

The Global Ocean Observing System

# **National Focal Points (NFP) Forum (Online)** **25 October 2023 from 13:00 to 16:00 hrs CEST**

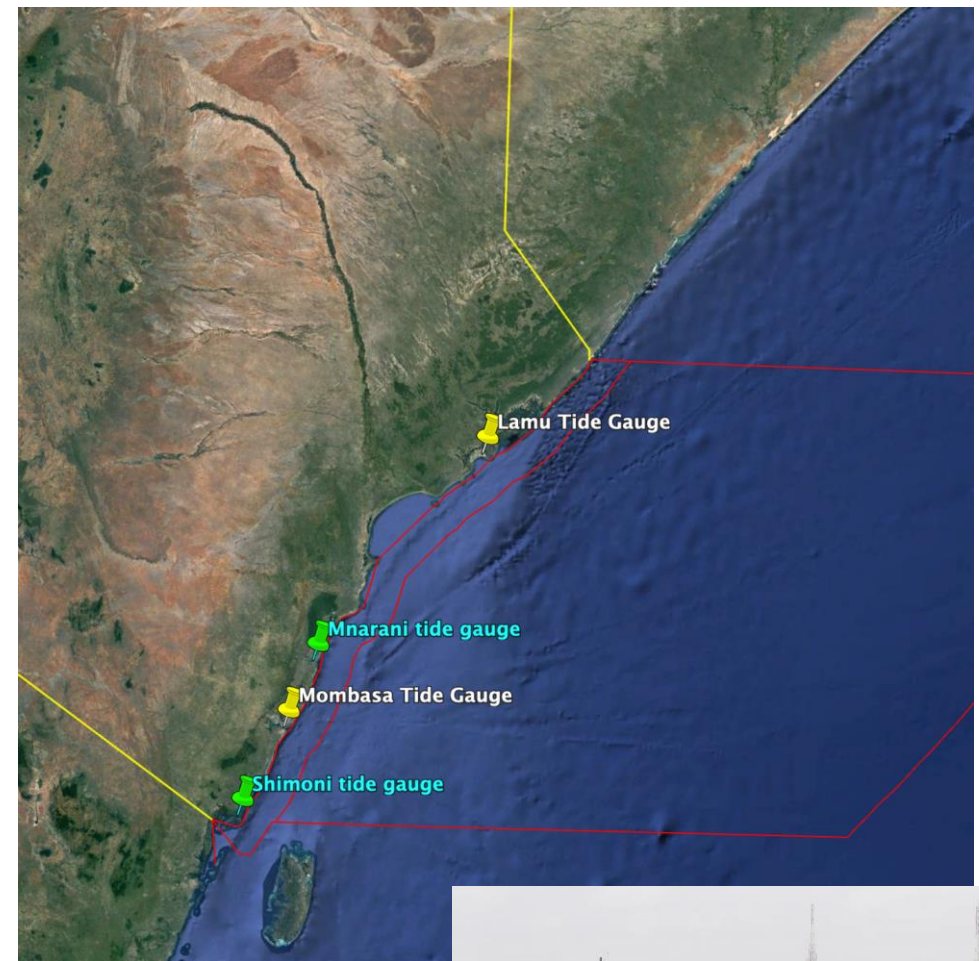
**Status of Ocean Observation Activities along the Kenyan Coastal Waters**

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Kenya

# Current status of the National Ocean observing programme

- Multi agency/institutional
- Tide gauges operated by KMFRI & Kenya Meteorology Department
- Bathymetry – Single beam data collection
- Hydrodynamics – ADCP, Current meters
- Water sampling – Nutrients, pollutants, SS, plastics
- Sediment sampling - Nutrients, pollutants, SS, plastics, benthos
- Permanent maritime research platform available on the East African coast – RV Mtafiti



# Role of NFP

- 1. Support and Promote GOOS Activities at the National Level including Advocating for the establishment of a national GOOS committee.**
- 2. Serve as a Contact for Implementing GOOS at National and Global Levels including Coordinating with National IOC Committees, IOC AFRICA, UN Decade Committees, and WMO Representatives.**
- 3. Address National Needs in Ocean Observation Systems and highlighting any gaps or national requirements for sustainable ocean observing systems to GOOS and help shape strategic directions and recommend necessary changes or additions to improve current observing systems.**

# Benefits

Data products, support to national agencies

- Development of Blue Economy
- Improved forecasting
- Marine mammal and fisheries research
- Assessment of Critical Habitats (Mangroves, coral reefs, Seagrass,....)
- Improved decision making and fact-based policy development
- Provides avenue for multi-sectoral and multi-institutional collaboration

End-users of ocean data and information four main categories:

- *Science end-users* who undertake research activities that rely in whole or in part on sustained measurement and observation of the ocean.
- *Operational end-users* who make use of ocean data and information to support operational needs related to safety, economic efficiency, and protection of the environment.
- *Policy end-users* who require sustained ocean data and information to support policy formulation, monitoring of policy compliance, and assessment of policy effectiveness.
- *Public end-users* who have a general interest in the ocean or make use of ocean data and information in support of their leisure activities or recreational pursuits.

# Visibility of GOOS

- Participation in the ongoing Marine Spatial Plan development for Kenya.
- Participation in the Africa Continent-wide Global Monitoring for Environment and Security and Africa (GMES, and Africa) Support Programme – Use of earth observation systems
- Participation in training of experts on ocean observation through the IOC OceanTeacher Academy - KMFRI is a training Centre
- Participation in the initiative of the UN “Ocean Decade 2021-2030
- Participation in the Seabed2030 collaboration
- Tide gauge data provided in real time at the UHSL

## Challenges

- *Data storage*
- *Funding*
- *Operational & Servicing of Stations*

## National Partner Institutions

1. Survey of Kenya
2. Kenya Meteorology Department
3. Kenya Ports of Authority
4. Kenya Maritime Authority
5. Regional Centre for Mapping and Development
6. NGOs

## Regional/Global Partners

1. Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level (PSMSL)
2. The Global Sea Level Observing System
3. Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)
4. IOC/UNESCO
5. IODE
6. Seabed2030 Atlantic & Indian Ocean Regional Center
7. Flanders Marine Institute [VLIZ]
8. Ocean Decade
9. UNEP



# Support needed from GOOS NFP Terms of Reference (Updated ToR)

## NFP Terms of Reference National Committee/Hub

- Kenya already has a national committee set-up (Kenya National Hydrographic and Oceanographic Committee- KeNHOC).
- Meets annually
- Composed different agencies from different sectors
- Funding needed to facilitate meetings

## Future plans / sustenance of National ocean observing programme

*Reference to NFP Terms of Reference*

1. Starting a program of deploying time series and ocean observation instruments (Argo floats, data buoys).
2. Bathymetry data loggers – Crowdsource bathymetry initiative





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# Thank you

