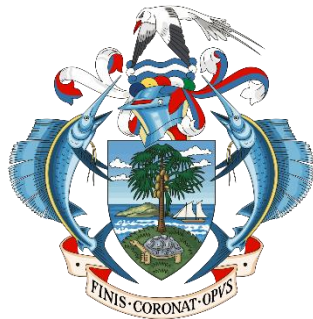




Western Indian Ocean Resilience & Prosperity Initiative

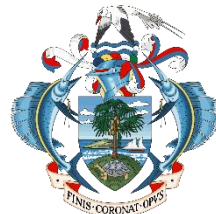
Proposed Nairobi Convention Project
by the Government of Seychelles



WIO-Resilience & Prosperity Initiative

(WIO-RPI - working title)

- ▶ **Ambition:** catalyse a new governance, financial and scientific implementation framework within the region to coordinate sustainable ocean development underpinned by science-based management and protection.
- ▶ **Objective:** WIO Governments to co-define and co-implement a regional ocean strategy and policy.
- ▶ **Approach:** WIO-RPI to be a Project of the Nairobi Convention
- ▶ **Coordinating nation:** Government of Seychelles
- ▶ **In partnership:** Danny Faure Foundation and Nekton (technical partners)



Our challenge

WIO on the brink of transformational change

- ▶ **Population rising** from 240 million to at least 306million by 2030, to 818million by 2100.
- ▶ **WIO total ocean asset base** (or “shared wealth fund”) at least US\$333.8 billion (*not including the intrinsic value of biodiversity and potentiality of other resources*).
 - ▶ Fisheries: \$135billion
 - ▶ Gross Marine Product (combined economic value of the WIO ecosystems goods and services): US\$20 billion (per year)
 - ▶ Services supported by the ocean - e.g. marine tourism: US\$10.4billion (per year)
 - ▶ Adjacent coastline benefits - e.g. carbon sequestration: US\$2.9billion (per year)
- ▶ **7% WIO EEZs in MPAs** (excluding Somalia)
- ▶ **Biocapacity deficit:** Current trajectory points towards environmental degradation and “biocapacity deficit”, jeopardizing long-term prospects and social and economic security.
- ▶ **Prosperous and resilient WIO** is essential to ensure sustainable economic growth, to enhance food security and to strengthen resilience to climate change consequences.



Nairobi Convention Projects

Status: 2021

Active

- ▶ **WIO-LME SAPPHIRE:** The Western Indian Ocean Large Marine Ecosystems Strategic Action Programme Policy Harmonisation and Institutional Reforms
- ▶ **WIOSAP:** Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities
- ▶ **NoCaMo:** Nairobi Convention Clearinghouse and Information Sharing System

Proposed

- ▶ Transboundary Marine Protected Area between Kenya & the United Republic of Tanzania
- ▶ Oil and Gas Exploration and Development
- ▶ Northern Mozambique Channel Initiative (NMC)
- ▶ Sustainable Fisheries Management and Biodiversity Conservation of Deep-sea living Marine Resources and Ecosystems in the Areas beyond National Jurisdiction



Other major regional initiatives incl.

- **WIO Ocean Governance Strategy & Action Plan** - to advance the role of Regional Economic Communities (completed in February 2022)
- **WIO Marine Protected Areas Outlook** (published July 2021)
- **WIO Symphony Project** -
 - ▶ Supporting ecosystem based Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) with Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM)
 - ▶ Capacity development of MPA managers, with WIOMSA & WIOMPAN (launched in June 2021),
- ▶ **Biological Area Protective Management (BIOPAMA)** - Vanga-Tanga eco-region, Northern Mozambique Channel (IUCN)
- **Deep Seas ABNJ Project** - Nairobi Convention & UNEP-WCMC, GEF funded
- **African Ocean Observation** - UNESCO-IOC
- **Kenya & Tanzania Marine Spatial Planning & Conservation financing** - TNC
- **Climate Change Vulnerability Assessments (CCVA)** in Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, and Madagascar, part implementation of the Climate Change Strategy for the Nairobi Convention.
- **SWIOFC: Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission**
- **ACP MEAs 3 Programme**



Summary of needs

WIO Strategy & Policy

- ▶ To address key WIO ocean related challenges
- ▶ To create a coordinated WIO strategy with measurable targets
- ▶ To coordinate Nairobi Convention Projects and other regional programmes to maximise impact
- ▶ To become a focus for international financing

Leadership

- ▶ Committed and visionary regional leadership and political will required to co-create and co-implement a world-first regional ocean policy



WIO-Resilience & Prosperity Initiative

Co-developed & co-delivered by WIO Governments

Objective

- ▶ **To create a Western Indian Ocean Strategy & Policy**

Four proposed focus area

- ▶ **Enhance Marine Science**
- ▶ **Sustainable Blue Growth**
- ▶ **Strengthen Resilience & Restoration**
- ▶ **Advance Governance for sustainable management and protection**



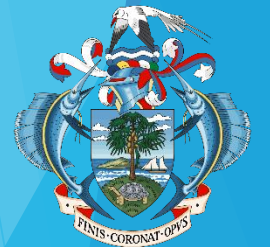
Enhance Marine Science

Objective

- ▶ To inform and coordinate decisions on the sustainable use and management of marine resources and conservation priorities

Details

- ▶ Synthesise research efforts by WIO scientists and the Second International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE-2 2015-2025), aligned to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development
- ▶ Identify areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, including 'blue carbon' and fisheries
- ▶ Create a regional marine atlas (or spatial plan) across both territorial and international waters



Sustainable blue growth

Objective

- ▶ To create a sustainable blue economic plan to drive growth

Details

- ▶ Focus on creating sustainable economic growth, lives and livelihoods
- ▶ Includes investment in coastal natural capital to reduce biodiversity loss, increase resilience, enhance food and economic security
- ▶ Includes ecosystem-based resilience and recovery plans
- ▶ Underpinned with long-term sustainable financing - to include ecosystem-based resilience and recovery plans.



Strengthen resilience & restoration

Objective

- ▶ To establish and equitably manage a connected network of ecologically representative protected areas and other effective conservation measures

Details

- ▶ Includes areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services
- ▶ Across territorial waters and the high seas
- ▶ Ensures they are equitably designed and managed
- ▶ Takes into particular consideration the needs, values, and activities of local communities.
- ▶ Complements global efforts and related targets (e.g. 30% protection by 2030, Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction)



Advance Governance

Objective

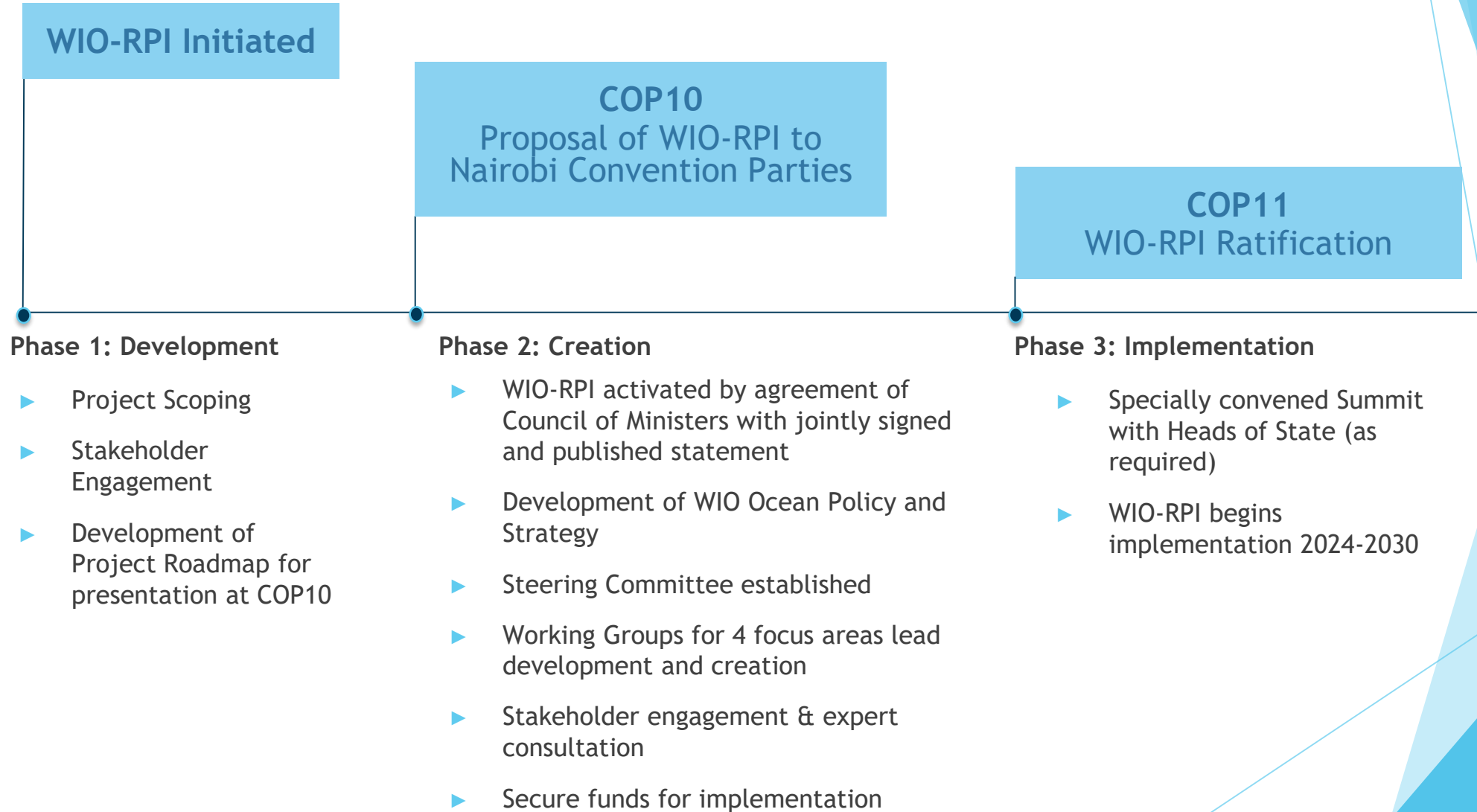
- ▶ To advance governance for sustainable use and management of marine resources and protected areas

Details

- ▶ Across territorial waters and EEZ and high seas
- ▶ Includes protected areas to strengthen resilience and restoration
- ▶ Includes activities related to IUU, maritime security, surveillance and improving safety at sea.



Milestones & Timelines



Partners & Contacts



Government of Seychelles

- ▶ Minister Flavien Joubert, Ministry of Agriculture, Climate Change and Environment
- ▶ Denis Matatiken, Principle Secretary, dmatatiken@env.gov.sc

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