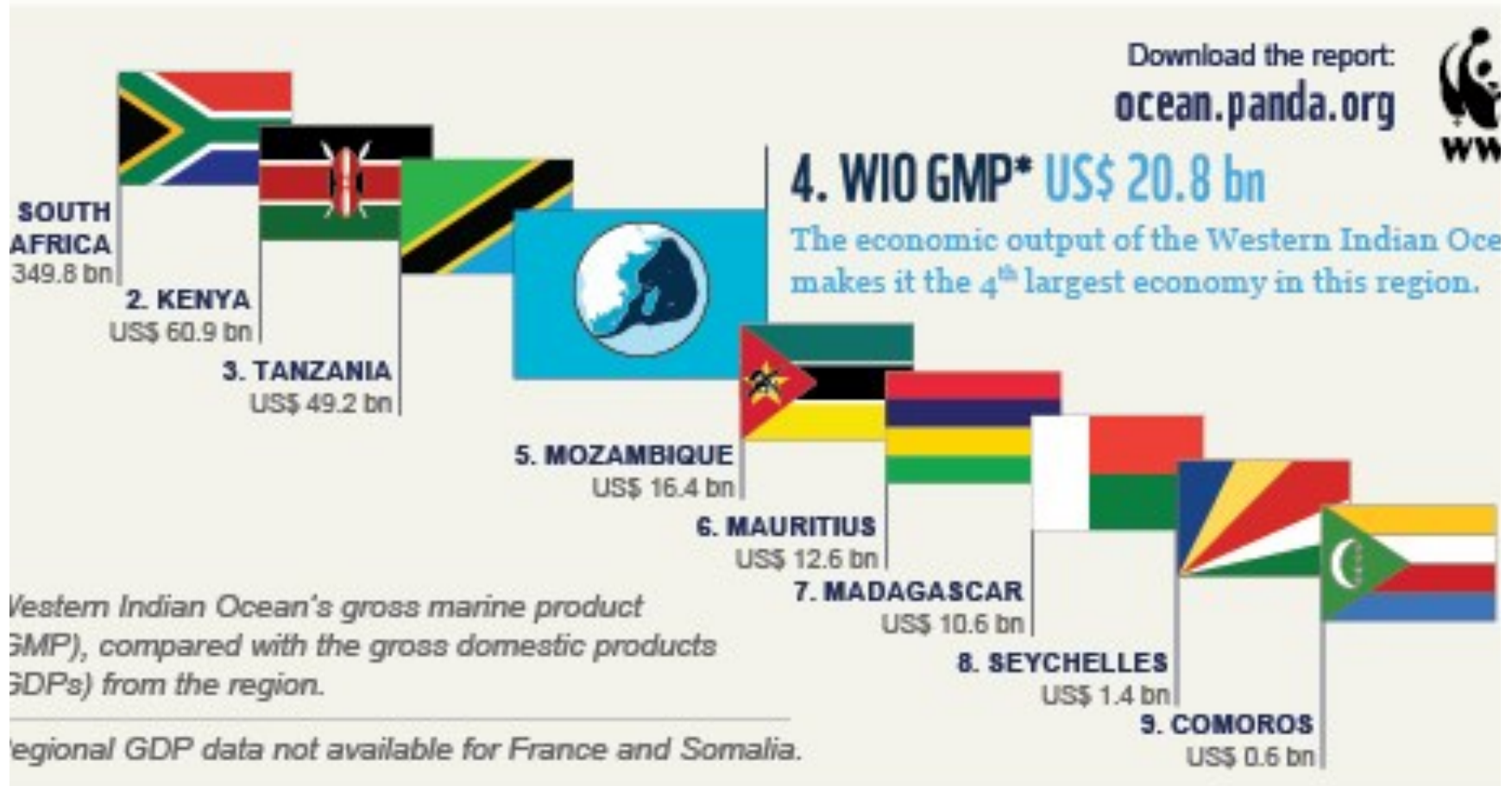


Reviving the Western Indian Ocean Economy

Aimee T. Gonzales
Independent Trade Consultant
Fisheries, Trade & Sustainable Development

This presentation is largely drawn from **Obura, D. et al. 2017. Reviving the Western Indian Ocean Economy: Actions for a Sustainable Future. WWF International, Gland, Switzerland. 64 pp.**

Western Indian Ocean (WIO) GMP



Western Indian Ocean Asset Base



WIO: health of marine ecosystems in danger

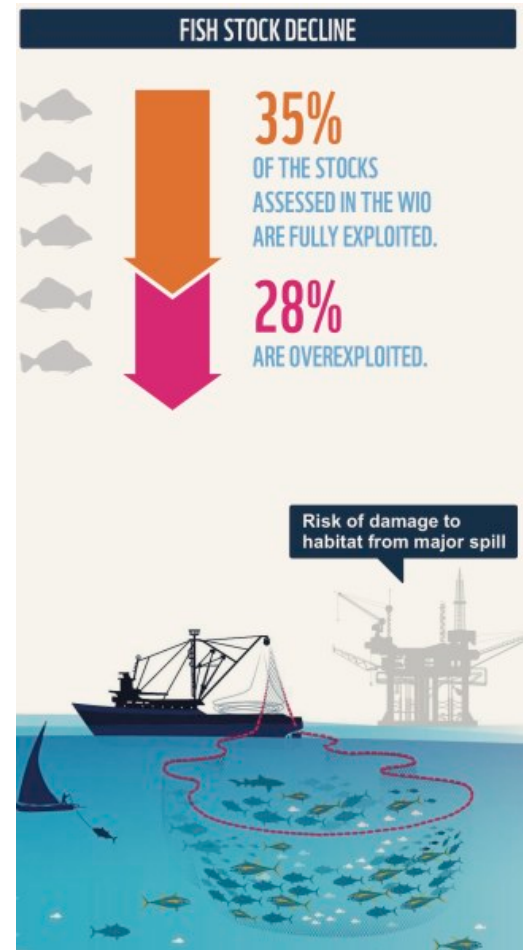
Fish stock decline:

- 35% fully exploited
- 28% over-exploited

Mangrove loss: 18% loss
over 25 yrs

Sharks threatened: 50%

Coral reefs at risk: 71-100%
(except Seychelles)



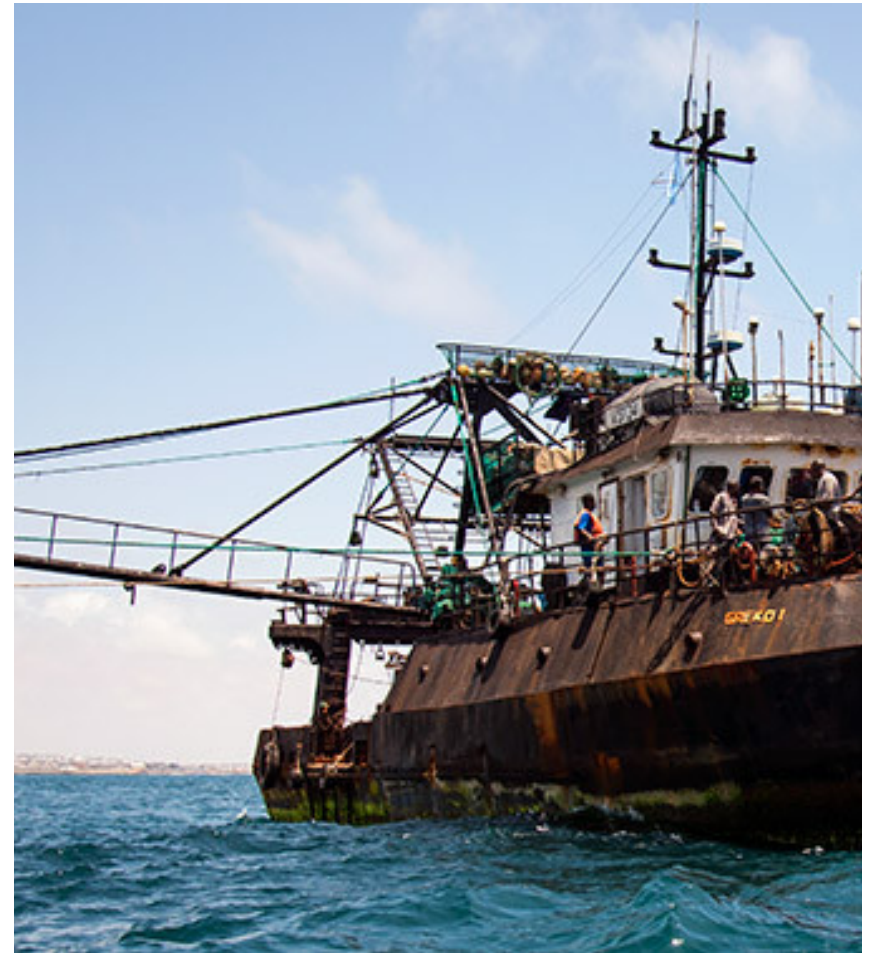
The socio-economic importance of small-scale fisheries (SSF)

- Industrial fishing >6x more than SSF
- BUT
- **SSF supports 200-500K people**
- Supports traders, processors and other ancillary services
- Source of **15-50% animal protein**



Pressures faced by Western Indian Ocean

- Overfishing
- Expanded & unregulated industrial development
- Climate change
- Population/
Demographic change
- Weak governance



Ocean led development

Ocean SDG goal- ‘ to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources’

Joint plans and tangible actions for the interest of both the region’s people and the ocean that supports them



June 2017 Ocean Summit

Key Recommendations

**2030 SDG Roadmap:
clear implementation
process, timelines and
transparent reporting**

**Invest in social capital-
women and children**

Private sector financing

**Global agreement to phase
out harmful subsidies**

