

Management Response: Implementation Plan for Evaluation Recommendations

General Information

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Evaluation Manager	Stephen Baguma
Project Evaluation Title	Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme for the protection of the Western Indian Ocean from land-based sources and activities (WIO-SAP)
PIMS #	
GEF ID	4940
UNEP Sub-programme	Healthy and productive ecosystems
GEF Focal Area	International Waters
Project Manager/ Task Manager	Kaisa Uusimaa
Office/Division	Ecosystems Division
Branch & Unit	Marine and Fresh Water Branch
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Implementation Plan Sent to PM/TM (Date)	19/05/2025
Implementation Plan Returned by PM/TM (Date)	17/06/2025
Implementation Plan finalized (if different from the date above)	00/00/00

Implementation Plan

No	Challenge/problem to be addressed by the recommendation	Recommendation	Priority level	Type of Recommendation	Responsibility	Proposed Implementation time-frame	Acceptance	Reason if not Accepted or Partially Accepted	Management Action(s) to be taken
1	The main barrier to the ratification of the ICZM and LBSA protocols and the use of tools developed under WIOSAP was linked to the lack of capacity, inadequate institutional setups and the lack of sensitisation of policy makers about the protection of coastal and riverine environments in countries of the West Indian Ocean (WIO)	Future projects should increase focus on capacity building, the sensitisation of policy makers and the development of adequate institutional setups at national level throughout the WIO.	Important	Project/Partners	Governments with UNEP and NCS Support	When developing or implementing new projects	Partially Accepted	While the focus here is on ratification, the project also supported finalization of the ICZM Protocol negotiations, which was adopted in September 2023. Ratification processes	1. Ratification captured in the new Work Programme (2025-2028) of the Convention under the Ocean Governance Component to ensure sustained effort. 2. Convention will recruit a Policy Officer to lead on policy formulation and implementation including ratification of Protocols of the Convention. 3. Financial support to

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								take time, which is often beyond project timelines. One Contracting Party has ratified and working with others to ratify. Five more will ratify before it becomes operational.	countries depending on need for national level consultation processes. 4. Preparing country briefs to make a business case why ratification of the ICZM protocol is important.
2	Some of the civil engineering works carried out and financed under the WIOLAB project such as constructed wetlands did not perform properly, requiring additional funding under the WIOSAP project. Moreover, the lack of capacity and equipment in water quality monitoring was a limitation to the successful delivery of certain Outputs.	Future projects should include support staff and resources as well as equipment covering project management, engineering, quantity surveying, maintenance monitoring and other specialised support to ensure the optimal use of financial resources and the successful delivery of outputs.	Critical	Project	UNEP with NCS and Government Support	When developing or implementing new projects	Accepted	Constructed wetlands are technical in terms of the science for water quality monitoring and especially the engineering designs. The project ensured expertise was hired and availed for the Kenya and Zanzibar projects; also executed a regional constructed wetlands training and regional case studies book on constructed wetlands being finalized by	Project: 1. Set up a regional Task Force on water quality in 2018 for shared learning; 2. Conducted a regional training on constructed wetlands and facilitated exchange programmes in 2019; 3. Developed a Strategic Framework for Coastal and Marine Water Quality Monitoring and Guidelines for setting Water and Sediment Quality Targets, both of which were adopted at the 11th COP of the Convention in August of 2024; 4. Supported a regional water training based on the framework in April 2024; 5. Supported 5 countries to develop National Water Quality Frameworks based on the regional framework; and 6. Developed a Toolkit for Sustainable Port

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								one of the project partners.	Development in Blue Economy (also addressing water quality), which was adopted at the 11th COP.
3	The specialised aspect of Eflow assessments has limited the replication of the approach throughout the region.	Limitations in technical capacity linked to the specialised aspect of certain interventions should be considered at project design stage.	Opportunity for improvement	UNEP-wide	UNEP with NCS Support	At project design stage.	Accepted		1. Setting up a Community of Practice on Source to Sea (includes Environmental Flow Assessments) by Dec 2025 for continuous shared learning.