The Blue View: Opportunities and Challenges for the Blue Economy

27 August 2020
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2:00 PM - 2:05 PM  Opening Remarks
Dr Nicholas Hardman-Mountford, Head of Oceans & Natural Resources, Commonwealth Secretariat

2:05 PM - 2:10 PM  Special Address from the Blue Charter Action Group Champion for Sustainable Blue Economy
Prof. Micheni Japhet Ntiba, Principal Secretary for the State Department for Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy, Kenya

2:10 PM - 2:30 PM  Presentations by the Speakers
Dr Rachel Boschen-Rose, Senior Project Officer, Seascape Consultants, UK
Ms Angelique Pouponneau, CEO of SeyCCAT, The Republic of Seychelles
Dr Bernadette Snow, Director of the Institute for Coastal and Marine Research and Lecturer in Department for Development Studies at Nelson Mandela University, South African Coordinator for One Ocean Hub, South Africa
Prof Hennie Van As, Director of the Centre for Law in Action at Nelson Mandela University, Researcher for One Ocean Hub, South Africa

2:30 PM - 2:55 PM  Question & Answers

2:55 PM - 3:00 PM  Concluding Remarks
Opportunities and Challenges for the Blue Economies of Commonwealth Countries

Dr Rachel Boschen-Rose

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Importance of the Blue Economy

**Blue Economy**: The sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and ocean ecosystem health.

Global Blue Economy could grow to more than **$3 trillion** providing more than **40 million jobs** worldwide by 2030 (OECD 2016)

Blue Economy Opportunities

Sustainable growth of the Blue Economy (Blue Growth) could improve quality of life and reduce environmental degradation in Commonwealth countries:

- Sustainable economic development
- Food security
- Energy security
- Medical advances
- Conservation of biodiversity
- Mitigating climate change
Continued sustainable Blue Growth presents **multiple challenges**:

- Suitable policy frameworks
- Fostering investment
- Spatial planning
- Managing environmental impacts
- Protecting cultural heritage
- Cross-border collaboration
- Benefit sharing
Overview prepared of 30+ online training courses, materials and additional information sources on key Blue Economy topics:

- **Introduction to the Blue Economy**
- Developing **over-arching policy frameworks**
- Opportunities for **innovative financing**
- Best practices and methodologies for **Marine Spatial Planning** and Integrated Coastal Zone Management
- **Stakeholder dialogue** best practice and bottom-up approaches to resource and environmental management
Blue Economy Case Studies

Series of Case Studies prepared to illustrate some of the successes and lessons learned under four key themes:

- **Innovative Financing**: Seychelles debt-for-conservation swap, SeyCCAT and Blue Bonds Plan
- **Blue Economy Governance Framework**: South Africa’s Operation Phakisa
- **Marine Spatial Planning**: European Marine Spatial Planning platform
- **Stakeholder engagement**: Madagascar Health-Environment approach
SeyCCAT is...

- A world first, capitalised with blended proceeds from a US$21.6M debt restructuring, enabling the Government of Seychelles with its MSP policy.

- And now the US$3 million of the blue bonds.

- Independent, public-private trust, legally established under its own Act (2015).

- Governed by a Board of Directors, and Finance and Grants committees.

- Committed to developing strong and lasting creative collaborations.

- Managing various long-term (20 years) cash flows:
  1. To repay the Impact Investor
  2. To distribute funds via our Blue Grants Fund
  3. To capitalise our Blue Endowment Fund

- A vehicle to sustainably flow funds to support our five strategic objectives.
Benefits to Government

Summary of key benefits to the Government

**Redirection of external debt service**
- To investments in country: upwards of **US$11 M (over 20 years)**
  - With two thirds of this payable in local currency

**Improved Fiscal Space**
- Extended maturities on **$21.6 M** of debt from 8 years to **13 year average**

**Government entities eligible to apply for funding from SeyCCAT**
Outcomes from Seychelles Swap

VIA LOAN OF US$15.2 MILLION (IMPACT CAPITAL) AND US$5 MILLION IN GRANTS:

- 400,000 sq. km of new MPAs in the Seychelles, half no-take fish replenishment reserves, based on MSP
- New/revised CZM, fisheries, and marine policies, based on MSP
- $8.6 million for marine and climate adaptation work (over 20 years)
- Capitalize $6.6 million endowment
Results of Blue Innovative financing

US$ 700,000 available ANNUALLY as grants financing for projects supporting ocean conservation and climate adaptation projects. (Administered by SeyCCAT)

US$ 12 million available as loans at 4% interest rates compared to commercial interest rate is 12-13%. (Administered by the Development Bank of Seychelles)
Operation Phakisa: Growing the Blue Economy

South African Case Study
OCEANS ECONOMY IMPACT

Operation Phakisa: Oceans Economy commenced with operational work after the October 2014 launch. Overall progress to date for directly funded Oceans Economy projects impacts includes:

- Government has unlocked investments amounting to approximately R 29.4 billion in the Oceans Economy.
- Over 7,093 jobs have been created in the various sectors.

- Aquaculture
- Governance and Protection
- Skills development

Location associated with Initiatives:
- Nonoti Beach Resorts
- Durban City Marathon
- Durban Cruise
- Port St Johns Beach Development
- Port Elizabeth Cruise
- Monwabisi Recreational Node
- Cape Town Cruise
- Volvo Ocean Race

The Indi-Atlantic route unifies the coastline while celebrating the diverse CMT activities available.
Enablers and Challenges

Enablers
- Provided opportunities and platforms for conversation
- Research opportunities
- Policy formulation (MSPA & Aquaculture Bill)
- Releases funds for development and skills training
- Leadership role
- Partnerships

Challenges
- Blue growth agenda at all costs
- Economic measures (GDP/GVA/etc)
- Top down
- Growing inequality
- Sectoral power and agency challenges
- Foresight
- State Capture/Corruption
- No umbrella Act
- Policy Coherence
- Rushed
To combat fisheries crime in developing countries by building expertise

FishFORCE

Training  PTS  Research
Training

Non-Formal
- Basic
- Advanced
- Skills (OP)

Formal
- HC
- Dip
- Adv Dip
- PG Dip
COUNTRY REACH

- Namibia
- Mozambique
- Tanzania
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Seychelles
- Mauritius
- SADC

OPERATION PHAKISA

- Membership of Initiative 5
- Nomination of agencies and attendees
- Inter-agency and cross-border
- Feedback and reporting by FishFORCE
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The Commonwealth

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