



# Catalysing a Sustainable Blue Economy in the WIO region

Nairobi Convention Partners Meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Robin Farrington, Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative (WIOGI)



Implemented by



In partnership with:



# Outline

- a) WIOGI Project Overview
- b) Building a Post Covid-19 Sustainable Blue Economy
- c) Policy/CoP Recommendations



# WIOGI Project Overview

## Project objective

Cooperation between relevant actors at regional and local level on the protection and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity in the WIO region has been strengthened

## Partner: Nairobi Convention Secretariat

April 2020 – March 2024  
Volume: EUR 3.4 million



## Project components

- **Component 1: Regional policy dialogue** – *support co-creation of Regional Ocean Governance and Information Management Strategies.*
- **Component 2: Regional multi-stakeholder collaboration** and engagement of the private sector – *support the participatory development of a regional multi-stakeholder initiative for Sustainable Blue Economy (SBE).*
- **Component 3: Local multi-stakeholder collaboration** for sustainable marine and coastal resource management – *support the development of multi-stakeholder partnerships in Mozambique*

# Building a Post-Covid Sustainable Blue Economy

- **How to contribute to a post-Covid transformation in the WIO?**
  - SBE presents the opportunity for a steady recovery that helps sustain marine and coastal ecosystems.
  - **Collective leadership** will enable a more holistic and strategic cooperation to build an SBE.
  - This depends on co-created **participatory processes** and **structures**, **commitment** from organisations and **capacity development** for enhanced collaboration.



# Regional Multi-stakeholder Initiative for a SBE – our ambition:

- A well-resourced and highly effective alliance between government, business, civil society, international organisations and science across the WIO, with the common agenda to transition to SBE.
- Sets common SBE agenda, principles, goals and brand
- Manages a collaboration system (platform) to catalyse regional, national and local level collective leadership for:
  - **Integrated dialogue, policy, public finances and planning**
  - **Holistic and impactful multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives**
  - **Systematic behaviour shift towards stewardship of critical resources**
- Principles and goals agreed, strived for and monitored by its multi-stakeholder governance structure.



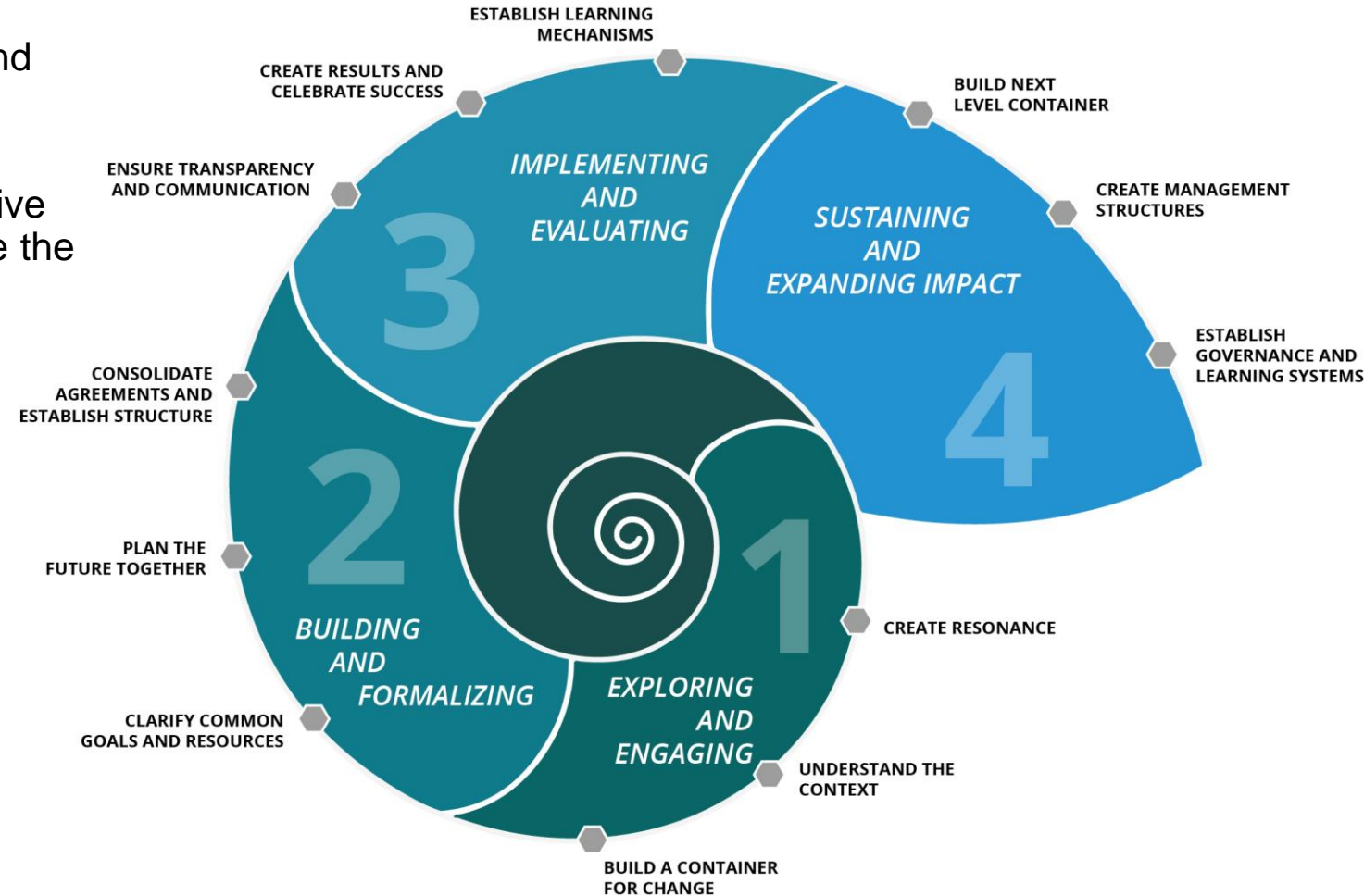
# Process for MSI development

- We are committed to developing the MSI in a highly participatory and inclusive manner, with multi-stakeholder governance to maximise local ownership and collective leadership.
- The process for developing the MSI has been initiated and is in its preliminary phase.
- Some potential goals for the MSI:
  - Contributing to improved ocean governance
  - Levering investments in SBE and accelerating the creation of blue jobs
  - Increasing the number of businesses undertaking more sustainable practices
  - Improving coastal zone management for climate resilience and productivity
  - Restoring critical ecosystems and fisheries, while increasing areas of ocean under protection
  - Empowering communities to become stewards of coastal and marine resources



# Next Steps for the MSI

- Growing the Core Group by engaging a broader diversity of actors: private sector, local CSOs
- Establishing preliminary governance structure and roadmap for development
- Collective Leadership Institute (CLI) to provide capacity development for high quality and inclusive dialogue and stakeholder processes to co-create the MSI



# Recommendations for the Conference of Parties

- Request Contracting Parties to **strengthen collaboration with the private sector and other stakeholders** for a sustainable blue economy in the WIO.
- Request Contracting Parties to **endorse the development of the Regional Multi-Stakeholder Initiative** for a sustainable blue economy.





Thank you for your attention!

[robin.farrington@giz.de](mailto:robin.farrington@giz.de)

