The economies of Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique are largely based on natural resource use and extraction (natural gas, oil, minerals, agriculture, tourism, fisheries, timber, etc.). There is an increasing recognition that the “Green Economy” principles are therefore highly applicable to these countries as a basis for stimulating economic growth, well-being and job creation. New revenue to be generated by growing oil, gas and mineral extraction sectors can play a strong role in supporting sustainable development and the transition to a Green Economy. In addition, the potential for renewable energy generation (wind, geothermal, hydro, solar, etc.) in the region is enormous. Various initiatives in this regard are already underway.

Given the similarities of the economies of the three countries including shared resources and cross border trade, the countries have embarked upon a sub-regional initiative geared towards sharing experiences and lessons learned on Green Economy between the three countries and beyond. Partners in this process include UNDP, UNEP, ILO, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, the International Institute of Environment and Development, the Millennium Institute, WWF, Care International, UN-HABITAT and the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED). This partnership was solidified during a sub-regional Conference on Green Economy held in Maputo, Mozambique from the 23rd to 25th April 2012.
Key areas of intervention of the sub-regional initiative:

Given the similarities of the economies of the three countries, as well as issues related to shared resources and cross border trade, and considering the advances already made in the implementation of the Green Economy by Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique, the three countries have agreed on an initial list of key areas of joint intervention:

1) Continue the regional dialogue and sharing of experiences, in particular, the development and implementation of National Green Economy Roadmaps for Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania.

2) Develop a regional Green Economy Roadmap including initial timeline and coordination structures taking advantage of existing regional structures such as African Union, SADC, COMESA and EAC.

3) Undertake public awareness raising with regard to the relevance of Green Economy principals for sustainable development and poverty eradication.

4) Considering the profile and importance of the Rio +20 Conference, to be held from 20th to 22nd of June 2012, in Rio de Janeiro, organize a high level side event at the Rio +20 Conference where the three countries can confirm the regional Green Economy partnership.

5) Investigate opportunities for further regional exchange at the next African Ministers for the Environment Conference (AMCEN), to take place in Arusha in September of 2012 as well as during the COP of the Nairobi Convention, to take place in Maputo in December of 2012.

Our Commitment:

WWF is committed to support Mozambique, Kenya and Tanzania in their aspiration towards developing and implementing Green Economy in the respective countries, as well as to facilitate the continued dialogue between these countries in this pursuit. We value the partnerships developed with other organizations, such as UNDP, UNEP, ILO, the African Development Bank, the International Institute of Environment and Development, the Millennium Institute, WWF, Care International, UNHABITAT and the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED).

For more information
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MOZAMBIQUE WILL BE UNVEILING ITS ROADMAP FOR A GREEN ECONOMY AT RIO +20, WITH A FOCUS ON THREE SECTORS THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED MORE IN-DEPTH; AGRICULTURE, ENERGY AND URBAN PLANNING SOURCES. THE ROADMAP OUTLINES HOW THE COUNTRY WILL MOVE TOWARDS POVERTY ERADICATION THROUGH STIMULATING AND DIRECTING THE RIGHT TYPES OF INVESTMENTS IN THE RIGHT PLACES, AND IN PARTICULAR THROUGH LAYING DOWN AN INSTITUTIONAL, POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT WILL CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT THRIVES THROUGH THE CREATION OF A GREEN ECONOMY.

IN MARCH 2008, KENYA’S MINISTRY OF ENERGY ADOPTED A FEED-IN TARIFF, BASED ON THE REALIZATION THAT “RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES (RES) INCLUDING SOLAR, WIND, SMALL HYDROS, BIOMASS AND MUNICIPAL WASTE ENERGY HAVE POTENTIAL FOR INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION, OVER AND ABOVE CONTRIBUTING TO THE SUPPLY AND DIVERSIFICATION OF ELECTRICITY GENERATION SOURCES.