### Mapping OA Monitoring and Research Recommendations to Policy in the WIO May 19 8:00am GMT 11:00am East Africa Time



# Join Zoom Meeting

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The OA Alliance is partnering with the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (<u>WIOMSA</u>) on a project that will contribute towards enhancing ocean acidification (OA) monitoring, research, and vulnerability assessments in the WIO region, by illuminating their relationship to consequential climate adaptation, marine management, and sustainable development policy goals.

The discussion flows from a Western Indian Ocean Acidification (WIO) OA monitoring project established by WIOMSA in conjunction with regional institutions and experts. The project resulted in the <u>WIO OA report in 2022</u>. Next steps including expanding the monitoring programme and ensuring that these efforts will inform ocean policy, management and adaptation in the future.

#### AGENDA

#### Welcome and Review of Agenda –10 minutes

Jessie Turner, Director of OA Alliance

Bodies like the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) are critical players in increasing regional, context specific scientific knowledge, prioritizing discrete projects at local scales, and are well aligned to provide decision makers and communities with research and monitoring information on current and emerging marine socio-ecological threats.

- This information can—and must—support existing climate adaptation, marine management, and sustainable development goals.
  - For example, OA information can guide coral reef restoration, climate ready fisheries and aquaculture strategies, innovative nature-based projects, localized land-based pollution controls, climate responsive marine spatial planning and most effective conservation efforts.
- This project will contribute towards enhancing strategic OA monitoring, research, and vulnerability assessments in the WIO region by illuminating their relationship to achieving consequential policy goals and management outcomes across global, regional, and national scales.

#### **Framing Remarks and Overview of WIOMSA OA Efforts and Goals—20 minutes** Dr. Arthur Tuda, WIOMSA Executive Secretary

- o Background and origin of WIOMSA Ocean Acidification Monitoring Project
  - Why was it commissioned?
  - Why were the 6 country locations chosen?
  - Which university partners were involved?
- Takeaways/ key findings and recommendations of the 2022 OA Report
  - Presents the current state of knowledge on OA in the WIO region.
  - Provides a baseline that will foster the development of an integrated science strategy for OA monitoring, research, and impact assessment in the WIO.
  - o Identifies information gaps required to improve regional understanding.
  - Underscores the importance of understanding marine socio-ecological risks associated with OA and other climate-ocean change variables in the WIO region.

- Overview of the <u>Nairobi Convention 2022-2024 work plan and 2021 decision text</u> which states a request by Contracting Parties to develop, "a regional action plan to monitor and support national climate change intervention strategies and to minimize the impacts of ocean acidification."
- o Ideally, what does Phase 2 of the WIOMSA OA Monitoring Program look like?
  - Ongoing funding for building baselines?
  - Undertaking biological research on keystone species?
  - New sites?
  - Information for management and policy response?

# Overview of project concept for, "Mapping OA Monitoring and Research Recommendations to Policy in the WIO"—20 minutes

Dr. Reuben Makomere

- Overview of the project (rationale)
- Objectives of project (what will this help accomplish?)
- Desired outcomes (who will it support?)
- Deliverables (what will be provide?)

# Questions, Feedback on the Project and Facilitated Discussion—1 hour

Jessie Turner, Director OA Alliance