

Science to Policy Workshop

20 June 2015

Regional Climate Change Strategy

Where is the Mandate drawn from

- Sixth and Seventh COPs
- **Decision CP7/9: *Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation***
 - ❖ *To request* the Secretariat, in collaboration with Contracting Parties, and other partners, to facilitate the finalization of the regional strategy on climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation in the marine and coastal environment of the Western Indian Ocean region and report progress to the next Conference of Parties.
- Meetings of the Bureau to the Convention
- Meetings of Focal Points to the Convention

BASED ON....

- (i) Regional Conference on Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Mitigation in the Western Indian Ocean Region: Solution to the Crisis (March 2011, Mauritius) – Organized by WIOMSA, the UNEP/Nairobi Convention Secretariat, the Government of Mauritius, the Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI), and the Indian Ocean Commission (COI)
- (ii) Climate Change Impacts in Coastal and Marine Areas of the Western Indian Ocean Region: An Assessment of Problems, Solutions, and Strategic Options for Promoting Climate Resilient Development in the WIO Region
- (iii) Regional Climate Change Strategies prepared by RECs (including COI strategy)
- (iv) WIO-C Climate Change in the WIO: A Situation Assessment and Policy Considerations
- (v) National Climate change Strategies

STATUS OF KNOWLEDGE ON KEY INDICATORS OF CLIMATE CHANGE


Indicator	
Sea Surface Temperature	Indian Ocean warming at $\sim 0.1^{\circ}\text{C}$ per decade, with some hotspots (Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, SW Madagascar)
Wind stress	Surface wind stress is increasing
Sea level	Despite the general rise in mean sea level during the past few decades, falling trends have been observed at a number of stations.
ENSO/Indian Ocean Dipole	Coral records reveal an increase in the frequency and strength of IOD events during the 20 th century
Ocean currents	Agulhas Current: localized sea surface temperature increases offshore of South Africa (up to 1.5°C)
Coral reefs	Decline coral cover due to repeated bleaching events

Why this Strategy?

- Inadequate emphasis on coastal and marine sectors in national climate and development as well as sector-specific strategies and plans indicates that there is a need to articulate the importance of these sectors to adaptation policymakers and planners, and to strengthen their capacity to integrate climate considerations.
- Lack of a regional framework at the Nairobi Convention level to guide its activities to address climate change concerns

It is aiming at:

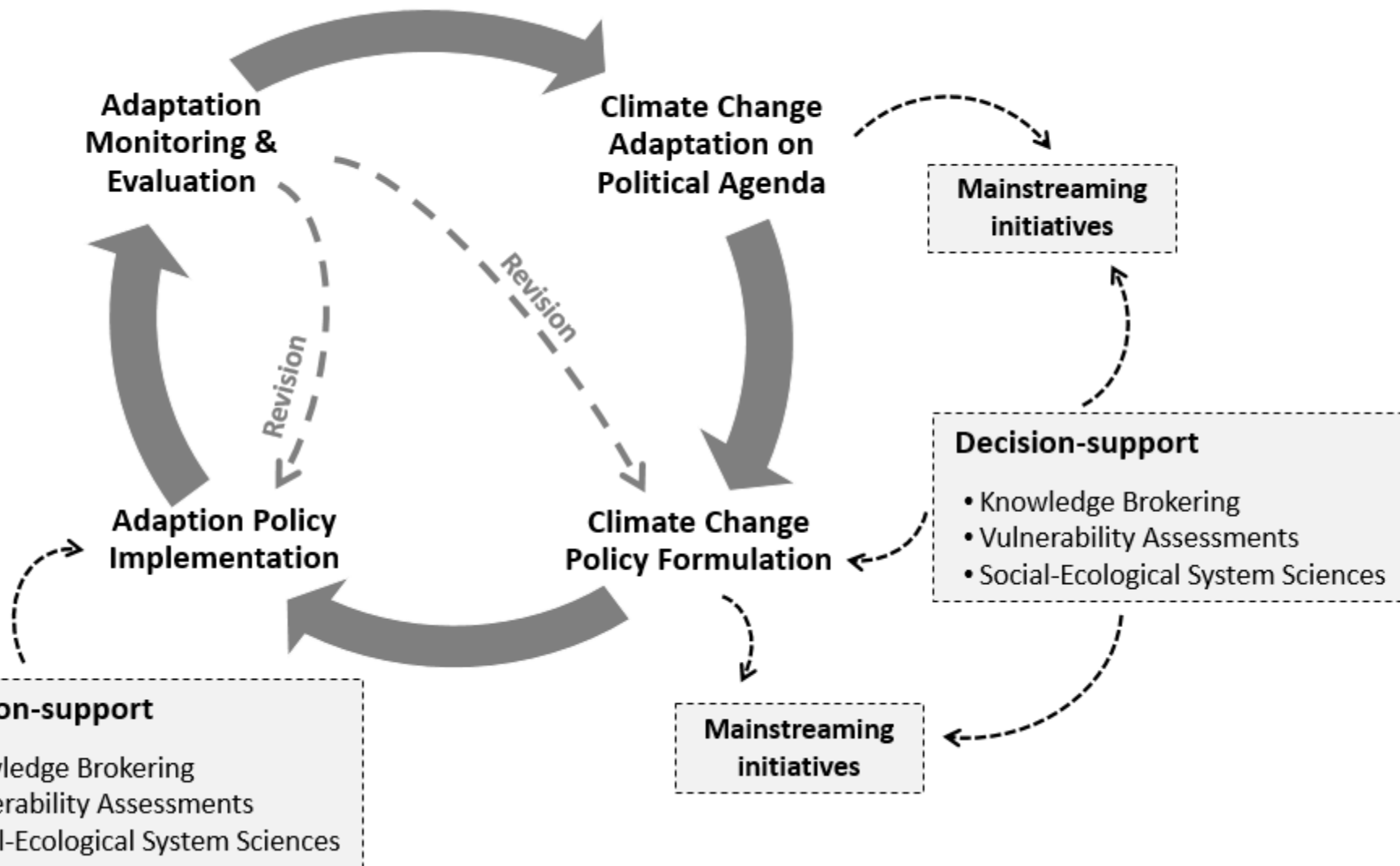
- Actions that require the collaboration of the contracting parties to the Nairobi Convention
- Towards harmonizing responses to the shared challenge, thereby creating a synergy of efforts and avoiding the duplication
- Reinforce national adaptation and mitigation strategies that may be weak on responses to transboundary impacts and on coastal and marine adaptation and mitigation actions

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- Enable the delivery of a range of support to enhance member states' capacity in climate change adaptation policy development, decision-making and the implementation of climate change adaptation itself
 - Deliver certain economies of scale in sourcing and providing capacity-building and can coordinate the development and implementation of climate change science programmes of the scale, longevity and with the content necessary to yield answers to crucial climate change questions

Components of the Strategy

- Vision - *Coastal communities, economies and marine ecosystems in the Western Indian Ocean are resilient to the effects of a changing climate and climate variability*
- Mission - *To support governments, civil society, the private sector and coastal communities of the WIO in the process of adaptation to climate change.*
- Strategic Outcomes
 - ❖ **Improved Adaptation Policymaking** - The strategy envisages the application of principles of adaptation to existing resource management and development policies.
 - ❖ **Improved Decision Support to Policymaking** – aims to support a range of science and knowledge generation, and its effective communication and use.
 - ❖ Implementation of climate change adaptation is supported - the support furnished to member States in implementing ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation

Generalised iterative policy process



Strategic Outcomes 1: Improved Adaptation Policymaking

- **Key result 1.1: Climate change adaptation and the political agenda** - the long-term presence of climate change adaptation on the political agendas of contracting parties
- **Key result 1.2: Climate change policy formulation and review** – the translation of that presence into effective and equitable policies.
- **Key result 1.3: Mainstreaming adaptation** - the mainstreaming of adaptation concepts into a wider array of development policies

Strategic Outcome 2: Improved Decision

Support to Policymaking

- **Key result 2.1: Improved understanding of the ecological impact of climate change** - focuses on increasing scientific knowledge of how the coastal and marine social and ecological systems and their interaction with atmospheric and oceanographic changes
- **Key result 2.2: Improved understanding of the vulnerability of coastal communities** – conduct vulnerability assessments of the socioeconomic domain and capacity-building to undertake the assessments.
- **Key result 2.3: Climate change information and knowledge is effectively communicated** - the communication and brokering of knowledge to inform the shaping of policies and the subsequent monitoring and evaluation of their performance.

Strategic outcome 3: Implementation of climate change adaptation is supported

- Will address the types of support that the Nairobi Convention should provide to member States in the actual implementation of policy decisions

Strategic outcome 4: Evaluation of climate change adaptation

- Will include evaluation of the initial policymaking component, decision-support for that policymaking and the implementation of the climate change adaptation itself.



“Ladies and Gentlemen, it’s time we gave some serious thought to the effects of global warming”



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION