

Strengthening Sea Level Monitoring and Data Management in East Africa for Coastal Resilience and Community Safety



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Intergovernmental
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SEAMARCS

Project overview

Situation:

Data collection efforts in East Africa are sporadic, with outdated or poorly maintained infrastructure and significant gaps in geographical coverage

Objectives:

- Launching comprehensive, cost-effective, and locally driven sea level monitoring solutions in East Africa (Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Seychelles)
- Enhance the capacity for coastal resilience, foster regional collaboration, and contribute to sustainable development

Project overview

Key identified needs:

- Enhanced Data Collection and Infrastructure
- Standardized Data Sharing Platforms
- Capacity Building and Training
- Stakeholder Engagement

Key Implementing Institutions and Partners:

- National Oceanography Data Center (Madagascar)
- Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI)
- Oceanographic Institute of Mozambique (InOM)
- Seychelles National Meteorological Services/Ministry for Fisheries and the Blue Economy

General timeline of the project

Year 1:

Q1: Inception and Planning Phase

Focus: Procurement planning, technical assessments, stakeholder engagement, and system design

Q3: Installation and Initial Capacity Development

Focus: Station deployment, calibration, technical training, and system integration

Q2: Pre-Installation Logistics

Focus: Supplier engagement, equipment procurement, and installation preparation

Q4: Capacity Development and System Integration

Focus: Procurement planning, technical assessments, stakeholder engagement, and system design

General timeline of the project

Year 2:

Q1: Procurement, Installation, and Training

Focus: Procurement continuation, installation logistics, initial training, and stakeholder engagement

Q3: Advanced Capacity Development and Knowledge Exchange

Focus: Deepening training, mentorship, and peer-to-peer learning

Q2: Installation Calibration and Training

Focus: Calibration on installed stations, training, workshops, system interoperability, educational material

Q4: Follow-up Training and Quality Assurance

Focus: Capacity reinforcement and ongoing project monitoring

Inception phase

3 months: June-September

The key justifications:

- 1. Needs Assessment:** Conduct a detailed needs assessment
- 2. Refinement of Key Project Elements:** Refine the ToC, Results Framework (including baselines), and M&E Framework
- 3. Stakeholder Engagement:** Ensure that all stakeholders are freely, actively, and meaningfully engaged in the project's design and implementation strategy.
- 4. Building Ownership:** Establish shared ownership of the project among stakeholders
- 5. Sustainability Planning:** address how each country will ensure the sustainability of the 'Sea-Level Station in a Box' equipment and the personnel capacity to operate it beyond the project lifespan



Inception phase

3 months: June-September

Deliverables from the Inception Phase:

- 1. Needs Assessment Report:** Documenting findings from field visits, surveys, and stakeholder consultations.
- 2. Revised Project Document:** Including the refined Theory of Change, Results Framework, M&E Framework, and implementation strategy.
- 3. Sustainability Plan:** Documenting commitments from participating countries to maintain equipment and build capacity beyond the project lifespan.
- 4. Stakeholder Engagement Plan:** Outlining roles, responsibilities, and communication strategies.
- 5. Inception Workshop Report:** Summarizing discussions, feedback, and agreed-upon revisions.



Members of the Steering Committee

Professor António Huguane

Instituto Oceanográfico de **Moçambique**

Professor Gildas Todinanahary

Institut Halieutique et des Sciences Marines
Université de Toliara (National Oceanography Data
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Mr. Jean-Francois Ferrari
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Mr. Charles Magori

Kenya Marine Fisheries Research Institute KMFRI

Mr. Gert Verreet

Flanders UNESCO Science Trust Fund (FUST)

Mr. Francisco “Tjess” Hernandez

VLIZ

Mr. Bernardo Aliaga

IOC/TSR-GLOSS

Mr. Ibukun Adewumi

IOC/IOCAFRICA

Terms of Reference for the Steering Committee

Aim:

- Provide strategic oversight
- Approve the project workplan, timelines, and key deliverables
- Review technical reports
- Facilitate coordination and collaboration
- Guidance on risk mitigation, sustainability, and exit strategies
- Promote the visibility of the project
- Support efforts toward resource mobilization and partnerships

Meetings:

- Minimum twice per year
- In-person, virtually, or in a hybrid format
- Consensus based. Disagreement = majority vote

Future dates

-  **In-person steering committee:** 26-27 of August
Paris, France
-  **Inception workshop:** 24-26 of September
Mombasa, Kenya
-  **Proposed launch:** 28 of September - 3 of October
WIOMSA Mombasa, Kenya



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