

Effective marine and coastal conservation in Africa through demand-driven marine research, international partnerships and improved science-policy exchange

Focus Group

IMCC6, 21 August 2020, 11:00-13:00 (UTC)

Organizers and Co-hosts:

- Anke Schneider, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Bonn, Germany
- Hauke Kegler and Hauke Reuter, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Bremen, Germany
- Matthias Wolff and Paul Tuda, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Bremen, Germany
- Kira Gee and Andreas Kannen, Helmholtz Centre Geesthacht (HZG), Geesthacht, Germany
- André Freiwald, Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN) - Senckenberg am Meer, Wilhelmshaven, Germany

Description:

This Focus Group aims at sharing experiences and expertise for improved knowledge generation and science-policy transfer in the field of marine and coastal conservation in Africa. We seek to bring together scientific and non-scientific actors to learn from each other and discuss the needs, challenges and successes of ocean and coastal conservation in Africa to achieve SDG14 and the Agenda 2030, as well as to improve the conditions for knowledge- and science-based policy-making.

The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ, German Agency for International Cooperation) will shortly introduce the initiative “MeerWissen – African-German Partners for Ocean Knowledge” (www.meerwissen.org) of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and a range of MeerWissen partnerships projects will be presented in a vivid “Science-Espresso”. The main part of the session will showcase five best practice examples for the effective conservation and sustainable use of African coastal resources from Tanzania and Kenya to the Atlantic upwelling regions. These presentations will cover ecosystem-based fisheries management, an educational concept for ship-board training, the role of women in climate adaptation policies, blue carbon systems and their contribution to communities and national development plans, and. Finally, a moderated discussion on science-policy uptake in Africa, beginning with a short introduction to a recently published report on effective science to policy interaction in the Western Indian Ocean Region, will give all participants the possibility to share experiences, raise questions and provide insights to their work in this regard.

Anticipated outputs are strengthened alliances between science and beyond as well as the promotion of innovative concepts and ways of cooperation to bridge the science-policy gap and support implementation of ocean-related SDGs in Africa.

The focus group is organized and co-hosted by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT), Helmholtz Centre Geesthacht (HZG) and Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung (SGN) - Senckenberg am Meer.

Agenda:

11:00 – 11:10	Welcome and introduction to MeerWissen – African-German Partners for Ocean Knowledge (Anke Schneider)
11:10 – 11:25	<p>“MeerWissen-Project Espresso” (each 1 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting sustainable fishing in East Africa--- the FIDEA Project (Matthias Wolff) • Taking the Pulse of the Ocean (Eva-Maria Brodte) • Seaweed for climate change resilient blue economies, biodiversity and ecosystem services in Senegal and West Africa “the CLIMALG-SN project” (Birgit Quack) • Developing a coastal ecosystem monitoring programme from scratch – a co-design and co-production showcase from Cabo Verde (Björn Fiedler) • NeDiT - Data Linking People (Hauke Kegler) • West African Biodiversity under Pressure (André Freiwald) • CoastWise - Improving knowledge for integrated management of the land-sea interface in South Africa (Kira Gee)
11:25 – 11:30	Questions
11:30 – 12:25	<p>Best-practice examples (each 8 + 3 min questions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting Ecosystems Based Management for Fisheries in Atlantic Upwelling Regions (AtlantOS use case) (Jörn Schmidt) • Bridging the science-policy gap: mainstreaming blue carbon stock assessments into national development plans at the example of Lamu, Kenya (James Kairo) • From shore to open sea: a vessel size adapted educational concept for ship board training (Eva Brodte) • Strengthening Blue Carbon Ecosystems Conservation and Community Livelihood through Carbon Credit Schemes: Insights from Mikoko Pamoja Community Based Carbon Offsetting Project in Kenya (Gabriel Juma) • Interventions in Gender-Blind Climate Change: Rethinking Climate Adaptation Policies through Women’s Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Tanzania (Betsy Beymer-Farris)
12:25 – 12:55	<p>Discussion on Science-Policy Uptake (Moderator: Alex Benkenstein)</p> <p>Scientists are increasingly engaged in supporting policy uptake of their work. Whether this engagement emerges from personal conviction or external pressures, the discussion is increasingly moving beyond whether scientists should be concerned with the policy uptake of their work and instead now focusing on how this can best be achieved. Alex Benkenstein has gotten to the bottom of these questions. He will shortly present his work with a focus on the Western Indian Ocean Region and then facilitate a discussion with all participants on science-policy uptake in Africa.</p>
12:55 – 13:00	Final remarks

List of presentations and authors:

1. **Discussion on Science-Policy Uptake**
Speaker and moderator: Alex Benkenstein, Head of the Governance of Africa's Resources programme at the South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa
2. **Interventions in Gender-Blind Climate Change: Rethinking Climate Adaptation Policies through Women's Traditional Ecological Knowledge in Tanzania:**
Speaker: Betsy Beymer-Farris, University of Kentucky, USA
3. **Strengthening Blue Carbon Ecosystems Conservation and Community Livelihood through Carbon Credit Schemes: Insights from Mikoko Pamoja Community Based Carbon Offsetting Project in Kenya**
Speaker: Gabriel Juma, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Kenya
Co-Authors: Anne Kamau, Pwani University, Kenya; James Kairo, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Kenya
4. **From shore to open sea: a vessel size adapted educational concept for ship board training**
Speaker: Eva Brodte, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Germany
Co-Author: Karen Wiltshire, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Germany
5. **Bridging the science-policy gap: mainstreaming blue carbon stock assessments into national development plans at the example of Lamu, Kenya**
Speaker: James Kairo, Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute, Kenya
Co-Author: Anouk Neuhaus, WWF Germany
6. **Supporting Ecosystems Based Management for Fisheries in Atlantic Upwelling Regions (AtlantOS use case)**
Speaker: Jörn Schmidt, Kiel Marine Science at Kiel University, Germany
Co-Authors: Tarron Lamont, Oceans and Coasts - Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa; Carl van der Lingen, Oceans and Coasts - Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries, South Africa; Steffen M. Olsen, Danish Meteorological Institute, Denmark; Sandra Ketelhake, KDM German Marine Research Consortium, Belgium
7. **Supporting sustainable fishing in East Africa--- the FIDEA Project**
Speaker: Matthias Wolff, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Germany
Co-Author: Paul Tuda, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Germany
8. **Taking the Pulse of the Ocean**
Speaker: Eva-Maria Brodte, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Germany
Co-Authors: Baye Cheikh Mbaye, Institut de la Mer de Villefranche, France; Ibrahima Camara, Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar, Senegal; Saidou Sall, Laboratoire de Physique de l'Atmosphère et de l'Océan-Siméon Fongang, Senegal; Karen Helen Wiltshire, Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research, Germany
9. **Seaweed for climate change resilient blue economies, biodiversity and ecosystem services in Senegal and West Africa "the CLIMALG-SN project"**
Speaker: Birgit Quack, GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany
Co-Authors: Hamet Diadiou, Institut Sénégalais de Recherche Agricole, Centre de Recherche Océanographique de Dakar Thiaroye, Senegal; Waly Ndiaye, Institut Sénégalais de Recherche Agricole, Centre de Recherche Océanographique de Dakar Thiaroye, Senegal; Florian Weinberger, GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany; Patrice Brehmer, IRD, Univ. Brest, CNRS, Ifremer, LEMAR, France

10. Developing a coastal ecosystem monitoring programme from scratch – a co-design and co-production showcase from Cabo Verde

Speaker: Björn Fiedler, GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany

Co-Authors: Corrine Almeida, Universidade Técnica do Atlântico, Cape Verde; Vito Ramos Instituto do Mar, Cape Verde; Jörn Schmidt, Kiel Marine Science at Kiel University, Germany; Heino Fock, Thünen Institute of Sea Fisheries, Germany; Carlos Santos, GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany; Cordula Zenk, GEOMAR - Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Germany

11. NeDiT - Data Linking People

Speaker: Hauke Kegler, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Germany

Co-Authors: Hauke Reuter, Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research, Germany

12. West African Biodiversity under Pressure

Speaker: André Freiwald, Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung - Senckenberg am Meer, Wilhelmshaven, Germany

Co-Authors:

13. COASTWISE - Improving knowledge for integrated management of the land-sea interface in South Africa

Speaker: Kira Gee, Helmholtz Centre Geesthacht, Germany

Co-Authors: Andreas Kannen, Helmholtz Centre Geesthacht, Germany

14. MeerWissen – African-German Partners for Ocean Knowledge

Speaker: Anke Schneider, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, Germany