



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

**QUARTER IV PROGRESS REPORT**  
**01 October 2021 – 31 December 2021**

Expected Outcome	Planned Activities	Progress	Remarks
<b>Component 1: Supporting Policy Harmonization and Management Reforms towards improved ocean governance</b>	<b>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</b>		
	1.1.1. Support organization of national level coordination and consultation meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to travel restrictions caused by COVID -19, Focal points and other stakeholders have been encouraged to participate in or organize virtual consultation meetings</li> </ul>	No face-to-face meetings were held in QIV
	1.1.2. Organize annual Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Project Focal Points participated in an Ad-hoc <a href="#">Third SAPPHIRE Project Steering Committee</a> (PSC) meeting held virtually on 16 March 2021.</li> <li>- The Project Coordination Unit (PCU) will organize the fourth PSC meeting in the first quarter of 2022 to review project progress, discuss and approve the workplan and budget for 2022 as well as the results of the mid-term review which is scheduled for January-March 2022.</li> </ul>	The 4 <sup>th</sup> PSC meeting will be held in the 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022
1.1.3. Support annual WIO Regional Science to Policy forum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The SAPPHIRE project, in collaboration with other Nairobi Convention projects, organized the <a href="#">Regional Science to Policy Dialogue from 23 – 25 March 2021</a>. 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</li> </ul>	This activity is a joint initiative by the countries, supported by	

		<p>findings on topical issues with potential policy implications for the 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"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Policy recommendations from the meeting informed the decisions of the tenth Conference of Parties (COP10) of the Nairobi Convention held from 23 to 25 November 2021.</li> <li>- The Focal Points participated in the <a href="#">Nairobi Convention National Focal Points Meeting on 21-22 October 2021</a> which was aimed at preparing for the COP10 of the Nairobi Convention. The meeting reviewed progress on the implementation of decisions of the ninth Conference of Parties (COP9), progress on enhancing on partnerships and projects, proposed work programme for the 2022- 2024 period, and deliberated on areas of potential areas of decisions for COP10 decisions.</li> <li>- The Focal Points participated in the Nairobi Convention's COP10, held from 23 to 25 November 2021. The meeting reflected on the progress made by Contracting Parties in protecting the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region since the last COP in 2018 and capitalized on opportunities to a) renew commitment for a multilateral process to take timely and effective action to protect, develop, and manage the WIO, and b) strengthen partnerships to boost recovery and resilience after the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting <a href="#">approved new decisions</a> and a <a href="#">new work programme for 2022 – 2024</a>. Find a news article outlining all COP10 decisions, including those related to SAPPHERE, <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>	<p>several of the projects of the Nairobi Convention and Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).</p>
	<p>1.1.4. Support the countries in revising the national MEDAs and incorporating their findings into National Action Plans as appropriate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The process of updating the Marine Ecosystems Diagnostic Analysis is ongoing in all project countries. Draft MEDA reports have been received from Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, and South Africa. The PCU is working with Somalia and Tanzania to ensure they submit their draft MEDAs.</li> <li>- The PCU is working with WIOMSA, which is the Secretariat of Forum for Academic and Research Institutions (FARI) and the Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C, "the Consortium"), to bring together regional experts to review the National MEDAs and ensure they are harmonized. The regional review process is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022.</li> </ul>	<p>MEDA updates are ongoing with the regional review expected to be completed in first quarter of 2022</p>
	<p>1.1.5. Support the update of ASCLME</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The process of updating and merging the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities and ASCLME/SWIOFP</li> </ul>	<p>This activity is a joint initiative by</p>

	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) and development of the next SAP for WIO region	TDA and development of a single SAP for WIO region is ongoing. The process will draw information from the reviewed and harmonized MEDAs.	the countries, supported by several of the projects of the Nairobi Convention
	1.1.6. <b>Demonstration Projects:</b> on review of national policy, legislative and institutional reforms and facilitate realignment in support of SAP implementation	<p><b>Comoros:</b> <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 126,000. USD 60,000 has been disbursed to the Directorate General of Fisheries Resources – Comoros. The additional USD 6,000, to be disbursed in two instalments has been provided to support translation of the project deliverables from French to English to ensure they can benefit other countries in the WIO region and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Implementation of the project is ongoing. During this reporting period, the partner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Developed a new sectoral fisheries policy which is undergoing national validation</li> <li>b) Drafted text elaborating the legislation and regulation on sea fishing</li> <li>c) Developed a technical note for the political authorities highlighting the importance of ratifying the conventions against IUU fishing</li> <li>d) Conducted consultations to draft a national Plan of Action to combat IUU fishing (NPOA-IUU)</li> <li>e) Provided training for fishermen in order to develop new fishing techniques favorable to sustainable fishing</li> </ul> </li> <li>- The partner highlighted that the project has been delayed by restrictions imposed to control spread of the COVID – 19 virus.</li> <li>- Find a story about the demonstration project <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Madagascar:</b> <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"> <li>- The partner 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.</li> </ul>	This activity is shared between Component 1, 2 and 4.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Discussions on the agreed-upon priorities with key government officials have been delayed due to COVID – 19 restrictions.</li> <li>- The MEDA Update process, which is funded under this agreement, is well on-track and the first draft in French and second draft in English have been submitted.</li> <li>- The project has a total funding of USD 56,000.</li> </ul> <p><b>South Africa:</b> 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"> <li>- The project was reviewed and a project cooperation agreement (PCA) developed.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- The PCA has been signed and disbursement of funds is in process.</li> <li>- The PCA will receive an initial funding of USD 200,000, the remaining USD 180,000 will be disbursed later.</li> <li>- Find a story about the demo project <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kenya:</b> The SAPPHERE 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Additional support will be provided to include contribution of inland blue economy into the sector report to ensure the delivered sector and synthesis reports are comprehensive.</li> <li>- A physical meeting with key national stakeholders will be organized in Q1 of 2022 to validate the sectoral reports and the draft synthesis report.</li> <li>- Find an article about the blue economy study <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>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</b></p>			

	1.2.1. Conduct assessment and develop regional Ecosystem Monitoring indicators and framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The development of a Regional Ecosystem Monitoring Framework has been finalized, in collaboration with WIOMSA and Rhodes University of South Africa. The framework is currently in the final editing and design stage, with an expected release date in Q1 2022.</li> <li>- Countries will be supported to adopt the Regional Ecosystem Monitoring Framework in their monitoring guidelines and reporting.</li> </ul>	Joint initiative between several NC projects.
	1.2.2. Develop Regional Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Strategy for WIO region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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. The strategy is currently in the final editing and design stage, with an expected release date in Q1 2022.</li> <li>- The policy brief was developed to inform discussions on MSP at the Nairobi Convention Conference of Parties held from 23 – 25 November 2021.</li> </ul>	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"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- The small-scale funding agreements to support the activity has been developed and signed. The first instalment of USD 95, 160 has been disbursed.</li> <li>- A series of meetings will be organized in 2022 to introduce the project to stakeholders from the Governments of Kenya and Tanzania to ensure ownership of the project outcomes.</li> </ul>	Joint initiative between several NC projects
<b>Outcome 1.3. Collaborative and cooperative mechanisms agreed and strengthened between national, regional and global partners and stakeholders</b>			
	1.3.1. Support countries to participate at different appropriate coordination meetings in the interests of SAP implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to travel restrictions caused by COVID, Focal points have been encouraged/invited to participate in various virtual workshops and meetings.</li> </ul>	Several regional meetings are planned for 2022

	<p>1.3.2. Organize a consultation workshop with IGOs (RECs and AU and others) on ocean governance and blue economy to support the implementation of SAP in the WIO region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Western Indian Ocean Governance and Exchange Network (WIOGEN), a MeerWissen project supported by the German Government through BMZ, held its first virtual Ocean Governance Conference from 27-29 October 2021. The Nairobi Convention hosted <a href="#">Day 3 of the WIOGEN Ocean Governance Conference</a> which focused on how different themes related to ocean governance, research, and opportunities could be channeled to enhance ocean governance in the Western Indian Ocean region. Find a news article about Day 3 of WIOGEN <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>- The PMU, in collaboration with the Marine Regions Forum, <a href="#">organized an online workshop</a> ‘Towards a Marine Regions Forum Conference in the Western Indian Ocean’ on 29 November 2021. The workshop aimed to kick-start a preparatory process to co-develop the next Marine Regions Forum Conference in the Western Indian Ocean with key regional actors and stakeholders. Participants and workshop hosts explored the current challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation as well as areas where the Marine Regions Forum can deliver to facilitate the advancement of regional ocean governance processes.</li> <li>- 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 and provide inputs on a proposed annotated outline of the regional Ocean Governance Strategy.</li> </ul>	<p>Engagement of the RECS and countries of the region will occur during 2022 in preparation of the Ocean Governance Strategy</p>
	<p>1.3.3. Knowledge and communication products prepared and disseminated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Led by our communications team, various communication materials were prepared and shared to promote the activities listed here, including key takeaways, infographics, <a href="#">demonstration project stories</a>, <a href="#">news articles about project initiatives</a>, and <a href="#">social media messages</a>, <a href="#">story maps on the demonstration projects</a>; <a href="#">news round-ups</a>, 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. Click on the links above, and throughout this document, to find examples of these products.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Component 2 Stress Reduction through</b></p>	<p><b>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</b></p>		
	<p>2.1.1. Communities sensitized about the values of LME goods and services</p>	<p>Technical support has been provided to participating countries to develop <b>demonstration project</b> 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>The demonstration projects in Kenya and Madagascar have been delayed by the late</p>

<p><b>Community Engagement and Empowerment in Sustainable Resources Management</b></p>	<p>2.1.2. Support demonstration projects on community led Ecosystem Based Management integrated in local economic activities and coastal and marine resources management</p>	<p><b>Comoros:</b>  <b>Strengthening sectoral policy and co-management of natural resources for better conservation of marine and coastal ecosystems in the Union of the Comoros</b>  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"> <li>- Implementation of the project is ongoing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Kenya:</b>  <b>Kenya Wildlife Service: Climate-Smart Design for Diani-Chale Marine Ecosystem management and Improved Livelihoods of the Coastal Communities</b> – 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"> <li>- 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 1<sup>st</sup> instalment to the partner to initiate the agreement activities.</li> <li>- Find an article about the demo project <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Madagascar:</b>  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"> <li>- 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 has disbursed the 1<sup>st</sup> instalment of USD 60,000 to the partner to initiate the agreement activities.</li> <li>- Find an article about the demo project <a href="#">here</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mozambique:</b>  <b>Community Based Project for Mussel Aquaculture on Inhaca Island-Maputo Province to Promote Ecosystem Based Resources Management</b></p>	<p>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 the SAPPHIRE Project.</p>
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	<b>Outcome 2.2. Stress reduction through ecosystem-based practices among artisanal and subsistence fisheries</b>		
	2.2.1. Support in piloting EBM in small-scale fishing communities 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><b>Comoros:</b> Develop legislation and regulations on fisheries and other marine resources management, capacity building on surveillance and implementation of the regulations</p> <p><b>Kenya: Kenya Wildlife Service:</b> 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><b>Madagascar:</b> 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>’. 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 the first installment of US\$ 60,000 disbursed to the partner.</p> <p><b>Tanzania:</b></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 the first disbursement is being processed. Find an article about the demo project <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>b) Strengthening community participation in management of the fisheries resources in coastal areas of Tanzania - mainland Tanzania Fisheries Department. The focal point of Tanzania has submitted a draft proposal to the PMU for review.</p>	These activities are closely linked and contribute to Outcome 2.1 above
<b>Component 3 Stress Reduction</b>	<b>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</b>		



<b>through Private Sector/Industry Commitment to transformations in their operations and management practices</b>	3.1.1. Develop Private-Public Sector Partnerships strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The <a href="#">Strategic Framework for Private Sector Engagement in the Western Indian Ocean</a> 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 <a href="#">SAPPHIRE Project website</a>, <a href="#">Nairobi Convention Clearing House Mechanism</a>, and <a href="#">IWLearn</a>. The Framework has been promoted on the website, 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.</li> </ul>	
	3.1.2. Support organization of workshop on public private partnership in Ecosystem Based Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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 (MSI) 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.</li> <li>- The SAPPHIRE PMU <a href="#">participated in discussion</a> on the preliminary governance for the MSI for a Sustainable Blue Economy in the Western Indian Ocean. It was agreed that <a href="#">the MSI will be governed</a> at the highest level by a non-hierarchical, member-elected <i>Multi-stakeholder Steering Board</i> that can provide inspiration, guidance, and mechanisms for collective leadership, supporting a diversity of initiatives to grow in scale and impact in a strategic direction. The stakeholders agreed that the MSI will be anchored at the Nairobi Convention. The MSI was anchored in the Nairobi Convention Decision CP.10/12. on Projects and Partnerships.</li> </ul>	
	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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- The consultant will also develop a comprehensive national capacity building programme on oil spill response for each country in the WIO region.</li> </ul>	This is a key priority for 2021/22, as it has been held back significantly by the Covid-19 pandemic.

	<p>coordinate regional responses to 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"> <li>- The SAPPHIRE PMU working with the participating countries has <a href="#">developed a database of the contact people</a> responsible for oil spill preparedness under the Nairobi Convention Clearing House Mechanism.</li> <li>- <b>Mauritius:</b> 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.</li> <li>- The TORs for the consultant to facilitate public consultations and finalization of the Updated National Oil Spill Contingency Plan of the Republic of Mauritius have been developed and advertised. The consultant expected to be on board in the first quarter of 2022. The small-scale funding agreement to supporting organization of the consultation workshops is being developed.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Component 4</b> <b>Delivering best practices and lessons through innovative ocean governance demonstration</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome 4.1. Identifying innovative management options for High Seas areas within LMEs</b></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"> <li>- <b>Comoros</b> –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.</li> <li>- <b>Kenya</b> - 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</li> </ul>	<p>Some of these activities are shared between C1 and C4</p>

		<p>both the national and county levels to provide policy and regulatory direction towards the realization of the blue economy promise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The partner has been requested to expand the scope of the assessment to include inland blue economy dimensions for each of the sectors in order to provide a comprehensive assessment of the contribution of the maritime sectors to Kenya’s Blue Economy.</li> <li>- The activity will contribute to the development of a National Blue Economy Policy.</li> <li>- <b>Madagascar</b> – 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.</li> <li>- The partner has submitted a draft updated MEDA to the project coordination unit for review.</li> <li>- <b>Mozambique</b> – 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 SAPHIRE 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. The PMU is following up with the partner to submit progress reports on the project.</li> <li>- <b>South Africa</b> - 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. The funds disbursement process will be initiated after the partner submits all the required documents.</li> </ul>	
	4.1.2. Strengthening the Science-Policy interface through	Supporting scientific research and capacity building initiatives for improved ocean governance and adaptive management:	

	<p>support to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in developing an evidence based decision-making process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Kenya</b> – 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.</li> <li>- The institution has analyzed the oceanographic data collected and developed four draft manuscripts which have been published in peer reviewed journals.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- The partner has developed a draft policy brief titled “North Kenya Banks: Opportunities and Threats”. The policy brief will be subjected to national review before it is formally adopted.</li> <li>- <b>Tanzania</b> - 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.</li> <li>- The institution has analyzed the oceanographic data collected and developed five draft manuscripts which have been published in peer reviewed journals.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- The partner has submitted the final progress and expense reports to the PMU for review.</li> </ul>	
	<p>4.1.3. Organize workshop for key stakeholders on ABNJ and Contiguous Adjacent High Seas Areas (CAHSA) on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- 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</li> </ul>	<p>This is a key activity for 2021/22 as it will feed into the regional Ocean Governance dialogues.</p>

	management and governance	<p>Governance Strategy for the WIO. Experts from IRD and the DiDeM project will be engaged in the process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A concept note and Terms of Reference for this activity have been developed and will be advertised.</li> </ul>	
<b>Outcome 4.2. Demonstrating innovative management options within specific marine space within the WIO LME</b>			
	4.2.1. Demonstrating Marine Spatial Planning within a Blue Economy framework in selected areas within participating countries for further replication and transfer of lessons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- <b>Tanzania:</b> <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.</li> </ul>	These activities have been slowed down due to Covid-19
	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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Comoros – fisheries sector policy</li> <li>- Madagascar – policies related to environment and ocean</li> <li>- Mozambique – ocean policy</li> <li>- Kenya and Tanzania – blue economy sector assessment and work on the North Kenya Banks and Pemba and Zanzibar Channels, respectively.</li> </ul>	This activity is closely linked to Activity 4.1.1 above.
<b>Component 5 Capacity Development to Realize improved ocean governance in the WIO region</b>	<b>Outcome 5.1. Capacity for improved Ocean Governance strengthened through training and support</b>		
	5.1.1. Support leadership capacity building in ocean governance and sustainable resources management at national and regional level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Phase 3 of the Advanced Leadership Workshop</a> for Senior Leaders, Officials and Policy Makers (Women) in Marine Policy and Ocean Governance was organized virtually from 26 October to 9 December 2021. The training was attended by 24 women leaders drawn from different institutions in the WIO region.</li> <li>- The Facilitator highlighted that the participants who completed the majority of the 12 sessions gained valuable insights and capabilities. He concluded that the investments made by the sponsors, the organizers and the participants were worthwhile.</li> </ul>	

	<p>5.1.2. Capacity building support for update of MEDA/TDA and development of regional SAP including write shops, consultation and validation workshops</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- Virtual technical support was provided.</li> </ul>	<p>Training postponed due to COVID-19 and is prioritized for early 2022.</p>
	<p>5.1.3. Support countries to organize training on MSP for national experts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The national capacity building will be organized in the process of operationalizing the Regional MSP Strategy.</li> <li>- The SAPPHIRE 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 TWG and led by SwAM, with technical support from several other Swedish governmental agencies and financial support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.</li> <li>- During this reporting period the PMU in collaboration with SwaM organized a webinar on MSP implementation targeting participants from Somalia on 5 and 6 October 2021. The webinar was part of a Somali MSP webinar series covering five training modules and was initiated as part of a collaboration between Somalia, Sweden, and Nairobi Convention on ocean governance. The two-day webinar covered a wide variety of topics, including setting up a framework for MSP; stakeholder engagement; MSP preparatory work; as well as transboundary MSP. Learning objectives included understanding key elements of MSP; exploring how MSP can be applied in the local and national context; as well as enhancing knowledge of opportunities and challenges with transboundary MSP. Around 30 participants took part of the webinar, representing the federal government, federal member states as well as regional and international organizations. Respondents were satisfied with the selection of topics of the webinar as well as the quality of presentations and material provided. Participants were interested in attending further webinars in the webinar series.</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing and continued into 2022.</p>
	<p>5.1.4. Expert to support countries in developing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>	

	demonstration projects proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 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</li> </ul>	
	5.1.5. Support for countries to attend the IOI Ocean Governance training course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The SAPPHIRE project, in collaboration with the International Ocean Institute – Southern Africa, organized <a href="#">a training course on Ocean Governance: Policy, Law and Management for the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region</a> 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. Find a news article about the conference <a href="#">here</a>.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- The trainees are being engaged in consultation meetings on development of the WIO Ocean Governance Strategy.</li> </ul>	