



The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reforms (WIO LME SAPPHIRE) Project

QUARTER III PROGRESS REPORT

01 July 2021 – 30 September 2021

Expected Outcome	Planned Activities	Progress	Remarks
Component 1: Supporting Policy Harmonization and Management Reforms towards improved ocean governance	Outcome 1.1. Policy, legislative and institutional reforms and realignment in support of the SAP are implemented at national and regional level as appropriate, with emphasis given to strengthening and supporting existing processes and mechanisms including regional bodies (such as Conventions, Commissions, and Regional Scientific Bodies). Coordination and management mechanism are strengthened at both national and regional levels		
	1.1.1. Support organization of national level coordination and consultation meetings	- Due to travel restrictions caused by COVID -19, Focal points and other stakeholders have been encouraged to participate in or organize virtual consultation meetings	No face to face meetings were held in QIII
	1.1.2. Organize annual Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting	- The Project Focal Points participated in an Ad-hoc Third SAPPHIRE Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting on 16 March 2021. The PSC reviewed the project progress from the fourth quarter of 2020, discussed and approved the workplan and budget for 2021, and discussed the overall project timelines and the timing of the mid-term review.	Due to the COVID -19 restrictions, the meeting was held virtually on Microsoft Teams
	1.1.3. Support annual WIO Regional Science to Policy forum	- The SAPPHIRE project, in collaboration with other Nairobi Convention projects, organized the Regional Science to Policy Dialogue from 23 – 25 March 2021 . The theme of the meeting was ‘Transition to a Sustainable Western Indian Ocean Blue Economy: Addressing the challenges and seizing the opportunities’. The meeting discussed emerging scientific findings on topical issues with potential policy implications for the	This activity is a joint initiative by the countries, supported by several of the

		<p>management of coastal and marine resources in the region and promoted engagement and networking among stakeholders engaged in the protection, management and development of marine and coastal resources in the WIO.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The information shared at the science-policy dialogue and outputs are in the process of being published in a series 'the WIO Science to Policy Platform Series' to make them accessible to a larger audience other than the meeting attendees. - Policy recommendations from the meeting will form the basis for proposed areas of decision for the 10th COP of the Nairobi Convention to be held on 23 to 25 November 2021. 	<p>projects of the Nairobi Convention and Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).</p>
1.1.4. Support the countries in revising the national MEDAs and incorporating their findings into National Action Plans as appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The process of updating the Marine Ecosystems Diagnostic Analysis is ongoing in all project countries except Somalia. The small-scale funding agreement has been signed and the first instalment of USD 25,000 has been disbursed to the partner. An inception meeting for the work will be held soon. - Draft MEDA reports have been received from Comoros (French version), Kenya, Madagascar (French version), Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and South Africa. The PMU is following up with Tanzania to ensure they submit their draft MEDA. Comoros and Madagascar have been supported to translate the draft MEDA from French to English to ensure they benefit other countries in the WIO region and beyond. - The draft MEDA reports will be reviewed and harmonized by regional experts under the Nairobi Convention's Forum for Academic and Research Institutions (FARI), the Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C, "the Consortium") and other technical experts. - The Project Management Unit is working with the WIOMSA, which is the Secretariat of FARI and WIO – C, to bring together regional experts to review the National MEDAs and ensure they are harmonized. - Terms of Reference have been developed and agreed upon for the processing of reviewing the national MEDAs by the Regional Task Forces, FARI and WIO-C members, and a Small Scale Funding Agreement will be signed with WIOMSA to facilitate the process. 	<p>MEDA updates are ongoing with the regional review expected in fourth quarter 2021</p>	
1.1.5. Support the update of ASCLME Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and	<p>Discussions have been held with WIOMSA to draw information from the reviewed and harmonized MEDAs to inform the process of TDA and SAP development. The process of updating and merging the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western</p>	<p>This activity is a joint initiative by the countries, supported by</p>	

	development of the next SAP for WIO region	Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities and ASCLME/SWIOFP TDA and development of a single SAP for WIO region is in progress. -	several of the projects of the Nairobi Convention.
	1.1.6. Demonstration Projects: on review of national policy, legislative and institutional reforms and facilitate realignment in support of SAP implementation	<p>Comoros: <i>Strengthening sectoral policy and co-management of natural resources for better conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems in within the Union of the Comoros.</i> The project was commissioned in August 2020. The project is funded through Components 1 and 2. The project has a total funding of USD 120,000. USD 60,000 has been disbursed to the Directorate General of Fisheries Resources – Comoros.</p> <p>Component 1: Supports fisheries sector policy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The partner has undertaken an evaluation of the national fishing strategy implemented since 2004 and consultation work is in progress towards developing a new sectoral fisheries policy, though the process has been hindered by restrictions imposed to control the spread of the COVID – 19 virus. - Support will be provided to the partner to translate the project deliverables from French to English to ensure they can benefit other countries in the WIO region and beyond. <p>Madagascar: <i>“National consultation for Madagascar priorities on ocean governance, sustainable development, and management for marine ecosystem” and “Updating the National Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analyses for Madagascar.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The partner has organized capacity building workshops and consultation meetings on national priorities for marine ecosystem management and ocean governance, at which gaps and policy priorities for harmonization were discussed. - Discussions on the agreed-upon priorities with key government officials have been delayed due to COVID – 19 restrictions. - The MEDA Update process, which is funded under this agreement, is well on-track and the first draft in French has been submitted. Support has been provided to the partner to translate the project deliverables from French to English to ensure they can benefit other countries in the WIO region and beyond. - The project has a total funding of USD 50,000. The first instalment of USD 30,000 has been disbursed to the partner. The second instalment of USD 15,000 is being processed. 	This activity is shared between Component 1, 2 and 4.

		<p>South Africa: The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) has developed and submitted a project entitled <i>Support for a coordinated ocean and coastal ecosystem management approach in South Africa</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project was reviewed, and a project cooperation agreement (PCA) developed. - It has been agreed that the PCA will be managed by the Benguela Current Commission Secretariat on behalf of the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), which is responsible for protecting, conserving and improving the South African environment and natural resources. - The approval and disbursement of funds for the PCA is in process. - The PCA will receive a funding of USD 380,000. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kenya: The SAPPHIRE project is supporting the Government of Kenya, through the University of Nairobi, to take stock of activities in the blue economy with a view to identify priority maritime sectors and their values, potential for investment, and governance regimes and policy tools needed to further develop the blue economy in the country. The activity is aimed at prioritization of key maritime sectors that can help the Government at both the national and county levels to provide policy and regulatory direction towards the realization of the blue economy promise. The activity will contribute to the development of a National Blue Economy Policy. - The Nairobi Convention Secretariat, through the SAPPHIRE project and in collaboration with the Maritime Centre of the University of Nairobi, organized a virtual Authors Write Shop - Assessment of the Contribution of Maritime Sectors to Kenya's Blue Economy: Values, Potentials and Governance Frameworks from 2nd to 4th August 2021. The write shop was aimed at presenting the draft sectoral reports by the different experts for discussion as well as at assessing the draft final synthesis report. - A physical meeting with key national stakeholders will be organized in QIV or QI of 2022 to validate the sectoral reports and the draft synthesis report. 	
<p>Outcome 1.2: Technical and institutional capacity developed to deliver Knowledge-Based Governance approaches by delivering scientific results to management and policy makers for adaptive management decision-making</p>			
	<p>1.2.1. Conduct assessment and develop regional Ecosystem</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The development of a Regional Ecosystem Monitoring Framework has been finalized, in collaboration with WIOMSA and Rhodes University of South Africa. A final round of 	<p>Joint initiative between several NC projects.</p>

Monitoring indicators and framework	<p>regional inputs is being sought from regional expert task forces as part of the endorsement process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Countries will be supported to adopt the Regional Ecosystem Monitoring Framework in their monitoring guidelines and reporting. 	
1.2.2. Develop Regional Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Strategy for WIO region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Strategy for the WIO region has been finalized, led by Nelson Mandela University with the active involvement of the regional MSP Technical Working Group. A final round of regional inputs will be sought as part of the endorsement process. The PMU will work with Nelson Mandela University to test the MSP Strategy in some of the countries in the WIO region. - A policy brief has been developed to inform discussion on MSP at the Nairobi Convention Conference of Parties, to held from 23 – 25 November 2021. 	Joint initiative between several NC projects.
1.2.3. Support pilot studies on ecosystem goods and services and deliver cost-benefit analyses at both national and regional level (including relevant financial mechanisms such as PES)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Projects executed by the Nairobi Convention Secretariat, including the SAPPHIRE project, are supporting an ‘Economic valuation and development of potential investment opportunities for the Trans-Boundary Conservation Area (TBCA) between Kenya and Tanzania’, led by Prime Africa Institute and Lloyd Capital Limited. - The small-scale funding agreements to support the activity has been developed and signed. The first instalment of USD 95, 160 has been disbursed. - The project inception meeting between the project stakeholders was held virtually on 30 September 2021. The meeting agreed to introduce the project to stakeholders from the Governments of Kenya and Tanzania through a series of meetings to ensure ownership of the project outcomes. 	Joint initiative between several NC projects
Outcome 1.3. Collaborative and cooperative mechanisms agreed and strengthened between national, regional and global partners and stakeholders		
1.3.1. Support countries to participate at different appropriate coordination meetings in the interests of SAP implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Due to travel restrictions caused by COVID, Focal points have been encouraged/invited to participate in various virtual workshops and meetings. 	Several regional meetings are planned for 2021
1.3.2. Organize a consultation workshop with IGOs (RECs and AU and others) on ocean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No meeting with RECs was organized during this reporting period. The RECs and other Partners will be invited to discuss the TORs to guide the operations of the Core Group responsible for leading the process of developing the WIO Ocean Governance Strategy 	Further engagement of the RECS and countries of the

	governance and blue economy to support the implementation of SAP in the WIO region	and provide inputs on a proposed annotated outline of the regional Ocean Governance Strategy.	region will occur during QIV 2021 to prepare Ocean Governance Strategy by December 2022.
	1.3.3. Knowledge and communication products prepared and disseminated	- Led by our communication team, various communication materials were prepared and shared to promote the activities listed here, including newsletters and news bites on social media, including key takeaways, infographics, news articles, and social media messages infographics and a story map on the demonstration projects listed above; news articles about meetings and publications, such as the IOI training, and more. In addition to being promoted on the Nairobi Convention's platforms, these stories were also spread wider by GEF IWlearn, WIOMSA, and other partners.	
Component 2 Stress Reduction through Community Engagement and Empowerment in Sustainable Resources Management	Outcome 2.1. Integrating the Ecosystem-based Management approach into existing Local Economic Development Plans at selected communities at a Pilot level and stress reduction demonstrated and captured for replication		
	2.1.1. Communities sensitized about the values of LME goods and services 2.1.2. Support demonstration projects on community led Ecosystem Based Management integrated in local economic activities and coastal and marine resources management	<p>Technical support has been provided to participating countries to develop demonstration project proposals that strengthen communities and artisanal fisheries engagement in ecosystem-based management (EBM) through sensitizing the communities about the values of ecosystem goods and services and enhancing their engagement in livelihood-improving initiatives.</p> <p>Comoros: Strengthening sectoral policy and co-management of natural resources for better conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems in the Union of the Comoros Component 2: Community engagement in conservation and protection of marine resources (fisheries) as well as alternative economic activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The partner has submitted the first set of progress reports (French versions) on activities towards improving sustainable fishing and introduction of income generating activities. - The partner highlighted that the project has been delayed by restrictions imposed to control spread of the COVID – 19 virus. - Support has been provided to translate the project deliverables from French to English to ensure they can benefit other countries in the WIO region and beyond. 	The demonstration projects in Kenya and Madagascar have been delayed by the late disbursement of funds from UNDP. The administrative process leading to this delay has been assessed and mitigation plans put in place to ensure that this is not an ongoing issue negatively impacting on the implementation of

	<p>Kenya: Kenya Wildlife Service: Climate-Smart Design for Diani-Chale Marine Ecosystem management and Improved Livelihoods of the Coastal Communities – This project focuses on community engagement in the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources, innovative fisheries management plans, and co-management structures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project proposal was presented to the project Focal Points during the third Project Steering Committee meeting and subsequently approved. The small-scale funding agreement to support the work has been developed and signed. The PMU is in the process of transferring the 1st instalment to the partner to initiate the agreement activities. <p>Madagascar: The government requested technical support for the Ministry of Fisheries to develop a full demonstration project proposal. A consultant was thus hired and developed a project entitled <i>‘Local governance of fishing resources in ten villages from the Sofia Region, Madagascar: The case of the mangrove crab, Scylla serrata’</i>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project proposal was presented to the project Focal Points during the third Project Steering Committee meeting and subsequently approved. The small-scale funding agreement to support the work has been developed and signed. The PMU is in the process of transferring the 1st instalment to the partner to initiate the agreement activities <p>Mozambique: Community Based Project for Mussel Aquaculture on Inhaca Island-Maputo Province to Promote Ecosystem Based Resources Management The Focal Point for Mozambique has submitted the revised project concept to the PMU for review. The concept is in the process of being reviewed and submitted to the PSC for review and approval.</p>	the SAPHIRE Project.
Outcome 2.2. Stress reduction through ecosystem-based practices among artisanal and subsistence fisheries		

	<p>2.2.1. Support in piloting EBM in small-scale fishing communities</p> <p>2.2.2. Artisanal Fisheries Management Plans developed and adopted at four small-scale fishing community sites to demonstrate best practices in stress reduction in the small-scale fisheries sector</p>	<p>Comoros: Develop legislation and regulations on fisheries and other marine resources management, capacity building on surveillance and implementation of the regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the project is ongoing. The partner submitted the first set of deliverables, including a report titled ‘Evaluation of the Implementation of the Strategy for the Development of Comorian Fisheries’ and a report on the introduction of alternative income-generating activities in fishing communities, among others. <p>Kenya: Kenya Wildlife Service: Climate-Smart Design for Diani-Chale Marine Ecosystem management and Improved Livelihoods of the Coastal Communities: This project focuses on community engagement in the sustainable management of coastal and marine resources, innovative fisheries management plans, and co-management structures.</p> <p>Madagascar: The government requested technical support for the Ministry of Fisheries to develop a full demonstration project proposal. A consultant was thus hired and developed a project entitled ‘Local governance of fishing resources in ten villages from the Sofia Region, Madagascar: The case of the mangrove crab, <i>Scylla serrata</i>’.</p> <p>Tanzania:</p> <p>a) Strengthening community-based EBM approaches in Subsistence and Small-Scale Artisanal Fisheries for Sustainable livelihoods and Management of Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA), Zanzibar, Tanzania: The project was reviewed and approved by the PMU and PSC, giving it a green light to proceed to the small-scale funding agreement development stage. The small-scale funding agreement has been developed and submitted for approval.</p> <p>b) Strengthening community participation in management of the fisheries resources in coastal areas of Tanzania - mainland Tanzania Fisheries Department. The partner will submit the proposal to the PMU for review.</p>	<p>These activities are closely linked and contribute to Outcome 2.1 above</p>
<p>Component 3 Stress Reduction through Private Sector/Industry Commitment to transformations in their</p>	<p>Outcome 3.1. Stress reduction within the LME through more effective and ‘hands-on’ Private Sector engagement and participation in SAP implementation and through risk reduction and contingency response mechanisms using public-private sector partnership agreements along with regional partners</p>		
	<p>3.1.1. Develop Private-Public Sector Partnerships strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Strategic Framework for Private Sector Engagement in the Western Indian Ocean has been developed to promote the involvement of the private sector in the management of coastal and marine resources in the WIO region, and has been published for public consumption on the SAPPHIRE Project website, Nairobi Convention Clearing House Mechanism, and IWLearn. The Framework has been promoted on the website, 	

operations and management practices		newsletter, and social media accounts, with news articles on the publication appearing on partner platforms like WIOMSA. Key takeaways and infographics were disseminated via social media and the website to further promote the document.	
	3.1.2. Support organization of workshop on public private partnership in Ecosystem Based Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SAPPHIRE PMU is working with partners, and in particular the Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative (WIOGI) Project (a partnership between GIZ and the Nairobi Convention Secretariat), to hold a series of workshops to further the aims of a multi-stakeholder initiative and potentially facilitate the development of a Blue Economy Platform, as recommended in the Private Sector Engagement Framework. This initiative will be an important contributor to the enhancement of private sector engagement as well as the process of developing an Ocean Governance Strategy for the WIO region. - The SAPPHIRE PMU participated in the first, second and third virtual workshops in April, May and June, respectively, organized for the development of the Multi-Stakeholder Initiative (MSI). The fourth and fifth meetings of the MSI were held in July and September 2021 to discuss on the preliminary governance for the preparatory phase, agree on possible facilitation options for future meetings, and agree on how to move forward with the communications for the MSI, inter alia. The workshops were organized under the theme “Catalysing a Common Blue Future in the WIO: Envisioning a Transformational Multi-Stakeholder Initiative to Catalyse Ambition, Enhance Socio-ecological Resilience and Unlock the Development of a Blue Economy in the Western Indian Ocean”. - The workshops brought together actors to engage in participatory dialogue to develop a common understanding of their aspirations for a blue and climate-resilient future in the WIO and commitment to collaborating to develop a MSI. 	
	3.1.3. Address the potential impacts of the growing oil and gas development in the region through negotiation, identification and implementation of a Regional Response Centre, which can effectively and swiftly coordinate regional responses to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SAPPHIRE PMU has agreed to be part of a regional working group on the implementation of the recommendations of the MARPOL exercise held in Diego-Suarez in October 2019 and the March 2020 workshop in Zanzibar on cooperation and preparedness in the event of a marine pollution incident. - The SAPPHIRE Project has hired a consultant to review the national oil spill contingency plans for the contracting parties to the Nairobi Convention and finalize the draft regional coordination and cooperation framework on oil spill preparedness for the WIO region. - The consultant will also develop a comprehensive national capacity building programme on oil spill response for each country in the WIO region. - The SAPPHIRE PMU is working with the participating countries to develop a database of the contact people responsible for oil spill preparedness under the Nairobi Convention Clearing House Mechanism. 	This is a key priority for 2021, as it has been held back significantly by the Covid-19 pandemic.

	<p>emergencies, with a focus on shipping (Search and Rescue) and response to oil and gas and other marine pollution incidents likely to show effects at transboundary scale. National plans support this regional activity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mauritius: The SAPPIRE project will support the Government of Mauritius in updating its sensitivity maps for improved oil spill response and the consultative process around adoption of an updated national Oil Spill Contingency Plan, as a follow up to the MV Wakashio incident. The proposed budget for the activity is USD 100,000. - The TORs for the consultant to facilitate public consultations and finalize the Updated National Oil Spill Contingency Plan of the Republic of Mauritius have been developed and the small-scale funding agreement to supporting organization of the consultation workshops is being reviewed. - The PMU has received a costed proposal on updating the sensitivity maps from the Government of Mauritius for improved oil spill response. The proposal will be reviewed and a small-scale funding agreement developed for the activity. - The activity will be supported by experts from the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) who have been engaged to assist with oil spill contingency planning in the WIO through improved sensitivity mapping of critical habitats and other assets. 	
<p>Component 4 Delivering best practices and lessons through innovative ocean governance demonstration</p>	<p>Outcome 4.1. Identifying innovative management options for High Seas areas within LMEs</p> <p>4.1.1. Technical support countries in the realignment of the sectoral ocean management process to a coordinated sectoral ocean and coastal ecosystem management approach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comoros –The Directorate General of Fisheries Resources in Comoros is implementing a demonstration project titled “strengthening sectoral policy and co-management of natural resources for better conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems within the Union of the Comoros”. The project is aimed at improving management of the Comorian fisheries sector through improved conservation of the marine ecosystem. - Kenya - The SAPPPIRE project is supporting the Government of Kenya, through the University of Nairobi, to take stock of activities in the blue economy with a view to identify priority maritime sectors and their values, potential for investment, and governance regimes and policy tools needed to further develop the blue economy in the country. The activity is aimed at prioritization of key maritime sectors that can help the Government at both the national and county levels to provide policy and regulatory direction towards the realization of the blue economy promise. The activity will contribute to the development of a National Blue Economy Policy. 	<p>Some of these activities are shared between C1 and C4</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Madagascar – The Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development in Madagascar is implementing a demonstration project entitled “National consultation for Madagascar priorities on ocean governance, sustainable development and management for marine ecosystem” and “Updating the National Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analyses”. The project is aimed at policy harmonization and institutional reform at the national level as well as at updating the MEDA for Madagascar. The partner has reported that national consultation workshops have been organized with relevant stakeholders to identify priorities for Marine Ecosystem Management and ocean governance in the country. Consultations with local community organizations will be organized upon the lifting of COVID – 19 restrictions. - The partner has submitted a draft updated MEDA to the project coordination unit for review. - Support will be provided to the partner to translate the project deliverables from French to English to ensure they can benefit other countries in the WIO region and beyond. - Mozambique – The Ministry of Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries in Mozambique is implementing a demonstration project on <i>‘Enhancing National Level Policy Harmonization and Institutional reforms to implement SAPPHIRE and SAP for improved ocean governance.’</i> A small-scale funding agreement for the project has been signed and the first instalment disbursed to the partner. - South Africa - Demonstration project on <i>Coordinated sectoral Ocean and Coastal ecosystem management approach in South Africa</i> – the project has been accepted and a PCA developed for its implementation. 	
	<p>4.1.2. Strengthening the Science-Policy interface through support to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in developing an evidence based decision-making process</p>	<p>Supporting scientific research and capacity building initiatives for improved ocean governance and adaptive management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kenya – The work on oceanographic research is led by the Kenya Marine and Fisheries research institute. The partner has undertaken cruises at the North Kenya Banks to collect biotic and abiotic data. - The institution has analyzed the oceanographic data collected and developed four draft manuscripts which have been published in peer reviewed journals. - The institution has developed three summary briefs for policy makers to inform a broad array of stakeholders of the key findings from the respective study areas. The summary briefs are the first step towards developing policy recommendations and briefs. Close 	

		<p>collaboration with the SOLTICE-WIO Project has been undertaken in the development of final outputs from these jointly-funded activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tanzania - The work on oceanographic research is led by the Institute of Marine Sciences. The partner has analyzed oceanographic data from the Agulhas II cruise as well as data collected between Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar Island during North and South East Monsoon periods. - The institution has analyzed the oceanographic data collected and developed five draft manuscripts which have been published in peer reviewed journals. - The institution has developed three summary briefs for policy makers to inform a broad array of stakeholders of the key findings from the respective study areas. The summary briefs are the first step towards developing policy recommendations and briefs. Close collaboration with the SOLTICE-WIO Project has been undertaken in the development of final outputs from these jointly-funded activities. 	
4.1.3. Organize workshop for key stakeholders on ABNJ and Contiguous Adjacent High Seas Areas (CAHSA) on management and governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussions have been held with IRD (France) and the DiDeM Project to collaborate on the production of a background paper highlighting ABNJ/BBNJ issues that are relevant to regional Ocean Governance in the WIO. - The PMU will hire two consultants to lead the assignment on reviewing the status of conservation and management of the ABNJ and BBNJ in the WIO region and the preparation of background information to inform the process of developing a regional Ocean Governance Strategy for the WIO. Experts from IRD and the DiDeM project will be engaged in the process. - A concept note and Terms of Reference for this activity have been developed and will be advertised. 	This is a key activity for 2021 as it will feed into the regional Ocean Governance dialogues.	
Outcome 4.2. Demonstrating innovative management options within specific marine space within the WIO LME			
4.2.1. Demonstrating Marine Spatial Planning within a Blue Economy framework in selected areas within participating countries for further	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The PMU has engaged in discussions with Nelson Mandela University and the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management to spearhead domestication and operationalization of the Regional MSP Strategy in some of the WIO countries. The operationalization process will also include national and regional capacity building workshops on MSP. 	These activities have been slowed down due to Covid-19	

	replication and transfer of lessons	- Tanzania: <i>Developing a stocktaking sectoral analysis and assessment on integrated Ocean Governance/Blue Economy.</i> This proposal was still under review by the end of the reporting period.	
	4.2.2. Assist in the development of knowledge products, adaptive management guidelines and policy briefings related to changes in ecosystem balance and climatic variability, etc.	- Comoros – fisheries sector policy - Madagascar – policies related to environment and ocean - Mozambique – ocean policy - Kenya and Tanzania – blue economy sector assessment and work on the North Kenya Banks and Pemba and Zanzibar Channels, respectively.	This activity is closely linked to Activity 4.1.1 above.
Component 5 Capacity Development to Realize improved ocean governance in the WIO region	Outcome 5.1. Capacity for improved Ocean Governance strengthened through training and support		
	5.1.1. Support leadership capacity building in ocean governance and sustainable resources management at national and regional level	- Phase 3 of the Advanced Leadership Workshop for Senior Leaders, Officials and Policy Makers (Women) in Marine Policy and Ocean Governance will run from 26 October to 9 December 2021. Planning of the course schedule and preparations were carried out during the reporting period.	
	5.1.2. Capacity building support for update of MEDA/TDA and development of regional SAP including write shops, consultation and validation workshops	- Center for Environment and Development for Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) will provide training for National Data Managers on platform administration, management, developing country profiles, change detection and visualization. - Virtual technical support provided.	Training postponed due to COVID-19 and is prioritized for later in 2021 or 2022.
	5.1.3. Support countries to organize training on MSP for national experts	- The national capacity building will be organized in the process of operationalizing the Regional MSP Strategy. - The SAPPHERE project has collaborated with the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM) through their WIO Symphony project to enhance the collation of data to support MSP in the region. The initiative will strive to make all data and information products open and accessible via the Nairobi Convention’s Clearinghouse Mechanism. The work is being co-developed with experts from the Convention’s MSP	Ongoing and continued into 2022.

		<p>TWG and led by SwAM, with technical support from several other Swedish governmental agencies and financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - During this reporting period the WIOSym organized a workshop on sensitivity mapping in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region on 02 September 2021. The workshop was aimed at set sensitivity scores for the first operational version of WIO Symphony by adjusting literature-based sensitivity scores based on personal expertise. - A follow up workshop on MSP implementation will be held in collaboration with SwAM for Somalia experts on 5 and 6 October 2021. 	
	5.1.4. Expert to support countries in developing demonstration projects proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical support was offered to Mozambique to further develop the demonstration project proposal under Component 2 on Mussel Aquaculture on the island of Inhaca. The updated proposal has been submitted to the PMU for review. - A consultant will be hired to support the Government of Comoros in preparing a proposal for the development and strengthening of the policy/regulatory environment and associated institutional arrangements to guide the management of the Comorian coastal zone for the sustainable utilization of resources 	
	5.1.5. Support for countries to attend the IOI Ocean Governance training course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The SAPPHIRE project, in collaboration with the International Ocean Institute – Southern Africa, organized a training course on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region from 30 August to 24 September 2021. The training was aimed at addressing the recommendations on knowledge, human capacity development and awareness creation on ocean governance which have been raised by partners during consultations and dialogues on Ocean Governance. - The course was designed to raise awareness and build knowledge in the various disciplines associated with ocean governance for a core of experts on ocean governance in the WIO region. The course was tailored for the WIO region and emphasized the benefits of harmonizing ocean policies to promote a shared, integrated, and common approach to ocean management. - The training was attended throughout by sixteen participants and an additional eight attended as experts. The participants represented the SAPPHIRE project participating countries, the RECs and Commissions. The training culminated with the presentation of policy briefs prepared by the trainees. The policy briefs covered four issues of concern in the WIO region including i) Underwater noise and shipping, ii) Deep sea ecosystems & connectivity of Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) with 	

		Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), iii) Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing in small-scale fisheries, and iv) Locally managed marine areas (LMMA) for improved fisheries management. The draft policy briefs will be used to feed into the policy discussions on these four topics.	
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