

GO BLUE PROJECT NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of the Go Blue Project Kenya

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GO BLUE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE COMMENCES QUARTERLY WORKSHOPS

by Go Blue Project

In January 2023, the Technical Committee (TC) of the Go Blue project it's first face-to-face quarterly workshop at the Jumuiya House, Go Blue offices. The Go Blue quarterly workshop was proposed, passed and initiated and passed as a tool for project management for and by the Go Blue Technical Committee. The membership of the Go Blue Technical Committee is composed of; Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) secretariat, European Union representative to the Go Blue project, Implementing Partners (GIZ, AICS, Camoes, Expertise France, UNEP and UN-Habitat) and all their teams' members and Camoes local Partner and Technical Assistance, STTA.

These Quarterly TC Workshops aim at bringing the Implementing Partners together to share updates on achievement vis-à-vis quarterly set targets and flag out risks towards attainment of the Project target(s). This helps to identify and address project challenges, evaluate project strategies, and develop solutions. By doing the above, the TC quarterly workshop help in aligning IPs activities and take advantage of convergencies of the components' activities.

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TAITA TAVETA COUNTY GOVERNOR HIGHLIGHTS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS AT INTERNATIONAL ZERO WASTE DAY EVENT

by UN-Habitat

Earlier in the year, the Governor of Taita Taveta County, H.E. Mwadime, launched a Habitat waste audit report, which was used to identify the county's waste management challenges and opportunities. He highlighted this report during his speech at the first ever observance of International Zero Waste Day event at the UN HQ in Nairobi, which was jointly organized by UNEP, UN-Habitat, and the Governments of Kenya and Turkiye.

The governor discussed the waste management support provided by UN-Habitat under the Go Blue Project and presented the county's plans to become a leader in environmental and waste issues, including the construction of a Municipal Recovery Facility. The event aimed to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns and raise awareness about how zero-waste initiatives contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Participants included waste stakeholders from various sectors.



MIKINDANI WATEWATER PROJECT SITE VISIT WITH DEPUTY GOVERNOR OF MOMBASA

by UNEP

UNEP are working with the Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI) to promote sustainable and resilient coastlines in Kenya. In order to showcase the use of constructed wetlands as a low-cost and low-maintenance technology for wastewater treatment, UNEP organized site visits with the Deputy Governor of Mombasa H. E Francis Thoya to the Shimo-la-Tewa Prison demonstration site to see the potential of constructed wetlands, and thereafter to Mikindani with the aim of showing the replicability of this technology in a peri-urban area. In this particular site, the mangrove ecosystem has been exposed to untreated sewage discharge for over two decades. The impact of untreated wastewater discharge harms ecosystems and human health and contributes to global warming.

SEEING WHAT'S AT SEA: MARITIME DOMAIN AWARENESS IS KEY TO MARITIME SECURITY

by Expertise France

Expertise France, in collaboration with the Bandari Maritime Academy, organized on 25 January 2023 a first information session on Maritime Domain Awareness and Blue Economy for 13 participants representing different key Kenyan maritime security stakeholders. Maritime domain awareness is understanding everything that can be associated with the maritime domain that could impact the economy, the environment or the security and safety of a country. Follow-up training sessions took place in March 2023, with so far having 15 instructors and 25 trainees trained. The ultimate purpose of this activity is to sensitize the participants with the perspective of developing a new series of maritime curriculum dedicated to the Government Agencies in Kenya.

Read more [here](#)



KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY (KMA) AND EXPERTISE FRANCE SIGN A CAPACITY-BUILDING AGREEMENT FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVITIES

by Expertise France

On 23 March 2023, Ms Jane Otieno, KMA Director Legal Services, and Mrs Anne Giudicelli, Head of Division Expertise France, signed a capacity-building agreement to support Search and Rescue activities. Over the coming months, the Go Blue maritime security component will support the local capacity of Search and Rescue operations at sea along the Kenyan coast. All these activities will be key in helping to save people in distress at sea.

WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN THE BLUE ECONOMY (BE)

by Germany's Development Corporation Agency, GIZ

Women contribute significantly to BE development. However, their economic contributions are often the mainstay of family and community sustenance. Most BE sectors like aquaculture remain a traditionally male-dominated sector where women's contributions are greatly devalued. It is for this reason that the GIZ Go Blue Project is seeking to contribute to women economic empowerment (WEE) and to support women-led enterprises in the BE. The developed WEE strategy adopts a gender transformative approach to be applied in two pre-selected BE sectors, namely Aquaculture and Maritime Transport & Logistics.

The GIZ WEE strategy for MSMEs in the BE aims to promote gender equality and empower women-led enterprises in the context of sustainable development of the BE. It will focus on capacity and awareness building, including trainings designed to promote the inclusion of women in decision-making and to enhance ownership



ADVANCING THE BLUE ECONOMY THROUGH AQUACULTURE TECHNOLOGY REFINEMENT

by Germany's Development Corporation Agency, GIZ

From Water to Wallet, a project within Go Blue, implemented by GIZ in partnership with KWETU training center is making waves with significant progress in unlocking the potential of sea-land opportunities in coastal rural centres.

One of the project's highlights is the construction and stocking of four tilapia nursery ponds in Taita Taveta and Tana River Counties. The community's self-initiatives to expand their aquaculture ventures allowed the surpassing their original target of three nursery ponds. The nursery business model makes fingerlings available nearby farmers, lowers the cost of production by cutting on transport cost and avails bigger fingerlings for farmers to get their fish ready for harvest in a shorter time

TCH BLUEPRINT WORKSHOP

by Camões, I.P

In January 2023, IPAV - Instituto Padre António Vieira, the implementation partner of Camões, I.P. of Portugal in partnership with the Jumuiya Ya Kaunti Za Pwani - JKP secretariat, under the Tourism and Cultural Heritage component of the Go Blue Kenya project, delivered a Change Lab workshop dubbed "Changing the Story". The workshop was the starting point for writing a Culture and heritage tourism blueprint for the six counties on Kenya coast (Kwale, Mombasa, Taita Taveta, Kilifi, Tana River and Lamu).

A total of 21 stakeholders from the blueprint development committee represented by County Directors of Tourism, private and public sector and ecosystem partners in Culture and heritage tourism from the region participated in the design workshop. The outcome was identification of key pillars of the blueprint and agreement on the outline of the report. It is anticipated that a draft will be out in September 2023

[Read more here](#)



TCH GRANTEE MENTORSHIP KICKS-OFF

by Camões, I.P

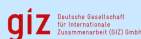
Fifteen grantees of TCH CfP grants attended a business development workshop between February 14 and March 16, 2023. The seminar kicked off a yearlong mentoring program for the grantees. A total of 32 representatives from 16 different projects attended the 16-hour in-person training session, with Cluster 1 grantees coming from the counties of Mombasa, Kwale, and Taita Taveta and Cluster 2 grantees coming from the counties of Kilifi, Lamu, and Tana River. Stakeholder mapping, business plan creation, sustainability, resilience, and marketing strategy development were just some of the seven subjects covered over the course of the three-day program. Ninety-four percent of those who attended the workshop said it was beneficial. Grantees received the knowledge they needed to craft viable business strategies.

NINE (9) BEACH MANAGEMENT UNITS (BMUS) RECEIVE 26 FIBERGLASS BOATS

by Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

During the months of March and April 2023, nine Beach Management Units (BMUs) located across five coastal counties in Kenya will receive a total of 26 fiberglass boats, that will allow them to boost their catches and increase related income. The provision of fishing inputs, including boats and fishing equipment, is one of the core activities within the Italian component of the EU-funded Go Blue Programme, implemented by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Aics) in a technical partnership with the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM Bari).

[Go Blue: Aics ready to deliver boats throughout the coastal counties |](#)



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