

IMPACTS AND SUCCESSSES

In the areas of development of new cooperation, contribution to networking, scientific or development programmes and influence on policy decisions, some concrete results have been achieved:

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NEW COOPERATION

New cooperation refer to attraction of new partners, establishment of networks, close cooperation and the establishment of working groups.

Example FIDEA:

The MeerWissen project FIDEA has successfully linked policy makers and research institutes within the fishery sector with the support of regional and international partnerships, such as the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Linking with the FAO enabled the project partners to conduct an extensive review of the fisheries information system in Tanzania, Zanzibar and Mozambique and gave the opportunity for the countries in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO) Region to review and submit their first report on the progress towards SDG 14.4.1. Through this process, FIDEA worked closely with the FAO to facilitate communication and coordination at the national level between research and management institutions on technical matters relevant to SDG 14.4.

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CONTRIBUTION TO NETWORKING, SCIENTIFIC OR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

Contributions to networking, scientific or development programs refer to research collaborations, regional trainings, dissemination of audio-visual materials in the regional network, data handling, knowledge sharing and improvements in national monitoring systems and institutional frameworks.

Example WIOGEN:

To engage with a wide range of stakeholders, the Western Indian Ocean Governance Exchange network (WIOGEN) reached out to researchers and policy makers in established professional networks to encourage them to join WIOGEN. WIOGEN has managed to fund four network exchanges of WIOGEN members to workshops and conferences of partner organizations, for example Small-Scale Fisheries including local actors, such as fishermen, fish traders, community conservation groups and civil society members, and the African dialogue on Ocean Accounting. The WIOGEN co-leads brought the network fully into the digital sphere, staging six virtual trainings and webinars on issues such as science communication via social media, producing policy briefs, stakeholder engagement, and ocean accounts.

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IMPACT AND INFLUENCE ON POLICY-MAKING

Impact and influence on policy-making refer to platforms for policy makers, harmonized information system, ocean governance strategy, integrated and ecosystem-based management approach, joint working group on information exchange, regional consultations on biodiversity data, international workshop on data sharing and environmental monitoring.

Example NeDiT:

The MeerWissen project "New Digital Technologies for Marine Biodiversity Data Handling in East Africa – Data Linking People" (NeDiT) has successfully improved the specificity and resolution of marine biodiversity data in East Africa. More than 3300 species have been collated in a database which is made available to policy-makers in Tanzania and potentially the wider Western Indian Ocean (WIO) region. NeDiT impacted the Nairobi Convention by submitting a publication on biodiversity data handling to the Nairobi Convention Science-Policy Paper Series. This has resulted in a draft of an information management strategy for the WIO region under the Western Indian Ocean Governance Initiative following the Nairobi Convention CoP decision 10.5.



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