

Blue Economy in the SADC Region

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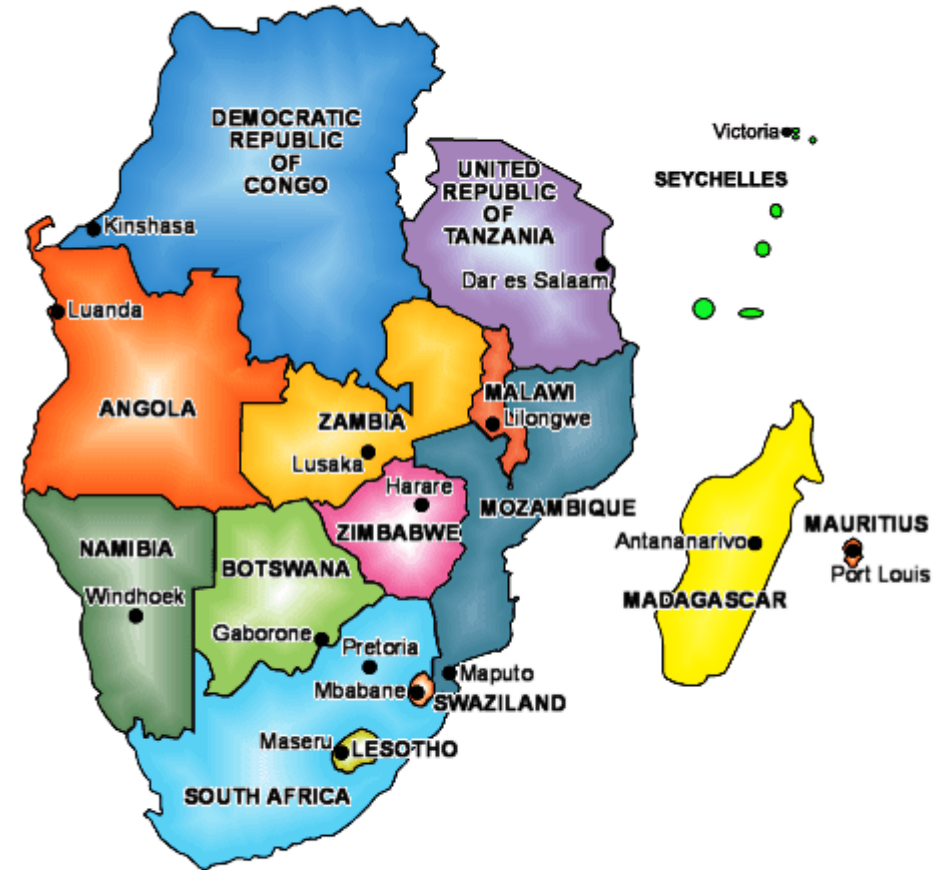
Background

The 16 member SADC countries boast of two large marine ecosystems (LMEs) that are abound with rich transboundary natural resources (Benguela Current & Agulhas Current)

6 Coastal mainland states

4 Island States

SADC Member States



Source: <http://sadcmap.com/about-us/>
NB: Comoros not depicted



Aspirations

- To develop a fully fledged Regional Blue Economy Strategy and Action Plan
- Improvement of fisheries governance and establishment of Blue Economy trade corridors in the SADC Region
- On food security SADC envisages improving management and utilization of fisheries resources and developing aquaculture and mariculture. Operationalisation of the regional fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre (MCSCC)
- Strengthen Oceans governance for a Sustainable Blue Economy; Ocean accounting/Science-policy interphase



Partnerships & Opportunities

- **ILO:** Development of the Blue Economy in African Island States: Decent work, Prosperity, Sustainability (2021-2025)

AIS are susceptible to economic and trade shocks and face greater risks of being marginalised in the global economy. Most of them also observe a large informal employment sector, high poverty rates, social protection systems still being built, similar migration patterns, and a daunting challenge to create jobs for the youth population. None uniform growth and jobless growth are also common characteristics of AIS. *(International Labour Organization, November 2019)*

- **AU:** Developed a continental strategy and an action plan for a 5-10 year period to improve the Blue Economy of Africa;

A framework for the coordination of the Blue Print for the Blue Economy in Africa, which identifies appropriate regional, sub-regional and national entities to backstop and provide substantive technical support to the Blue Print;



Opportunities

- UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)- framework to achieve SDG 14 by 2030.
- Great Blue Wall: launched at COP26 by WIO States and partners to conserve and restore marine and coastal biodiversity while unlocking development opportunities
- Opportunity for the adoption of Nature base Solutions(NbS) to strengthens ocean base infrastructural development and coastal communities livelihoods resilience to support Nationally Determined Contribution(NDC) and SADC climate Change Strategy and Action Plan.
- Opportunity to develop a Community of Practice in coastal communities to enhance adaptation and resilience to Climate impacts and disasters (GCCA+ Pilot project).
- Support in development of Marine Protected Areas (SA/Moz MarineTFCA)



Gaps/ Challenges

- Policy and regulatory gaps
- Impacts of Climate Change/Climate vulnerability
- Inadequate technical and financial resources
- Maritime security, as a condition for peace, security and development in our region





Thank you!
Merci Beaucoup!
Obrigado!
Asanteni Sana!

