

GO BLUE PROJECT NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Go Blue Project Kenya

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GO BLUE OFFICES LAUNCHED

by Go Blue Project

On 25 October 2022, the Go Blue Offices were officially launched and inscribed in Nyali, Mombasa County. Besides launching the physical office, the event was aimed at giving visibility to the blue economy agenda in Kenya, promoting the potential for coastal and marine resources in advancing the socioeconomic livelihoods of the coastal residents and sharing the project activities and outcomes since its inception in January 2021.

Recognising the increasing vulnerabilities of coastal communities and cities occasioned and exacerbated by climate change and environmental degradation despite the rich coastal and marine resources, the Go Blue Project seeks to implement innovative ideas to harness the potential for these resources to improve and strengthen coastal development, mitigate climate impacts while improving the adaptive capacity of the coastal residents.

The event was attended by high-level representatives from the government, including governors from the six coastal counties, ambassadors from participating European Countries, the European Union Delegation to Kenya, and other invited stakeholders.

More details about the office launch is found [here](#)

GO BLUE PROJECT KENYA AT THE WORLD URBAN FORUM, 2022 IN KATOWICE, POLAND

by UN-Habitat

Go Blue project Kenya under the leadership of UN-Habitat, took part in the 11th session of the World Urban Forum held in Katowice, Poland, themed Transforming our cities for a better urban future. On 28 June 2022, Go Blue held a session to engage the participants under the topic; Connecting people, cities, and the ocean for a sustainable and resilient Kenya coast.

The session provided an avenue to highlight some of the key challenges hindering the potential to fully harness coastal and marine resources to promote social and economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. This is in noting the continued climate change risks witnessed among coastal communities. Recognising the direct and indirect relationship between people, their settlements and ocean ecosystems, the session showcased some of the community-led and low-cost technologies for harnessing coastal and marine resources sustainably.

Read more [here](#)



GO BLUE PROJECT KENYA SIDE EVENT AT THE UN OCEANS CONFERENCE 2022 IN LISBOA, PORTUGAL

by Camões, I.P

During the United Nations Oceans Conference 2022, Go Blue Project Kenya organised a side event which was held virtually on 28 June 2022. The side event was titled "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."

The debate focused on how to unlock the full economic possibilities of coastal and marine resources while protecting these resources for present and future generations.

In the panel were the technical experts and representatives from the Go Blue implementing partners (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).

The side event was aligned with Conference's interactive dialogue "Promoting and strengthening sustainable ocean-based economies, in particular for small island developing States and least developed countries."

Read more [here](#)

SAFETY FIRST: EXPERTISE FRANCE TRAINS 288 KENYAN FISHERS

by *Expertise France*

Expertise France, in collaboration with the Kenyan Coast Guard Service, trained 288 Kenyan fishers from 18 different Beach Management Units (BMUs) on basic life-saving techniques and safe working conditions. The training took place in June 2022.

In addition to gaining new safety skills and knowledge, each fisher received a life jacket and a waterproof pocket for their phones in case of need to call for help. The training is part of the maritime security component of the Go Blue project, a joint initiative to advance the Blue Economy agenda across six Kenyan coastal Counties. Over the following months, Expertise France and the Kenyan Coast Guard Service will be rolling out the safety training course to other BMUs spread across Kenya's coastal counties, intending to benefit around 1,600 to 2,000 fishers.

More details can be found [here](#)



MARITIME SECURITY COMPONENT LAUNCH

by *Expertise France*

The maritime security component of the Go Blue Project, which Expertise France is implementing was launched on 25 October 2022 at the Bamburi Beach Management Unit.

The EUR 5,000,000.00 (€ 5 million) initiative will be implemented across all six counties in Kenya's coast region: Kwale, Lamu, Taita Taveta, Mombasa, Tana River and Kilifi counties.

The main aim of the Go Blue maritime security project is to strengthen the capacity of the Kenya Coast Guard Service and other national and regional agencies involved in maritime security, by promoting a culture of information exchange, cooperation and collaboration.

In addition, other activities will be set up such as a community on the water watch programme, including fishermen safety courses and the development of a mobile phone application to enhance safety and security at sea, as well as support and improve the search and rescue (SAR) chain across the coastal counties.

More details about the component launch are found [here](#);





SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND MATCHING (TVET)

by Germany's Development Corporation Agency, GIZ

GIZ is providing labour-market-oriented and industry-led, modularized Competency Based Education and Training (CBET). Six modularized CBET curricula in the blue economy have developed and validated, and we partnerd with nine VTCs of which six have been upgraded to BE TVET Centers of Excellence (CoE). So far, 2,219 youths completed the courses. Out of them, 1,933 have been placed in jobs/self-employment. The curricula have been digitalized and the CoE been equipped with a customized e-learning platform.

Meet our beneficiaries [here](#)

BLUE ECONOMY MSME SUPPORT

by Germany's Development Corporation Agency, GIZ

MSME labs have been integrated in the partner VTCs, offering Business Development Services (BDS) to improve the competitiveness of MSMEs in blue value chains. GIZ so far has enhanced capacity of 545 business through acceleration and incubation services.

Find a short documentary [here](#)

AQUACULTURE VALUE CHAIN DEVELOPMENT

by Germany's Development Corporation Agency, GIZ

GIZ Go Blue applies a holistic and integrated value chain development approach for aquaculture, through addressing key bottlenecks to unlock the potential. So far, 1,898 aquaculture enterprises have been supported, with 517 enterprises trained on tilapia value chains and in the mariculture sector, 1,381 MSMEs have gained knowledge to improve their businesses based on technical and business trainings. Another key achievement is the training of 226 aquaculture master trainers, and the developed Level 6 Aquaculture TVET with Pwani University, validated by TVETA. Short practical courses will be rolled out in all six coastal counties in partner VTCs in 2023. The future is bright for the coastal aquaculture sector in Kenya. For more details click [here](#).

Congratulations on winning The Blue Hack Challenge during JABEIC 2022

FAITH MWENDE TAMU CHICKS

We make Organic Animal feeds & Fertilizer from Fish Waste and by catch. We reutilize the disregarded fish waste from fishermen to help tap the untargeted waste to make fish feeds, Chicken feeds, Poultry Feeds & Pet feeds. These feeds & Fertilizers are sold to farmers.

#BlueHack JABEIC



TOURISM AND CULTURE HERITAGE COMPONENT ONBOARDED IN MOMBASA

by Camões, I.P

The official onboarding event of Go Blue’s Tourism and Cultural Heritage took place on 24 November 2022 at the Go Blue Offices in Nyali, Mombasa, graced the Ambassador of Portugal to Kenya, H.E. Amb. Ana Filomena Rocha.

In attendance were county officials from the six coastal counties of Kenya where the Go Blue Project is being implemented, tourism and cultural heritage sector stakeholders, the TCH component action project beneficiaries, the TCH component Call for Proposal (CfP) awarded grantees, Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) secretariat and other implementing partners of the Go Blue Kenya project.

Read more [here](#)



VISIT BY PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR TO KENYA AND MOU SIGNING

by Camões, I.P

On Tuesday, 19 July 2022, the Portuguese Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Amb. Ana Filomena Rocha visited the Go Blue Project Kenya offices in Mombasa with the primary purpose of signing a Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) on Go Blue-Tourism and Cultural Heritage component with the county governments of Lamu, Kwale and Taita-Taiveta and to meet the Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP).

Read more [here](#)

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF MWARUA, A FISHERMAN FROM MTWAPA

by *Italian Agency for Development
Cooperation (AICS)*

The Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Aics) through the Go Blue initiative, funded by the European Union and realized in partnership with the Government of Kenya, is supporting Mtwapa BMU and eight other BMUs across the five coastal counties through a set of interventions which also include the provision of boats, fishing gears and fishing equipment which will empower fishermen and allow them to boost their activity. In addition to the provision of the equipment, which is expected to be delivered during the months of March and April 2023, Aics through its technical partner CIHEAM Bari is currently working to establish a sustainable mechanism to ensure greater access to fishing equipment according to a boat distribution scheme that will be designed according to each BMU's size and capacity. The scheme, which will work similarly to a revolving fund, will allow each BMU to save and accumulate money to purchase additional boats. The objective is to secure and boost access to productive resources inputs, enhancing the performance and the revenues of fishermen like Mwarua.

Read Mwarua's story [here](#)



CHRISTINE'S CASSAVA: FROM LAND, DREAMS CAN BE BORN

by *Italian Agency for Development
Cooperation (AICS)*

Through the support of the 'Go Blue' project funded by the European Union, the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS), through the technical partnership of the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM Bari) is supporting the construction of a cassava processing plant powered by solar energy which will allow for peeling, chopping and dry cassava for flour production. Flour is a product that can be sold at a higher price than fresh cassava and which guarantees a higher income for farmers. The construction works, which started in October, are entrusted to the community under the supervision of the County of Kwale to enhance ownership.

Read more [here](#)

GO BLUE PROJECT KENYA AT AFRICITIES SUMMIT, IN KISUMU, KENYA

by Go Blue Project

In May 2022, the Go Blue Project Kenya took part in the Africities Summit, held in Kisumu, Kenya, on 17-25 May 2022. The 2022 Africities Summit was the 9th Edition and was themed, The Role of Intermediary Cities of Africa in the implementation of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and the African Union Agenda 2063.

The Go Blue Project Kenya held an interactive session focusing on the connection between the blue economy and intermediary cities. The session was organized by UNEP and UN-Habitat and was held on the first day of the Pan African conference, as the day had been dedicated to sustainable urban development.

[Read more here](#)



JABEIC 2022 HOLA, TANARIVER

by Go Blue Project

The Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) Hosted a successful 4th annual Jumuiya Agribusiness and Blue Economy Investment conference - JABEIC 2022 in Hola, Tana River County from the 7th December to 9th December 2022. It was the first large conference to be hosted in Hola along the world's exotic 1000km long Tana River and home of the primate reserve.

JABEIC 2022 focused on:

1. The Investment theme - Innovative investments in blue economy urbanization and regenerative transformation, showcasing robustly bankable, investor-ready investment opportunities in the above sectors within the 6 coastal counties,
2. Showcasing the magical experiences of Kenya coast tourism, culture & heritage - Gokenyacoast - www.gokenyacoast.co.ke
3. Special showcasing of the Jumuiya Economic Bloc's partnership opportunities of the €25 Million EUR catalytic Blue Economy grants by EU - Go Blue Project (www.goblue.co.ke); to be presented by the team Europe implementing partners - Italian Development Corporation, Portugal's CAMEOS, Expertise France, GIZ, UN-Habitat /UNEP.

JABEIC 2022 was a proof of the growing influence of the Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKPs) economic bloc's influence in the Blue Economy conversation in not only the Coast region but in the country as a whole. An enviable network of partners came through in support of JABEIC 2022. All Governors of the six counties of the coastal were represented, led by the JKP Chairman, Hon. H.E. Gideon Mng'aro, Governor, Kilifi County Government.

The event was officially closed by the Right Hon. Former Prime Minister, H.E. Raila Odinga, in a colorful ceremony which included the launch of the rebranding of coastal tourism destination under the GoKenyaCoast brand.

[Click here to read more](#)



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