

33rd Assembly

25 June-3 July 2025

Item



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**Intergovernmental
Oceanographic
Commission**

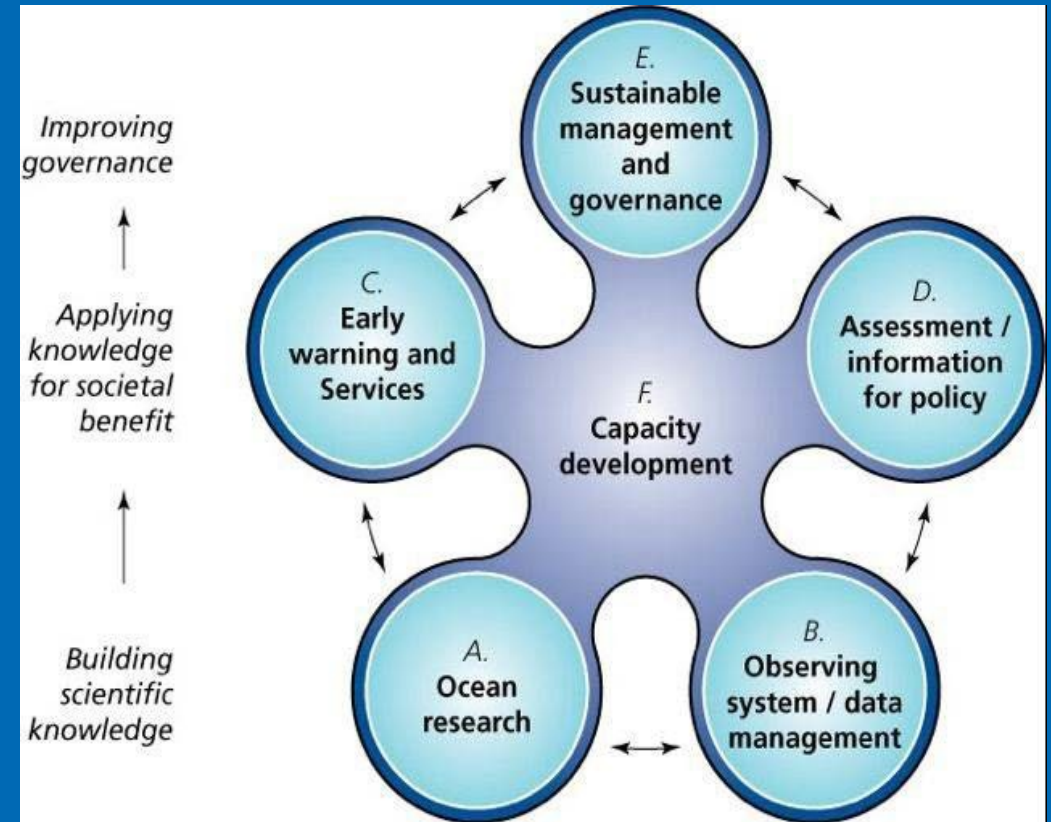
MAIN TITLE

**Amb. Hellen Gichuhi –
Chairperson, IOCAFRICA –
26/06/2025**

2024-2025 Biennium: Budget Lines

Workplan
GOOS Projects through IOCAFRICA
Africa InfoHub
Climate change adaptation in coastal zones Africa Africa - Including themes under Ocean Science
Capacity Development IOCAFRICA
Ocean Literacy IOCAFRICA
IOCAFRICA Governance

**IOCAFRICA VII
REPORT
2023**



Clean Data and Information

Strengthening Digital Infrastructure

Supported by Flanders & IODE, IOCAFRICA delivered back-end onboarding to ODIS for NODCs in Namibia and Tunisia. Activities included CKAN installation, ODIS-compliant APIs, and JSON-LD sitemap generation.

Launch of Regional Portals

Developed **multilingual, user-friendly front-end** portals with metadata search and visualization tools.
Hosted regional metadata catalogue

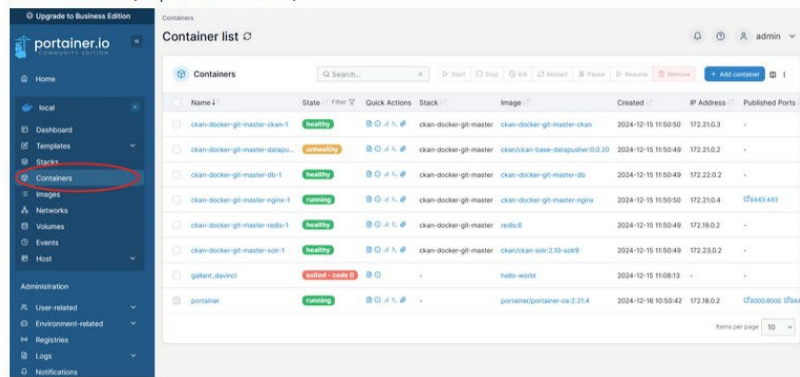
Capacity Development

Established the African Marine Training Platform (270+ courses from 18 countries):
<https://africa.marinetraining.org>

Organised the FAIR Data training (Aug 2024, Mombasa) trained 40 participants from 20 countries on metadata and open data protocols

Manage your containers with Portainer

- in the left panel, click on `Containers` to then see a list of your CKAN containers, and then interact with them if need be (stop/start/restart etc).



Install DCAT extension for JSON-LD Support

We will follow the Docker compose [README](#) for CKAN, as well as the [ckanext-dcat](#) extension notes.

Edit the Dockerfile to install the ckanext-dcat extension

- assuming you are still at the `odis@` prompt, but if not:
 - goto Start menu, choose "WSL"
 - CMD window should open with an `odis@` prompt
- execute `cd ckan-docker-git-master`
- now use `vi` to add in the required section for the ckanext-dcat plugin into the `Dockerfile` :

```
#use vi to open the Dockerfile
```



Windows Versions Supported

Option 1: Install CKAN through Docker (recommended)

Install WSL

Install Docker Engine

Clone the ckan-docker repository locally

Install (build and run) CKAN plus dependencies

Goto CKAN's landing page

Install Portainer (Recommended) to manage containers

Setup Portainer Server

Login to the Portainer Server

Manage your containers with Portainer

Install DCAT extension for JSON-LD Support

Generate a sitemap for your CKAN instance

Docker Troubleshooting

Option 2: Install CKAN & dependencies manually

Climate Change Adaptation

System Vulnerability & Policy Guidance
Assessment of climate vulnerability in West Africa's coastal ecosystems commenced report under review, with **validation workshop planned Q3 2025** involving national and regional stakeholders.

Warning Systems for Coastal Hazards
Next phase of the Ecosystem-based Climate Resilience and Adaptation for Marine and Coastal Ecosystems (ECRAMME) web-based dashboard for climate-related marine and coastal hazards under development www.ecramme.com.

Strategic ocean-climate partnerships and policy support/Integration

Contribution to global discussion and agenda on Climate Change

IOCAFRICA and Conservation International, in collaboration with Future Ecosystems for Africa (FEA), are co-developing the Natural Climate Solutions (NCS) Roadmap for Africa.

IOCAFRICA is co-leading the [Blue Africa initiative](#)



United Nations

Framework Convention on
Climate Change

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

Ocean and Climate Change Dialogue 2025

Information Note by the Co-Facilitators

(30 May 2025)

² BirdLife International, Conservation International, Deep Ocean Stewardship Initiative, DOALOS / Interim secretariat to the BBNJ agreement, FAO, High-Level Climate Champions, IMO, IOC-UNESCO, [IOCAFRICA](#) in collaboration with CI and AGNES, IUCN, Ocean and Climate Platform (Joint statement with Ocean Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, High Level Champions, WWF), Ocean Conservancy, Pew Charitable Trusts, Secretariat of the Pacific Community (Technical Advisor to Pacific SIDS), UNOPS.

³ The information presented in Annex has been informed by inputs from relevant UNFCCC constituted bodies and United Nations agencies.

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BLUE AFRICA

Unlocking the Potential of Africa's Marine Ecosystems for
Climate, Biodiversity, and People

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Despite their critical role in maintaining a thriving Earth system, Africa's marine ecosystems are poorly represented in climate and biodiversity policy. This is partly due to a significant lack of easily accessible and publicly available data specific to Africa. By synthesising or collating multi-



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Capacity Development

Supporting ECOPs (Early Career Ocean Professionals)
at the Ocean Science Congress & UNOC-3 (Nice, France) – **10 ECOPs Supported**

IOI-SA training course on “Introduction to bathymetric survey techniques and data management” (Malta, 2025) – **5 ECOPs (North Africa) Supported**

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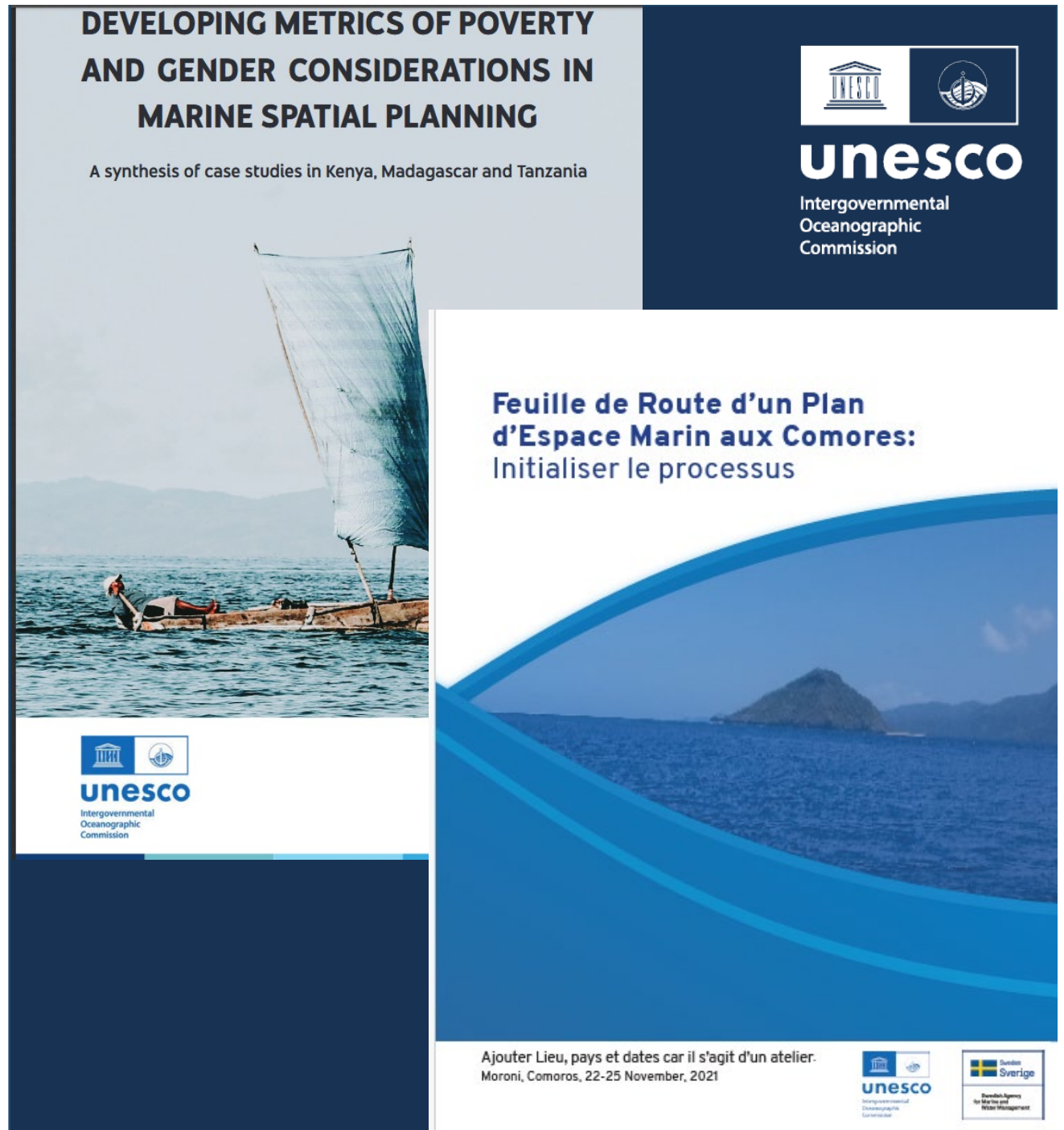
IOI-SA training course on “Introduction to bathymetric survey techniques and data management” (Malta, 2025) – **5 ECOPs (North Africa) Supported**



Capacity Development

Capacity for Marine Spatial Planning

P publication series focused on
verty and gender integration in
P, including conceptual
networks and case studies from
zania, Kenya, and Madagascar.
ort: MSP Roadmap for Comoros
(Press)



Implementation of UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021–2030) in Africa

Two cohorts of the Africa Ocean Decade Task Force

The “Science and Knowledge for a Sustainable and Resilient Ocean Economy in Africa (SEAWARD Africa)” programme officially endorsed under the Ocean Decade Action Supported the establishment of five new National Decade Committees (NDCs) in Benin, Ghana, Morocco, Seychelles, and Tanzania—bringing the total number of active NDCs in the region to eight.

Strategic projects (OPERA, FUTURO, Plastic Mop Up and NileClean: Combat Plastic Pollution in the Nile) and partnerships to accelerate the implementation of the Ocean Decade Roadmap for Africa.

“Practical Actions to Strengthen Capacity and Advance Deep-Water Research in Africa” report published in collaboration with the Challenger 150 programme.



2021
2030 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
for Sustainable Development

Science and Knowledge for a Resilient and Sustainable Ocean Economy in Africa (SEAWARD Africa)

“A programme designed by the Africa Ocean Taskforce as a coordination mechanism for Decade Actions in Africa for the implementation of the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap”

The “Science and Knowledge for a Resilient and Sustainable Ocean Economy in Africa (SEAWARD Africa)” umbrella programme (the Programme) aims to provide a robust and coordinated framework for the implementation of the Ocean Decade Africa Roadmap. This roadmap lays out a comprehensive vision and plan, unifying diverse stakeholders around a shared set of priorities to advance the Ocean Decade’s goals within the African context. SEAWARD Africa is developed by the Africa Ocean Decade Taskforce, and is designed to harness collective expertise and resources, ensuring a unified approach to tackling critical ocean-related challenges.

Structured around four thematic components, SEAWARD Africa addresses key areas essential for fostering a resilient and sustainable ocean economy in Africa. These components focus on the sustainable management of marine resources, which is crucial for maintaining ecosystem health and supporting local livelihoods; climate change and marine biodiversity, aiming to mitigate the impacts of climate change



AFRICA: Visibility and Leadership in Ocean Science and Governance in Africa

UN Ocean Conference, Nice France

Co-organized with the African Union and UNDP side event on “The Future of Blue Economy in Africa -



IOC Sub Commission for Africa
and the Adjacent Island States



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OCAFRICA: Visibility and Leadership in Ocean Science and Governance in Africa

UNESCO Operation Strategy for Priority Africa (flagship 5)

OCAFRICA continues to lead the charge in IOC's effort and contribution to the implementation of the UNESCO Operational Strategy for Priority Africa 2022-2029

Event ▸

Ocean science, climate change resilience and water resource management in Africa

UNESCO Chairs webinar



@UNESCO

4 June 2025

EVENT

Priority Africa working session: Ocean science, climate change resilience and water resource management in Africa

4 June 2025 - 2:00 pm - 4 June 2025 - 4:00 pm

Location: UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

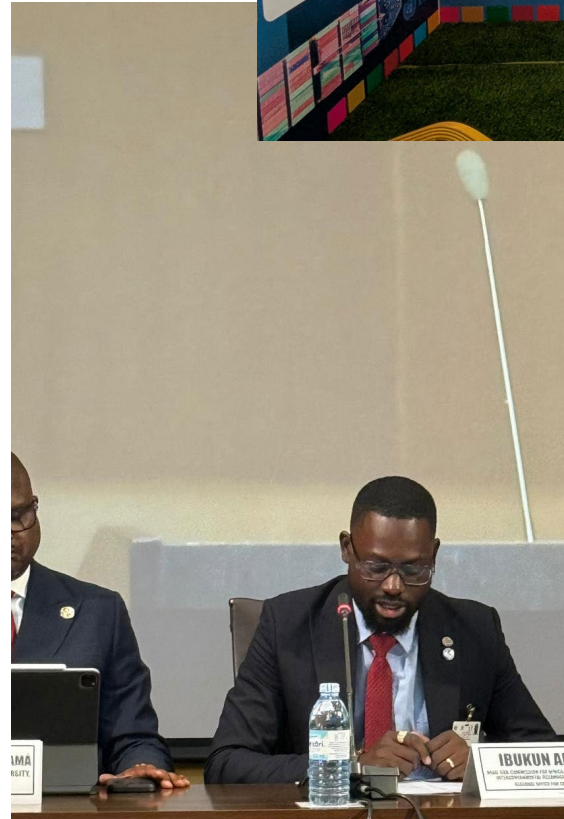
Rooms : Office S 373

Type : Working group meeting

Leadership in Africa Ocean Science and Governance

Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD), Kampala, Uganda

led the SDG 14 session under the theme 'Advancing SDG 14 Implementation in Africa' and co-authored the background paper on 'Promoting continental engagement'.
organised SDG14 Knowledge Fair



IOCAFRICA Governance

IOCAFRICA Scientific Conference on
Advancing the Blue Economy in Africa, jointly
organized with GOOS-AFRICA, and in
collaboration with KMFRI (5–6 May 2025)
Mombasa, Kenya
participants (in-person & online)



IOCAFRICA Governance

History meetings and coordination
The Eighth Session of the IOC Sub-Commission for Africa and the Adjacent Land and States (IOCAFRICA-VIII) was successfully held in Mombasa, Kenya, from 7 to 9 May 2025



IOCAFRICA-VIII Draft Decisions

Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.11

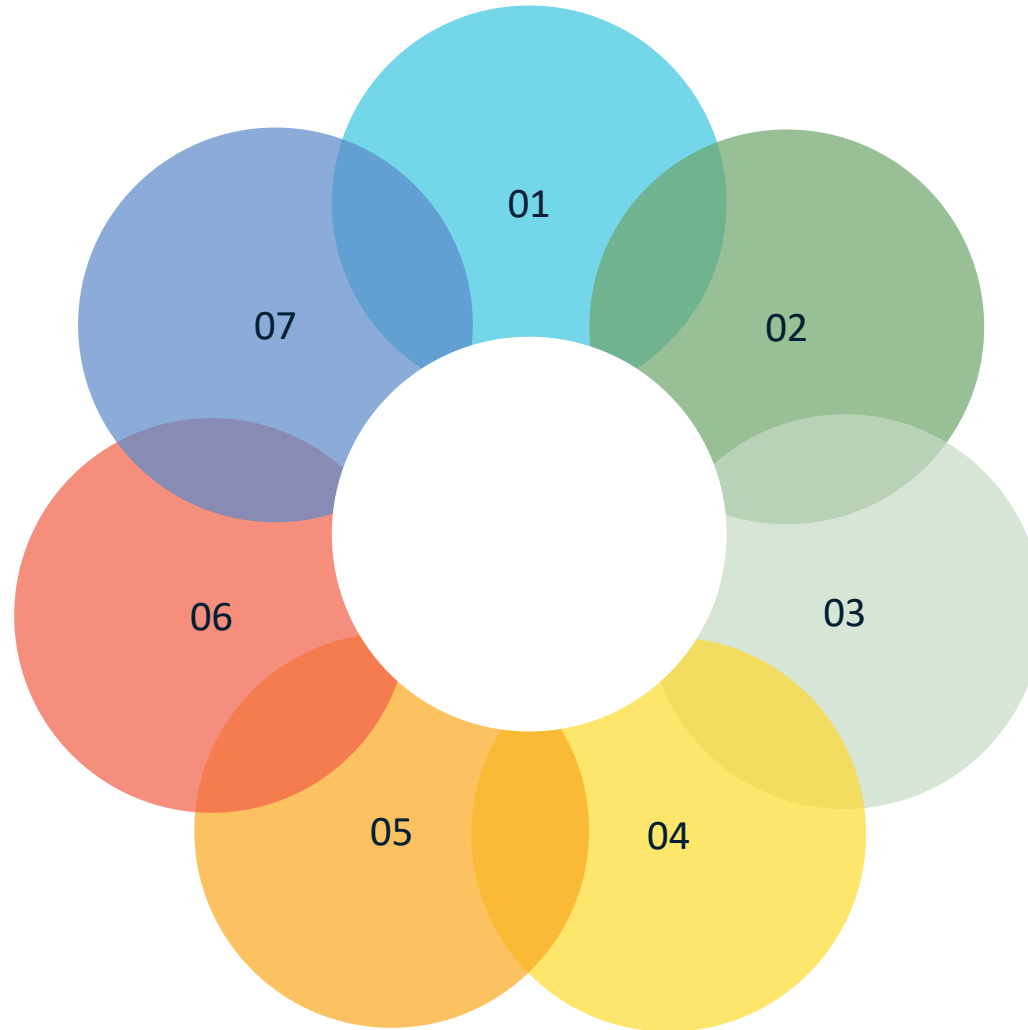
Developing a Rolling Plan
Ocean Capacity Development in
ca

Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.10

Fostering the Development
on Science Plans and Strategies
ber States.

Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.9

Proposal for Hosting the
oal Ocean Accounts African
munity of Practice.



Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.5

Establishment of the IOCAFRICA Ocean
Data and Information Working Group

Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.6

Establishment of the IOCAFRICA Ocean-
Climate Working Group

Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.7

Revitalisation of the IOCAFRICA Group
of Experts on Harmful Algal Blooms

Decision IOCAFRICA-VIII/4.8

Proposal for Ocean Early Warning
System for Africa Programme

CAFRICA-VIII Draft Recommendations

Recommendation IOCAFRICS-VIII/5.5

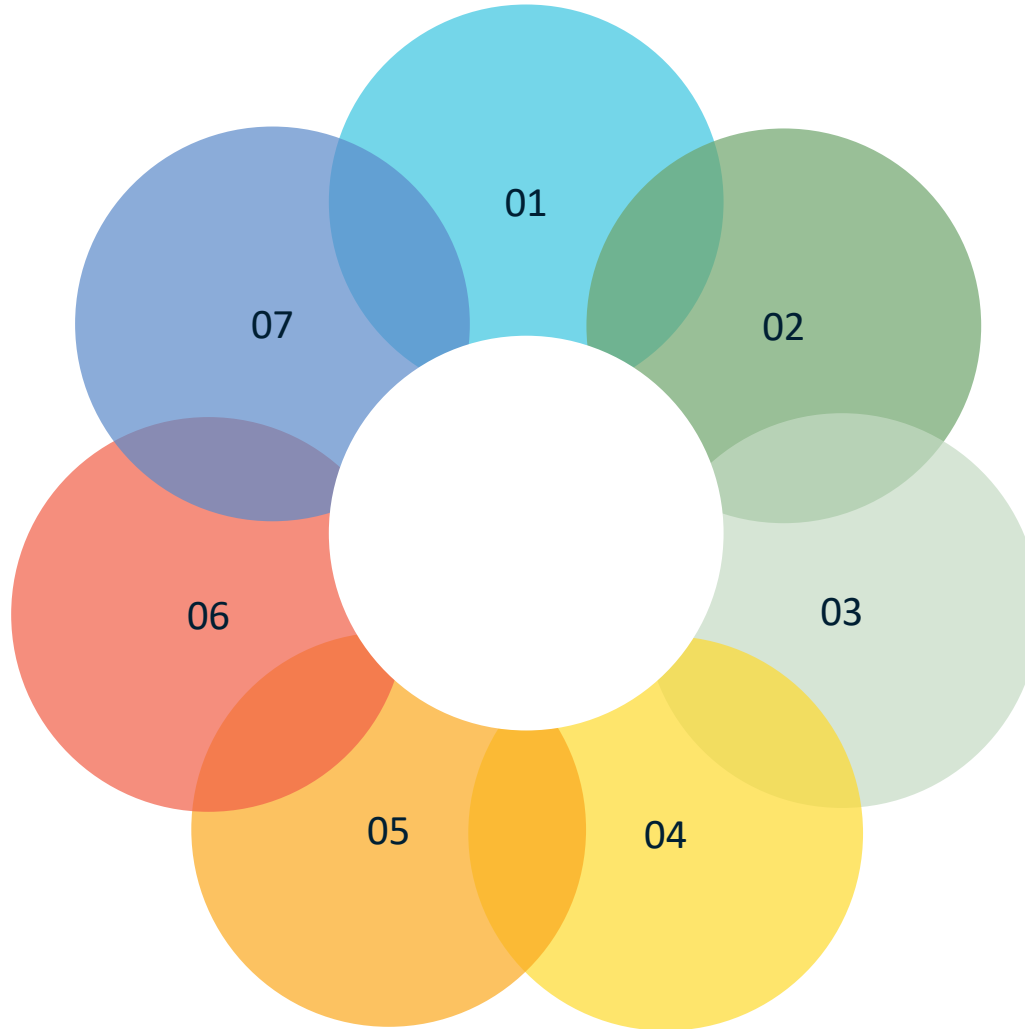
Any Other Business

Recommendation IOCAFRICS-VIII/5.2

IOCAFRICA workplan and
for the intersessional period
2027

Recommendation IOCAFRICS-VIII/5.2.4

Development of IOCAFRICA Work Plan
2026–2027 (Capacity Development,
Partnerships and Resource
Mobilization)



Recommendation IOCAFRICA-VIII/5.1

Draft Programme and Budget for 2026–
2027 (Draft 43 C/5, First Biennium
2026–2027)

Recommendation IOCAFRICA-VIII/5.2.1

IOCAFRICA Work Plan For 2026–2027
(Ocean Observations and Monitoring)

Recommendation IOCAFRICA-VIII/5.2.2

IOCAFRICA Work Plan For 2026–2027
(Ocean Sciences, Biodiversity and
Assessments)

Recommendation IOCAFRICA-VIII/5.2.3

IOCAFRICA Work Plan For 2026–2027
(Ocean Data and Information
Management)

CAFRICA Recommended Workplan 2026-2027



Component Area	Proposed Activities	RP: UNESCO Regular Programme (\$)
Ocean Observations and Monitoring	Focuses on strengthening ocean observations in Africa through gap analysis, pilot data collection using advanced and community-based technologies, installation of key instruments, and integration of satellite and AI tools. It also includes training, development of an observation dashboard, policy briefs, and public awareness campaigns to support data-driven ocean governance.	160,000
Ocean Biodiversity Assessments	It includes training on ecosystem assessments, blue carbon valuation, and the BBNJ treaty, along with guidance for integrating biodiversity into planning. Activities also cover habitat restoration, technical briefs on emerging threats, and development of a regional State of the Ocean report.	135,000
Ocean Data and Information Management	It includes training on FAIR principles, ethical data sharing, AI and blockchain applications, and big data analytics. The component also supports policy development, regional innovation hubs, digital ocean twins, and public outreach to promote ocean literacy and data-driven climate resilience strategies.	150,000
Capacity Development, Partnerships, and Resource Mobilization	aims to enhance capacity, foster partnerships, and mobilize resources by delivering targeted training on ocean governance, digital tools, and early warning systems. It promotes mentorship for young professionals, supports national institutions, and encourages innovation through an African Ocean Science Alliance. The component also focuses on investment readiness, ocean literacy, and stakeholder engagement via forums, funding mapping, and youth-led outreach initiatives.	380,000
Governance, Planning & Coordination	Supports governance, planning, and coordination through the organization of the 9th IOCAFRICA session, maintenance of communication platforms, and provision for staff salaries and mission travel to ensure effective oversight and implementation of programme activities.	220,000
		985,000



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THANK YOU 