

Knowledge Fair @ARFSD2026

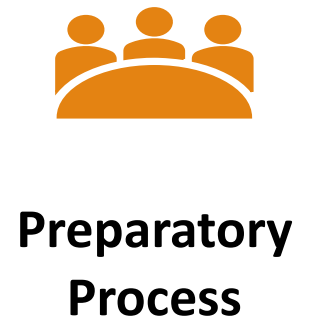
**THEME: TURNING THE TIDE: TRANSFORMATIVE AND COORDINATED ACTIONS FOR
THE 2030 AGENDA AND AGENDA 2063**

Technical Team Briefing

By KMSS
Mar 2026



Overview



Overall Objectives



Proactive engagement & open communication for feedback



Knowledge Fair - mechanism for knowledge sharing & exchange on achievements and lessons learnt - a wider audience

Specific Objectives



Showcase success stories and impact of ECA & UNDS at the national level.



Encourage active participation and collaboration among African countries and stakeholders to accelerate progress



Provide a platform to communicate key messages improving the flow of information and consequently the brand of ECA, UN.



Share innovative and sustainable solutions to overcome challenges, focusing on resilience and sustainability



Connect countries with similar dev. needs to collaborate and share ideas.

Expected Outcomes



FACILITATE THE EXCHANGE OF INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS, BEST PRACTICES, AND LESSONS LEARNED AMONG PARTICIPANTS TO ADDRESS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGE



FOSTER COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS AMONG VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING GOVERNMENTS, CIVIL SOCIETY, THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND RESEARCHERS



ECA, UNDS, MEMBER STATES ARE SHARING AND ENGAGING ON PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN PARTICIPATORY, FRIENDLY AND ENTERTAINING WAY

Event Format

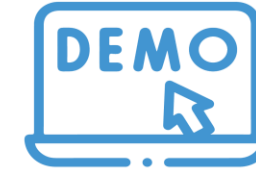
What

- Thematic Plenaries
- Knowledge booths
- Digital story telling
- Interviews with participants - dynamic & engaging
- Parallel sessions - in-depth reflections; Book talks, seminars, pitch competitions etc.
- Networking Lounges
- Live demonstrations

How:



Interactive videos



Demos



Posters



Designated sub-programme dates



Booth Walk-through

Exhibition materials:



White boards



Booth space



General screens



Totem screens

Knowledge Fair Format: Samples

Samples

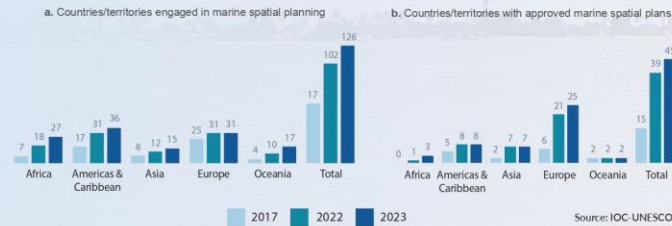


MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (MSP)

MSP is a public process of analyzing and allocating the spatial and temporal distribution of human activities in marine areas to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives that are usually specified through a political process.



IOC-UNESCO assessments about marine spatial planning status around the world



By the end of 2023, a total of 126 countries/territories were identified as engaged in MSP initiatives – an increase of 20% from the assessment completed for the 2022 Pilot State of Ocean report most notably in Africa and Oceania.

“National marine spatial planning efforts must be framed within regional and international contexts to tackle issues like marine pollution and climate change effectively. Advancing multisectoral objectives in MSP requires stronger advocacy, coordinated action, and sustained political leadership.”

– Julian Barbrière,
Head of Marine Policy and Regional
Coordination Section, UNESCO-IOC

“With nearly 3,500 kilometers of coastline, Morocco is resolutely oriented toward the sea—a geostrategic advantage that offers significant biological, mineral, and energy resources, making maritime spatial planning a vital national priority.”

– Salim Lahsini,
Chef du Département Gestion, Planification et Patrimoine
Minier à l’Office National des Hydrocarbures et des Mines

IMPACT

Developed Regional Framework for MSP in the Western Indian Ocean



The development of MSP Rapid Assessment for Benin, Togo, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire in progress



Conceptual Framework for Implementing Marine Spatial Planning in the Mediterranean



Support to MSP global transboundary pilot in the Gulf of Guinea



14 LIFE BELOW WATER



DRIVING BLUE ECONOMY-LED INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AFRICA

ECA supports EAC on a Regional Blue Economy Strategy and Action Plan, and assists Seychelles in an activation of the potential of MSMEs in the Blue Economy sector.

“La formation sur l'économie bleue va permettre de mieux comprendre cette notion que nous ne connaissons pas bien ici ...Comment nous devons capitaliser sur nos lacs, rivières...L'économie bleue nous donne un nouveau secteur à exploiter. Les activités potentielles sont l'aquaculture, les énergies renouvelables ainsi que le tourisme bleu...”

-DRC, John Manteke, Point Focale de l'Economie Bleue et Chef de Division Ministère de l'Environnement

We are delighted to have a Blue Economy Strategy and Action Plan for East Africa. This comprehensive framework will enable us to harmonize national priorities and leverage marine resources to stimulate job creation and income generation.

-Jean Baptiste Havugimana, Director of Productive Sector of East African Community Secretariat



Of the 8 EAC member states, 5 have a National Blue Economy Strategy. DRC, Burundi, and Rwanda are those which do not have a strategy yet.



804 aquatic and terrestrial protected areas
Seven of the EAC member states (excluding DRC), altogether have 804 aquatic and terrestrial protected areas.

64 million acres of protected areas
11 percent (64 million acres) of DRC's national territory constitute protected areas.

2932.57km² of marine protected areas
Kenya and Tanzania alone have 2932.57km² of marine protected areas, constituting of marine parks and reserves.

27.4% OF GDP IN 2020
For Seychelles, this corresponds to US\$433 million in value-added. 37% of this VA comes from accommodation and food service activities.

41% OF TOTAL EMPLOYMENT
However, BE jobs contribute only 8.3% of total national wages (or US\$140 million).



Sidewalls

YOUNG WOMEN LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION

UNICEF and UNFPA work to empower girls and women, and to ensure their full participation in political, social, and economic systems.

162,044

girls aged 1 to 14 years were protected from undergoing FGM through community-level surveillance systems

817,529

women and girls have initiated conversations on FGM elimination and/or advocate for abandonment of the practice

66,015,838

individuals (boys, girls, women and men) reached through mass media messaging on FGM, women's and girls' rights, and gender equality

1,361,220

people made public declarations to abandon FGM

2,315

communities established surveillance systems to protect girls from being subjected to FGM

“Being able to read the training manuals as an assistant mentor enabled me to read more notes and I now talk to my fellow friends about the dangers of FGM.”

Phenomena, ELA Club Member

UNFPA/UNICEF Joint Programme to End Female Genital Mutilation

“Despite the risk of being cast out and rejected, I refused to give in, and through the club, I found the courage to fight this vice and transform my life.”



Phenomena, ELA Club Member

Uganda is on track to achieve 2030 FGM indicators. Uganda has reduced FGM prevalence by 0.2%. FGM is practiced in the eastern part of the country among the Sabiny in the Sebei region and the Pokot, Kadam, and Tepeth, in the Karamoja region; where over 42,000 girls and women 15-49 years old are at risk of FGM by 2030. District-level rates range from 13% in Kapchorwa District to 52% in Moroto District.



ILO-SUPPORTED WORKPLACE CHILDCARE: EMPOWERING WOMEN IN ETHIOPIA



How workplace childcare facilities at Yirgalem Addis Textile Factory and Ethio-Impact Garment Factory are transforming lives and supporting SDGs 3, 5, and 8.

The ILO project "Promoting Workers' Rights and Gender Equality in Africa," funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, advanced care solutions in the garment sector and supported key care conventions in Ethiopia. It organized capacity-building for government officials and labour inspectors and held workshops on maternity protection, labour law, and collective bargaining with the Confederation of Ethiopian Employers' Association (CEEA) and the Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions (CETU). In collaboration with Partnership for Change (PfC), a Care@Work training manual was developed and piloted, training 216 workers and employers across four factories on care-related topics.

The enterprise also benefits from this because experienced workers can stay in their jobs. They do not leave because they lack childcare.

Worker from garment factory



According to ILO research conducted in 12 garment factories in Ethiopia

- Nearly half of workers said that between one and ten employees in their factory had resigned due to pregnancy or childcare responsibilities.
- Most of the factories in the study (8 of 12) did not provide workplace childcare services, leading to higher rates of absenteeism, with workers in these factories being more likely to take sick leave to deal with family responsibilities than workers in factories with childcare services.

"I am a witness to how these facilities can change lives. It is very important for mothers to get back to work. It's not just to earn money and afford necessities. It also reduces stress when you are able to provide enough for yourself and your family."

Worker from garment factory



SideWalls

STRENGTHENED POLICY COHERENCE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE 2030 AGENDA AND AGENDA 2063 IN AFRICA



Capacity Building Initiative for providing diagnostic self-assessment and national Dialogue of Policy Coherence to accelerate the Implementation and monitoring of Agenda 2063 and SDGs in tandem.

200 national experts capacitated

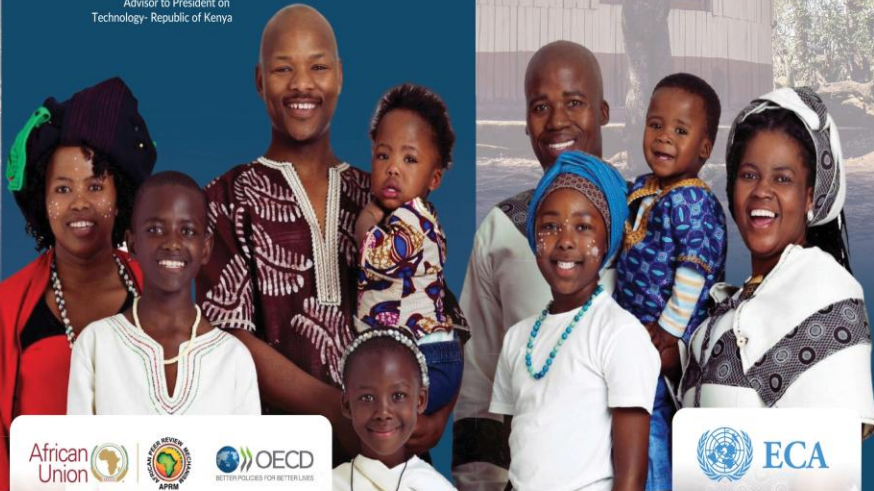
The overall assessment of the APRM-OECD Policy Coherence Toolkit showed that:

- All African countries that benefited from the program have strong political commitment towards Agenda 2030 more than Agenda 2063.

The Role of APRM national structures is quite significant to lead Policy coherence and ensure integration of APRM National Plans of Action into NDPs along with global and continental development agendas.

"This workshop is very timely to the extent that we are in the middle of this stable development goals, but also, we are just coming out of a of the COVID-19 pandemic. The idea of policy coherence is quite critical at this time as we are looking to accelerate implementation of various agendas"

Ambassador Philip Thiao,
Advisor to President on
Technology- Republic of Kenya



Poverty, vulnerability and inequality in Namibia: an estimation of recent trends



ECA-Namibia Joint Project on Poverty, Vulnerability and Inequality



Since Namibia's last household survey was conducted in 2015, the country lacked current data reflecting the impact of recent economic shocks and dynamics. ECA in partnership with Namibia's National Planning Commission conducted a study to generate new poverty, vulnerability, and inequality estimates in Namibia using the imputed elasticity approach.


Up-to-date data is essential for ECA member States to develop effective policies to reduce poverty, vulnerability, and inequality.




TRACKING PROGRESS OF SDG 3 IN THE AFRICAN REGION, GLOBAL ACTION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

The SDG3 Global Action Plan (GAP) in Africa is driving innovative community health strategies and digital health solutions to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 3 while supporting broader development goals in Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063.


Africa has witnessed remarkable progress in improving the health and wellbeing of populations along the life course using people-centered resilient health systems

 Piloted a Rapid Mortality Surveillance (RMS) system, leading to over 31,000 death notifications in 2022, 60% of which came from community-level sources, significantly improving mortality tracking.

 CRVS strengthening program has facilitated faster birth and death registration, enabling marginalized populations to access legal identity and social services.

 Under-five mortality fell from 97 per 1,000 live births in 2011 to 60 in 2023, and maternal mortality declined from 532 per 100,000 in 2000 to 127 in 2020 due to the strengthened Community Health Strategy (CHS).

 Institutionalized Community Health Workers (CHWs), creating thousands of sustainable health sector jobs, many occupied by women, contributing to SDG5 (Gender Equality) and SDG8 (Decent Work & Economic Growth).

 Over 4 million previously unreached children received vaccines between 2021 and 2023 through the zero-dose immunization program, reducing disparities in immunization coverage.

 Engaged private health providers and telecom companies, enhancing vaccine supply chains and health communication strategies.

 Developed a National Health Information Exchange (HIE) platform, integrating electronic health records, civil registration, and statistical data to track progress on health-related SDGs in real-time.

 Public-private partnerships in Rwanda have helped develop data platforms, digital health infrastructure, and AI-driven analytics for healthcare improvement.



www.who.int



Stories selection criteria

- Relevance to Themes
- Joint programmes/joint delivery with other ECA SPs/UNDS/OIBCs
- Highlight sustainable practices and long-term benefits, aligning with the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. (SDG: 6,7,9,11,17)
- Demonstrating results at country level in collaboration with UNCT/OIBCs
- Address local and regional challenges, providing context-specific solutions.
- Stories supported by data and evidence, highlighting measurable outcomes and successes.
- Stories should represent diverse perspectives and include voices from different private sectors. Sharing best practices and lessons learned from private sector-led projects.

- **Organization - establishment of Steering Committees**
 - **Advisory Committee – SLT, SPORD**
 - **Technical Committee – ACMD, CFND & Subprogramme Reps, UN Systems**
 - **Operations Committees –KMSS/Vendor/**

- **Structure**
 - **Physical**
 - **Exhibitions - live**
 - **Plenary Sessions**
 - **Live stream**

- **Content development**
 - **Coverage period**
 - **Formats of expression and presentation - presentations, posters, videos, podcasts, ill. & animation**

■ Road Map

- Development of a concept note & task brief
- Define Roles & Responsibilities
- Development of guidelines for participation
- Operationalization (4 weeks to deliver)

■ Engagement

- Awareness campaign / Participation call ...
- Presentations @ the SLT, Policy & Programme dialogue & Divisions/SROs/IDEP/UN Community
- Technical consultations with sub-programmes on the WHAT, WHO, HOW & WHY
- Task Team meetings
- 1-on-1 consultations

■ Resources

- (Budget) - Exhibition materials, Content development

Preparatory Process (Cont.)

Operational Teams

1. **Advisory Team:** Will constitute of **the Senior Management:** - *to guide the progress*
2. **Operations Team:** Will constitute of members **KMSS, SPORD, CFND:** *to brainstorm and provide strategic direction on the HOW, WHY, WHAT and WHEN of the Knowledge Fair*
1. **Technical Teams:** Will constitute of the following
 - a. **ECA Subprogramme, UNDS, UNCT**– leading in the development of the exhibition content from the various exhibitors and engage with the Technical Team for guidance
 - b. **KMSS/Vendor (content development)** - guide the content development,
 - c. **ACMD teams** - guide and operationalise the Knowledge Fair format (Booths, Screens, etc.) and guide/advise on the content development (videos, animation, posters etc.)

The ASK.....

Knowledge Fair@ARFSD2025 date (28th – 30th April 2026)

- **Nominate focal points (Agencies, UNCT, ECA Subprogrammes, OIBCs)**
- **Operations team to organize inception meetings with various groups**
- **Technical Teams develop content to be exhibited**
- **SP teams actively engage with the Operations team**
- **Ownership of the Booth at the Knowledge Fair**

Participants

Envisaged participants:

- **ECA (+SROs/IDEP)**
- **UN Agencies**
- **Private Sectors**
- **Inter-Governmental Organizations**
- **Government Officials**
- **AUC, AfDB etc.**
- **Member States representatives (Diplomatic Community)**
- **Donors & Partners**