

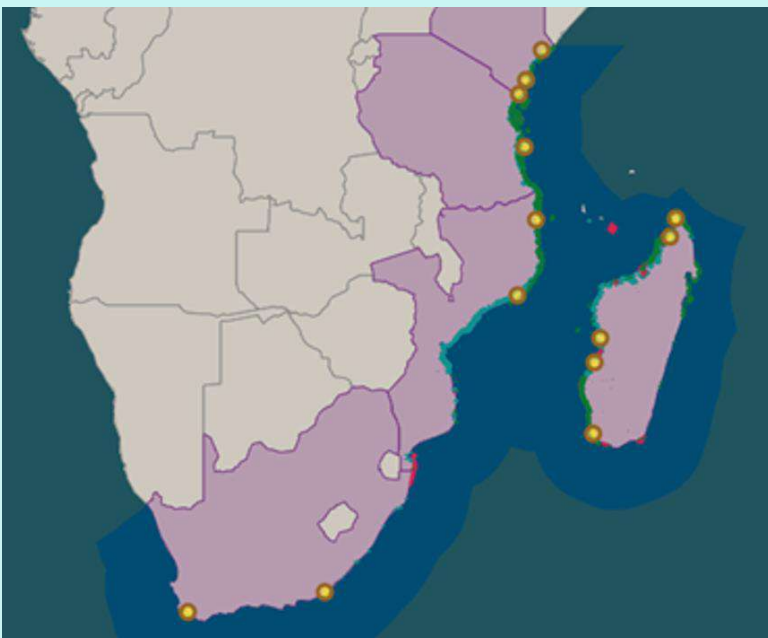
# FACTSHEET

Unlocking a Sustainable Blue  
Economy in the South West  
Indian Ocean



## Project Overview

The South West Indian Ocean (**SWIO**) region covers 15,000km of the coastline from Kenya, through **Tanzania**, Madagascar, and Mozambique to South Africa. The region is one of the most important biodiversity hotspots on the planet supporting the livelihoods of over 100 million people. However, fisheries in the SWIO region experiences severe pressure from overfishing, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (**IUU**) fisheries and the destruction of habitats critical for fish reproduction and feeding. As a result, fish stocks, particularly tuna and shrimp, are facing a drastic decline in both small-scale and industrial fisheries, posing a significant risk to the food security of coastal communities. Hence, the project will be implemented for a period of 5 years (2021-2025) aiming at preventing unsustainable fishing practices and generating a shift among African decision-makers and powerholders to a sustainable blue economy.



## The Barriers

There are a number of underlying factors that contribute toward the problems of overfishing and habitat destruction;

1. Absence of effective policies and plans for guiding sustainable use and management of the marine environment at the national level.
2. Absence of clear business cases for financial investments in Sustainable Blue Economy (**SBE**).
3. Inadequate frameworks for the governance of shared fish stocks.
4. Weak or inadequate monitoring, control and surveillance systems.

## Southern West Indian Ocean Seascape Project Area

Biodiversity hotspot of global significance  
WWF – most extensive footprint, excellent capacity, strong networks & a wide range of successes.  
Tremendous social & economic benefits.

# FACTSHEET

## Unlocking a Sustainable Blue Economy in the South West Indian Ocean

### The Challenge

#### **Overfishing.**

The SWIO region has got 140 of fish, however 65% of stocks are fully exploited and 29% were overexploited in 2010. The latest reports from The Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (**SWIOFC**) shows that 44% of the 86 assessed key species in the **SWIO** were overexploited in 2019, which is significantly higher than the global overexploitation rate of 33%.

#### **Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing**

**IUU** fishing includes a wide range of illicit activities, such as fishing without permission or out of season or in closed areas, harvesting prohibited species, using outlawed fishing gear, and non-reporting and under-reporting of catch. There is increased of **IUU** fishing in the SWIO region linked to vessels flagged to China, Taiwan, Korea and Indonesia. Despite China's declared commitment towards responsible fisheries as a Distant Water Fishing Nations (**DWFN**), several cases of **IUU** have been reported.

#### **Climate change**

The SWIO is arguably one of the marine regions most severely affected by climate change. The latest Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network regional report of the Western Indian Ocean shows steep declines in coral reef health resulting from major coral bleaching in 1998 (25% loss) and 2016 (10% loss). The economic damage from the 1998 coral bleaching could be over US\$8 billion.



### Planned Activities

Supporting **SWIO** governments with policy recommendations and pilots that demonstrate the advantages of adopting **SBE** principles and strong anti-**IUU** fishing policies.

Strengthening the capacity of a **CSO** coalition operating at the **SWIO** regional level.

Influencing the redirection of public sector finance into **SBE**-based investments.

### Expected Output

The programme aims to enable the sustainable management of fisheries in the **SWIO** region by tackling **IUU** fisheries and creating enabling conditions to transition to a sustainable blue economy. The programme impacts will contribute towards **SDG 14.4** Effectively regulate harvesting, end **IUU** in **SWIO** and implement science-based management and **SDG 14.6** efforts to combat **IUU** fishing through the implementation of key international instruments.

### Target Groups and Key Implementing Partners

Civil Society Organizations (CSO),  
Tanzania Tuna National Alliance (TUNA)

National governments of the five **SWIO** countries

African Development Bank (**AfDB**)





## The Objectives

- Strengthening the voice and influence of civil society in decision-making
- Developing, adopting, and implementing **SBE** policies in **SWIO** Countries
- Ensuring major International Financial Institutions adopt the **SBE** principles and catalyse an increased flow of investments and initiatives.
- Ensure that fair and equitable access to sustainable fisheries resources in the **SWIO** region is facilitated through a collective approach and decision-making by the **SWIO** governments.
- Ensure at least 3 out of 5 **SWIO** countries adopt innovative and robust management measures to combat **IUU** fishing including implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (**PSMA**).

## Expected Project Impact

The programme aims to enable the sustainable management of fisheries in the **SWIO** region by tackling **IUU** fisheries and creating enabling conditions to transition to a sustainable blue economy. The programme impacts will contribute towards **SDG 14.4** Effectively regulate harvesting, end **IUU** in **SWIO** and implement science-based management and **SDG 14.6** efforts to combat **IUU** fishing through the implementation of key international instruments.



Working to sustain the natural world for the benefit of people and wildlife.

together possible™ panda.org



Norad

# FACTSHEET

Unlocking a Sustainable Blue  
Economy in the South West  
Indian Ocean

## Expected Outcomes

By 2025, WWF and 15 local CSO partners will lobby the governments of 3 SWIO countries to develop, adopt and implement **Sustainable Blue Economy policies** that are inclusive, gender sensitive and climate responsive.

By 2025, the **African Development Bank** and other major International Financial Institutions investing in the region adopt the **SBE** principles and catalyse an increased flow of investments and initiatives.

By 2025, fair and equitable access to sustainable fisheries resources in the **SWIO** region is facilitated through a collective approach, united and influential voice in negotiations and decision making by the **SWIO** governments.

By 2025, at least 3 out of 5 **SWIO** countries adopt innovative and robust management measures to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (**IUU**) fishing including implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement (**PSMA**). .

## Funding and main executing Organizations

Total funding for the project in five years:

NOK 10,623,335 equivalent to TZS 2,762,068,257.18

### For More Information Please Contact

RUMAKI *Plus* Seascape Lead

WWF Tanzania Country Office

P. O. Box 63117

Kiko Street, Plot No 252

Mikocheni, Dar Es Salaam

+Tel. : +255 – 22 -  
2775346/2772455/2700077,

Fax: +255 – 22 – 2775535

### OR

Tanzania Tuna National Alliance P. O.

Box Tanzania Tuna Fisheries National  
Alliance (TuNA)

P. O. Box 95810

Dar es Salaam Tanzania

Tel: +255754211368



Working to sustain the natural  
world for the benefit of people  
and wildlife.

together possible™ panda.org



Norad