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# Partnership between the EU and the Government of Kenya to advance the Blue Economy Agenda through Coastal Development - “Go Blue”

## Italian Cooperation component

**Implemented by:** Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

**Affiliated Entity:** International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agronomic Studies (CIHEAM Bari)

**Budget:** 4,75 MEUR (total budget for the interventions in all 6 counties)

**Area of implementation:** Kenya coastal counties (Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, Mombasa, Taita Taveta, Tana River)

**Duration:** January 2021 to November 2024

(4 years)

**Partners:** JKP coastal County Governments and JKP Secretariat, Technical University of Mombasa, Blue Economy Secretariat, National Fisheries institutions, Kenya Agricultural & Livestock Research Organization - KALRO, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI), Small Scale Fishery Value chain intermediaries private sector, State Department for Fisheries, Aquaculture and the Blue Economy - SDFA&BE.

**Target Groups:** Mainly Youth, Women and MSMEs in the following selected Blue Economy Sectors:

- Agriculture;
- Fishery;
- Vessel repair and maintenance;

## Strengthened inclusive and sustainable blue economy value chains



### Context

In 2021 the European Union (EU) in partnership with the Government of Kenya launched the Go Blue Programme aimed at advancing the Blue Economy Agenda through coastal development. Go Blue is financed by the European Union and implemented by Italy together with the cooperation agencies of Germany, Portugal, France, two United Nations agencies (UN Habitat and UN Environment Program - UNEP) and in partnership with the Jumuiya Ya Kaunti Za Pwani Secretariat - JKP, the economic bloc of Kenya’s six coastal counties. The component realized by the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS) aims at promoting sustainable economic growth in the six coastal counties with a focus on the inclusive and sustainable strengthening of the blue economy value chains. Part of the activities are realized by Aics in a technical partnership with the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Bari (CIHEAM Bari), by virtue of its technical expertise in areas such as coastal and fishery development.

### Objectives and Activities

**Enhancement of fisheries co-management and strengthened fisheries value chains:** AICS is promoting the empowerment of 9 target BMUs along Kenya coastal area through capacity development activities and through the development of a Code of Con-





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### Beneficiaries:

- Staff from 6 target County governments;
- 9 Beach Management Units;
- Small Scale Fisheries producers;
- 2 groups of smallholder farmers;
- The core members of the JKP Secretariat.

Direct beneficiaries include members of the 9 target BMUs of Amu and Mbwajumwali (Lamu County), Uyombo and Mtwapa (Kilifi County), Shimoni, Kibuyuni and Mkwiro (Kwale County), Kipini (Tana River County) and Nyali (Mombasa County), smallholders farmers groups of Matsangoni area (Kilifi County) and Magodi (Kwale County), for a total number of approximately 3.196 direct beneficiaries.

### Intended outputs:

*Enhanced fisheries co-management and strengthened fisheries value chains:* i) BMUs are empowered to fulfill their mandate in the co-management of fisheries; ii) MSME are empowered to enhance their productivity and competitiveness.

*Improved capacity of farmers to operate along the cassava value chain:* i) Agricultural extension offices of Kilifi and Kwale counties are empowered to support development of cassava value chain; ii) Cassava productivity, production, value addition and marketing are improved.

*Enhanced capacity of JKP Secretariat to deliver its mandate:* i) JKP Secretariat is enabled to support project implementation and coordination; ii) JKP Secretariat is enabled to promote exchange of experiences, knowledge-sharing and learning in the region.

### Contact:

Dr. Paolo Damato, Component Technical Coordinator Aics Nairobi

duct enhancing enforcement of relevant regulations adopted by the Government of Kenya. In addition to that, AICS is supporting fisheries medium and small scale enterprises through the provision of improved infrastructure, value addition equipment and productive resources inputs. AICS is planning to introduce labeling schemes based on traceability to certify well-managed marine capture fisheries and enhance products' quality. Finally, Aics will promote community awareness campaigns to the benefit of the coastal population in the six target counties.

**Improvement of the capacity of farmers to operate along the cassava value chain:** Aics will promote the realization of capacity development activities for agricultural extension officers' in Kilifi and Kwale counties. In addition to that, cassava demonstration bulking plots and processing units will be provided to promote the marketing of cassava products and enhance smallholder farmers socioeconomic conditions.

**Enhancement of the JKP Secretariat capacity to deliver its mandate:** AICS is working alongside the JKP Secretariat through the provision of specialistic support, as well as equipment to ensure its proper functioning. AICS is also supporting the realization of regular knowledge sharing events and workshops to foster knowledge sharing among all stakeholders. Finally, a comprehensive Coastal Master plan will be developed to establish objectives, principles and actions that should be applied to ensure sustainability of small-scale fisheries. The Plan will be developed by an ad hoc team made of international fishery experts and researchers from the Technical University of Mombasa, national experts from JKP and national fisheries institutions bringing local knowledge and networks.



Scan the QR code to find out more about the Italian component of the Go Blue Programme!

