

Date: 3/08/2007

Time: 9:30 – 11:00 am

Cape Town, South Africa



WIO INTERNATIONAL WATERS PROJECTS WORKSHOP

WIO-LaB
Addressing land-based activities in
the Western Indian Ocean

Announcement

WIO International Waters Projects Workshop



Photos by UNEP

The overall objective of the WIO IW Projects Workshop is to enhance the coordination and implementation mechanisms for the GEF IW Portfolio in the WIO region. The Workshop invites Project and Task Managers of the various projects, as well as other project representatives to discuss synergies between various IW initiatives in the Western Indian Ocean region.

In particular, it is intended that this session would build upon the more general Conversation Table discussions taking place on the 1st and 2nd day of the Conference, which would be

1. Governance and Institutions; and
2. Sustaining Partnerships.

For details on this event:

WIO-LaB Project Management Unit
C/o Nairobi Convention Secretariat
Room A-130 UN Avenue
P.O. Box 30522 Gigiri
Nairobi, KENYA

Phone: +254 20 7621206/1250/1270
Fax: +254 20 7623203/4618/4300
E-mail: wiolab@unep.org

Key topic of discussion:

How can projects best benefit from, build upon and strengthen Governance mechanisms, Institutions and Partnerships for a better and more sustainable management of the coastal and marine environment of the Western Indian Ocean

WIO International Waters Projects Workshop

Governance, Institutions and Partnerships for IW Management in the Western Indian Ocean

CONTEXT:

The Western Indian Ocean is currently hosting a portfolio of different GEF funded projects ongoing and coming up, including:

- the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP),
- the Agulhas and Somali Currents Large Marine Ecosystem Programme (ASCLMEs)
- the project “Addressing Land-based Activities in the Western Indian Ocean” (WIO-LaB)
- the project “Reduction of Environmental Impact from Coastal Tourism through the Implementation of Pilot Demonstration Projects, Promoting the Development of Sustainable Tourism Policies and Strategies and Strengthening Public-Private Partnership”
- the Marine Highway Development and Coastal and Marine Contamination Prevention Project

Moreover, there are a number of other important global, regional and national GEF projects that are active in the region such as the Marine and Coastal Environment Management Programme (MACEMP) in Tanzania and the project “Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems of Sub-Saharan Africa”. Apart from these, a number of large-scale non-GEF projects with similar focus and objectives are ongoing, including the African Coelacanth Ecosystems Programme (ACEP) and the European Union financed Regional Programme for Coastal Zone Management of the Indian Ocean Countries (ReCoMaP-IO).

Because of this considerable portfolio of projects there is a strong need for the coordination between projects in order to avoid duplication and obtain maximum benefits. This is the more the case since the projects are implemented by various agencies (from the GEF side, Worldbank, UNDP and UNEP are implementing projects in the WIO region) and are in various stages of planning and/or implementation. So far, ASCLMEs, SWIOFP and WIO-LaB have agreed on a common coordination framework, leading among others to the joint develop of a comprehensive TDA and SAP for the region. To create further synergies, however, it is important that other projects are also involved.

OBJECTIVE:

The overall objective of the proposed WIO IW Projects Workshop is to enhance the coordination and implementation mechanisms for the GEF IW Portfolio in the WIO region. The workshop would build upon the more general Conversation Table discussions taking place on the 1st and 2nd day of the Conference, which would be (i) Governance and Institutions; and (ii) Sustaining Partnerships.

STRUCTURE:

The workshop will involve round-table discussions on these two topics, by discussing practical approaches and opportunities within the context of the WIO region. Discussions on each of the two topics will be kicked off by representatives from the region, who will also function as a facilitators of the discussions:

1. Dr. Rolph Payet, Special Advisor to the President of Seychelles, National GEF Focal Point and the Interim Coordinator of the Nairobi Convention (and recently named Young Global Leader 2007 by the World Economic Forum), will introduce the topic of Governance and Institutions. Discussions will evolve on how projects can best benefit from, build upon and strengthen Governance mechanisms and institutions in the region that involved in management of the coastal and marine environment.
2. Dr. Julius Francis, Executive Secretary of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association (WIOMSA) will introduce and lead discussions on the topic of partnerships. WIOMSA, in itself providing a strong network of institutions and scientists, has among others been at the basis of the establishment of a number of recently developed partnerships, such as the Consortium for the Conservation of the Coastal and Marine Environment of the WIO Region (WIO-C), which combines key NGOs in the region, and the Forum for Academic and Research Institutions (FARI), which provides for a platform of cooperation and coordination between academic and research institutions in the region.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS:

The target participants to the WIO IW Project Clinic would be representatives of planned and ongoing GEF funded IW projects in the WIO region.