Chairs in Universities, Research Institutions, development of portal for training opportunities,)
 - ✓ Continuous Professional Development (Focused workshops, Regional Training Centres, Fellowships,
 - ✓ Ocean Literacy (Artwork/Essay competitions, exhibitions, conferences,
 - ✓ Partnerships and collaboration (WIOMSA, UNEP, National Institutions)



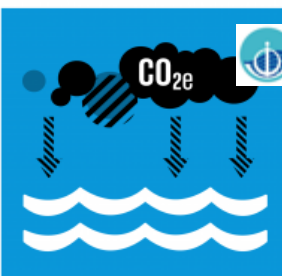
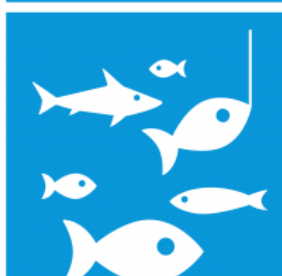



AFRICA BLUE ECONOMY STRATEGY




- PORT AND SHIPPING
- FISHERY
- AQUACULTURE
- SUSTAINABLE BLUE ENERGY
- COASTAL TOURSIM
- BLUE CARBON AND OTHER ECOSYSTEMS



SDG 14: Conserve and Sustainably Use Oceans, Seas and Marine Resources for Sustainable Development



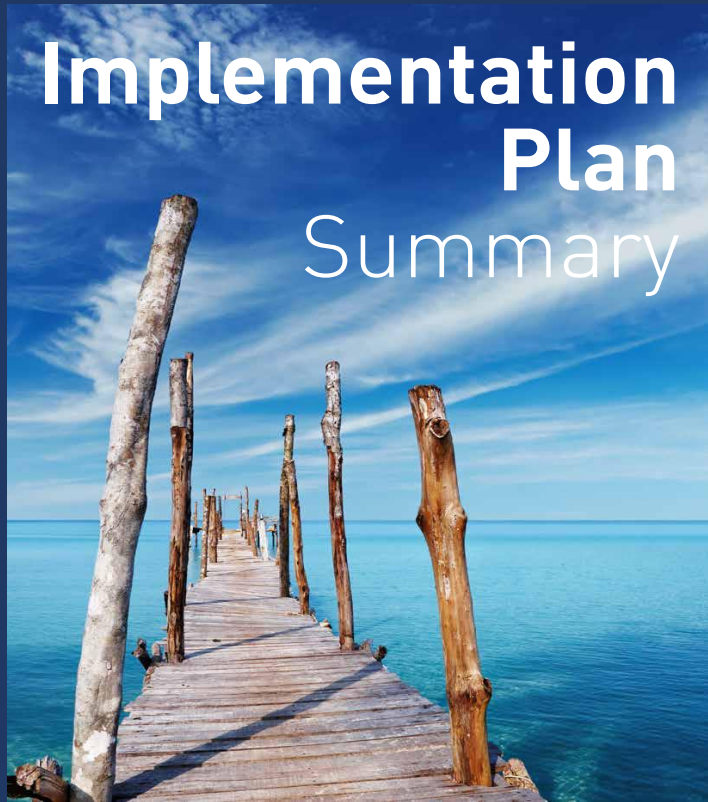
<p>TARGET 14-1</p>  <p>REDUCE MARINE POLLUTION</p>	<p>TARGET 14-2</p>  <p>PROTECT AND RESTORE ECOSYSTEMS</p>	<p>TARGET 14-3</p>  <p>REDUCE OCEAN ACIDIFICATION</p>	<p>TARGET 14-4</p>  <p>SUSTAINABLE FISHING</p>	<p>TARGET 14-5</p>  <p>CONSERVE COASTAL AND MARINE AREAS</p>	<p>TARGET 14-6</p>  <p>END SUBSIDIES CONTRIBUTING TO OVERFISHING</p>	<p>TARGET 14-7</p>  <p>INCREASE THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS FROM SUSTAINABLE USE OF MARINE RESOURCES</p>
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<p>TARGET 14-A</p>  <p>INCREASE SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FOR OCEAN HEALTH</p>	<p>TARGET 14-B</p>  <p>SUPPORT SMALL SCALE FISHERS</p>	<p>TARGET 14-C</p>  <p>IMPLEMENT AND ENFORCE INTERNATIONAL SEA LAW</p>
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14.1	UNEP supported by IOC-UNESCO	Tier III	2025
14.2	UNEP supported by IOC-UNESCO	Tier III	2020
14.3	IOC-UNESCO	Tier II	-
14.4	FAO	Tier I	2020
14.5	UNEP-WCMC supported by IUCN	Tier I	2020
14.6	FAO	Tier II	2020
14.7	FAO supported by UNEP-WCMC	Tier III	2030
14.A	IOC-UNESCO	Tier II	-
14.B	FAO	Tier II	-
14.C	DOALOS	Tier III	-



GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNITED NATIONS 2017



Implementation Plan Summary

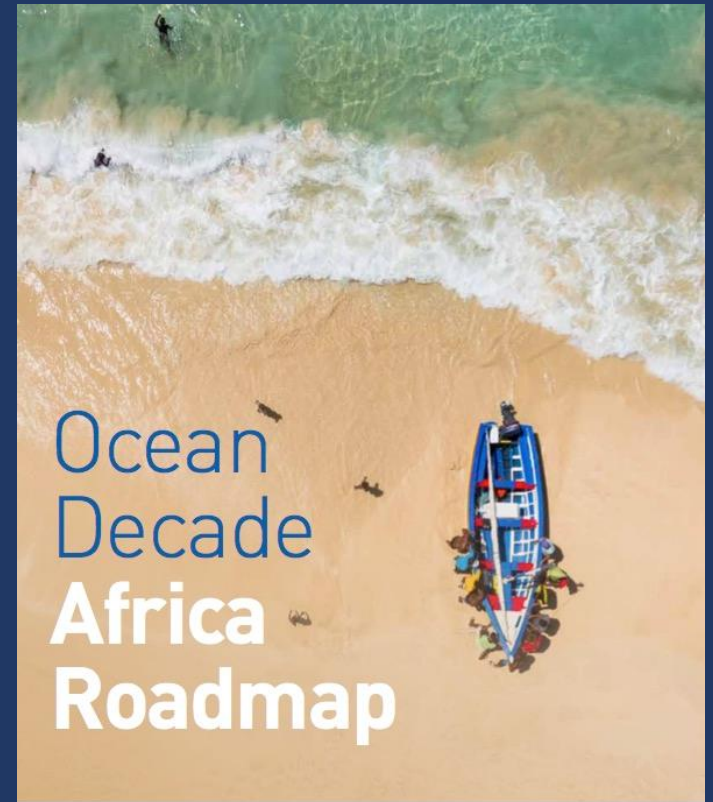
The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development
(2021–2030)



Vision
*The science
we need
for the ocean
we want*



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development



Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap

The United Nations
Decade of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development
2021–2030





The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)

Decade's Vision: **To provide the knowledge system needed for policy and action to achieve a global ocean supporting sustainable development by 2030 and beyond**











(The Ocean We Need for the Future We Want)



OUTCOMES

- ✓ A clean ocean
- ✓ A healthy and resilient ocean
- ✓ A productive ocean
- ✓ A predicted ocean
- ✓ A safe ocean
- ✓ An inspiring and engaging ocean

CHALLENGES

- CHALLENGE 1 Understand and beat marine pollution 
- CHALLENGE 2 Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity 
- CHALLENGE 3 Sustainably feed the global population 
- CHALLENGE 4 Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy 
- CHALLENGE 5 Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change 
- CHALLENGE 6 Increase community resilience to ocean hazards 
- CHALLENGE 7 Expand the Global Ocean Observing System 
- CHALLENGE 8 Create a digital representation of the Ocean 
- CHALLENGE 9 Skills, knowledge and technology for all 
- CHALLENGE 10 Change humanity's relationship with the ocean 

Ocean Decade Roadmap for Africa

Preparatory Process

FIGURE 3

Steps in the development of the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap.

- ▶ Nairobi Consultation (January 2020)
- ▶ Extensive literature review
- ▶ Surveys



REGIONAL GAP ANALYSIS



LIST OF PRIORITY FUTURE DECADE ACTIONS



- ▶ Consultation of outcomes at the pre-conference workshops (January 2022)

- ▶ African Conference on Priority Setting & Partnership Development for the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (May 2022)



LAUNCH OF OCEAN DECADE AFRICA ROADMAP

Regional Consultations on the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) for Africa and the Adjacent Island States, 27-29 January 2020, Nairobi, Kenya.

Collaboration with UNEP, WIOMSA, GIZ, CORDIO, SCOR

- 1. *Harnessing the demographic dividend*** by empowering the huge pool of youthful population. The focus should be on getting them into ocean sciences through ***focused ocean literacy programmes, supporting skills development and mentoring*** to enable them fit in the job market and creating new opportunities for employment.
- The Decade should ***catalyse research*** in the following fields: marine renewable energy and deep ocean water applications; bioprospecting, biotechnology and pharmaceuticals; mariculture and offshore aquaculture; climate change impacts and the oceans-climate nexus; baseline monitoring of essential ocean variables; mapping ecosystems and habitats; ***and linking the research results to societal applications.***
- 3. Improving the quality and quantity of research outputs.*** Scientists and institutions should think beyond producing publications to ***transforming lives through innovation and robust application of ocean science.***
- Ocean research in the region should be ***strengthened through stronger integration of sciences, greater investment in ocean observing systems and improved science-policy interface.*** New partnerships should be developed, supported by a new ocean-climate finance, and improved ocean literacy and education to modify social norms and behavior...
- Establishment of ***university-based ocean innovation incubator hubs, supported by the private sector,*** to serve as a conduit to transform research results to action via technological development that is adapted to regional and local contexts and led by African researchers.

Ocean Decade Roadmap for Africa: *Preparatory Process*

FIGURE 3

**Steps in the development of
the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap.**

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REGIONAL GAP ANALYSIS

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**LAUNCH OF
OCEAN DECADE
AFRICA ROADMAP**



**Identification of Priorities,
Gaps and Needs**
(in collaboration with WIOMSA)



*Mapped to the Ocean Decade
Challenges*

Ocean Decade Challenge	Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa	Identified issues and gaps
<p data-bbox="38 207 560 321">1. Understand and beat marine pollution</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="649 207 1465 528">➤ Understanding causes and impacts of the decline of water quality due to marine litter and micro plastics, oil spills, chemical pollution and eutrophication <li data-bbox="649 542 1465 671">➤ Identifying multi-stressor hotspots 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1490 207 2522 328">➤ Inadequate harmonized methodology for regional assessments <li data-bbox="1490 342 2522 464">➤ Different capabilities to respond to marine pollution <li data-bbox="1490 478 2522 664">➤ Limited source-to-sink understanding and assessment of pollutants, including impacts on human health
<p data-bbox="38 706 522 892">2. Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="649 706 1465 828">➤ Understanding healthy and resilient marine ecosystems <li data-bbox="649 842 1465 963">➤ Biodiversity, including species diversity and taxonomy <li data-bbox="649 978 1465 1035">➤ Alien and invasive species <li data-bbox="649 1049 1465 1170">➤ Structure and functioning of the ocean <li data-bbox="649 1185 1465 1306">➤ Linkages between ecosystem services and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1490 706 2522 899">➤ Insufficient fundamental knowledge/research on species diversity and taxonomy <li data-bbox="1490 913 2522 1170">➤ Insufficient understanding of ecosystem functions and services supported by different ecosystems at the scale required by relevant management <li data-bbox="1490 1185 2522 1363">➤ Limited mapping of marine and coastal ecosystems (e.g. for marine protected areas - MPAs)

Ocean Decade Challenge	Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa	Identified issues and gaps
<p data-bbox="61 194 522 301">3. Sustainably feed the global population</p> 	<ul data-bbox="596 194 1238 544" style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Fisheries and aquaculture, including data, assessments, ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, enforcement and governance 	<ul data-bbox="1245 194 2491 908" style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Key knowledge gaps related to data on fish catch and fishing effort ➤ Irregular assessments of fish stocks ➤ Limited reliable information on the nature and extent of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the EEZ, high seas and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) ➤ Limited understanding of the effects of unsustainable exploitation of resources, other anthropogenic factors, climate variability and change on marine ecosystems ➤ Weak enforcement of national and international laws and regulations; impacts of ineffective governance on marine ecosystems
<p data-bbox="61 948 550 1115">4. Develop a sustainable and equitable ocean economy</p> 	<ul data-bbox="596 948 1238 1353" style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Ocean science in support of the development of a sustainable ocean economy, including data and observations, evaluation of environmental change scenarios 	<ul data-bbox="1245 948 2491 1358" style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inadequate recognition of the role of relevant partnerships, public-private alliances and university networks as engine of environmental research, understanding and management, and providing the competent work force in a fast-changing environment ➤ Inadequate capacity for and development of entrepreneurship in a sustainable ocean economy

Ocean Decade Challenge	Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa	Identified issues and gaps
<p data-bbox="38 211 407 375">5. Unlock ocean-based solutions to climate change</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Trends/changes in environmental conditions and long-term monitoring ➤ Numerical modelling, forecasting, indicators ➤ Impacts on marine ecosystems ➤ Climate processes at local and regional scales, and for different time scales 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highly variable ocean modelling expertise and resources ➤ Limited high-resolution weather and climate information ➤ Limited forecast modelling of extreme events and their impacts on coastal zone management; and projections of warming in view of MPAs
<p data-bbox="38 658 471 822">6. Increase community resilience to ocean hazards</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early warning systems for ocean-related hazards and extreme events, including vulnerability to flooding, enhanced frequency and duration of tropical cyclones, storm surges, tsunamis etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Limited comprehensive assessments of climate-related risks, including extreme weather events in a changing climate, sea level rise, temperature increase, flooding, and incidence of invasive species ➤ Inadequate operational platforms and decision support systems to address tsunamis generated by different sources, e.g. seismic activity, volcanoes, landslides, atmosphere ➤ Need for the integration of operational platforms with progressive geological processes such as erosion or accretion, and the undersea environment ➤ Need for assessments of the risk of climate change on the ecosystem and human environment in the coastal zone and deep sea

Ocean Decade Challenge	Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa	Identified issues and gaps
<p data-bbox="0 165 415 337">7. Expand the global ocean observing system</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="466 165 1161 272">➤ Ocean observations and monitoring <li data-bbox="466 279 1161 501">➤ Modelling and forecasting of ocean processes and ecosystems, including coupled ocean-atmosphere models <li data-bbox="466 508 1161 615">➤ Ocean data and information management <li data-bbox="466 622 1161 729">➤ Emerging technologies for ocean observations and monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1187 165 2512 329">➤ Inadequate common platforms for data sharing; incompatible metadata formats; incompatible data (data existing in printed format/file type) <li data-bbox="1187 337 2512 501">➤ Key shortcoming related to access to data (ownership e.g. lack of access to oil and gas industry data), data quality, lack of standardized observing parameters, and gaps in the types of data collected <li data-bbox="1187 508 2512 615">➤ Gaps in sustained in-situ observations for several Essential Ocean Variables (EOVs) <li data-bbox="1187 622 2512 729">➤ Weak multidisciplinary approaches to observation, monitoring and modelling
<p data-bbox="0 775 428 946">8. Create a digital representation of the ocean</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="466 775 1161 996">➤ Digital representation of the ocean, mapping of the ocean floor in Africa including a dynamic ocean map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1187 775 2512 939">➤ Need for training on data collection, analysis, and interpretation (including capacity building in programs and software to analyse different environmental datasets) <li data-bbox="1187 946 2512 1053">➤ Inadequate common platform for data sharing, adaptation of technologies, facilities and infrastructure within Africa <li data-bbox="1187 1061 2512 1225">➤ Identified gap in research programmes on ocean policy agenda in order to analyse objectives, identify priorities, align teaching/research/outreach activities capable of impacting on policy <li data-bbox="1187 1232 2512 1339">➤ Need to better manage, develop and transfer know-how within the contributing research community

Ocean Decade Challenge	Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa	Identified issues and gaps
<p data-bbox="43 158 512 268">9. Skills knowledge and technology for all</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="639 158 1396 268">➤ Ocean training, research capacities and opportunities <li data-bbox="639 282 1396 454">➤ Equitable access to data, information, knowledge and technology <li data-bbox="639 468 1396 572">➤ Transformative partnerships for the sustainable development of oceans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1444 158 2491 325">➤ Challenges in data sharing due to lack of common platforms, and incompatible metadata and data formats <li data-bbox="1444 339 2491 454">➤ Insufficient standardized policies in relation to access and sharing of data <li data-bbox="1444 468 2491 515">➤ Limited trust between organizations to share data <li data-bbox="1444 529 2491 576">➤ Limited technical capacities and resources <li data-bbox="1444 591 2491 811">➤ Need to empower local/regional scientists with skills and tools to enable them to analyse and interpret the large number of data sets available in the region
<p data-bbox="43 828 596 938">10. Change humanity's relationship with the ocean</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="639 828 1411 1300">➤ Improved ocean literacy and better communication to improve humanity's relationship with the ocean, recognition and better understanding of the multiple values of the ocean for human well-being, culture and sustainable development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1444 828 2448 995">● Insufficient appropriate tools for the dissemination of climate information related to coastal and oceanic areas <li data-bbox="1444 1009 2448 1176">● Inadequate effective communication between science and policy; need for improved ocean literacy and better communication <li data-bbox="1444 1190 2448 1358">● Limited funding available to promote outreach programmes to educate the public on issues of sustainability and conservation

Ocean Decade Challenge	Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa	Identified issues and gaps
Cross-cutting themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Marine spatial planning (MSP) and integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)➤ Ocean science-policy interface➤ Ocean governance, including Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Limited participation of African countries in the BBNJ negotiations

Ocean Decade Roadmap for Africa

Preparatory Process

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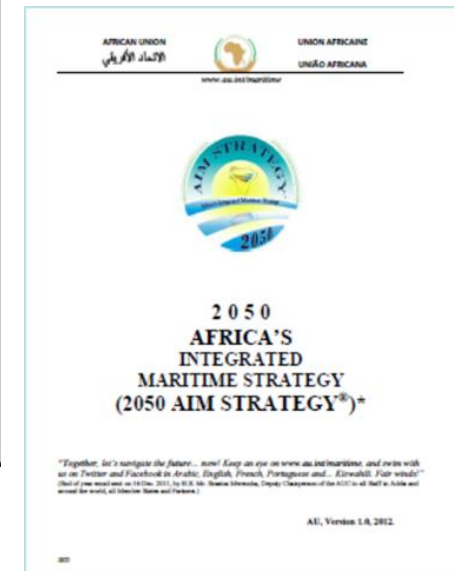
LAUNCH OF OCEAN DECADE AFRICA ROADMAP

The UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)

To provide the knowledge system needed for policy and action to achieve a global ocean supporting sustainable development by 2030 and beyond

Ocean Decade in Africa

- Coastal and ocean waters in Africa are increasingly gaining importance as a potential source of economic growth and employment
- Clear links and synergies with other regional frameworks, e.g.
 - Decade of African Seas and Oceans (2015-2025)
 - African Union Agenda 2063: 'The Africa We Want'
 - 2050 Africa's Integrated Maritime Strategy (2050 AIM Strategy)
 - Africa Blue Economy Strategy (2019)



Africa Roadmap: Purpose and Structure

*The Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap provides a **vision and plan** for diverse stakeholders from government, industry, philanthropy, UN agencies, civil society and the scientific community, to **convene around a common set of priorities** for the implementation of the Ocean Decade in Africa.*

The aims of the Africa Roadmap are to:

- provide a **coordinated and optimized framework** for ocean science planning and delivery
- **enhance coordination** between agencies and **build synergies** between research initiatives, and users of ocean science and knowledge
- **provide a foundation** to monitor the achievement of priorities and outcomes

<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381488>

OCEAN DECADE CHALLENGES



Pollutants



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development



Ecosystems



Food from the Ocean



Ocean economy



Ocean-climate nexus



Ocean-related risks



Ocean observing system



Ocean digital representation



Capacity development

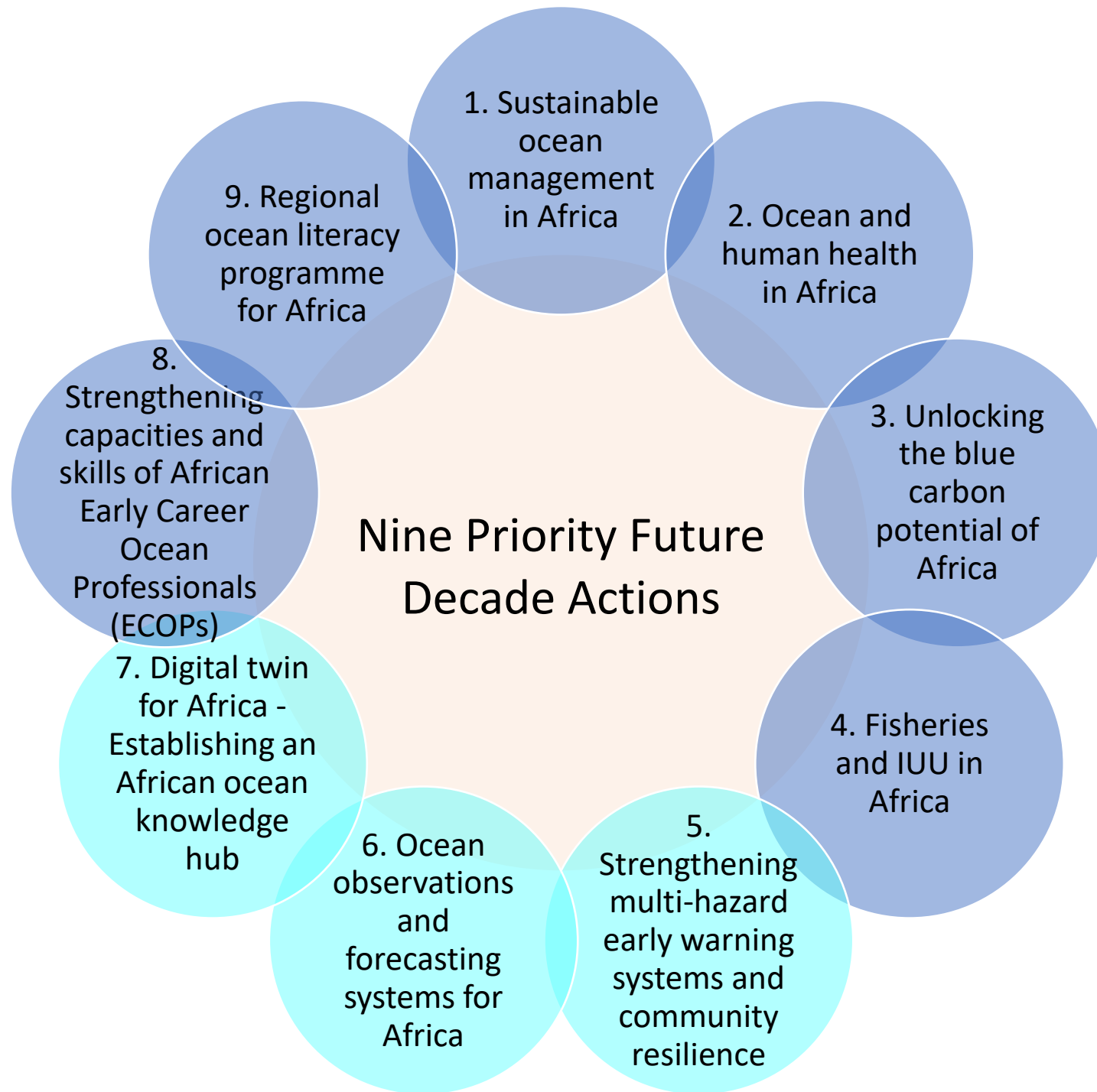


Behaviour change

9 DECADE ACTION AREAS for AFRICA



- Sustainable Ocean Management in Africa
- Ocean and Human Health in Africa
- Fisheries in Africa versus Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing
- Unlocking the Blue Carbon Potential of Africa
- Strengthening Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems and Community Resilience
- Ocean Observations and Forecasting Systems for Africa
- Digital Twin for Africa - Establishing an African Ocean Knowledge Hub
- Strengthening Capacities and Skills of African Early Career Ocean Professionals (ECOPs)
- Regional Ocean Literacy Programme for Africa



The **Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap** serves as a call for African organizational and individual champions to take the initiative and lead the co-design and co-delivery of Decade Actions to tackle the pressing challenges in Africa.

5. Strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems and community resilience

- Close the gaps on observation data between sub regions
- Develop tools for observing, forecasting, warning and anticipating climatic hazards, e.g. operational platform and decision-support systems to address tsunamis generated by different sources
- Promote research on extreme events (extreme cyclones and swells, etc.) through the development of coupled sea-atmosphere modelling tools.
- Work with policy-makers, local communities and disaster risk management authorities to influence policy and planning for community resilience
- Capacity development and ocean literacy components to increase awareness and understanding of risks and response measures.

6. Ocean observations and forecasting systems for Africa

- Strengthen the Africa components of the ocean observations network as part of the overall development of the GOOS
- Address specific needs to develop a network of ocean observation systems and regional forecasting models of ocean circulation, to provide baseline information on the oceanographic, biogeochemical and ecological state, changes and trends of the large marine ecosystems in Africa, and long-term coastal observations at key locations.
- Include harmonized approaches to data standards, metadata and processing of big data.
- Work with industry and other stakeholders to optimize the collection of ocean observations by private or commercial vessels to feed into the observations system.

7. Digital twin for Africa - Establishing an African ocean knowledge hub

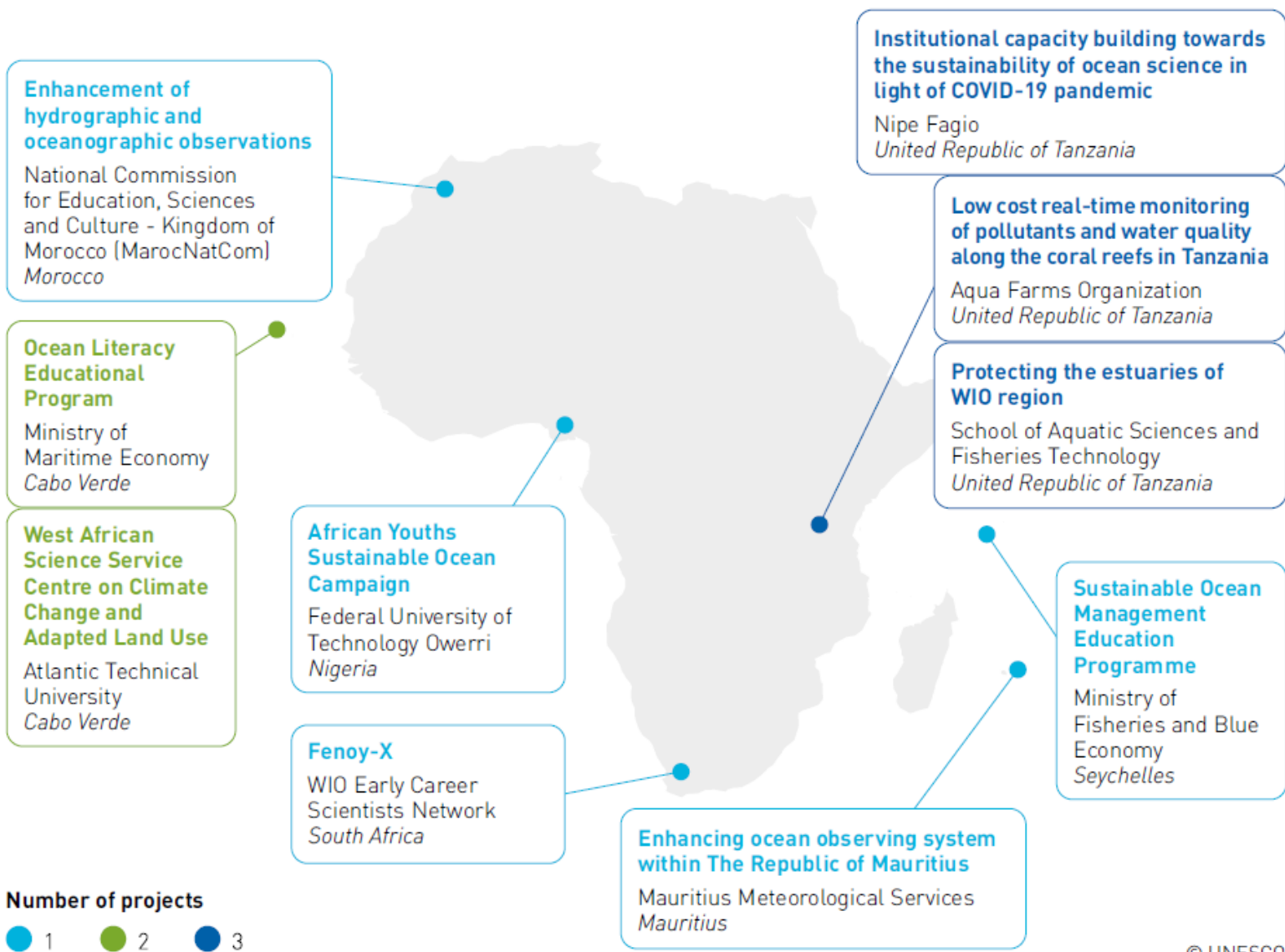
This Action will:

- Establish and advance the development of a regional 'digital twin' for Africa for centralizing marine data, modelling and simulations with artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms, specialized tools, and best practices.
- Provide access to data and information required to develop human, environmental and economic scenarios, addressing issues such as energy, mining, fisheries, tourism and nature-based solutions, thus contributing to the knowledge base required for the development of sustainable ocean plans.
- Involve a strong element of co-design to ensure that the priority datasets, applications and services that were developed as part of the digital twin respond to the needs of ocean users.
- Include a specific focus on indigenous and local knowledge.
- Capacity development will be integrated into all aspects of the Action both in the development of the digital twin and in the use of the applications and services.
- Engagement with actors from technology and innovation sectors will ensure that the technology used is adapted to the local context.

Ocean Decade in Africa

- Under-representation of African organizations in the endorsed Actions was identified as a key gap
 - None of the currently endorsed Decade Programmes are led by African institutions
- 10 Projects led by African organizations from first call for Decade Actions (2021)
 - African partners/countries involved in 13 endorsed Programmes and 1 contribution
- National Decade Committees have been established in Africa (Angola, Cabo Verde, Madagascar and Nigeria)

**Number of Decade Projects resulting from the first Call for Decade Actions
(No. 01/2020) led by African organizations.**



Enabling Environment

- Capacity development (e.g. ECOPs)
- Equitable and inclusive partnerships (intra-, inter-regional, including with African diaspora)
- Gender and Indigenous and Local Knowledge (ILK)
- Resource mobilization

- Coordinated and effective implementation of the Roadmap
 - regional networking platform for National Decade Committees
 - regional taskforce is being developed
 - to oversee and promote the implementation of the Roadmap and the enabling environment necessary for its success

=> A call for nominations for the taskforce will be launched in the near future via the Ocean Decade website

LEAD OR PARTICIPATE IN A DECADE ACTION

Decade Actions will be implemented by a wide range of proponents throughout the Decade. Regular Calls for Actions will be released twice per year. Visit www.oceandecade.org to learn more about the Call for Decade Actions No. 03/2022.

JOIN THE GLOBAL STAKEHOLDER FORUM

The Global Stakeholder Forum will serve as the primary engagement mechanism for the Ocean Decade, announcing opportunities for funding and partnerships, workshops and trainings, meetings, conferences, and input on calls for future Decade Actions. Sign up today to join the Global Stakeholder Forum at forum.oceandecade.org



HOW TO ENGAGE?

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE OCEAN DECADE ALLIANCE

The Ocean Decade Alliance is a key mechanism for resource mobilization during the Decade and will act as a matchmaker between resource providers and proponents of Decade Actions – in line with the priorities of the Decade. Visit <https://www.oceandecade.org/ocean-decade-alliance> to learn more

ESTABLISH OR JOIN A REGIONAL OR NATIONAL DECADE COMMITTEE

Coordination at the national and regional level will foster inclusion, engage national stakeholders and facilitate regional and national contributions to the Decade, as well as to promote awareness and interest. These voluntary and multi-stakeholder platforms will be key in linking national action to the international Ocean Decade framework. Learn more about national and regional groups on www.oceandecade.org



One Planet, One Ocean

UNESCO/IOC's Sub Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Island States (IOCAFRICA)

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