



WEBINAR FOR THE LAUNCH OF GUIDELINES ON MANGROVE ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION FOR THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN

24 JULY 2020, 15H00 – 16H30 EAT

REPORT

Introduction

The Nairobi Convention Secretariat, through the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean (WIOSAP) project, hosted a webinar on Friday, 24 July 2020, to launch the *Guidelines on Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration for the Western Indian Ocean*. The webinar introduced the Guidelines to a global and regional audience and highlighted their purpose and relevance to the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region, how they can be used, and global relevance as well. The webinar also discussed how best practices from the WIO region could be applied elsewhere, both within the region and globally.

The *Guidelines on Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration for the Western Indian Ocean*, which use experiences from around the WIO region, analyze challenges facing restoration projects and provide possible solutions - were compiled and prepared by James G. Kairo and Mwita M. Mangora of the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) Mangrove Network with support from the GEF funded WIOSAP Project in collaboration with USAID and WIOSA with contributions from Lilian Mwihaki, Robert M. Runya, Abel Kiprono, Elinasi Monga, Célia Macamo, Henriques Balidy, Zafyson H. Randrianasolo, Sachooda Ragoonaden, Mohammed Ahmed and Elvina Henriette, and expert support and guidance provided by Carl C. Trettin of US Forest Service, and Jared O. Bosire of UNEP-Nairobi Convention.

Attendance

A total of 227 attendees participated in the webinar. These included the Nairobi Convention, WIOSAP and SAPPHERE Focal Points; members of the Consortium for the Conservation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO-C); members of the WIOSAP Regional Task Force members; Managers of WIOSAP demo projects; the Global Mangrove Alliance members; UNEP Water Branch, UNEP Marine and Ecosystems Integration Branch; UN-REDD; colleagues from other UN Agencies and Regional Seas counterparts. The launch was also attended by the UNEP Ecosystem Division Director and Principal Secretary Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, State Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Blue Economy, Kenya who was the Chief Guest. The full list of attendees is provided in Annex 2 of this report.

Introductory Remarks

Dr. Jared Bosire, WIOSAP Project Manager at the Nairobi Convention, gave a brief introduction of the WIOSAP project and the process of development of the *Guidelines*. He described the rationale behind the development of the Guidelines and reiterated the



project's commitment to developing Guidelines to support implementation of various conservation intervention in the region in demo projects funded under WIOSAP and also for adoption by other partners. Some of these Guidelines are also linked to global processes, such as the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration. He highlighted the 5 key Guidelines being produced for the region supported by the WIOSAP Project: Mangrove Ecosystem Restoration Guidelines, Seagrass Ecosystem Restoration Guidelines, EFlows Assessment Guidelines, Economic Valuation Guidelines and Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment Guidelines.

In his introductory remarks, Prof. Micheni Ntiba, the Principal Secretary, State Department of Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy in the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Kenya, congratulated the team that took part in the development of the *Guidelines* and invited Dr. James Kairo to present a summary of the *Guidelines*.

Dr. James Kairo, Chief Scientist, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) and a co-author of the Mangrove Restoration Guidelines, presented key highlights of the *Guidelines*, including its unique purpose and utility in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. He underlined the publication's objectives, stating that they highlighted the status and conditions of mangrove forests around the world as well as the need to restore degraded mangroves for present and future generations. He further noted that the *Guidelines* served to provide a step by step Guide in restoration, and also as documentation of previous mangrove restoration activities across the WIO region, outlined best practices from previous mangrove restoration activities, and would help users in the region focus on what is most likely to work for them.

Remarks by Key Partners

Dr. Mwita Mangora of the Institute of Marine Sciences - University of Dar es Salaam (IMS) outlined the contribution of the WIO Mangrove Network towards the development of the *Guidelines*. He gave highlights of the project entitled 'Developing a collaborative management plan and sustainable mangrove restoration model in Rufiji Delta, Tanzania', which is supported by the WIOSAP project, and further explained the utility of the Guidelines in supporting this project's implementation. Dr. Mangora alluded that the Guidelines is one of the long-awaited milestones in the region and that its development was necessitated by an Outlook of the mangrove forests in each of the WIO countries (*Mangroves of the Western Indian Ocean: Status and Management*) that was published in 2016. He urged partners to adopt, disseminate widely and apply the *Guidelines* in their mangrove restoration projects. He also reported that a summarized version of the Guidelines – a field handbook - will be prepared and disseminated to help field teams in restoration activities. The handbook will be translated into four major languages of the region: French, English, Swahili and Portuguese.



Ms. Karen Douthwaite (WWF), while representing the Global Mangrove Alliance, gave remarks on the process of development of Global Mangrove Restoration Guidelines and how it links to the WIO *Guidelines*. She reported that the *Guidelines* will inform the work of the Global Mangrove Alliance Science Working Group in increasing adoption of best practices for mangrove restoration. Ms. Douthwaite stated that the Guidelines will also support the process of building a framework for evaluating mangrove restoration successes and failures. She further noted that the Guidelines will be valuable in offering the right approaches in the implementation of country-specific mangrove restoration strategies and plans. She also reported that Guidelines will support the Global Mangrove Alliance members in their community training activities for mangrove restoration.

Plenary Session

Prof. Ntiba facilitated a Question and Answer session, granting the participants a chance to give remarks and ask questions which were later answered by the speakers. Other questions were left in the comment box, to be shared with the speakers for their response (to be shared later on).

Promoting the Guidelines among the Regional Seas Programmes

Ms. Nancy Soi, Coordinator of Regional Seas Programmes at UN Environment Programme (UNEP), gave remarks on how UNEP, through the Regional Seas Programme, can promote the Guidelines. She congratulated the Nairobi Convention team and its partners for successfully developing the Guidelines, noting that it is an achievement that needs to be emulated across the regional seas Conventions to support countries in addressing biodiversity loss.

She noted that the Guidelines will be useful in supporting countries in achieving their SDG targets linked to the environment such as target 14.2 (to sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans).

Ms. Soi reported that the Guidelines will be presented as one of the examples of the Regional Seas Programmes' (Nairobi Convention) efforts towards the achievement of the global biodiversity goals and targets in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. She remarked that mangroves have been identified as one of the areas to be monitored under 'Goal A' of the Global Biodiversity Framework on connectivity and integrity of natural systems. Thus the restoration of mangroves presents a great opportunity for measuring progress. She acknowledged that with mangrove restoration efforts, countries may have a chance to raise their commitment on biodiversity restoration work under their Nationally Determined Contributions (INDC) of the Paris Agreement.

She remarked that the Guidelines may also be applied in the implementation of one of the 22 Regional Seas indicators common across the 18 Conventions and Action Plans. These indicators look at the trends in critical habitat extent and condition, with specific reference to the demonstration projects in the region.

In her conclusion, Ms. Soi listed the UN Decade of Ecosystem Restoration as one of the opportunities to apply the Guidelines and challenged scientists to devise targets on how many hectares of mangroves could be restored within a specified timeframe.

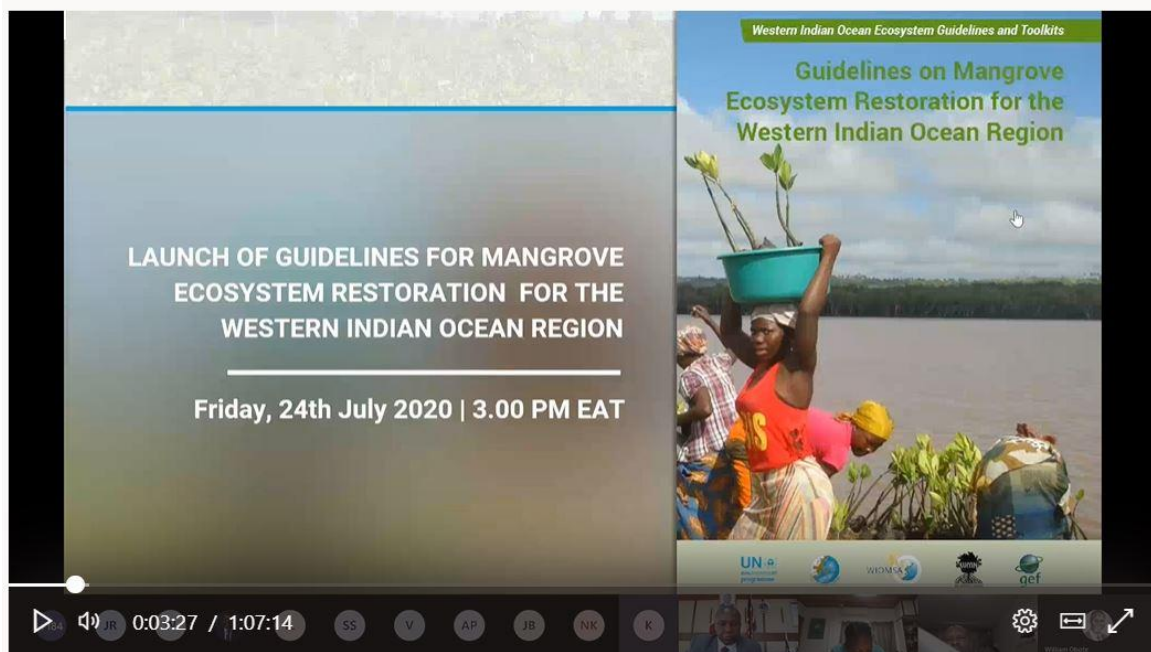
Official Launch and Conclusion

Prof. Ntiba, in his closing remarks, noted that more Guidelines on restoration of marine ecosystems are currently being developed. He acknowledged the ongoing work in the region related to the preparation of marine spatial plans and further encouraged the participants and stakeholders to put them into practice and share feedback. Prof. Ntiba officially launched the *Guidelines* before inviting Mr. Waruinge to give a vote of thanks.

Mr. Waruinge thanked the Principal Secretary, Prof. Ntiba, participants in the meeting, the WIO Mangrove Network, KMFRI and IMS, WIOMSA, the WIOSAP Regional Task Force members and FARI Members, USAID, GEF and UNEP represented by the Director Ecosystem Division, Susan Gardner for support and participation.

The webinar ended at 4:30 PM EAT.

ANNEX 1: SESSION RECORDING





Watch the recorded webinar here: <https://youtu.be/OtTGNUu6ZzU>

ANNEX 2: MEDIA & WEB ENGAGEMENT STATS

1. The [Guidelines](#) and/or stories on WIOSAP mangrove projects in [Tanzania](#) and [Mozambique](#) were picked up by several news outlets, including:
 - AllAfrica
 - IIPMedia
 - ecoMagazine
 - ICRIForum
 - News Vibes of india
 - Network of Climate Journalists
 - Kenya News
 - Down to Earth
 - SmartBrief
 - Modern Diplomacy
 - ICRI news
2. Mangrove Restoration [video](#) has been viewed over 7000 times on UNEP's Twitter/YouTube.
3. Traffic to the Nairobi Convention website in July increased by 77% over June. 60% of the total number of page views in July were on the [mangrove page](#). 24 July marked the highest number of page views ever on the website (since we made the switch last Dec). Note that the page is still receiving a steady number of views in August, too.

ANNEX 3: WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS

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|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Abou Bamba | 13. Anjeline Odialla | 25. Caroline Njoki |
| 2. Aboud | 14. Anne Wanjiru | 26. Cecilia Njenga |
| 3. Adamou Bouhari | 15. Apostolos Apostolopoulos | 27. Cecilia Olima |
| 4. Adams, Janine (Prof) | 16. Augusto Nhampossa | 28. Celia Macamo |
| 5. Ahmed | 17. Azim Musthag | 29. CHAMSIA |
| 6. Alex K | 18. Benito | 30. Charity, Kenya Forest Service |
| 7. Alexia M. Penn | 19. Bernard Inzilia | 31. CHECHE |
| 8. Ali Raza Rizvi | 20. Bonface Mutisya | 32. Chris B |
| 9. Amina Hamza | 21. Bonifacio M. Jubay, III | 33. Chris McOwen |
| 10. Angela | 22. Brenda | 34. Clara Makenya |
| 11. Angela Joann Patnode | 23. Carlos Verão | 35. CMacamo |
| 12. Angela Wanjiku | 24. caroline | |



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| 36. Costa, Hugo | 75. Gabriel Grimsditch | 113. Laura Máiz-Tomé |
| 37. Cremildo Armando | 76. George Maina | 114. Lawrence Monda |
| 38. Cremildo Armando | 77. Gildo Cuamba | 115. Laye NDIAYE |
| 39. Cristina Louro | 78. GOODWIN Emily | 116. Leah - Blue Ventures |
| 40. Dalila Sequeira | 79. Habib El-Habr | 117. Lenice (CORDIO) |
| 41. Daniela de Abreu | 80. Habiba | 118. Lenice |
| 42. Daudi Msangameno | 81. Hamadi Mwamlavya | 119. Lianna Jarecki |
| 43. David Erasto | 82. Hans Jooosten | 120. Liberia Chimpanzee
Rescue & Protection |
| 44. David Osborn | 83. Hary Nantoanina | 121. Lilian M. Mugi |
| 45. Denise Nicolau - BIOFUND | 84. Henry M. Komu | 122. Lilian NYAEGA |
| 46. Diana Cisneros (Invitado) | 85. houssoyni | 123. Lilian Omolo |
| 47. Diana K | 86. Ileana Lopez | 124. Linet kiteresi |
| 48. Diana Kishiki | 87. Ismaël | 125. Linxiu Zhang |
| 49. Dinis Juizo | 88. Izavamike | 126. Luciana Esteves |
| 50. Dixon Waruingi | 89. Jacques RASOANAINA | 127. Lucy Magembe |
| 51. Donna Henry-Hernandez | 90. James Mwamodenyi | 128. Maafaka |
| 52. Dr C U Rivonker | 91. Jared Bosire | 129. Madhu |
| 53. Dr George G. Ndiritu | 92. Jerald Wilson | 130. Mahesh Pradhan |
| 54. Dr Jacqueline Uku | 93. Jerry mang'ena | 131. Maina Mbui |
| 55. Dr. Chandrakant Lingadhal | 94. JIM Enright | 132. Mamy |
| 56. Dr. Padmanabha A. | 95. J Mulonga | 133. Marcia Nrepo |
| 57. Dr. John Kochey Kipyegon | 96. Jo Wong | 134. Marcos Pereira |
| 58. Edward | 97. JOAN NELIMA | 135. Margaret Owuor |
| 59. Edward Mwamuye | 98. Joana Akrofi | 136. Maria Morgado |
| 60. Ejaphet | 99. Jodi Johnson | 137. Marlyn Omondi |
| 61. Eleutério Duarte | 100. Joel Laigong | 138. MASAHODY |
| 62. Elizabeth | 101. Johannsen, Uwe | 139. Mastura Chelangat |
| 63. Elizabeth Annie George | 102. John Kiplangat | 140. Mbaarak |
| 64. Emomessy | 103. José Paula | 141. Menomussanga,
Mozambique |
| 65. Eric Thuranira | 104. Josphine | 142. MFMR |
| 66. Esther Maina(Affiliate) | 105. julius | 143. Michael Crispino (WWF) |
| 67. Eva Comba | 106. Juma Mohamed | 144. Micheni Ntiba |
| 68. Evangeline Ward | 107. Dr. James Kairo | 145. Milton Xavier, WWF |
| 69. Fatou Diabate | 108. Khalil ATTIA (SPA/RAC) | 146. Minah Tasha |
| 70. Faura Amade | 109. Kipkorir araap Sigi | 147. Miora
ANDRIAMANOHISOA |
| 71. Federica Pesce | 110. Kiprono Lagat | 148. Dr. Mwita Mangora |
| 72. Florence BASSONO | 111. Lara Muaves | |
| 73. Fredrick MM | 112. Laura Knops | |



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|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 149. nabiihah Roomaldawo | 177. Rachel Warnick | 201. Sinikinesh Beyene |
| 150. Nair Aboubacar | (Mauritius) | 202. SOLOFO Martina |
| 151. Nancy Iraba | 178. Rahma Rashid | 203. SOMA S |
| 152. Nancy Soi | 179. randriamanantena | 204. Stephen Katua |
| 153. Nanette | dannick | 205. Susan Gardner |
| 154. Narivo | 180. Rebecca | 206. Susana Kihia |
| 155. Narriman Jiddawi | 181. Remmy Safari Shoka | 207. Tabitha |
| 156. Naseeba Sidat | 182. Rindra | 208. Tanguy Nicolas |
| 157. Nashreen | 183. Rindra Ranaivomanana | 209. Tarek |
| 158. Nashreen soogun | 184. Risper Oteke | 210. The Jolly Geo |
| 159. Nathaniel Mwangeka | 185. Ritha | 211. Therese MUSABE |
| 160. Ndambiri | 186. Robert Runya | 212. Theuri Mwangi |
| 161. Neema Suya | 187. Robert Wabunoha | 213. Tiana Rahagalala |
| 162. Neuhaus, Anouk | 188. Romaine San Francesco | 214. Timothy Andrew |
| 163. Nicholas Karani | 189. Romeu Ribeiro | 215. Tobias |
| 164. Nico KOEDAM | (Convidado) | 216. Torres Taimo |
| 165. Nina Wambiji | 190. Rose Akombo | 217. Dr. Athur Tuda |
| 166. Nirmal Beura | 191. Rupesh | 218. Valeli |
| 167. Njoki Mukuria | 192. Sabine Engel | 219. Veronica wanjeri |
| 168. Ny Aina | 193. Saleh | 220. Victoria Luque Panadero |
| 169. Odido, Mika | 194. Sarah Gaines | 221. Voahirana |
| 170. Oliva Mkumbo | 195. Sebastian Gaertner | 222. William Dekker |
| 171. pacifica | 196. semo mapai | 223. Wilson |
| 172. Pape Mawade WADE | 197. Shalli | 224. win |
| 173. Paula Afonso | 198. Shelton Jannie | 225. Winnie Ikinya |
| 174. Prashanth | (Convidado) | 226. Yakhya GUEYE |
| 175. Praveen | 199. Shuang Zhu | 227. Yves Mong |
| 176. Prof Mwakio Tole | 200. Sibongile Mavimbela | |