



Authors Write Shop

**Assessment of the Contribution of Maritime Sectors to Kenya's Blue Economy: Values, Potentials
and Governance Frameworks**

Virtual Microsoft Teams

Date: 2– 4 August 2021

REPORT

Background of the Write Shop

The Nairobi Convention Contracting Parties adopted decision CP9/10.1 at the Ninth Conference of Parties (COP 9) held in Kenya in August 2018 and agreed to advance blue/ocean economy approaches in the context of Sustainable Development Goal 14 as pathways for sustained incomes and economic benefits from natural blue capital including fisheries, tourism, oil and gas development, renewable energy, and other maritime activities. Further to COP 9, the Government of Kenya hosted the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference (SBEC) in November 2018. In the Nairobi Statement of Intent on Advancing the Global Sustainable Blue Economy, the outcome document of the SBEC2, countries charted a new paradigm for an economically vibrant, socially inclusive and environmentally resilient blue/ocean economy. One of the commitments made by Kenya was the establishment at the University of Nairobi of an Institute for Blue Economy and Ocean Studies (IBEOS) (The Maritime Centre/Fishforce Academy). The main purpose of the Maritime Centre is to undertake research and offer technical assistance and capacity building in all matters relating to the ocean, and the sustainable use of its resources.

In this context, the Nairobi Convention Secretariat is partnering with the Maritime Centre of the University of Nairobi to assess the current status of sectors that contribute to the blue economy in Kenya. The objective of the assessment is to provide an overview on the contribution, values and potential of the various maritime sectors of the blue economy. Further, the overview will provide recommendations and policy options on the sectors with the highest potential, together with criteria for prioritisation both in the short and long-term, for the Government of Kenya to pursue in the development of its strategy for a blue economy. In addition to the expected benefits to the Government of Kenya, the process followed in this assessment will provide guidance to other countries of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region that wish to undertake a similar exercise

The process is being undertaken in collaboration with input from 7 key sector experts under the overall guidance and coordination of the Maritime Centre of the University of Nairobi and the Nairobi Convention Secretariat. The selected experts of the 7 different sectors have so far written the draft reports, therefore the write shop was organised for the reports to be presented to UNEP-Nairobi Convention Secretariat, authors of the other sector reports, and other selected personnel to get their inputs and comments to help improve the reports before finalizing and sharing them with other stakeholders.

Write shop Objectives

The write shop aimed at improving the sector reports presented by the different experts as well as assessing the draft final synthesis report. Specifically, the write shop was organised to:

- a. Enable the participants get a clear overview of the different sector reports drafted by the different experts.
- b. Provide the participants an opportunity to help improve the final drafts of the different sector reports.
- c. Contribute to the preparation of a comprehensive synthesis report that will analyse and combine the different sector reports, identifying key items to be included in the synthesis report.

Summary of the Write Shop Proceedings

DAY 1: 2nd August 2021

Chair – Dr Tim Andrew

Session One

Opening and Introduction

The write shop was called to order by Dr Tim Andrew at 1000hrs. He provided the context of the write shop and presented the provisional agenda for adoption.

Dr Andrew invited Prof Paul W. Musili to make opening remarks on behalf of the University of Nairobi- Maritime Center. Prof Musili highlighted that the work on *“Assessment of the Contribution of Maritime Sectors to Kenya’s Blue Economy”* is crucial since it follows on Kenya’s commitment during the 2018 Sustainable Blue Economy Conference. He mentioned that the reports from the assessments will inform policy formulation and decision making.

Dr Andrew invited Mr Dixon Waruinge to make opening remarks on behalf of the Nairobi Convention Secretariat. Mr Waruinge appreciated the University of Nairobi for hosting the write shop with facilitation from the Nairobi Convention through the SAPPHIRE Project. He emphasised that the write shop supports the Convention’s mandate on supporting Governments to attain their Blue Economy goals. Mr Waruinge used the World Bank’s definition of Blue Economy “sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, while preserving the health of ... “. He highlighted that we need to identify the contribution of Kenya’s blue economy sectors to the \$ 24 trillion estimated for the global ocean. He mentioned that the prioritization of the blue economy sectors should inform policy making based on significant data and information. He concluded by urging the authors to ensure that the products generated can be turned into ideas which could be incubated for commercialization by the relevant stakeholders based on policies to benefit the country. He urged the authors to aim a developing a blue economy strategy which the policy makers can use to accelerate the blue economy initiatives in the country.

Dr Andrew and Dr Akunga led the participants through a round of introductions.

Overview of the Project and Statement of Objectives, Outputs and Outcomes

Dr Momanyi made a [presentation](#) highlighting the project’s overview, objectives and expected outputs and outcomes.

Discussion and Comments

It was highlighted that there is a need to access the progress in developing the country’s Blue Economy agenda from the initiated Blue Economy Secretariat by the Government of Kenya started after the 2018 Sustainable Blue Economy Conference

It was pointed out that there is a need to be strategic as a project by aligning with Blue Paper’s excellent recommendations under the High-Level Panel coordinated by the President’s Office instead of reinventing ideas.

It was also pointed out that the sector reports need to be contextualized and aligned with the global Blue Economy processes including the SDG 14, Ocean Climate Action, the Paris Agreement, and the national commitments such as the Nationally Determined Contributions as well the post 2020 biodiversity framework being developed.

Session Two: Blue Economy Sector Presentations

a. Ports, Harbors and Maritime Transport

The [presentation](#) was delivered by Mr Peter Kanyi.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) The authors were urged to ensure adequate consultations with the office of Blue Economy which provides leadership on Blue Economy matters to ensure the report captures the country's priorities correctly.
- ii) The report should build a strong business case supported by facts and figures on the sector's value which will be an incentive for investors.
- iii) There is a gap in the nexus between development and sustainability as the whole concept of blue economy is based on sustainability
- iv) There are legislations/policies that have direct impact on blue economy related initiatives with some overlapping or conflicting, therefore there is a need for national level blue economy policy which will be overarching under which other related policies could be driven or implemented.
- v) The authors were urged to include a detailed breakdown of what increased efficiency means in transport cost, the profit motive and outcome such as the jobs created.
- vi) A business case should be made for all the sectors on where optimum impact can be achieved from investments in particular aspects and the implication to the rest of the sectors.
- vii) The report's recommendations were too broad and won't be achievable in the short term thus there is a need to put a time frame on them. It was highlighted that there is a need to identify the "low hanging fruits" achievable immediately and what can be done in the medium- and long-term time frames.
- viii) It would be necessary to be in contact with all stakeholders during the assessment and consultation period to enable the integration of their perspectives.

b. Coastal Agriculture

The [presentation](#) was done by Dr. John Nyakawa.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) The report's recommendations were very broad thus achieving them would be a challenge, therefore, there should be a prioritization process, and maybe more specific assessment of the different sub sectors, so that one can then advise on where to put emphasis and resources, as we go to the strategy formulation process.
- ii) There is a need for simplified tables explaining land capability, including the coastal contribution to agriculture versus its capability and the status of the irrigation schemes in the coastal region. Additionally, it was highlighted that the report should include an analysis of agricultural schemes and projects in the coastal region including their status, production, defects, and shortcomings.

- iii) There is need to analyse the climate zoning of the coastal region.
- iv) The mariculture section should be tackled with the fisheries sector so that this report only concentrates on coastal agriculture.
- v) The authors were urged to include a section on management of food production in the country to counter the food losses considering that 40 to 50% of food processed gets lost through post-harvest processes such as transportation.
- vi) The report should include information on how the county spatial planning process is informing land use and consequently agriculture as a way of identifying how these plans are addressing other competing and conflicting land uses.
- vii) There is a need for specific recommendations to enhance the resilience of coastal agriculture to climate change, considering that coastal agricultural land is prone to impacts of climate change such as flooding and drought.

Closure of Day One

Dr Andrew highlighted that the seven sector reports to be discussed in the write shop would feed into the synthesis report, and ultimately inform the development of the national blue economy strategy which would guide the policy makers in decision making.

Dr Momanyi concluded the day by giving a recap of the day's presentations. He reiterated that the sector reports are focused on understanding the values, potential, governance frameworks, existing opportunities, and where future actions are required. He emphasized that the information in the sector reports would be directly linked to the synthesis report which would form the basis for developing an annotated outline focusing on future actions from each sector. The annotated outline would be the first step towards development of the Country's Blue Economy Strategy which would be an operational document for the future.

Dr Andrew appreciated the day's presenters and the participants for their contribution during the discussions.

DAY 2: 3rd August 2021

Chair Prof. Richard Mulwa

Session Three

The session began with a video on blue economy resources, followed by a recap of day one's presentations by Ms. Agnes Mukami and Ms Njoki Mboce.

c. Coastal and Marine Tourism

The [presentation](#) was made by Prof. Richard Mulwa.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) The authors were urged to expand the section on communicable diseases to include global pandemics following on lessons learnt from COVID-19, since any pandemics at a global scale can be expected and scientists already predict the possibility of another pandemic.

- ii) There is a need to bring out the aspect of marketing local tourism as currently tourism is focused on foreigners and COVID 19 has led to the discovery of a need to make packages relevant to the local tourists.
- iii) Sustainability of coastal resources for tourism should be emphasized as tourists rely on their existence. Additionally, it was mentioned that there is a need to indicate the role of the private sector in supporting management of ecosystems in the coastal areas.
- iv) The authors were urged to include sufficient evidence on economic analysis of the different aspects and sub-sectors related to tourism such as current values and potential future revenues including job creation opportunities.
- v) The authors were urged to bring out the scope of consultations with the sector stakeholders in the report which would include information on the gaps, ideas, and priorities of the sectors.
- vi) The area of community - based ecotourism should be explicitly addressed as there is potential for growth.
- vii) There is a need to have information on the quantitative impact of COVID-19 since the tourism sector suffered the most.
- viii) The authors were urged to include the possibilities of developing a blue bond that can focus on marine and oceans that can bring in innovative financing to the sector.
- ix) The authors were urged to highlight the opportunities which can be fast-tracked in the sector including the cost, the means, and the benefits of fast-tracking.
- x) The report should identify who and what is required to advance niche tourism like water sports.
- xi) All reports should identify who and what is required to advance the opportunities in the sectors as this would show investors the potential and benefits.
- xii) The authors were urged to include the opportunities presented by the interconnectedness of tourism and transport through transport corridors, for example.

d. Coastal and deep-sea fisheries, mariculture, and aquaculture in Kenya

The [presentation](#) was done by Dr Jacob Ochiewo.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) The authors were requested to highlight the progress in capturing the actual fish stocks in Kenya to rule out the possibility of underestimating the fisheries potential.
- ii) It was highlighted that other countries have progressed in the mariculture sector making it a large income earner but in Kenya the progress has been slow. The authors were urged to identify the challenges in the sector which might include technological adoption and marketing, and highlight the progress made in unlocking the very high potential of this sector.
- iii) The authors were requested to consider including inland aquaculture and fisheries in this sectoral report.

- iv) The authors were urged to identify the cause of reduction in fish resources, because the markets at the coast are selling inland fish despite them being very close to the ocean and investments in mariculture.
- v) The authors were requested to identify standard procedures and specific investments costs which can be followed by farmers/investors in establishing aquaculture or mariculture ventures.
- vi) The authors were requested to identify the possibility of coming up with a business case for the fisheries sector.
- vii) The authors were asked to identify the best options for investment including either empowering small-scale fisheries or raising the potential of commercial fisheries.

e. Coastal Forestry in Kenya

The [presentation](#) was delivered by Dr James Kairo.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) There is need to have a baseline for national level accounting for coastal forests and mangroves on which future progress can be reported on as well as data on spatial/temporal trends in coastal forest in the country in the last few years and what may be the drivers of change.
- ii) The authors were requested to highlight how county spatial planning processes were performing in identifying critical conservation areas.
- iii) The authors were urged to identify how to get the balance right so that monetized ecosystem services don't over-crowd other ecosystem services that don't have a monetary value.
- iv) There is a need to have monetary value of non-extractible forest services and value of harvestable good for coastal forests.
- v) There is need for assessment of the adequacy of the protection status of coastal forests in Kenya and estimate the success of community-based initiatives.
- vi) The authors were urged to highlight the balance between exploitation of forests and conservation, and the success of such an arrangement in coastal forests.

DAY 3: 4th August 2021

Chair Dr Jacob Ochiewo and Dr John Nyakawa

Session Four

The session was opened with a word of prayer from Dr Momanyi, followed by a recap of the previous day's presentations by Ms Mukami.

f. Coastal Mining

The [presentation](#) was done Dr John Nyakawa.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) The authors were urged to identify the policy gaps and major constraints hindering growth, and regulation of the sector that has led to the country not being able to optimize the huge potential in the mining sector.
- ii) there is a need for differentiating between offshore and coastal mining.
- iii) there is inadequate research and statistics in the sector which presents a key opportunity for researchers and scholars to provide information that can inform policy development.
- iv) the environmental impact of mining is high thus raising issues of remedy that need to be addressed for sustainability. Regarding policy and legal frameworks, it was highlighted that it is necessary to add the Environmental Management And Co-Ordination Act (EMCA) to help in the environmental aspects of mining as well as the Forest Management and Conservation Act.
- v) The authors were urged to identify the countries doing better in the sector which can be used to benchmark so as to advance this sector
- vi) The authors were urged to use figures and facts in this sector to make a business case to encourage investors to this sector.
- vii) The authors were requested to classify the sector recommendations/opportunities as short-term, mid-term and long-term in order to move this sector forward as very little has been done.
- viii) The authors were urged to identify actual and very specific potentials that would interest investors into this sector. Additionally, they were urged to identify Kenyan companies, private or government supported, that may be interested in seabed mining.
- ix) The authors were urged to clarify mineral rich zones in coastal and offshore areas, and possibly support the information with maps.

g. Coastal and offshore oil, gas and renewable energy

The [presentation](#) was done Dr Ochiwo.

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) Community involvement is key to ensure sustainability. The authors were requested to outline the gaps on community involvement and development in the sector.
- ii) The authors were urged to identify a case study on best practice on utilization of tidal and wind energy to guide discussions since they require high investments and have high economic and environmental impacts.
- iii) The authors were requested to include data and statistics on each of the components in oil, gas, and renewable energy to be able to see opportunities, challenges and future advancements that will then inform the national strategy on blue economy.
- iv) The authors were urged to separate renewable and non-renewable energy sections for strategic purposes, because oil and gas are not included in the Blue Economy definition, despite their importance.

- v) The authors were urged to adopt an investor perspective. Challenges should not be more pronounced than opportunities which inform investments. The challenges should be accompanied by solutions which could be turned into opportunities.
- vi) There is a need to identify if as a country we need to invest in sectors such as oil and gas, which developed countries are moving away from, or should we build on the potentials that we have such as nature-based solutions.

h. The Synthesis Report

The [presentation](#) was done Prof. Richard Mulwa

The comments arising from this presentation included:

- i) It was mentioned that desalinization has negative impacts on biodiversity and marine life, hence research and case studies from other countries should guide how to deal with the by-products of desalination to reduce and or prevent their negative impacts.
- ii) It was mentioned that there is need to highlight the aspect of recycling and reuse of farm waste for sustainability.
- iii) It was mentioned that gender mainstreaming should be included throughout all the reports, where possible.
- iv) It was highlighted that there is a need ensure that the synthesis paper respond to, and contributes to presidential committee on Blue Economy aspirations, national commitments and the Big Four agenda as part of vision 2030.
- v) It was mentioned that there is a need to look at the bigger picture in development by identifying how to mainstream coastal wetlands in leading the development agenda and aligning with national and global processes especially the SDGs and Paris agreement.
- vi) It was highlighted that the process needs to align to the long-term vision as captured in Vision 2030 of a low carbon development pathway by identifying means of using the marine sector in climate mitigation and adaptation.
- vii) It was mentioned that there is need to identify the largest contributors in each sector such as in agricultural sector, including laws and policies that consider, highlight, protect and encourage them, and including the contribution of small-scale farmers.
- viii) It was mentioned that most of the sectors highlighted inadequate research, so there is a need to clearly outline means to specifically fill the knowledge and skills gap.
- ix) the deliverables should appeal to the youth as they are the future generation who will help advance these sectors as well as attract investment. Education preferences could also be influenced to contribute to sectors with potential opportunities.

Way Forward

Dr Momanyi made a [presentation](#) on the follow up activity and actions, as highlighted in the table below, to ensure delivery of the sectoral and synthesis reports, policy briefs and annotated outline of the National Blue Economy Strategy:

Activity	Responsible	Due Date
Circulate write – shop report and comments	UNEP-NCS/Project Coordinators	13-08-2021
Update all sector reports based on the comments and inputs from the write shop	Sector authors/lead author/project coordinators	20-08-2021
Prepare second draft of the synthesis report based on the comments and inputs provided in the write shop and any written comments	lead author/project coordinators/sector authors	27-08-2021
Prepare draft policy briefs	lead author/sector authors/project coordinators	27-08-2021
Prepare an annotated outline of the National Blue Economy Strategy	Sector authors/lead author/project coordinators	27-08-2021
All drafts as above ready for submission/circulation	lead author/project coordinators/sector authors	31-08-2021
Convene stakeholders' validation workshop	UNEP/NCS/ Project coordinators/lead author/sector authors/ stakeholders	13-17 Sept 2021

It was agreed that Dr Momanyi would contact the Office of Blue Economy under the State Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy and circulate any information gathered with the authors.

It was mentioned that the whole project should aim at supporting the Government initiatives such as development of the Blue Economy Strategy and other policy documents.

Conclusion

Prof Mulwa appreciated all the authors for collaborating in the work and urged them to maintain the momentum while revising the draft reports based on the write shops comments. He thanked the UNEP team for being part of the write shop and giving substantive comments to the authors. He finalised by thanking the project coordinator for according the authors a chance to work in the project.

Ms Mboce, on behalf of the project coordinator, thanked all participants in the write shop and appreciated the session chairs for steering the write shop over the three days. She appreciated the authors for their effort in coming up with the draft sector reports and for providing/responding to comments during the write shop. She mentioned that the authors should strive to produce products which would contribute towards national and global development. She thanked UNEP for the

opportunity and partnership to contribute to national priorities and global processes and urged it to support the project to achieve the remaining milestones.

Mr Waruinge mentioned that the second iterations of all the sector reports should outline a richer outlay of opportunities, while the limiting factors or challenges can be enumerated, but the most important inclusion should be “the how” to overcome each of the challenges. He highlighted that enumerating broad brushed challenges e.g., poor governance or weak policy framework, without specifying remedial interventions, actions, or remedial policy process, cannot inspire faith in the document. – (*written comment.*)

Dr Andrew thanked the write shop participants and emphasized the need for prioritization in each sector report which would make it easier in coming up with strong strategy recommendations. He mentioned that each sector report should identify activities which should be implemented in the short-, mid- and long-term. He urged the coordination team to discuss the definition of *Blue Economy* and make consultations with UNEP on whether and how to include inland waters. He concluded by assuring the write shop participants that UNEP-Nairobi Convention is behind the project and will continue to provide support where possible and urged the authors to ensure that the process fits into ongoing national processes.

Dr Andrew closed the meeting at 1420 hrs

Annex 1: Meeting Documents

The meeting documents can be accessed using the links below:

The [workshop agenda](#)

The [presentations](#)

Annex 2: List of Participants

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