



BLUE and CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND AFRICA

**THE EXAMPLE OF THE GREAT BLUE
WALL INITIATIVE**

**Building resilience and
innovation in the
Western Indian Ocean
Region under the Great
Blue Wall**

Connecting regenerative seascapes through a living blue wall of critical ecosystems and partnerships, integrating ocean conservation, regenerative blue economy, innovation, governance, policy and science

- **Kilifi Seascape, Kenya**
- **Tanga-Pemba Seascape, Tanzania**
- **Inhambane and Cabo Delgado Seascape, Mozambique**
- **Antsiranana- Diana Seascape, Madagascar**
- **Moheli Seascape, Comoros**
- **Port Launey - Cap Ternay Seascape, Seychelles**
- Mauritius - Rodrigues
- South Africa
- Sao Tome & Principe
- Cape Verde
- Somalia



International, continental, regional, national and seascape level interventions



INITIAL FOCUS SEASCAPES

The Great Blue Wall aims to create connectivity and ramp up ambition for ocean action in the Western Indian Ocean through socio-ecologically significant seascapes, linked by a living blue belt of critical ecosystems. It brings together the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) comprising Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Seychelles, Mauritius and Comoros.



Madagascar

Diana-Antsiranana Seascape with request to extend to Sava



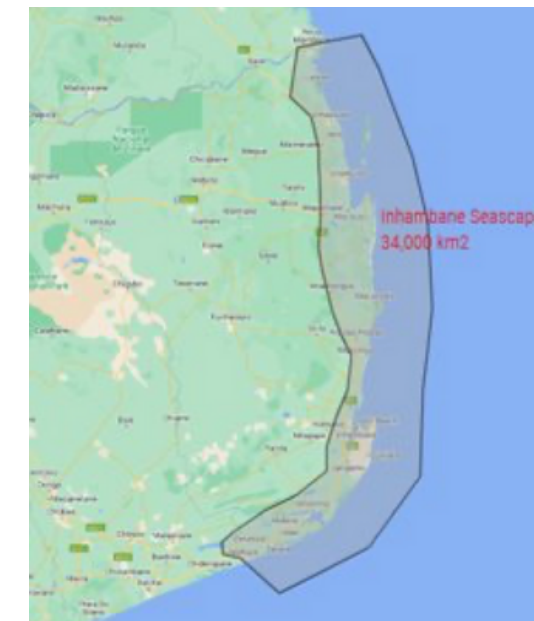
Comoros

Moheli seascape, with request to expand to Anjouan and Grande Comore



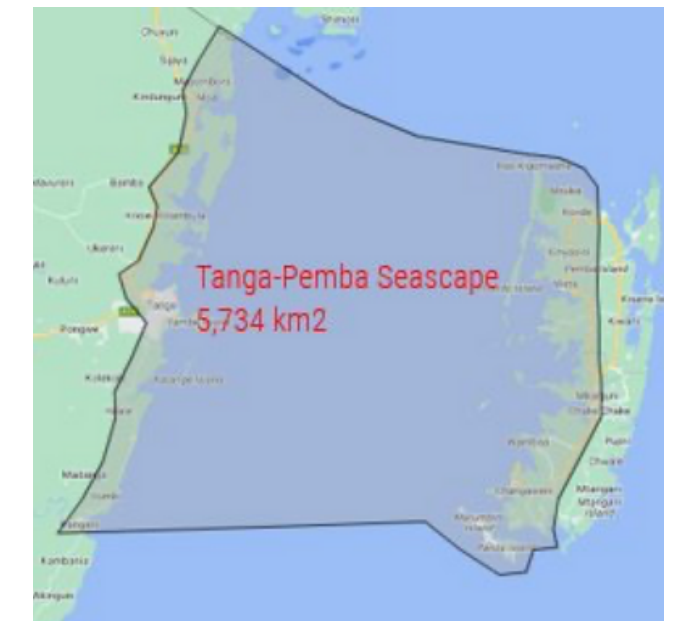
Kenya

Kilifi and Northern Kenyan seascape



Mozambique

Inhambane Seascape



Tanzania

Tanga-Pemba Seascape

Building an Afro-Pacific collaboration network: the Great Blue Wall aims to foster collaboration around blue justice, regenerative blue economy including through partnerships across the 'Global South', small island developing states and the broader Pacific.

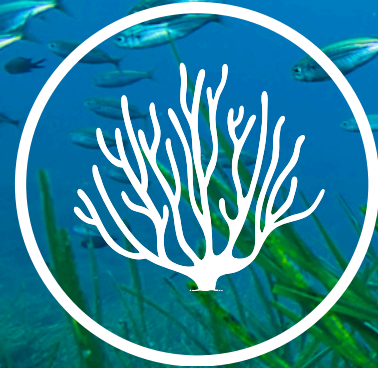
3 Pillars of Action...



BLUE PLANET

Enhancing seascape governance

2 million km2 of conserved areas



BLUE NATURE

Fostering nature-based solutions

2 million ha of critical marine and coastal ecosystems restored



BLUE PEOPLE

Catalysing a regenerative blue economy and ocean policy

2 million jobs



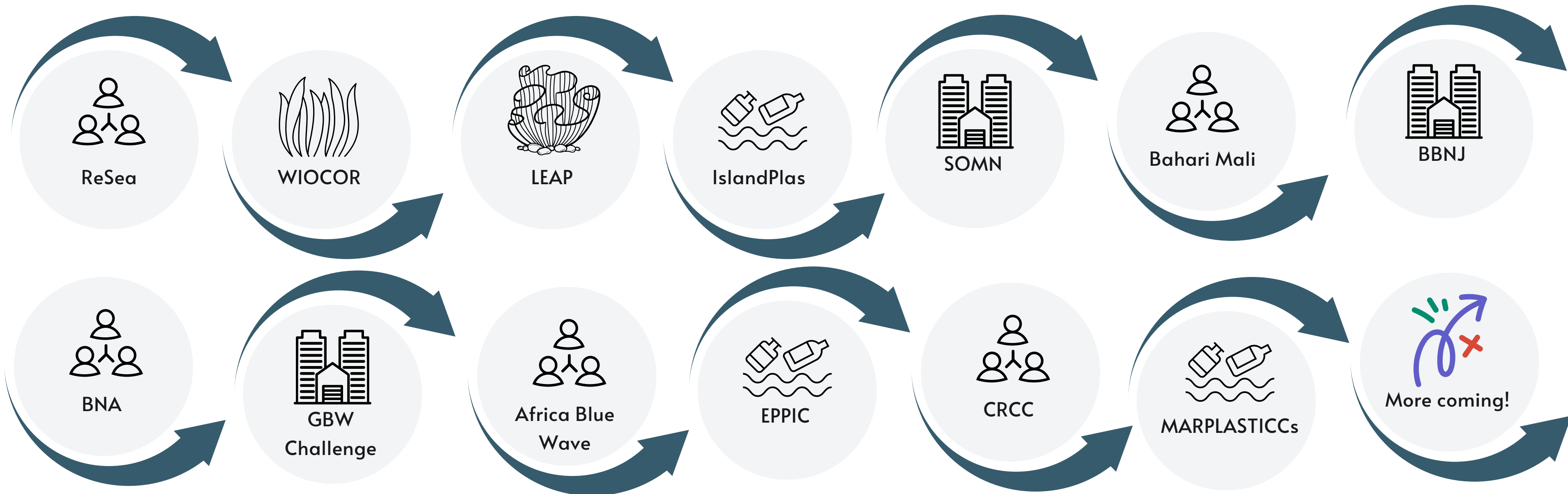
BLUE PARTNERSHIPS

Connecting and collaborating across the region and beyond

- Leveraging political momentum
- Driving people power
- Creating collaboration across the region

Projects under the Great Blue Wall

Since its inception in 2019, the Great Blue Wall has increased in scope, range and impact and has mobilised \$70 million of funding towards a developing mozaic of projects.



Policy impact

Key enablers:

- In country support, presence and engagement
- Network through hubs (Addis Ababa)
- Strong inter-personal and personal relationship building
- Strong awareness of global trends
- Pan-African values
- Indo(Afro-Pacific) exchanges
- Ecosystem-based exchanges (seagrass)
- Strategic engagement of institutions (AU, UN)
- Bridging gap between bottom up, and across the region
- Alignment with key issues - blue economy, IPLCs, nature based solutions
- Rapid response and support to policy makers in 'key' advocacy moments



- > MORONI PROCESS
- > LMMA FORUM
- > BBNJ SUPPORT
- > PRESIDENTIAL DECREE FROM COMOROS - GBW COMMITTEE
- > NEW YORK CLIMATE WEEK
- > CONTRIBUTION TO OECD SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY PRINCIPLES
- > REGIONAL SEAGRASS STRATEGY

A dramatic underwater scene featuring three divers swimming towards a large, jagged ice formation. Sunlight rays penetrate the dark blue water, creating a sense of depth and mystery. The divers are silhouetted against the bright light coming from the surface.

BOLD IDEAS FOR OUR HOPE SPOTS

PROTECT

Support accelerated momentum towards 30x30 goals

EMPOWER

Catalyse the network to empower local custodians of regenerative seascapes

EXPLORE

Support scientific exploration and documentation of biodiversity to underwrite informed conservation decision-making

About IslandPlas

1

Rationale

Small Island States lack economies of scale, as well as waste management and industry infrastructure needed to enable a robust circular economy for plastics. These result in unsustainable waste management practices such as landfilling and an increased risk for large-scale plastic leakage into the environment, especially the ocean.

2

Goal

To advance circular solutions that reduce plastic waste leakage in the targeted seven African islands and help them transition into plastic waste-free islands.



IslandPlas

Problem: Small African islands lack resources for a plastic circular economy, leading to landfills and plastic pollution in the ocean.

Goal: Reduce plastic waste leakage and transition seven islands towards becoming plastic waste-free in Cabo Verde, Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, São Tomé and Príncipe, Seychelles, Zanzibar

Target I: Improved and sustainable livelihoods of informal waste sector actors in the plastics economy of seven Island States (9,600 individuals)

Examples of action:

- Establish a PlastiNetwork comprised of strategically located community plastic collection points for purchase from informal waste reclaimers, NGOs, and local associations and communities.
- Recruit and train local PlastiNetwork management teams with focus on women and youth.

Reduced plastic waste pollution into the environment and the ocean through collection (14,000 tons) and recycling (5,600 tons)

Examples of actions:

- Install material recovery facilities (MRF), one per Island, and equip with locally-appropriate waste-pretreatment technologies for sorting, shredding and compacting of processed material; Design and establish reverse logistics for collection and transport to MRFs. Analyze market for regional plastic recycling hub.

Catalyzed private capital investments to sector innovation and enterprise development with new growth opportunities (target to leverage USD 2 million)

Example of actions:

- Incubation of entrepreneurial and technological innovations that utilize recycled plastic, produce alternatives to conventional plastic, enhance value-chain waste flow accounting, or reduce demand on non-essential and non-recyclable plastics;

A photograph of two people, likely of African descent, standing in a mangrove forest. They are looking out towards a body of water under a bright, hazy sky. The scene is framed by the intricate, hanging roots of mangrove trees. The person on the left is wearing a red shirt and sunglasses, while the person on the right is wearing an orange top. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

REGENERATIVE SEASCAPES FOR PEOPLE, CLIMATE AND NATURE

An aerial photograph of a tropical coastline. The water is a vibrant turquoise color, with white waves breaking along the shore. A small, dark, rocky island is visible in the distance. The sky is a deep blue, filled with large, white, fluffy clouds. The overall scene is bright and scenic.

Merci!