

Sustainable Development in the Indian Ocean Rim: Harnessing Maritime Resources to Drive Economic Growth, Job Creation and Environment Protection

Francis Mwaijande (PhD)

Mzumbe University,

P. O. Box 20266

Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

E-mail: mwaijandef@gmail.com

Research questions

1. What is the intersection of Sustainability, IORA, and SDGs?
2. How sustainable harnessing of maritime resources drives inclusive growth?
3. What are the policy actions and challenges in the IORA for safeguarding sustainability and environmental protection?

Quotations

- ***“Societies that are dependent on aquatic and marine resources and ecosystems should get ready to embark on a Sustainable Development trajectory”*** (UN Economic Commission for Africa, 2016)
- Lalonde, the former French Minister for environment once referred to sustainable development as: ***how economies should enable societies live better lives while improving the environment.***

Sustainable Development

- Defined as the development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (Brundtland, 1980).
- The World Commission on Environment and Development concerns
 - deterioration of the environment and natural resources due to human kind socio-economic activities.
 - Articulated Sustainable development as a framework for considering the impact of human kind activities on current and future well-being of generations.

IORA priorities

- Fisheries management concerns “management and conservation of the regions’ vital resources, whereby fisheries is a key aspect”.
- States that “ fisheries management should be at the core of new maritime policy of IORA (www.iora.int).

SDG 14: Conserve and sustainably
use the oceans, seas and marine
resources for sustainable
development

TARGETS	INDICATORS
<p>14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution</p>	<p>Index of coastal eutrophication and floating plastic debris density</p>
<p>14.5 By 2020, conserve at least 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, consistent with national and international law and based on the best available scientific information</p>	<p>Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas</p>
<p>14.6 By 2020, prohibit certain forms of fisheries subsidies which contribute to overcapacity and overfishing, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, recognizing that appropriate and effective special and differential treatment for developing and least developed countries should be an integral part of the World Trade Organization fisheries subsidies negotiations</p>	<p>Progress by countries in the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing</p>

Converging Area of IORA & SDGs

- Sustainability of maritime natural resource
- Protection of the environment
- *Sustainable development is therefore a framework of society engagement on managing natural resources for the current and future generation needs*

Sustainable environmental protection

- Tanzania Environmental Management Act, 2004
- Kenya National Environment Policy, 2013
- India National Environment Policy, 2006
- Australia Environment Protection Policy, 2014

How maritime drive inclusive economic growth?

- About 3 billion people (men and women) depend on marine and coastal resources for their livelihood
- Job creation in the fish-value chain economic activities
- Fish processing industries (though not fully exploited) possible.
- Sustainable environmental protection

Challenges of Sustainable Development in the IORA

- Overexploited fishing
- Illegal fishing
- Plastic pollution
- Coastal areas mismanagement

Conclusion & recommendations

- Maritime resources are prime for socio-economic development and poverty reduction in the Indian Ocean Rim
- Sustainable harnessing of maritime resources must be given priority through policy interventions and reinforced by law
- IORA member states ought to implement SDG 14.

Thank you for listening

ASANTE SANA