



**THE SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN CIVIL SOCIETY TUNA ALLIANCE  
(SWIOTUNA)**

***BOOK OF SUCCESS STORIES:***

***10 YEARS OF EXPERIENCES AND SHARED LESSONS***

**CLIENT:**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Civil Society (CSOs) and Non-State Actors (NSA) play an important role in the management of natural resources. This is achieved in what we call Collaborative Natural Resources Management (CBNRM) approach. CBNRM approaches take different models depending on the type of resources in question, community of interest and the country. The success of CBNRM is founded on the premise that local communities have an assurance of ownership, access, use and control of their natural resources.

Over the years, development partners including WWF, World Bank and FAO have been supporting initiatives aimed at building the capacity of local fishing communities, CSOs and NSA in sustainable fisheries management, including advocacy and policy reforms in the fisheries sector. Such efforts are now bearing fruits. Fisher associations and alliances for the CSOs and NSA have been established at grassroot, national and regional level with desirable results.

In 2010, the South West Indian Ocean Civil Society Tuna Alliance (SWIOTUNA) was established. SWIOTUNA is a regional umbrella CSO organization that has been in existence as a network till May 2019 when it was formally registered by the Kenya Government. The forum provides a capacity building opportunity to the CSOs and other Non-State Actors (NSA) working on marine and fisheries related issues to advocate for sustainable use, development and management of marine fisheries in the SWIO range states.

This booklet presents key highlights on the issues, interventions and achievements of SWIOTUNA and other relevant CSO and NSA in the management of marine fisheries resources in their respective countries and regions in the SWIO. The information used to prepare this booklet was sourced from SWIOTUNA members, relevant agencies as well as internet search. This booklet is the first attempt to document the work of SWIOTUNA since its inception.

This booklet is divided in Three (3) major sections. Section 1 is the background which provides the context, methodology and details of what SWIOTUNA is all about. Section

2 presents the case studies highlighting SWIOTUNA interventions, achievements and important lessons. SWIOTUNA has been successful in advancing collaborative fisheries management as part of the CBNRM approach. SWIOTUNA, relevant government agencies in the SWIO and development partners have been working closely to strengthen collaborative fisheries management. Local fishing communities are now more informed on the importance of responsible fishing practices which has resulted to improved fish stocks in their fisheries co-management areas. Formulation and implementation of effective fisheries management and development policies contributes to stock sustainability and increased socio-economic returns to the local communities and SWIO range states. SWIOTUNA members have been actively and constructively engaged in fisheries advocacy and policy reforms. They participated in the development of national tuna strategies, Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa, regional Minimum Terms and Conditions (MTC) for granting fisheries access. Section 3 outlines some strategies to strengthen CSO/SWIOTUNA so that members can be more effective in meeting their goals and aspirations. Such measures include among others sustainable financing mechanism, thought leadership, shared lessons and upscaling tested and promising practices and innovations.

## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

AU	African Union
AU-IBAR	Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
AGM	Annual General Meeting
CANCO	Community Action for Nature Conservation
CAMFA	Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture
CBNRM	Collaborative Natural Resources Management
CCP	Community Fisheries Council
CEANI	Coastal East Africa Network Initiative
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DANIDA	Danish International Development Agency
DARBE	Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment.
DFID	Department for International Development
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FOSCAMC	Civil Society for the Marine and Coastal Area
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
KCDP	Kenya Coast Development Project
LMMA	Locally Managed Marine Area
MCS	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MSY	Maximum Sustainable Yield
MTC	Minimum Terms and Conditions
Norad	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
NSA	Non-State Actors
PAFSA	Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa
SANSAFA	Southern African Regional Platform for Non-State Actors in Fisheries and Aquaculture.
SIDA	The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
SWIO	South West Indian Ocean
SWIOFC	South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission
SWIOTUNA	South West Indian Ocean Civil Society Tuna Alliance
TuFAK	Tuna Fishery Alliance of Kenya
TUNA	Tanzania Tuna Alliance
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WIO	Western Indian Ocean
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

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## **Disclaimer**

The views expressed in this document do not necessarily represent the position and endorsement of WWF.

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## 1 BACKGROUND

### 1.1. The Context

This consultancy was commissioned by the SWIOTUNA and executed by Beth Wagude as the Consultant. The main objective of this assignment was to prepare a book of achievement showcasing the success and impact of SWIOTUNA at local and regional level, including work on the ground and regional/ global processes related to sustainable marine fisheries management and development. The key tasks related to the assignment are as follows;

- i). Document and draft the case studies that highlight some of the impacts of the SWIOTUNA at the community, national and regional level. These case studies will be used to show the successes, lessons and best practices of the programme that could be up scaled.
- ii). Capture photographs that will accompany the case studies and document the program's achievements, as well as document the current fisheries conservation and management interventions that have been implemented by the SWIOTUNA members showing

enhanced capacity and empowerment.

- iii). Carry out interviews with the SWIOTUNA members and other key partners to collate, analyze, and synthesize the impact of their interventions through WWF support either directly and or indirectly.
- iv). Present to SWIOTUNA Secretariat the draft book of achievements for review and feedback then present the final copy.

This booklet is the first attempt to comprehensively document and share SWIOTUNA work, achievements and impacts.

### 1.2. The Methodology

The information that was used to prepare this booklet was gathered through various approaches including interviews with SWIOTUNA members, relevant government agencies and NGOs; reviewing of existing literature and information contained in reports and other materials that are readily available in the public such as website and photographs depicting various interventions.



### 1.3. Audience

It is envisaged that the stories will be shared and made available to SWIOTUNA members, relevant CSO and development partners, relevant national and regional fisheries management authorities and the media.

### 1.4. About the South West Indian Ocean Civil Society Tuna Alliance (SWIOTUNA)

The South West Indian Ocean Civil Society Tuna Alliance (SWIOTUNA) is a regional umbrella CSO organization that has been in existence as a network since 2010. In 2016, SWIOTUNA members in their annual general meeting (AGM) held in Mombasa, Kenya resolved to register the network as a regional entity. SWIOTUNA was registered in May 2019 as a regional Not for Profit Organization under the laws of the Republic of Kenya with its Headquarters currently based in Nairobi. The forum provides a capacity building opportunity to the CSOs and other Non-State Actors (NSA) working on marine and fisheries related issues to advocate for sustainable use, development and management of marine fisheries in the SWIO range states with a view to ensuring that the respective countries and local communities derive more socio-

economic benefits from their fisheries resources. SWIOTUNA played an active role in the formulation of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa led by the African Union. SWIOTUNA members have played a key role in influencing fisheries policies and tuna strategies at national level via respective national CSO alliances including the Tuna Fisheries Alliance of Kenya (TUFAK), Tanzania Tuna Alliance (TUNA) and FOSCAMC.



SWIOTUNA members during their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Training Workshop on Sustainable Fisheries Access arrangements in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, August 2019.

### 1.5. Main objectives of SWIOTUNA

The aim of SWIOTUNA is to alleviate poverty and promote the conservation and development of marine fisheries and resources within the South West Indian Ocean (SWIO) region.

Specific objectives among others is to

- promote and encourage the public to share experiences and best practices regarding conservation and development of marine fisheries and resources;
- promote marketing and value-addition strategies for the socio-economic empowerment of the communities within the South West Indian Ocean region;
- promote dialogue and constructive engagement around marine fisheries related issues, including Tuna fisheries, within the South West Indian Ocean region;
- build institutional and advocacy capacity for the non-state actors, including Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), associations of small-scale fishers, the private sector to engage in relevant fisheries processes, including influencing policy reform at the national and regional levels for the benefit of the attendant communities;

- strengthen the voice of CSOs, fisher associations and the private sector on fisheries and marine resources in the South West Indian Ocean region;
- raise awareness amongst CSOs/Private Sector in the South West Indian Ocean region of the need to engage pro-actively in Tuna/ marine fisheries conservation and development in South West Indian Ocean region;
- assist the communities through their groups to implement the recommendations produced during periodical meetings and recommendations expressed within the fisheries management organizations, including the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) and Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC);

SWIOTUNA as an umbrella organization for the Civil Society Organizations in the SWIO region is keen to see the South West Indian Ocean range states improve their fisheries governance for enhanced stock sustainability and increased socio-economic benefits.

### 1.6. Membership and Governance Structures

SWIOTUNA is a membership organization. Members are drawn from legally registered Not for Profit making organizations working on marine/fisheries related issues in the SWIO region. SWIOTUNA has a Board of Directors Board consist of a minimum of Five (5) and a maximum of nine (9) members, three of whom are honorary posts of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. The Chief Executive Officer is an Ex-Officio member of the Board. The Board of Directors is the policy organ and provides strategic guidance the affairs of SWIOTUNA. The SWIOTUNA is to be headed by the Chief Executive Officer, a position which is currently vacant. However, on the Interim the SWIOTUNA Secretariat is headed by the Coordinator.

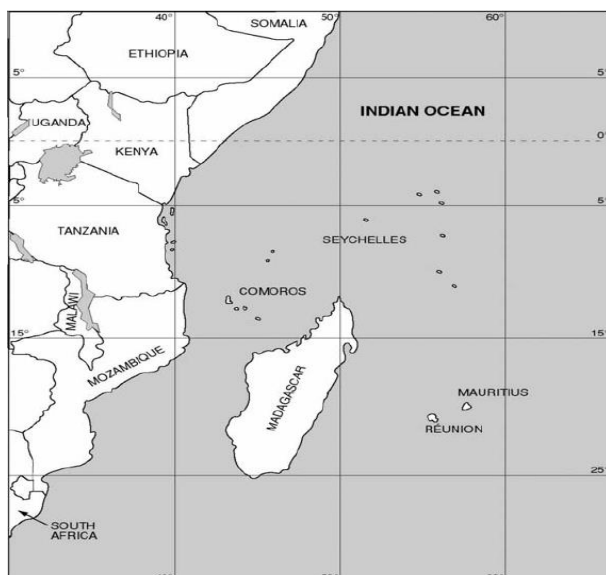


SWIOTUNA Executive Committee Members on a Courtesy call to WWF Mozambique Country Director, Anabela Rodriques (in classes) led by the WWF Regional Fisheries Programme Manager Edward Kimakwa (Second Right)

### 1.7. Geographical Scope and Key Areas of Focus

The geographical scope for SWIOTUNA is confined to the countries within the SWIO region, namely Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique, South Africa, Madagascar, Comoros, Seychelles and Somalia.

Since its inception in 2010 as a network, SWIOTUNA and its affiliate members has continued to strengthen the engagement and build the capacity of CSOs and other non-state actors in fisheries policy advocacy, on the groundwork with the local fishing communities and regional/ global processes. In order to efficiently and effectively deliver on her mandate, SWIOTUNA is guided by its engagement strategy (2018 – 2022). The overarching goal of the strategy is to provide a road map for SWIOTUNA to meet its vision, mission and objectives. The strategy provides a framework to guide operation of the forum to achieve its targets efficiently and effectively while being transparent and accountable in its affairs.



SWIOTUNA geographical scope (Source: Kiszka et.al., 2009)

The SWIOTUNA 2018-2022 strategy identified the following thematic areas;

- a) Policy and Advocacy
- b) Capacity Building
- c) Communication and Knowledge Management
- d) Institutional Strengthening
- e) Resource Mobilization

The strategic focus for SWIOTUNA as envisioned in its engagement strategy 2018-2022), the SWIOTUNA Strategic Action Plan (2018), various interventions by the SWIOTUNA members and emerging issues can be summarized as follows;

- i. Collaborative Fisheries Management;

- ii. Fisheries Governance and policy reforms;
- iii. Small-scale fisheries value addition, trade and marketing;
- iv. Innovating fishing practices and technologies;
- v. Sustainable Blue Economy.

The world over, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) are actively involved in providing services including philanthropic support, community-based conservation as well as livelihood security. SWIOTUNA members play an important role in community development and natural resources conservation.

Though the interventions of SWIOTUNA have been confined to the SWIO region, some of the members of SWIOTUNA have engaged with the relevant partners across Africa and the global level. There is great potential for the SWIOTUNA member CSOs to have impactful and conservation and developmental outcomes among the local communities across scale.

## 2 SWIOTUNA CASE STUDIES

SWIOTUNA has been in existence since 2010 though initially as a network until when formally registered as a legal entity in 2019. Despite all the efforts and achievements by SWIOTUNA members and other partner Civil Society Organizations, there is limited information in the public domain about SWIOTUNA work in marine fisheries and conservation space. Lessons, experiences, achievements and impacts of SWIOTUNA have not been comprehensively documented and shared by the wider audience. This booklet is the first attempt to document SWIOTUNA work with a view to demonstrating the success, achievements and impacts of SWIOTUNA interventions. In each of the focal areas, key issues, various interventions and lessons learnt are highlighted. The major actors, SWIOTUNA members are mentioned briefly in the document.

### 2.1. Collaborative coastal resources management

Collaborative natural resources management (CBNRM) is an approach of resource management between the government and key stakeholders in the management of natural resources. In the

SWIO region, collaborative approaches among involving local communities, government and development partners is increasingly becoming important. Stakeholder groups have shown their willingness and readiness to assume greater responsibility in the management of the natural resources within their vicinity including fisheries, coral reefs and mangroves. Ability for the local communities to organize themselves and effectively participate in the management process depends, in part, on the existence of social networks and trust among themselves, necessary internal capacities and skills, enabling legal and regulatory frameworks as well as culture.

SWIOTUNA members, relevant partner CSOs, development partners and government agencies in the respective countries in the SWIO have been working closely to establishing and strengthening co-management structures on the ground, including participatory community enforcement, monitoring and surveillance (MCS), establishment of no-take zones/closures and improvement of artisanal fisheries data collection system.

In this section we discuss some of the interventions being undertaken by some of the SWIOTUNA members and partners in promoting collaborative



natural resources management in the SWIO region.

#### 2.1.1. Local to regional action

**Mwambao Coastal Community Network Tanzania:** Mwambao Coastal Community Network ('Mwambao') is an evolving network of coastal communities in Tanzania. Mwambao Coastal Community Network is supporting coastal communities and maintaining healthy marine ecosystems. Founded in 2010, they are bringing communities together while also linking them with scientists, government officials, practitioners and experts to facilitate cross-learning, information sharing and joint action. They are working with local fishing communities on the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba and on the northern coast of mainland Tanzania. Mwambao aims at building the capacity of local communities to manage coastal/ marine resources with a view to improving their livelihoods. Mwambao is implementing community-based conservation programmes including octopus' closures, curbing dynamite fishing and coral reef rehabilitation.

- Mwambao is working closely with local fishing communities in Pemba channel on octopus' closures with desirable results.

- The local fishing communities in Jambiani with the support of Mwambao and Reefball International are constructing reef balls to create artificial reefs to help rehabilitation and regeneration of coral reefs.
- Mwambao has developed a participatory monitoring plan to curb dynamite fishing. Recent consultations supported by Mwambao in Mkubiru village within the Mnazi Bay Ruvuma Estuarine Marine Park (MBREMP) indicates that dynamite blasting has reduced significantly over the years to near zero.



Mwambao working with local communities to build their capacity on coastal resources conservation (Source: <https://envaya.org/mwambao/news?end=WIK8pp9yUpCnHdPihgRtIMXY>)

**Community Action for Nature Conservation:** The Community Action for Nature Conservation-CANCO is a non-political and not-for-profit voluntary environmental non-governmental organization that was registered as a legal entity in Kenya in 2008. CANCO brings together a team of multidisciplinary professionals and practitioners with vast skills to bring about improved environmental governance and sustainable use and management of natural resources. CANCO is implementing various programme and interventions aimed at building the capacity of local communities to enhance their knowledge, understanding and skills in sustainable use and management of natural resources and ecosystems.

- CANCO is working with the local communities to mitigate social and environmental risks of oil and gas development. Kenya has offshore oil and gas exploration which presents risks to conservation efforts. CANCO works with communities through its oil and gas network.
- CANCO has community initiative around sustainable small-scale fisheries where the organization is working with select Beach Management Units

(BMUs) to enhance their capacity on small-scale value addition, fish trade and mangrove rehabilitation. The BMUs include Jimbo, Shimoni and Vanga in South Coast.

- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are important spatial management and conservation tools for coastal and marine ecosystems. CANCO is currently documenting the impact of MPAs in conservation.

#### **Apostles of the Sea - Seychelles:**

Apostles of the Sea Seychelles over the years have been involved and continue to be committed in fighting for the social welfare and wellbeing of local fishers and seamen. They are working closely with the Seychelles Government, local fishers and seamen for better working conditions and fair contract agreements. They also train seafarers on security and safety at sea. They managed to create two sub-committee representing seamen on tuna purse seiners and skippers. Apostles of the Sea worked in partnership with WWF, International Transport Federation and Seafarers Organization (Kenya) where they produced a documentary advancing the social and human for the Seafarers in the SWIO region with case study in Kenya, Tanzania and Seychelles. AOS Seychelles participated in several

national and regional forums including the development of the Policy Framework and Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa, the Nairobi 9Convention SWIO Marine Governance workshop and the SWIOTUNA meetings. AOS publishes its quarterly Newsletter "GOLET" which highlights important achievements for the organization and other activities involved at national, regional and global level.



GOLET one of the newsletters published by the Apostles of the Sea (A member of SWIOTUNA based in Seychelles).

**World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF):** WWF was established in 1961. Over the years, WWF has invested in sustainable development and management of coastal and marine resources in the SWIO region in partnerships with the local communities, respective national governments. WWF has a local presence in Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar, South Africa and Mozambique. WWF has also worked

closely with the private sector, non-governmental (public benefits) organisations, civil society networks, academia, research institutes and development partners to deliver conservation impacts at scale.

Some of WWF interventions and programmes in the region include; collaborative sea turtle conservation, integrated ocean management and marine spatial planning, supporting the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Community Conservation Areas/ Locally Manage Marine Areas (CMAs/ LMMAs), sustainable fisheries management, strengthening co-management, community livelihood and social enterprises, small-scale fisheries value addition and certification programmes, civil society and non-state actors empowerment, fisheries policy and institutional reforms, advancing sustainable blue economy agenda, building the capacity for resilience of local communities and ecosystems against climate change and clean energy pathways .





Fishermen with their catch of swordfish in Mombasa, Kenya (Photo: John Kabubu)

### 2.1.2 Community based fisheries management system

Local communities play an important role in utilizing and managing coastal and marine resources and ecosystems including fisheries, species of special importance, coral reefs and mangroves. The local communities depend on these resources and ecosystems for their livelihood, food and nutritional security and income. Since immemorial coastal communities have depended on fishing as a source of their livelihood. As years went by, fisheries resources and stocks started dwindling. With the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, local fishing communities started getting concerned about their mainstay and source of livelihood. They started organizing themselves in some groups and associations with the support of relevant governments agencies and development partners in their respective countries. There are

different models of collaborative fisheries management in the SWIO region. In Kenya and Tanzania, they established what we call Beach Management Units (BMUs), in Madagascar they are referred to as Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMA) while in Mozambique they formed Community fisheries council (CCPs).

These community-based fisheries management and development approaches have helped create awareness on the importance of responsible fishing. Illegal fishing such as use of dynamite fishing in Tanzania and use of beach seine nets in Kenya has been reduced significantly. Fishers have transitioned to the use of environmentally friend gears. Fish stocks have now improved in the no take zones and locally managed areas. Fishers are now fetching better prices for their catch. Fisherfolk have also organized themselves in village savings and credit associations. In Kenya and Tanzania, they are known as Village/Community Banking Associations (VICOBA). Fisherfolk can now easily access credit to improve their fisheries business. The voice of fisherfolk has also increased. They have been involved in different fisheries policy and reform process where their views are heard. For

instance, they contributed to development of national tuna strategies in Mozambique, Tanzania, Madagascar and Kenya. They have also influenced the development of fisheries programmes supported by development partners. The fisherfolk are also involved in small-scale value addition and processing where they have helped improve the quality and competitiveness of their fish and fisheries products on the local, regional and export markets.



A woman weighing octopus catch in Songosongo Tanzania (photo credit: Elia Sabula, WWF Tanzania).

Octopus closures have taken traction in the Coastal East Africa including Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar. Some of the beach management units and local CSOs (SWIOTUNA members) advancing community-based fisheries management include but not limited to the following;

Nungwi Fishing Community Association, Chawawami and Msasani BMU, FORDIA and TUNA in Tanzania. In Kenya the Indian Ocean Water Body, Pwani Fish Marketing Association, TuFAK, Shella and Amu BMUs in Kenya. FOSCAMC and CNPE are national alliances for marine CSOs in Mozambique and Madagascar respectively.

These community-based fisheries are supported by the respective governments through relevant fisheries management authorities. Some of these initiatives have been supported by the World Bank (namely SWIOFISH project in Madagascar, Mozambique and Tanzania; Kenya Coastal Development Project – KCDP in Kenya); WWF offices in Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar; Blue Ventures, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), Cordio-East Africa, COMRED; development partners namely Norad, Danida, Sida and UKAID, USAID, IFAD and FAO.

### 2.1.3 Small-scale value addition and processing

SWIOTUNA has some of its members who are actively involved in small-scale value addition. Fish processors and exporters are also represented in SWIOTUNA namely the Kenya Fish Processors and Exporters Association (AFIPEK) and Tanzania Industrial

Fishing and Processors Association (TIFPA). TIFPA and AFIPEK are also members of the TUNA Alliance of Tanzania and TUFAC respectively. AFIPEK and TIFPA champion the rights and defend the interest of the fish processors and exporters. They also advocate for sustainable seafood sourcing and fair trade.



Some of the TUFAC members exhibiting their fish and fisheries products in a function attended by the President of the Republic of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta

## 2.2 Fisheries Governance and policy reforms

One of the major areas of SWIOTUNA intervention is to influence fisheries policy practices and reforms that promote stocks sustainability, enhance equity and socio-economic returns for the local communities. Further SWIOTUNA and its members are not only interested in the fisheries policy change and practice but also to hold the relevant national and regional fisheries

management authorities accountable to their mandates.

### 2.2.1 Key issues

Poor governance including weak policy and institutional framework for fisheries in the SWIO region are contributing to the mismanagement and declining fish stocks. The South West Indian Ocean marine fisheries resources including the highly migratory tuna and tuna-like species are experiencing unprecedented fishing pressure. For instance, the yellowfin tuna stocks in the Indian Ocean are being fished above the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY). Fishing nations have always disregarded the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Scientific Committee advice to reduce total catch below the MSY. Average catch for yellowfin tuna for the period 2013 – 2017 was estimated at 399, 830 tons and the catch for 2017 was 409, 567 tons against the MSY of 339,000 – 436,000 tons. The yellowfin tuna stock is determined to be overfished and subject to overfishing. Other species under the management of the IOTC that are overfished include striped marlin, blue marlin and Indo-Pacific Sail fish (IOTC, 2018). The South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) Scientific Committee in their 2019 report has raised concern of the near depletion

of the Sea Cucumber stocks in the SWIO region (SWIOFC, 2019). Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing is on the rise. It is estimated that US\$ 400M is lost to IUU fishing in the Western Indian Ocean region. Illicit trade of fisheries product in 2016 was estimated at US\$ 2.5 billion (Nepad, 2016). The regional fisheries management organizations/ bodies including the IOTC and SWIOFC have failed to develop and implement effective marine fisheries conservation and management measures. The level of compliance for most of the members is low.

### 2.2.2 Interventions

Some policy interventions for SWIOTUNA and members have been around two key aspects;

Facilitate the participation and engagement of SWIOTUNA members and constituents in policy and decision-making processes and frameworks at national, regional and global level; and lobbying and participation in the implementation of the relevant marine and fisheries policies;

Specific interventions are as highlighted below;

- Identifying policy issues, gaps and setting the agenda;

- Lobbying for representation and participation of SWIOTUNA/ members in the relevant marine/ fisheries policy processes.
- Monitoring the implementation and evaluating the impact of the marine and fisheries related policies, including adaptive management.
- Cultivating an understanding of the relevant policy processes including knowledge of the issues, actors and ultimate targets;
- Building capacity for NSAs to undertake relevant policy research (analysis and reviews);
- Training on identifying strategic opportunities for policy work and engagement;
- Facilitating lesson learning and sharing experiences on marine fisheries related issues including best practices regarding policy impacts.

### 2.2.3 Key achievements and Lesson learnt

In the policy change and practice arena, SWIOTUNA members have reported remarkable engagement with desirable results. These are highlighted below;

*The Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA)*



*Process;* The major milestone in the engagement of SWIOTUNA members is the active participation and influencing the outcome of the first Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA) that was held in Banjul, The Gambia in September 2010. The SWIOTUNA members presented a position paper to the CAMFA and most of the recommendations were integrated in the ministerial report. SWIOTUNA members prepared their position in a consultative meeting that was held in Dar in September 2010 with the support of WWF-Coastal East Africa (CEANI) and the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA). SWIOTUNA members lobbied for a structured framework for the Civil Society Organizations Engagement with the African Union (AU) Member States (MS).

The CAMFA was subsequently endorsed by the 18th Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State, in 2011, as the policy organ responsible for fisheries and aquaculture. SWIOTUNA members worked closely with the African Union in this process, in particular the InterAfrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) and the Nepad Agency.

*Formulation of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa;* The process of formulation of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture (PFRSFA) was initiated in 2012 following the Executive Council Decisions by the African Heads of States and Governments that adopted the Recommendations of the First Conference of Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA1) that was held in Gambia in 2010. This also builds on the gains made by the Partnership for African Fisheries (PAF) and the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries Investment fund, an initiative of AU-IBAR, World Bank, FAO and WWF.

SWIOTUNA members were actively involved and engaged in the development of the PFRSFA. They were integrated in the various technical working groups. They provided technical input to the drafting of the policy document besides participating in the Think Tank meetings that were held in several AU member states between 2012 and 2013. WWF, Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), CANCO, FishNet Africa, Apostles of the Sea

(Seychelles) played a key role in this process.

The Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture was adopted for implementation by the AU Summit (African Union Heads of States and Government) in 2014. The sole purpose of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa is to facilitate coherent policy development for the sustainable management of fisheries and aquaculture resources in the member states of the African union. The policy framework and reform strategy further provide opportunities for AU member states to optimize benefits from their natural resources by implementing the strategic reforms enunciated in the document.

As part of the implementation of the PFRSFA, African Union constituted several working groups, including those on Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) and governance, fish trade, Small-scale fisheries and aquaculture. SWIOTUNA members were represented in all the working groups. Further, SWIOTUNA members play a crucial role in establishing a network of Non-State Actors (NSA) in the AU regions,

namely the Eastern African, the Southern African Region.



High level fisheries and aquaculture meeting at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

### *Advancing the Sustainable Blue Economy agenda*

African is endowed with diverse natural resources including ocean, sea and inland waters (lakes, rivers and reservoirs) which provide significant socio-economic benefits to the people on the continent including food and nutritional security, wealth creation and employment opportunities. However, the resources of the oceans and inland waters are under facing various threats hence their ability to offer goods and services are seriously getting impaired. SWIOTUNA members continued to advocate for sustainable use and

management of the blue economy sectors. To this end, Civil Society Organizations under SWIOTUNA have participated effectively various aimed at promoting sustainable blue growth pathways.

***Sustainable Blue Economy Conference:***

The first ever International Sustainable Blue Economy Conference was held in Nairobi in November 2018 where over 11,000 participants were in attendance. SWIOTUNA mobilized her members where they influenced the agenda and programme for the conference as well as the outcomes. The conference organizers initially comprised of government agencies, however with the interventions of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) such as WWF, CANCO and KANCO, NSA were incorporated in the various conference working committees. Further, the organizers recognized the need to have a dedicated session for the CSOs.

The focus of the conference was to harnesses the potential of oceans, seas, lakes and rivers to improve the lives of people, particularly women, youth and Indigenous peoples in developing states and to leverage the latest innovations, scientific advances and best practices to

build prosperity while conserving our waters for future generations. Further, it provided the platform for strategic deliberations on promoting the productivity, inclusivity and the sustainability aspects of the resources of a sustainable blue economy in an integrated, balanced and holistic manner. It also recognized the crucial role of Non-State Actors (NSAs) in a sustainable and all-inclusive blue economy.

The conference identified 9 priority areas for scaling up productive and conservation activities including smart shipping, ports, transportation and global connectivity; employment, job creation and poverty eradication; cities, tourism, resilient coasts and infrastructure; sustainable energy, mineral resources and innovative industries; managing and sustaining marine life, conservation and sustainable economic activities; ending hunger, securing food supplies and promoting good health and sustainable fisheries; climate action, agriculture and fisheries, waste management and pollution-free oceans; maritime security, safety and regulatory enforcement, and People, culture, communities and societies – the inclusive blue economy. The CSO forum came up with a

declaration which formed part of the Conference outcomes. In the declaration, the CSOs called upon states to recognize their role and create opportunities for them to advance a sustainable blue growth pathway. The CSO and the private sector also showcased their work through the exhibition at the conference.



Some of the SWIOTUNA members attending the Sustainable Blue Economy Conference in Nairobi in November 2018

***Blueprint for Africa Blue Economy Strategy;*** The outcome of the first International Conference on Sustainable Blue Economy gave an impetus to African governments to explore opportunities to tap on the potential of oceans and inland waters. The benefits of oceans and inland waters under the Blue/ Ocean perspectives is envisioned in Goal No. 6 of the Agenda 2063. The

Policy Framework and Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa has also outlined measures aimed at promoting sustainable blue economy sectors including fisheries.

The Blueprint of Africa's Blue Economy Strategy which has been developed by the African Union is aimed at guiding sustainable development and utilization of Oceanic, fisheries and aquaculture resources in Africa. The development of the blueprint was spearheaded by the African Union through its Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (DARBE). The African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR), which is a technical office of the DARBE, was tasked with the responsibility of developing the Blueprint for Africa's Blue Economy. SWIOTUNA members including WWF, FishNet Africa and SANSFA were involved in this process including stakeholder consultations. The Blue print has the following key thematic areas; Fisheries, aquaculture, conservation and sustainable aquatic ecosystems; Shipping/transportation, Trade, ports, maritime security, safety and enforcement; Coastal and maritime tourism, climate change, resilience, environment, infrastructure; Sustainable Energy and Mineral Resources and



Innovative Industries, and Policies, institutional and Governance, Employment, Job Creation and Poverty Eradication, innovative financing.



SWIOTUNA represented at the Western Indian Ocean Marine Governance Framework planning workshop held in Seychelles in 2019

***Regional Minimum Terms for Granting Fisheries Access in the SWIO region;*** the process of developing regional MTC was initiated in 2012 with the support of WWF in collaboration with the African Union and the SWIOFC. The MTC were adopted by the SWIOFC member states during the 9<sup>th</sup> Session of the SWIOFC Commission held in October 2018 in Cape Town. The process of developing the SWIO regional fisheries MTC was

inspired by the desire for the Coastal states to derive more sustainable benefits from their shared EEZ tuna resources. The objective of these Guidelines is to establish a common access regime for the foreign fishing of tuna and tuna-like species in the SWIOFC Region with a view to; improving and generating sustainable economic benefits for the SWIOFC States; improving conservation and management of tuna and tuna-like species, including by-catch; and monitoring and controlling fishing activities more efficiently and effectively within the SWIO region. Experience over the years has shown that SWIO range states have limited capacity to negotiate with the Distant Water Fishing Nations for fair and equitable fisheries access arrangements. The agreements have not been fair, and their sustainability aspect is questionable. The SFPA are in favor of the Distant Water Fishing Nations. SWIOTUNA as an umbrella organization for the Civil Society Organizations in the SWIO region is keen to see the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC) member states derive more benefits from their shared tuna resources. In this space, SWIOTUNA has participated and organized capacity building workshop for its members, as well as advocating for the training of

government officers that are involved in negotiating for fisheries access arrangements. SWIOTUNA members received some training that was organized and supported by WWF SWIO regional fisheries programme which took place in Dar Es Salaam in August 2019. In December 2018, some senior government officers from Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar were trained on negotiating for fair fisheries access arrangements. The training was organized and supported by WWF. There was an acknowledgement from the participants that the training enhanced their knowledge and capacity on matters sustainable fisheries access arrangements.



Senior Government officers from Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar in a training seminar on negotiating for fair and sustainable fisheries access

arrangements held in Mombasa, Kenya in December 2018.

*National policy processes, communication and advocacy;* National CSOs alliances including TUFAC, TUNA, CNPE and FOSCAMC have been involved in the development and formulation of relevant policies and fishery specific management plans, namely tuna fisheries management strategies in Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar. TUFAC influenced and provided input to the development of the new fisheries world bank project in Kenya. In Tanzania, Kenya and Mozambique, TUNA, TUFAC and FOSCAMC helped in the revision of the national fisheries policies.

### 3 FUTURE OUTLOOK

Marine and biodiversity conservation in Africa, and indeed the SWIO region is facing a myriad of pressures and drivers, including over-harvesting of resources, large-scale agricultural development and expansion, unsustainable tourism, pollution, climate change and habitat degradation.

Scaling up of promising innovative conservation prototypes and solutions and implementation of effective policies and strategies is urgent. Funding for CSOs remains a challenge.

For CSOs to be more effective, more effort should be directed towards building the capacity of SWIOTUNA members on;

- i) Fundraising and resource mobilization to ensure sustainability of the civil society organizations and community led initiatives
- ii) Leadership and governance for improved management of Civil Society Organizations and other NSAs.
- iii) Shared lessons and knowledge management for uptake and adoption of best practices and technologies that are pro-poor
- iv) Upscaling of promising innovative community-based fisheries management prototypes and solutions for more impacts.

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