

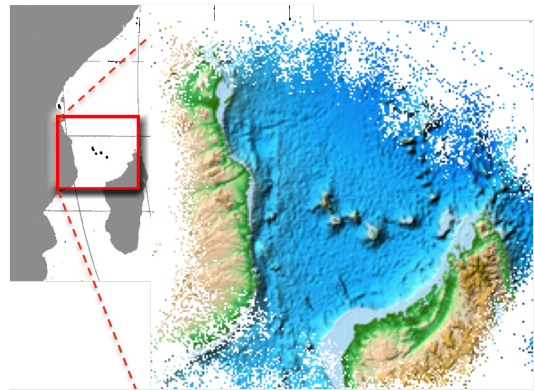
## Project brief

# The Northern Mozambique Channel – a framework for sustainable ocean-based development

**The Northern Mozambique Channel (NMC)** is bounded by northern Madagascar, northern Mozambique and southern Tanzania, with the Comoro archipelago at its heart. The northern and southern boundaries are not yet fully described, but extend from about 9° S below Aldabra Island in the Seychelles to 17° south at the narrowest part of the Mozambique Channel.

This project brief describes an initiative to contribute to the sustainable economic development and prosperity of the region, founded on joint country-level planning of the Exclusive Economic Zones of the countries in the region – Mozambique, Madagascar, Tanzania, Comoros, Seychelles and France.

Through integrated management of all marine-based activities, the countries should be able to protect, valorize, and even enhance the natural ocean assets central to their economies. The health and cleanliness of the sea, its species and ecosystems are vital foundations for the services that generate wealth in the region, including for food, extractive industries, tourism and coastal development. Enhancing the health of the oceans in this region is one of the most important ways to ensure livelihood, economic and food security, and help the region transition into a modern engine of development for its countries and surrounding ones in Africa.



***Vision – “the people, countries and economies of the Northern Mozambique Channel prosper in a sustainable future founded on the natural and cultural assets and diversity of the region”***

**The importance of the region:** The NMC was recognized as a region of high importance in regional planning processes for biodiversity conservation (RAMP-COI, in 2009), as well as in the regional Transboundary Diagnostic Analyses of the Nairobi Convention and supported by the GEF (WIOSAP 2009, ASCLME/SWIOFP 2012). These findings are founded on marine research on, for example, productivity driven by the unique oceanography of the region, coral reef biodiversity (2nd marine biodiversity hotspot globally) and health (climate resistance and recovery), and scoping for marine World Heritage.

**The challenge and opportunity:** the NMC is also a region with high economic potential, from living resources, natural gas and oil, tourism and transport. The largest natural gas find globally, in the last 20 years, was discovered under the seabed in Mozambican territory, and open sea and coastal fisheries are highly productive and support local, national and international economies. With just 10 million people, the region has a youthful population with high growth potential, both an opportunity for development and driver of adverse impacts. At its 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties in Maputo in December 2012, the countries of the Nairobi Convention proposed further exploration of the importance of the region to its countries and people, to identify strategies to assure sustainable growth.

**The concept:** this project brief presents an initiative that will build an inclusive framework for involvement of all stakeholders, from smallest to largest, to achieve sustainable growth for the region. Its **Theory of**

**Change** holds that:

- ✓ all stakeholders, from largest to smallest, and of all cultures, must be engaged in an inclusive and transparent partnership;
- ✓ the future well-being and wealth of all depend on maintaining and even enhancing the primary assets that support human society;
- ✓ nature provides irreplaceable services and assets on which we all depend;
- ✓ It is thus in the interests of all stakeholders and economic sectors to assure the protection and sustainability of nature-based enterprises and broader services provided by nature.

Thus, the future wealth and property of the region is dependent on a development path that values people and nature.

This document provides a guiding structure and Theory of Change, and proposes principles and structures that will support the growth of an inclusive partnership - led by the countries and people of the NMC.

**Long term ‘working vision’:** An interim or working vision is presented here, based on the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) developed through regional country-based consultation processes under the Nairobi Convention, dubbed the WIOSAP. The working vision for the NMC interprets the WIOSAP vision to make it explicit to the geography, natural resources and people of the Northern Mozambique Channel. This makes the NMC programme a place-based initiative to deliver on the priorities established under the WIOSAP and related

regional SAPs of the GEF projects. The working vision will be revised and amended when formal initiation of the partnership is enabled by the countries and stakeholders of the region.

**Pathways of change:** The objectives for a large, complex and long term partnership are developed through a process of mapping ‘pathways of change’, or identifying long term outcomes. These identify what success will look like, in the eyes of the members of the partnership. These pathways enable the partnership to identify the cascade from long term to short term outcomes and thereby to specific actions that need to be implemented to achieve the vision. The pathways of change enable projects and programmes to develop logframes that are consistent and contribute to shared outcomes.

The WIOSAP and NMC visions are focused on the inextricable links between:

**People** – to deliver wealth, livelihood security, welfare, equity, and justice, for all cultures and religions, over short and long time scales;

**Nature/environment** – our planet through healthy ecosystems, is the core provider for all aspects of human and economic wealth, through living resources, as well as mineral/fossil ones.

An approach that successfully allows programmes to address the complex relationships between people and nature, addressing the human needs and processes that determine how we use and value nature, is the Capitals Approach. It is encapsulated in the Sustainable Livelihoods Approach that focuses on small scale and subsistence communities, identifying five types of capital: Natural, Social, Human, Physical and Financial.

Applying the Global Partnership for Ocean’s Blue Ribbon Panel’s advice for large scale ocean management<sup>1</sup>, five Capitals necessary for sustainable ocean management can be described:



**1) Institutional Capital** - the relationships among entities (countries, corporations, groups of people) that enable shared decision-making and sustain commitments, including financial.

**2) Economic Capital** - the economic activity and policies that deliver community/ livelihood security and private/ corporate wealth, and sustain the material and

intangible benefits that people value.

**3) Human/Knowledge Capital** – the information, knowledge and technological progress that enable the relationship between people and nature to transform, providing ever-greater efficiencies and benefits that increase peoples’ well-being and decrease impacts and our footprint on natural capital.

**4) Natural Capital** - the ecosystems, species and ecological processes that support economic activities and provide for human needs and the

diversity of species across the planet.**5) Social Capital** – the health, culture, religious and recreational dimensions of society that underpin a harmonious and satisfying life, and equity and justice to all members of society.

### Five strategic/long term outcomes for the NMC:

The capitals approach offers five long-term outcomes, or foundations for success, that can guide the growth of the partnership and achievement of its vision:

**1) the Institutional Capital of the NMC is built, through a Partnership between the countries, private sector and civil society that enables shared decision-making and sustains commitments that deliver a viable partnership and the means to build the other capitals.**

**2) the Economic Capital of the NMC is grown, assuring food and livelihood security, and delivering wealth and prosperity equitably to the peoples of the region and into the future.**

**3) the Human and Knowledge Capital of the NMC is built, providing for the decision-making and technological progress that will assure the future of the region, and an informed and knowledgeable society.**

**4) the Natural Capital of the NMC is enhanced, such that critical ecosystems, species and ecological processes are protected and enhanced, supporting the people and economies of the region into the future.**

**5) the Social Capital of the NMC is enhanced and celebrated, ensuring the health, well-being and freedoms of the people of the region in a harmonious and just society.**

These five strategic outcomes, on a time scale of over 25 years, will guide the planning process and identification of shorter term outcomes and key results, that will enable partners to identify the activities they need to implement – whether this is done singly in independent but mutually consistent projects, or as partnerships in more complex programmes.

Further steps in the development of the partnership will need to refine the statements of outcomes, updating them to reflect the aspirations of all in the partnership, and to ensure they are specific, measurable, assignable, realistic and time-bound.

### Current roles in the NMC partnership.

A series of studies and meetings from 2008 to 2012, led initially by WWF’s Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean Programme Office (WWF-MWIOPO) and CORDIO East Africa, has led to a group of NGOs, now including Birdlife International, Conservation International, the IUCN and Blue Ventures, to promote this partnership approach to marine management in the NMC region. Mandated through a decision of the 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties to the Nairobi Convention in 2012, the Secretariat of the Convention has fostered this process. As a result, broader regional NGO representation in the initiative is being proposed to the WIO Consortium of NGOs (WIOC), and for endorsement by the countries at the next COP of the Nairobi Convention in early 2015. In 2013-14, the primary points of contact for the NMC initiative are in WWF MWIOPO and CORDIO East Africa, with facilitation and finance through WWF International’s Global Marine Programme.

<sup>1</sup> BRP publication

## Establishing the partnership initiative Phase 1 – scoping, 2014-15

The planning framework for the NMC initiative is informed by the Strategic Action Plans (SAPs) and Transboundary Diagnostic Analyses (TDAs), framing an Outcome Pathway (below) that will be used to develop specific proposals and projects by partners. With support from the NC Secretariat, consultations with the countries, through their Focal Points, is intended to deliver endorsement by the countries at the next Conference of Parties, and development of proposals, including to the GEF, to initiate the NMC programme through funding key Outcomes Pathways. Given the complexity and scope of the initiative, other proposals and funding streams will be necessary for other Outcome Pathways, and to co-finance the GEF proposal.

### Simplified logframe for Phase 1 – scoping, during 2014

Goal:	Activities:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
By the end of 2014, to have raised sufficient interest from the governments, key private sector and civil society/ NGO sectors to set in motion a joint process to identify the vision and goals necessary for a public-private partnership that will guarantee the long term vision, and partnership planning for the first 2-3 years	<p>Development and implementation of a workplan for the NMC Core Team to initiate activities to establish the NMC partnership</p> <p>Design of a global framework/Theory of Change for the partnership.</p> <p>Implement a range of meetings, studies and events focused on building buy-in from countries and stakeholders to join and contribute to this process</p>	<p>Preparation of a Strategic Framework/Theory of Change that guides the establishment of an NMC Partnership/programme</p> <p>Preparation of a Project brief and content for proposals for funding, including to the GEF</p> <p>Preparation of a background document outlining the issues, opportunities and threats facing the NMC region and necessitating actions as proposed here.</p>	Sufficient statements of purpose and intent from key stakeholders (national and regional governments, private sector, civil society); alignment of existing projects; identification of potential/combined funding streams.

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