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== UNITED NATIONS ==
OCEAN
CONFERENCE

LISBON
27 JUNE -
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2022 United Nations Ocean Conference Side Event

Advancing the Blue Economy in Kenya: innovation in economic growth through value chains strengthening, integrated land-sea planning and management and maritime security, in an inclusive, participatory and sustainable manner.

28 June 2022, 13.00h to 14.15h, Lisbon time, Virtual Event

Organized by: Camões — Instituto da Cooperação e da Língua, I. P.; Expertise France - Agence Française de Développement Group; Italian Agency for Development Cooperation; The Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH; UN-Habitat/UNEP

Background on the event (one paragraph)

Recognising the socio-economic potential of blue economy within the Kenyan coast, the [Go Blue Kenya](#) Project hosted a virtual side event that provided an opportunity to discuss how innovations in the blue economy can unlock the full economic possibilities of coastal and marine resources while protecting these resources for intra and inter-generational benefit. The Go Blue Kenya project is a partnership between the European Union (EU) and the Government of Kenya to advance the blue economy agenda in Kenya through coastal development in Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Tana River and Lamu counties.

Key Issues discussed (5- 8 bullet points)

- Maritime security and marine resource protection as an essential component in promoting and advancing the blue economy on Kenya's coast

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- Offshore fishing, improved fishing vessels and easing pressure on traditional fishing grounds
- Essence of public-private collaboration in advancing blue economy
- Integrated land-sea planning
- Skills development on blue economy especially on sustainable use of marine resources
- Sustainable tourism
- Expansion of the small-scale blue carbon project in coastal Kenya

Key recommendations for action (5 - 6 bullet points)

- Development of a National Maritime Spatial Plan (NMSP) that encompasses all water bodies.
- Enabling access to improved fishing vessels for offshore fishing to improve fish catch, ease pressure on traditional fishing grounds and reduce environmental degradation
- Grow tourism in ways that promote participatory and inclusive governance, especially among the indigenous coastal communities whose cultural assets and livelihoods are directly affected by tourism activities
- Strengthening skills development for youth and women to realise the full potential of the blue economy at all levels of the value chains, particularly at the grassroots level
- Establishment of an integrated land-sea planning framework to support coastal counties

Watch the full discussion [HERE](#)

Voluntary Commitments (one paragraph)

N/A

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