

## **THE ASK**

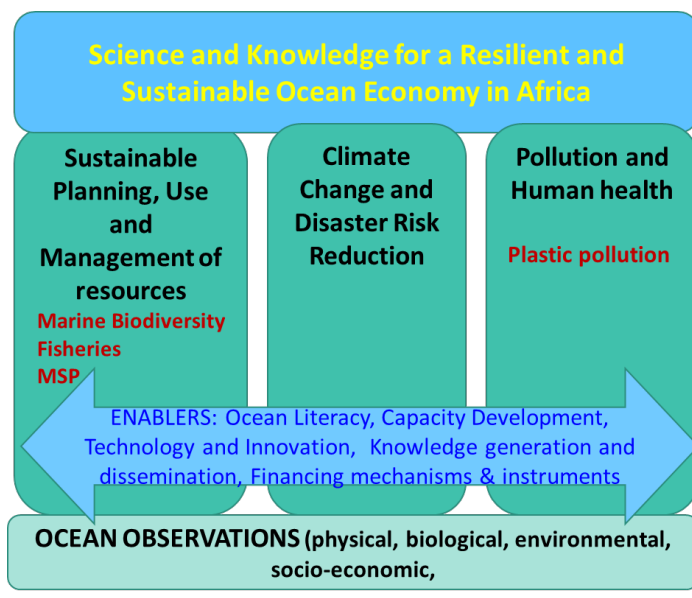
### **Small Group Discussions**

- What is an optimal formulation for the title of this pillar?
- What is the objective of this pillar in the framework of the overall programme?
- What are the priority areas of action under this pillar that could contribute to achieving the objective? (...these priority areas could inform Calls for Decade Actions under the programme)

Optional:

- What existing or planned initiatives need to be taken into account in the
  - detailed design of this pillar?
  - What additional partners should be consulted?
- Prepare for 5 - 7 min presentation back to plenary

## **THE IDENTIFIED FRAMEWORK**



## **THE PROCESS TAKEN BY THE SMALL GROUP ONLINE (Barkha, Balgis and Hassan)**

Align with RoadMap priorities and call on the challenges and identified issues and Gaps as a process to identify the OBJECTIVES and PRIORITY AREAS OF ACTION.

**Green= Alignment with the roadmap priorities and challenges and identified issues and gaps**

**Red= Group Identified Objectives and Priority Areas of Action**

**Blue= Missing topic from RoadMap Priorities.**

**PILLAR 1: Sustainable Planning, Use and Management of resources  
(Marine Biodiversity, Fisheries, MSP ..)**

Alignment with the RoadMap priorities.

**Priority 1. Sustainable Ocean Management in Africa**

**Ocean Decade Challenge 1: Protect and restore ecosystems and biodiversity**

**Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa:**

- Understanding healthy and resilient marine ecosystems
- Biodiversity, including species diversity and taxonomy
- Alien and invasive species
- Structure and functioning of the ocean
- Linkages between ecosystem services and people

**Identified issues and gaps:**

- Insufficient fundamental knowledge/research on species diversity and taxonomy
- Insufficient understanding of ecosystem functions and services supported by different ecosystems at the scale required by relevant management
- Limited mapping of marine and coastal ecosystems (e.g. for marine protected areas - MPAs)

**Objective 1: Improvement of baseline information of species diversity and ecosystem dynamics and functions**

**Action 1:** Improve scientific information and knowledge base

**Action 2:** Identify marine areas of particular importance for conserving biodiversity

**Objective 2: Identification of factors impacting marine biodiversity and implementation of measures to reduce them**

**Action 1:** Reduce pollutants (Land and marine-based sources) that degrade quality of marine ecosystems

**Action 2:** Develop adaptation measures against climate change

**Action 3:** Promote sustainable fisheries management (Link to RoadMap Priority 4.)

**Action 4:** Control of alien species that trigger disturbance of marine ecosystems

**Priority 4. Fisheries and IUU in Africa**

**NOTE: MISSING SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE FROM ROAD MAP**

**PRIORITIES. THE GROUP THINK THIS SHOULD BE ADDED TO PILLAR 1**

## Ocean Decade Challenge 2: Sustainably feed the global population

### Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa:

- Fisheries and aquaculture, including data, assessments, ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, enforcement and governance

### Identified issues and gaps:

- Key knowledge gaps related to data on fish catch and fishing effort
- Irregular assessments of fish stocks
- Limited reliable information on the nature and extent of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the EEZ, high seas and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ)
- Limited understanding of the effects of unsustainable exploitation of resources, other anthropogenic factors, climate variability and change on marine ecosystems
- Weak enforcement of national and international laws and regulations; impacts of ineffective governance on marine ecosystems

## Aquaculture

### Objective 1- Support the intensification and expansion of sustainable and resilient aquaculture systems

**Action 1:** Encourage Sharing of successful examples of aquaculture intensification and expansion through partnerships.

**Action 2:** Support development and implementation of national, regional governance processes that enable sustainable aquaculture development, facilitate financial investment and integrate the aquaculture sector in cross sectoral policies and plans.

**Action 3:** Support appropriate application of technologies to promote sustainable use and development of genetic resources to improve supply of quality seed for enhanced production efficiency.

## Fisheries

### Objective 1. Effective fisheries management systems address ecological, social and economic objectives.

**Action 1:** Facilitate the development of innovative data and information systems to support fisheries policy formulation, assessment and management advice

**Action 2:** Support the development and implementation of fisheries management plans, strategies and measures that consider tradeoffs and address ecological, social and economic objectives, particularly in capacity-limited and data-limited systems.

**Action 3:** Promote the implementation of fisheries management measures that support biodiversity, facilitate ecosystem restoration, strengthen climate change adaptation and build resilience to stressors.

## **Objective 2: Strengthen ability of African countries to access, protect and benefit from Marine Genetic Resources (MGR)**

**Action 1:** Increased stewardship and buy-into High Seas Treaty

**Action 2:** Increased opportunities for economic transformation

**Action 3:** Foundation for African countries to prospect and commercialise on an equal global footing as well as protect BBNJ is laid.

## **Objective 3: Develop framework for ocean citizen science**

**Action 1:** Augmented capacity for data collection in coastal zones

**Action 2:** Increased stewardship, engagement and local agency in sustainable ocean management

# **IUU FISHING**

## **Objective 1: Strengthen enforcement and data collection programs aimed at detecting, deterring, and eliminating IUU fishing.**

**Action 1:** Work with other fishing nations through regional fisheries bodies and international partnerships

**Action 2:** Implement measures that restrict port entry and access to port services for vessels included on the IUU lists of international fisheries organizations according to the Port State Measures Agreement.

**Action 3:** Identify countries that have fishing vessels engaged in IUU fishing activities

**Action 4:** Implement measures to prevent IUU-caught seafood from entering African seafood market

**Action 5:** Support capacity-building and technical assistance workshops that provide the tools, resources, information, and skills to solve IUU issues, combat IUU fishing, and promote sustainable seafood practices.

- **What existing or planned initiatives need to be taken into account in the**
  - **detailed design of this pillar?**
  - **What additional partners should be consulted?**

[Africa Blue Belt Initiative](#)

[RAFISMER](#)

[COMHAFAT](#)

## **PILLAR 2: CLIMATE CHANGE & DRR**

Alignment with the RoadMap priorities.

### **Priority 5. Strengthening multi-hazard early warning systems and community resilience**

#### **Ocean Decade Challenge 6. Increase community resilience to ocean hazards**

**Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa:** Early warning systems for ocean-related hazards and extreme events, including vulnerability to flooding, enhanced frequency and duration of tropical cyclones, storm surges, tsunamis, etc.

#### **Identified issues and gaps:**

- Highly variable ocean modelling expertise and resources
- Limited high-resolution weather and climate information
- Limited forecast modelling of extreme events and their impacts on coastal zone management; and projections of warming in view of MPAs

**Objective 1:** Engage with continental African Union Multihazard and Early Warning System (AMHEWAS) Situation Room, add ocean hazards to AMHEWAS and train AU Member States/ stakeholders on ocean hazards.

**Action 1:** Increase preparedness and resilience of coastal communities to potential hazards

**Action 2:** Increase forecast modeling expertise

**Action 3:** Enhance evidence-based policy making, including in development of financial and insurance tools

#### **Ocean Decade Challenge 5. Unlock ocean based solutions to climate change**

##### **Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa**

- Trends/changes in environmental conditions and long-term monitoring
- Numerical modelling, forecasting, indicators
- Impacts on marine ecosystems
- Climate processes at local and regional scales, and for different time scales

#### **Identified issues and gaps**

- Highly variable ocean modelling expertise and resources
- Limited high-resolution weather and climate information
- Limited forecast modelling of extreme events and their impacts on coastal zone management; and projections of warming in view of MPAs

**Objective1: Advance climate-and ocean-related forecasts, predictions, and projections and decision support systems needed to reduce risks and increase resilience.**

**Action 1:** Support the development of infrastructure needed to deliver hindcasts, nowcasts, forecasts, and projections needed across the temporal and spatial scales.

**Action 2:** Develop and sustain research and models and model-based products, decision support and visualization products to address end-users and stakeholders needs to inform decision making.

**Action 3:** Strengthen capacity in modeling and decision support systems products development .

**Action 4:** Engage and inform a broad user base from research to resource management to decision makers.

## **Priority 6. Ocean observations and forecasting systems for Africa**

### **OCEAN OBSERVATIONS**

**Objective 1: Sustain long-term, high quality coastal and ocean observations**

**Action 1:** Provide common platforms to sustain and operate local and regional research surveys and observing networks composed of multidisciplinary observations from a variety of technologies.

**Action 2:** Improve coverage of observations (subsurface) by collaborating with fishing fleets and sea farming communities to develop a sentinel fishery based on observations to fill critical gaps and address high-priority needs.

- **What existing or planned initiatives need to be taken into account in the**
  - **detailed design of this pillar?**
  - **What additional partners should be consulted?**

**Africa GOOS**

**NOAA**

## **Priority 7. Digital twin for Africa - Establishing an African ocean knowledge hub**

**Ocean Decade Challenge 8: Create a digital representation of the ocean**

**Scope of the Challenges relevant to Africa**

Digital representation of the ocean, mapping of the ocean floor in Africa including a dynamic ocean map

**Objective 1: Create and maintain data assembly centers and strengthen data stewardship to improve data quality, access, attribution, exchange, delivery, and storage through collaboration and partnerships.**

## **ENABLERS:**

**Objective 1: Enhance ability of Africa to produce its own ocean data, science and capacities**

**Action 1:** Increase scientific output from the African continent

**Action 2:** Reduce dependence on external sources of data

**Action 3:** Enhance ability of women, youth and institutions to implement ocean economy activities through enhanced technical and scientific skills, leading to knowledge-based economies as well as “blue” jobs

**Objective 2: Create and strengthen network of R&D institutions across the continent**

**Action 1:** Increase revenue from sustainable ocean economy which is diversified, based on scientific evidence and innovative

**Action 2:** Strengthen the economic transformation of the African continent through research into new, sustainable avenues of the ocean economy, moving away from extractive/ low-income models

**Action 3:** Enhance ocean innovation on the continent.