

2-Mar-21

MQU – UNEP Nairobi Convention Secretariat

Attendees:

MQ – Joseph Maina, Vera Horigue, Peter Davies

UNEP NCS – Jared Bosire, Theuri Mwangi, Tim Andrew, Bonface Mutisya, Jane Ndungu, Nathan Majwa

Agenda:

- Review the MOU and discuss how to firm up collaborations for this year
- Discuss the 2021 work plan, and get updates on the general activities from the MPA Outlook, MSP Strategy, CCVA, WIOSAP, Science-to-Policy and also other research proposals
- Discuss pathways to move forward

Action points:

Vera – share work plan and concept notes; ~~share the science to policy meeting with Peter,~~

Bonface/ Nathan – send the list of projects

Timelines:

23-25 March – Science-to-Policy meeting (9AM to 1PM EAT; 5PM to 9PM AEDT)

Sometime in May – COP 10

Notes:

JB: Shared and reviewed the MOU, and suggested that we have to keep communications going so that the MOU will be useful.

VH: Presented the general activities from the 2021 Work plan. We need to know more about what is happening and the timelines so that we could populate the work plan with more detailed information.

Updates from UNEP side

JB: MPA Outlook nearly done. There are a lot of recommendations from the MPA Outlook though. How do we move forward with those recommendations?

TA: NMU (and Vera) working on the MSP Strategy, but still missing some recommendations. How to go through the process (limitations) of getting feedback/ consultation. Using a systems thinking approach to shift the thinking and processes in the region, and consider transboundary issues and intersectoral feedbacks. Links to Ocean Governance in the strategy as well. Hopefully, this will be taken by the COP.

JB: Across different countries, different levels MSP implementation. Looking forward to the Sci-to-Policy meeting to see the MSP Strat, and adopting the suggestions in the COP.

CCVA – deadline for the consultancies is today, and MQU will provide the technical expertise

WIOSAP – demo projects, expand to include SAPPHIRE, and there are other projects that EU and SIDA funded projects

Hopefully can describe how the projects are going and we could have some post-graduate students to be engaged in the projects.

TA: (About the MOU) We need to make sure they are constantly of use. The workplan for the year is quite good, but the discussion will concretise the work further. Hopefully, once the MSP Strat is adopted by the COP then there is a lot of ground work that could be done. Let's also look for new opportunities as well.

JM: Please provide more information about SAPPHIRE and the Science-to-Policy initiatives of the Convention. P. Davies (MQU) works on Science-to-Policy nexus and could help in those aspects.

JB: The convention established a platform for Sci-to-Pol, to gather people and discuss matters. This year, they are organising a meeting this March (the Sci-to-Pol meeting). Because of COVID, it will be an online. Get a number of policy recommendations that can be taken to the COP in May, so that they can become decisions to guide the actions of the governments. Bonface and Nathan to send MQU some documents about the different projects by the Nairobi Convention that would benefit from support from MQ.

PD: Interesting to see how things should be presented. Addressing the differences in the languages between Science and Policy

JB: Err on the precautionary principle, but this platform helped and contributed to some COP Decisions already. We're also submitting a PIF for GEF7. Also developing a concept note for the Global Climate Fund for coastal resilience in Kenya. MQU is welcome to attend the stakeholder's meeting, and we can also share the concept note so you can comment. Other additional work could be the MPA network for the region.

JM:

Re: MPA - There was an original plan to create a Scenarios Outlook. And Chapter 5 also alluded to that as well. The scenarios outlook or a study could look at the options. Not sure if that it is a plan or not, but there is definitely a need to explore what that would look like. How to meet the 30 by 30 commitments?

Re: Demo projects – WIOSAP has done that already, but how do you use those results/ outputs/ lessons into a land-sea planning framework. So under WIOSAP and SAPPHIRE, you both have planning components, but there's an opportunity to take those forward.

Re: Funding opportunities. Vera to check with the program officers at the ACIAR (Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research)

JB: The demo projects' framework accommodates spin-offs. Projects can extend their work and work with other collaborators to develop partnerships and expand the scope of work. There are various projects ranging from spatial planning, e-flows, fisheries etc. MQ can see where your interests are. Can also introduce MQU to the implementing partners.

JB: Progress on the joint publications.

VH: Situational Analysis Report from the MSP Strat; TBCA Work; MPA Outlook – gap analysis (Chapter 5); scenarios paper; scheduling paper

JN: Hopefully we could interact more in those aspects

TM: Need to make a big project out of the MPA work. We do have work that can be done and supported even by the GEF, because we're developing a Strategic Action Program for the Convention. This could be based using EBM approaches, and out of the SAP then there is implementation of it. Evaluate the institutional capacity that needs to be strengthened to implement the SAP, and then looking at the priority MPA recommendations; if these two could be married then we could have a project to a tune of USD 30M. There's also implementation of pilot MPAs that underpin EBM, and two LMEs can be competing for some funding. This is an area that we should work on together, including international waters that are not yet protected in the region. We also need to consider gender dimensions.

JB: MPA Outlook can have a lot of spin-offs, and there will be a lot of opportunities. We will be aligning our work based on the discussion of the global commitments.

BM: Translating all the work into actions by local implementers.

JB: We have a lot of data generated as well from the demo projects. MQU can help with this. How can we present the data in value-added products. This can be done in succeeding meetings.