



GLOBAL FUND FOR
CORAL REEFS

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT: MIAMBA YETU PROGRAMME

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Report submitted by:

Wildlife Conservation Society

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Programme Overview

Programme Title & Project Number		Programme Duration	
Programme Title: Miamba Yetu: Sustainable Reef Investments		Start Date: December 2021	
Programme Number: 00129654		End Date: March 2024	
Programme Location		Co-recipient Organisation/s and Implementing Partners	
Countries: Kenya and Tanzania, including Zanzibar Archipelago (from Malindi to Dar Es Salaam)		Co-recipient Organisation/s: WCS, UNCDF	
Priority Coral Reef Sites: Malindi-Watamu, Kilifi South, Proposed Transboundary Area (TBCA), Chumbe Island Coral Park (CHICOP), North Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA)		Implementing Partners: Okavango Capital Partners, Conservation Capital, Blue Alliance	
Total Approved Budget			
Total GFCR Budget: USD 3,135,394			
WCS: USD 1,320,000			
UNCDF: USD 1,815,394			
Total Approved co-financing from other sources: USD 300,000			
<u>GFCR Preparatory Grant awarded for proposal development:</u> Yes			

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Executive Summary

The Miamba Yetu: Sustainable Reef Investments programme is implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) with funding from the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR). Launched in 2022, Miamba Yetu covers the coastlines of Kenya and Tanzania including the Zanzibar archipelago with a focus on the proposed Transboundary Conservation Area (TBCA) identified by WCS scientists as a coral climate refuge. Miamba Yetu is at its core a blended finance vehicle supporting solutions in various sectors including ecotourism, community enterprises and fisheries, waste management, blue carbon and coastal development. The programme is focused on the proposed TBCA but has also been scoping necessary interventions along the coastlines of both Kenya and Tanzania between Malindi and Dar Es Salaam.

Priority sites in Kenya where WCS has been undertaking activities and which have been identified as coral reef areas with potential for Miamba Yetu interventions include the Malindi-Watamu Marine Parks and Reserves' seascapes, Kilifi South coastline where we have the Kuruwitu Locally Managed Marine Area (LMMA) and the Kisite-Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve located within the proposed TBCA. In Zanzibar, priority coral reef sites include Chumbe Island Coral Park (CHICOP) MPA, the Northern part of the Pemba Channel Conservation Area (North PECCA) and the two Marine Conservation Areas (MCAs) that surround Unguja - Bawe Marine Conservation Area (CHABAMCA) and Menai Bay.

Following a threats assessment that was undertaken covering the proposed TBCA and Zanzibar, the top threats to coral reefs were identified as waste pollution (wastewater, sedimentation and plastic), overfishing and destructive fishing. Further, we conducted ecological surveys (fish biomass, benthic substrate and sea urchins) for 8 sites in Kenya and 6 in Tanzania and training of community fish catch with monitoring of fish catch completed for 6 sites.

A dedicated Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) was designed, process flow developed and business plan illustrated with the support of Okavango Capital Partners who were funded to lead the establishment of the SPV. Further developments included refining the governance and management arrangements, the SPV mechanism and project screening tools which entailed comprehensive ecological, social and financial criteria to review funding applications before submission to GFCR. The programme also established an expert panel of external technical experts from Kenya and Tanzania to review projects for ecological impact to coral reefs and for how projects affect and benefit coastal communities.

Our portfolio of top solutions now stands at 6 projects in various stages of progression. One funded project (Kwanini foundation), a community co-management and ecotourism collaboration project, received a \$350k grant from GFCR and is being implemented by Blue Alliance in Pemba. Baseline surveys have been undertaken in the project site which sits within the North Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA).

Two deals have received initial approval from the GFCR without any objections. The Sanitation waste-to-value treatment project in the Malindi and Watamu Marine Parks and Reserves has raised US\$9M in public financing and requested US\$540k in GFCR concessionary debt to support their work

along the coastline and towards the proposed TBCA. The other solution comprises business technical assistance to the eco-resort Chumbe Island Coral Park to recommend ways to strengthen the business model in relation to the conservation work.

Three projects under review that could be brought into the TBCA are the Kuruwitu co-managed area marine concessions feasibility study, Ecoworld plastics recycling in Kilifi County and a group of Blue Alliance North PECCA-based businesses. A number of opportunities have been analysed and shelved due to lack of clarity regarding their financial sustainability, and/or their positive impact on coral reefs.

The programme has partnered with the Triggering Exponential Climate Action (TECA) venture launcher and a final MOU between BFAGlobal and the to-be-incorporated Miamba Yetu SPV has been drafted. The progress made in the first phase of Miamba Yetu has laid the foundation for enabling streamlined operations in the next phase of implementation. The SPV has been developed and is awaiting incorporation. Governance and management arrangements have been developed and important partnerships have been secured and continue to grow. The pipeline has produced several projects that address key threats in priority sites and is continuously evolving with scoping and engagements into phase two of the programme.



I. Priority Sites

Priority Site #1 – Malindi-Watamu in Kenya

MPA/LMMA/OECM	Area (ha)	Coral Reef Area (ha)	GFCR Solutions
Watamu Marine Park	1,000	938.7ha	Sanivation
	Same as above	Same as above	Ecoworld Recycling
Malindi Marine Park	600	633.3ha	Sanivation
	Same as above	Same as above	Ecoworld Recycling
Malindi-Watamu Marine Reserve	21,300	6,072.4ha	Sanivation
	Same as above	Same as above	Ecoworld Recycling

Priority Site #2 – Kilifi South in Kenya

MPA/LMMA/OECM	Area (ha)	Coral Reef Area (ha)	GFCR Solutions
Kuruwitu LMMA	CMA ¹ : 12,000 ha Closure ² : 30 ha	977.6ha (CMA) 18ha (closure)	Kuruwitu Community Concessions Model

Priority Site #3 – North Pemba Channel Conservation Area (PECCA) in Zanzibar

MPA/LMMA/OECM	Area (ha)	Coral Reef Area (ha)	GFCR Solutions
North PECCA (MPA)	8,2580 ha	27,000 ha	Reef-Positive Businesses for Sustainable Financing in North PECCA
	6,500 ha	763 ha	Kwanini-Manta Resort

Priority Site #4 – Chumbe Island Coral Park (CHICOP) in Zanzibar

¹ Co-Managed Area. these are in-shore marine spaces that have been designated by the government to be managed by coastal community-based Beach Management Units (BMUs) together with the County Fisheries Department.

² Fisheries Closure. An area (usually within a co-managed area that has temporary or permanent restrictions on fishing or certain gears.



MPA/LMMA/OECM	Area (ha)	Coral Reef Area (ha)	GFCR Solutions
Chumbe Island Coral Park - CHICOP (MPA)	55.06 ha	22 ha	CHICOP Business TA

Priority Site #5 – Kisite-Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve

MPA/LMMA/OECM	Area (ha)	Coral Reef Area (ha)	GFCR Solutions
Kisite Marine Park	2,800 ha	582.3 ha	Community-run lodging (Ecotourism)
Mpunguti National Reserve	1,100 ha	654 ha	

Priority Site #6 – Marine Conservation Areas in Zanzibar

MPA/LMMA/OECM	Area (ha)	Coral Reef Area (ha)	GFCR Solutions
Menai Bay Conservation Area (MBCA)	1,7750 ha	1,332 ha	Support co-management of MPAs through TA to a locally established conservation organization
Changu-Bawe Marine Conservation Area (CHABAMCA)	11,820 ha	892 ha	TA to help investors develop ecological and socially sustainable solutions for MPA management

II. Partners

Co-recipient(s)

Name of Partner	Type	Activity or Solutions supported	Type of Agreement (i.e. MOU or other)
UNCDF	Intergovernmental Organization	Fund Manager (Grant Fund)	GFCR MOU

Co-implementer(s)

Name of Partner	Type	Activity or Solutions supported	Type of Agreement (i.e. MOU or other)



Okavango Capital Partners	Private Business	Conservation Finance IP	ProDoc, grant agreement
Blue Alliance	Civil Society Organization	MPA businesses in PECCA	Grant Agreement
Miamba Yetu SPV	Financial Institution	Investing/Lending to projects	Corporate Charter, Grant agreement (target Q1 2024)
Sanivation	Private Business	Wastewater pollution treatment (PPP)	Grant agreement (target Q2 2024)
Chumbe	Private Business	Business TA to sustain MPA management effectiveness	NDA with Okavango Capital Partners

Other Partner(s)

Name of Partner	Type	Activity or Solutions supported	Type of Agreement (e.g. MOU or other)
Conservation Capital	Private business	Partner to Okavango Capital's role in Miamba Yetu	ProDoc
Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Fisheries, Kenya	National Government	Parent Ministry in Kenya	Letter of support
Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar	National Government	Parent Ministry in Zanzibar	Letter of support
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Tanzania	National Government	Parent Ministry in Tanzania	Letter of support
Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani	Economic Development Organization/county government(s)	EUR24M GoBlue project implementing party	Collaborative Framework Agreement
Our Blue Future	Consortium	Regional Sustainable Blue Economy Initiative	Expression of Interest



III. Programme Milestones

Deliverable or Milestone	Target Date of Completion	Status	Supporting Text
Outcome 1 – Protected priority coral reef sites and climate change refugia			
Output 1.1 –Completed scientific/feasibility studies to gain greater understanding of key hot spots and of the value of ecosystem services provided.			
Activity 1.1.1 – Inception and community meetings			
1 national government/stakeholder meeting and 2 community-level meetings in each nation.	10/2023	Achieved	Established expert panel through open call to experts in government and CSOs/NGOs in Kenya and Tanzania. Held first joint physical orientation/inception meeting. (see annex for report and agenda).
Meetings with Beach Management Units (BMU) in TBCA	05/2023	Achieved	Two site visits were conducted to 3 BMUs – Jimbo, Vanga and Mkwiro - in the south coast of Kenya (within the TBCA), to ensure social safeguard mechanisms are set up appropriately. These three communities have been supported for 4 years by WCS in fisheries management planning, ecotourism initiatives, credit and savings, blue carbon, and fisheries value addition. The community was interested in the concept of supporting coral reef conservation with communities through investments and blended finance solutions. Rights and Safeguards processes for any proposed interventions would need to be undertaken to verify acceptability.
Meetings with Kuruwitu and Kanamai Communities north of Mombasa	05/2023 07/2023 08/2023	Achieved	3 consultative meetings were held in total with Kuruwitu community associations (BMU and KCWA), two on site and one virtual with the representative associations. These meetings were to ensure social safeguard mechanisms are appropriate and to start exploring possible ways to support communities under GFCR.
Activity 1.1.2 – Ecological assessment of fish biomass, coral cover, sea urchins and coral breakage at high pressure reefs			
Database and analysis of ecological state of coral reefs in each country that integrates field data with nationally available data on threats.			
Threats Assessment		Achieved	Evaluated the threats that GFCR prioritizes for coral reefs across the TBCA and found the highest threat in terms of impact to be overfishing and



			destructive fishing at 87%, the highest threats by area being poor wastewater treatment, harmful runoff and poor water quality at 98%. Plastic waste was also identified as a major concern especially in MPAs and in urban areas although there is no coastwide data.
10 priority sites per country surveyed and resulting data integrated with existing data. Fish biomass and coral cover assessments	12/2023	Partially Achieved	<p>WCS monitored status of Fish biomass (UVC with 100*5m belt transect) and coral reef cover (%) at 6 sites in Tanzania and 8 sites in Kenya using 10-meter line intercept transect (10 m LIT). Data was uploaded to MERMAID. Sea urchin biomass status also was monitored at the same sites through a 10msq circular quadrant with nine replicates per site. The target of 20 sites totals was estimated based on the anticipated early pipeline. However, the sites selected later (6+8) covered the priority areas where solutions were being developed. Existing data is also available for other sites hence no need for surveys in these areas.</p> <p>In Kenya, fish biomass was generally higher (>450 kg/ha) in sites within government management no-take areas compared with other sites within partially protected government reserves, community closures. Hard coral cover and sea urchin displayed wide variation ranging from the highest hard coral cover at 55% and the lowest of 9% while sea urchin density ranged from a highest of 311 individuals/10 sqm to the lowest of 5 individuals/10 sqm.</p>
Activity 1.1.3 – Catch assessment at high pressure reefs with enumerators			
10 new strategically located catch data collection sites per country to increase area of coverage of data.	12/2023	Partially Achieved	<p>Fish catch data was collected in selected landing sites in our project areas and data is stored in the Kobo toolkit. In PECCA, landings were monitored in Msuka landing site and in Unguja in Mazizini and Malindi landing sites in CHABAMCA, and Fumba in MBICA. Values of CPUE varied across sites with a minimum yearly mean of 1.15 kg/fisher/day in and a maximum of 4.5 kg/fisher/day in Msuka. Fish catch data in Kenya was collected in 6 sites within the proposed TBICA out of a total of 14 sites across the programme area in Kenya between Malindi and the southern point of Kenya. In Kenya, the Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) varied across the 14 sites but were generally low with the highest at about 4 kg/fish/day and the lowest of 2 kg/fisher/day.</p>

Activity 1.1.4 – Fisheries pattern mapping			
Fisheries Participatory Mapping Exercise	12/2023	Partially Achieved	<p>In Kenya, fisheries pattern mapping was undertaken in 1 site (Shimoni) due to its location as a multi-gear area within the TBCA and where a new port is being constructed. For Tanzania fisheries pattern in TBCA, Fishing ground was identified, and results revealed high fishing ground overlap among fishers due to multispecies of the targeted catch. Another finding villages interact in different fishing grounds and use different names for the same fishing grounds. Another finding was positive acceptance for temporary and permanent closures within TBCA.</p> <p>Fisheries pattern mapping was conducted in areas where we already have established monthly fish catch monitoring plans so that these two exercises can complete each other to generate information on fish yields and areas of coral reefs under active fishing. In some of these areas, fisheries pattern mapping data was available.</p>
Activity 1.1.5 – Social surveys on gear use, income needs and economic diversification			
Database and key graphs on socio-economic status of communities and needs in 10 priority sites per country. Objective: Identify community status and needs to understand opportunities for investment. Target: 10 priority sites per country.	11/2023	Partly Achieved	<p>In Tanzania, socio-economic surveys were conducted around project areas in Pemba covering the villages of Micheweni, Mnarani, Mawematatu. Findings revealed diversification of income earning activities and positive attitude towards marine conservation activities. The surveys also allowed to collect baselines on wellbeing through the Basic Necessity Survey and completed similar surveys for 5 more sites in the project area. This allows WCS to identify solutions in these areas and target specific beneficiaries. After engagement with communities and other stakeholders and the expectations related to conducting social-economic surveys (support for community/community initiatives), the initial plan of conducting these surveys at 10 sites was changed to only focusing on sites with potential projects. Other sites - for example in Lamu - which is beyond the programme priority area but within the Kenyan coastline - were also removed from the initial plan.</p>
Activity 1.1.6 – Solid waste beach monitoring			
Database on solid waste deposition on shorelines at 10 priority locations per country. Objective: Identify potential impacts of recycling and solid waste retrieval investments			



Trained communities on trash	09/2023	Achieved	Training of trash data collectors began in Kenya with 20 participants from 9 BMUs (Wasini, Likoni, Nyali, Bamburi, Mtwapa, Takaungu, Shela, Amu & Mkokoni). Plastic waste was identified as a priority threat especially in MPAs where ecotourism plays an important role. All MPAs within the programme priority sites have been identified as hotspots for waste retrieval systems. Ecoworld Plastic Recycling is one of the social enterprises off taking plastics from beaches and is being reviewed for support to scale operations in other MPAs. Before Tanzania started its training, it was decided that the programme would use data from project implementers e.g. Ecoworld on volume of plastic removed from beaches.
Output 1.2 – Triage evaluation of the economic and coral reef benefits of the projects prior to investment			
Report on investable opportunities in the TBCA region. Additional investment opportunities at >\$500,000 USD, and >4 opportunities at smaller scales.			
Activity 1.2.1 – Meetings with stakeholders			
Report on investable opportunities in the TBCA region. Target: 2 additional investment opportunities at >\$500,000 USD, and >4 opportunities at smaller scales.	12/2023	Partly achieved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kwanini Project presented to GFCR in 2022 for a US\$350k grant and US\$300k senior debt blended finance deal. Proposal and reporting already presented to GFCR in 2022. • Sanivation US\$540k debt deal for wastewater treatment. Not in the TBCA but in MPA seascape with resilient reefs within the programme area. The aim of the financing is to steer the company south towards the TBCA for its next projects. Proposal and business case presented to GFCR in 2023. • TECA venture launcher partnership established, and 3 ventures shortlisted with one being recommended – the Vua fisheries financial management platform.
Activity 1.2.2 – Development of ecological and financial key performance indicators (KPI) for M&E			
Develop technical Screening tools	07/2023	Achieved	Developed comprehensive ecological, social and financial criteria screening tools to review funding applications. Vetted by an external expert panel.
Established Kwanini project KPIS, baselines and targets	08/2023	Achieved	The Kwanini project was funded in 2023 and its M&E metrics shared in the Q2 2023 report.
Activity 1.2.3 – Impact analysis			



Impact scores report based on analysis on 2+ investments in the TBCA made in this funding period	12/2023	Achieved	Sanivation and Chumbe were scored against the eco-social and financial screening tools and were recommended to GFCR for funding support.
Threats Assessment	12/2022	Achieved	Priority threats identified and reported submitted to GFCR in the 2022 annual report. (also included in Annex – Threats Assessment).
Standardized project applications	05/2023	Achieved	Developed concept and full proposal templates and guidelines for funding applications to standardize and streamline the process.
Outcome 2 – Transform livelihoods of coral dependent communities			
Output 2.1 –Develop facilities for the implementation of sustainable financing and ecologically viable business ventures			
Activity 2.1.1 – Work to develop, design and establish Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)			
Design financial mechanism, governance and management arrangements	02/2023	Achieved	Held strategy meeting where the SPV was designed and high-level process flow was agreed upon.
Strategy development meeting	08/2023	Achieved	Refinement of governance and management arrangements, SPV mechanism and deal review process.
Develop business plan to illustrate SPV funds flow	09/2023	On track	Shared business plan on how the SPV would operate and handle funds from GFCR using sample cases.
Incorporation of the SPV	12/2023	Delayed	Awaiting 2 nd tranche disbursement to fund establishment of entity
Activity 2.1.2 – Establishment of a <i>venture studio</i>			
Established mechanism to support and incubate smaller-scale investment concepts and ensure adequate returns on investments. Target: Operational process.			
Identify and develop terms of partnership	07/2023	Mostly achieved	Final MOU between BFAGlobal and Miamba Yetu SPV ready for sign-off, awaiting incorporation of the SPV. However, this may need to be revisited due the delays in securing the 2nd tranche disbursement from Blue Bridge for the SPV.
Fund approved ventures	12/2023	Delayed	Awaiting 2 nd tranche disbursement to capitalize the SPV and disburse to BFAGlobal.
Output 2.2 – Leveraging of GFCR grants to attract private sector capital and other funds to address growing threats to reefs from coastal development, unsustainable fishing and other key threats.			



Activity 2.2.1 – Identify 2 pipeline deals. Report on analysis process for two deals. Target: 2 deals analysed (in first year), and additional deals identified during year 2 for future funding.			
Scoping to identify pipeline for presentation of concepts to technical teams	02/2023	Achieved	Refined pipeline to 6 deals, presented portfolio of concepts and full proposals in two eco-social and finance meetings. (See annex A – data update excel file for pipeline. Also refer to section IV – programme progress.
Kwanini project	01/2023	Achieved	Funded with implementation following CMA sign-off with government in 08/2023
Sanivation project	10/2023	Achieved	Recommended to GFCR and received first no objection in 10/2023
CHICOP	10/2023	Achieved	Recommended to GFCR and received first no objection in 10/2023
Activity 2.2.2 – Participate in conferences and public events with commercial stakeholders			
Deliverable: Memo or meeting report from events attended & online spreadsheet of business ventures and potential opportunities. Objective: Ensure visibility of the GFCR project and identify future business partners/ventures. Target: 2 or more events per year and one online spreadsheet.			
Summary: Engagements listed below and covered online, not through a spreadsheet, but amplified through various online channels (covered in annex – communication). These include GFCR quarterly newsletters, partner websites and social media (LinkedIn and twitter posts).			
Site Visit to Sanivation - Malindi	11/2022	Achieved	Meeting held with Malindi Water and Sewage Company (MAWASCO, government) and Sanivation personnel before visiting the waste treatment plant construction site and dumping grounds.
Site Visits to Chumbe Island	09/2022 02/2023 07/2023 12/2023	Achieved	Visits by programme team members and by GFCR strategic partnerships and engagements coordinator to CHICOP to meet with management and understand the business and conservation model. Final visit for business TA conducted by OCP.
Africa Blue Economy Summit	02/2023	Achieved	Collaboration with Ocean Hub Africa and co-hosted side event with Our Blue Future to engage regional players on Miamba Yetu as an investment vehicle
Zanzibar Tourism Investment and Travel exhibition	02/2023	Achieved	Launch of the green/blue Zanzibar declaration and showcasing Zanzibar to potential investors. Strengthened partnership with the government and identified potential opportunities in waste management.
Africa Impact Investing Summit	02/2023	Achieved	Conventional investor and fund manager forum where latest trends were shared and GFCR promoted with Miamba Yetu. Co-investor potential identified.
Site visits to Kwanini, Pemba	09/2022 07/2023	Achieved	Courtesy visit by programme lead followed by second visit accompanied by GFCR strategic partnerships and engagements coordinator.



Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority Small Island Investor meeting	08/2023	Achieved	Secured connections with small island investors through USAID Heshimu Bahari project. Currently in pipeline development.
Africa Climate Summit	09/2023	Achieved	Participated in a side event co-organized with GFCR and UNEP.
WIOMSA MPA Finance w/shop	09/2023	Achieved	Practical workshop with key MPA stakeholders on financial mechanisms for MPAs. Strengthened partnership with management representatives and Blue Nature Alliance (GFCR and WCS partners).
Kenya Wildlife Service Investments Forum	08/2023	Achieved	Announcement of the parks leasing/concessions portfolio across the country including marine parks in the Kenyan coast. Confirmed with senior officials the possibility of having Mombasa MPA included should there be interest.
Marine Region Forum	11/2023	Achieved	Co-organized blue finance theme, presented on Miamba Yetu where the founder CHICOP (project) also showcased the MPA. Introduction to PS at the vice president's office that eventually led to NOL at COP.
COP28	12/2023	Achieved	Amplified Miamba Yetu at GFCR and partner events, whilst engaging with delegates. Obtained no objection letter from the Tanzanian Nationally Designated Authority to allow Pegasus-managed GCF investments into the country.
Output 2.3 – Successful early-stage investments to test and implement the approach.			
Activity 2.3.1 – Deal execution work. Deal execution documents completed. Executed documents for two completed deals.			
SPV incorporation	12/2013	Delayed	Know your client (KYC), due diligence and initiation of process started through Trident sub-contract. Awaiting second tranche to complete.
Sanivation	12/2023	Delayed	Awaiting SPV to be established.
Chumbe	12/2023	Delayed	Awaiting SPV to be established.
TECA	12/2023	Delayed	Awaiting second tranche to allow execution of MOU and pass-through of funds to BFAGlobal
Kwanini project	12/2022	Achieved	Proposal recommended to GFCR and project funded with \$350k grant.
Activity 2.3.2 – Establish legal agreements with identified opportunity.			
See above for deal status on execution of documents. More agreements highlighted below .Signed legal agreements for 2 agreed deals.			
Corporate Charter	12/2023	Delayed	Charter consultancy pending second disbursement to OCP



GoBlue project Collaborative Framework Agreement	12/2023	On track	Signed in 01/2024
Activity 2.3.3 – Develop implementation plan (business and ecological) with objectives, indicators, baselines and targets			
Implementation plan for approved deals with objectives, indicators, baselines, and targets for each deal. Target: 2 implementation plans (one for each deal) - Each deal's implementation plan is guided by: the M&E framework, KPI's excel file, assessment protocol (if applicable).			
Develop M&E framework	12/2023	Achieved	M&E framework developed (refer to annex B)
Develop SPV business plan	12/2023	Achieved	Developed plan by OCP and shared with GFCR for review.
Kwanini Foundation	12/2023	Achieved	KPIs developed, baselines integrated in M&E framework, survey schedule developed
Sanivation	12/2023	Achieved	Water Sampling protocol developed and term sheet signed with Sanivation
CHICOP	12/2023	Achieved	KPI targets incorporated in M&E framework, survey schedule developed
Activity 2.3.4 – Monitoring ecological and financial progress. Table tracking indicators for 2 executed deals progress on ecological and financial indicators. (see above for KPIs).			
North PECCA	08/2023	On track	Kwanini project Baselines collected (ecological, social and financial), reported in Q2 2023 & M&E framework. Monitoring of KPIs planned for 2024 (1 year after inception).
CHICOP MPA	10/2022	On track	Baselines available on MERMAID for ecological baseline while data for social survey under USAID Heshimu Bahari project conducted in November 2023. Kobo toolkit was used. Miamba Yetu staff analysed and compiled relevant data for use on Chumbe project which is part of priority sites and to be funded for Okavango undertaking.
KPIs and TORs for each project	12/2023	On track	Developed for Kwanini project (ongoing project), Sanivation (with additional sampling protocol drafted), and Chumbe (Okavango TORs).

IV. Programme Progress Overview

A. Outcome and Output Progress and Challenges

Outcome 1 – Protected priority coral reef sites and climate change refugia

Output 1.1 –Completed scientific/feasibility studies to gain greater understanding of key hot spots & value of ecosystem services provided.

The programme regularly engaged various stakeholders with the coastal communities being introduced to the Miamba Yetu programme at various WCS consultative workshops and meetings. The two areas in Kenya where Beach Management (BMU) engagements have been held in the local language Swahili are the south coast and the North coast. In the south coast, the programme team, led by the WCS social scientist, held meetings within the proposed TBCA with the Vanga, Jimbo and Mkwiro fishing villages. The communities are generally receptive to the idea of investing within their regions as long as they are consulted and the local government officers (Kenya Fisheries Service) linked to their units are involved. Further, they have been introduced to our Social Safeguards Coordinator who visited the areas to listen to the voices of the communities. Similar site visits are planned in northern Tanzania for March 2024. This activity forms an integral part of engaging resource users in the framework of the programme, especially considering the top threats of overfishing and destructive fishing practices directly touches on resource users. This will increase awareness and contribute to the transition of coastal communities away from activities that degrade coral reefs to sustainable resource use. The sites where engagement has been conducted or planned are within the seascape of priority coral reef reefs (North coast – Kuruwitu Co-Managed Area) and/or climate change refugia Vanga, Jimbo & Mkwiro – Kisite-Mpunguti National Marine Park and Reserve and hence will contribute to the protection of priority coral reefs and climate change refugia.

In 2023, the programme established an expert panel of 12 external technical experts from Kenya and Tanzania (see Table 1 below) to review projects for ecological impact to coral reefs and for how projects affect and benefit coastal communities. Panellists, including government representatives and experts from NGOs and CSOs, are tasked with reviewing proposals for positive impact to coral reef ecosystems and positive social impact to coastal communities. Feedback from experts will be combined with WCS expertise in advising which projects and project location should be considered for funding. The inclusion of an expert panel will strengthen the scientific and social cases for projects being considered and in turn enhance the benefits to coral reefs and communities, gaining greater support for the Miamba Yetu program and approach. In the inception meeting for expert panellists, we presented the Miamba Yetu governance structure and decision-making criteria, and made minor modifications of the decision-making criteria with the expert input.

Table 1: List of Expert Panel Members

	Name	Institution	Area of Expertise
1.	Melita Samoilys	CORDIO East Africa	Coral reef ecology, small-scale fisheries management and conservation.



2.	Jason Rubens	Sound Ocean Limited (Tanzania)	Fisheries and marine resource management and governance
3.	Patrice Jilani	Kenya Fisheries Service	Innovation and technology in aquaculture, blue economy, fisheries policy and compliance
4.	Andrew Wamukota	Pwani University, Kenya	Socio-economic dynamics in coral reefs, small-scale fisheries management
5.	Patrick Kimani	COMRED, Kenya	Marine fisheries and natural resource management
6.	Upendo Hamidu	Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Tanzania	Fisheries and Aquaculture
7.	Zahor el Kharousy	Dept. of Blue Economy Development & Coordination, Ministry of Blue Economy & Fisheries, Zanzibar	Marine fisheries management and governance, blue economy, deep sea fisheries development
8.	Hamad Issa	State University of Zanzibar (SUZA)	Marine ecosystem health and services provisioning, marine natural products
9.	Arthur Tuda	Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA)	Fisheries and ocean governance, Marine Protected Area management, Marine Spatial Planning
10.	Emmanuel Mbaru	Kenya Marine & Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI)	Coastal social-ecological systems, fisheries management
11.	Godfrey Ngupula	Marine Parks and Reserve Unit (MPRU), Tanzania	Aquatic ecology, marine resource conservation and management
12.	Lorna Slade	Mwambao, Tanzania	Marine biodiversity conservation, Protected Areas, community tourism and conservation, environmental education



The programme also completed its threats assessment which was shared with the 2022 annual report. Based on the aerial quantification of threats to reefs, the threats affecting the most reef area in Kenya and Tanzania are harmful runoff and poor water quality, overfishing and poor wastewater treatment. The assessment will help the programme prioritize projects and project locations that address the top threats to coral reefs and achieve optimal protection of priority sites in the two countries. Top threats will be highlighted in open calls for proposals to encourage applicants with solutions in these areas to apply.

To support the Sanivation project, we did a site-based analysis of potential reefs exposed to local wastewater pollution in the Malindi-Watamu area which provided a rationale for Sanivation's intervention in the area with the two townships' populations and identifies several sources of effluent into the ocean where the Malindi and Watamu MPAs are located. The project's potential to offtake wastewater supports the objective and outcome of the programme's long-term objective of maintaining resilient reefs as well as contributing to the SDG co-benefit of improved public health through reduced exposure to untreated wastewater.

We supported the development of a proposal with the Kuruwitu community in 2023, following engagements with the BMUs and Kuruwitu Conservation and Welfare Association, in addition to the Oceans Alive foundation that supports the initiatives in Kuruwitu. The marine concessions model is an idea being explored by the foundation that aims to earn the community sustained revenues from the private sector – primarily ecotourism players – in leasing out ocean space. The feasibility study to be undertaken by Oceans Alive will research national policy, legal and regulatory frameworks supportive of marine concessions as a potential source of financing and creation of sustainable income streams for the Kuruwitu community. This study will identify enablers and/or impediments of potential sustainable funding mechanisms (marine concessions) and also identify potential marine concessions investment channels/projects that support income generation and sustainable management of the Kuruwitu BMU CMA and KCCA. This will contribute towards unlocking major investment for coral reef conservation and management.

In early 2024, WCS will engage an external contractor to conduct focal group meetings to ensure there are adequate social safeguard mechanisms in place before we approve the proposal. This echoes the programme's community focus and ensures that benefits of conservation are first experienced by the community custodians of natural resources. This initiative also supports the government's alignment with the grassroot policy – bottom-up approach.

For the Sanivation project, we worked with global experts to develop a site-based protocol for evaluating sewage presence at coral reef sites. This assessment will be conducted in collaboration with Sanivation by mid-2024. This work includes water sampling and surveys of bioindicators of pollution.



In Tanzania Wildlife Conservation Society under USAID, Heshimu Bahari project conducted Fisheries Pattern Mapping (FPM) across the whole Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba) and northern Tanzania coastline including surveys with more than 150 fishing communities. This work is aimed at mapping the fishing grounds used by different fishers and documenting the gear types used in each area allowing to identify resource users, levels of effort and potential conflicts. The results will support planning of fisheries management interventions with communities also in the GFCR project areas. An example of an integrated solution is co-management with the private sector through ecotourism revenues such as the Kwanini foundation project in Pemba.

WCS, through the USAID Heshimu Bahari project, is also working in collaboration with private stakeholders in Unguja to support effective co-management of privately invested islands in Zanzibar. We have currently identified investors willing to support conservation of the reefs around the leased islands, and we are working with the Government of Zanzibar and the Heshimu Bahari team, to identify solutions to inclusively and sustainably manage these new MPAs.

Output 1.2 – Triage evaluation of the economic and coral reef benefits of the projects prior to investment

Two key achievements that streamlined and standardized the triage evaluation of pipeline projects were the development of concept and full proposal templates in addition to guidelines for funding applications. Four concepts were reviewed – two that did not pass and two that did – Ecoworld Plastics Recycling and Blue Alliance reef positive businesses (see below for summary). Five proposals were also reviewed with four of them being recommended for funding – Kwanini foundation, Sanivation, CHICOP and the Kuruwitu concessions study. The team also developed comprehensive ecological, social and financial criteria screening tools to review funding applications which were submitted to GFCR. These tools were developed to speak to the GFCR M&E indicators and were vetted by the recently established external expert panel mentioned earlier.

Further to the five formal proposal reviews undertaken by the eco-social and financial technical committees, the programme team also regularly engaged prospective beneficiaries to evaluate and learn more about the context of their proposed interventions. Below are the engagements made that helped move deals further along the pipeline.

In 2023, three consultative meetings were held in total with Kuruwitu Community Welfare Associations (BMU and KCWA), and with Oceans Alive Foundation to contribute towards exploring the marine concessions proposal. Miamba Yetu has received the full proposal from Oceans Alive to undertake the feasibility study. WCS developed a focus group discussion document for key stakeholders whilst Oceans Alive has developed a survey for community members. These will further inform the acceptability around the concept of marine concessions from the Kuruwitu community and stakeholders.

Miamba Yetu also conducted a site visit to Kilifi County where the team held a meeting with Malindi Water and Sewage Company (MAWASCO - government) and Sanivation personnel before visiting the waste treatment plant construction site and the dumping grounds where the dump trucks offload raw sewage. This visit helped the team identify the sources of wastewater effluent and extent of coverage for waste collection within the towns Malindi and Watamu. The Okavango Capital team conducted multiple meetings with the Sanivation team, to discuss the



economic and financial projections of the firm, capital needs and ability to economically impact their areas of operations. Furthermore, the Okavango Capital team visited the existing Sanivation existing water processing plant in Naivasha, Kenya to better understand the business.

Several visits have been made to CHICOP by the programme team members including one with the GFCR strategic partnerships and engagements coordinator to meet with management and understand how the business and conservation models work together in an integrated approach. A final visit to undertake the business TA was conducted by Okavango Capital in December 2023, with the objective to better determine the opportunity for impact investment in the entity, and the best way to structure a deployment of blended finance in order to enhance economic and environmental impact.

Other evaluations included the Q2 2023 report submitted to GFCR which contained evaluations of the Kwanini project baselines and targets. The project was funded in 2023. These baselines and targets have been further reviewed by WCS and incorporated in the Miamba Yetu 2023-2030 M&E Framework. Annexed in the framework is the threats assessment for the proposed TBCA and Zanzibar which identified the key drivers of degradation that will be given priority.

Several other projects were studied and discussed by the Miamba Yetu team as part of a pipeline of potential investments. These include a plastic recycling company expanding into the Kenyan coast, a micro-forestry firm, and a cold-chain asset lending firm focused on the value chain of food. These opportunities were shelved after discussions between the WCS and Okavango Capital team because their stage of development was not mature enough to provide comfort about their financial viability, or because their impact on the coral reefs of the target TFCA, was not clear.

This output contributes to the protection of resilient reefs by ensuring the identification of interventions that have the best chance of providing benefits for coral reefs. Further, it also contributes to financial sustainability by evaluating the economic viability of the proposed projects.

Outcome 2 – Transform livelihoods of coral dependent communities

Output 2.1 –Develop facilities for the implementation of sustainable financing and ecologically viable business ventures

In February 2023, the Miamba Yetu team (including OCP) held a strategy meeting in Mombasa where the proposed SPV was designed and high-level process flow was agreed upon (annex J). Further meetings refined the governance and management arrangements, the SPV mechanism and deal review process, with regular updates to GFCR for input. In the second half of 2023, following the request of GFCR, the SPV business plan was shared illustrating how it would operate and manage funds from GFCR. The programme is currently awaiting the 2nd tranche disbursement to fund establishment of the entity and facilitate financing of the projects awaiting funding, the first being Sanivation. On the Venture Launcher, a final MOU between BFAGlobal and the to-be-incorporated Miamba Yetu SPV is ready for sign-off in early 2024. The establishment of the SPV as the financing vehicle earmarked for coral reef solutions will help fast-track funds flow and attract private investors to co-invest in Miamba Yetu projects.



Output 2.2 – Leveraging of GFCR grants to attract private sector capital and other funds to address growing threats to reefs from coastal development, unsustainable fishing and other key threats.

In 2023, the Miamba Yetu portfolio comprised:

- 1 funded project (Kwanini);
- 2 projects with no objections and awaiting funding (Sanivation and Chumbe);
- 3 projects under review (Kuruwitu concessions study, Ecoworld Recycling and North PECCA MPA ventures);
- Pipeline deals that have been moved to 2024 (refer to Annex A for the pipeline);
- Other deals that were explored and didn't pass the screening (ecotourism, plastic recycling and agriculture sectors).

Below is a summary update of the 6 deals that have materialized or progressed in 2023.

Kwanini project

The Kwanini Project is a blended finance solution implemented by Blue Alliance, it provides Coral Reef Protection through marine area management and development of ecotourism and improved livelihoods of >20,000 coastal community members through a USD 350,000 grant from GFCR. The project's 2023 revenue generation from Manta Resort's voluntary contributions was \$US40k and is projected to grow to US\$700k by 2025. Kwanini Foundation and Manta Resort are both located within the North PECCA region, and Blue Alliance was, in July 2023, officially recognized to co-manage the MCA and implement projects. A new proposal has also been submitted separately to fund 4 more solutions in North PECCA (see Tanzania Blue Economy Corridor below). Baselines and targets have also been received, allowing for M&E activities in phase 2.

Sanivation

Sanivation is a waste management company which has partnered with Kilifi County to repurpose sewage waste (fecal sludge) into briquettes which they sell as an alternative for energy from illegal charcoal. The revenue model for waste-to-value treatment plants involves producing and selling briquettes as a form of alternative energy and selling carbon credits from the climate mitigation outcome. This supports the long-term sustainability of this project. This solution addresses the number 1 threat in terms of area (wastewater pollution) in a known resilient reef – the Malindi and Watamu seascapes and MPAs. Sanivation's treatment plants will manage up to 52,000tons of fecal sludge every year from a combined population in need of fecal sludge management of 201,423. Further it will contribute to climate change mitigation from the sale of biofuels and reduce water-borne diseases and outbreaks through safely managing waste from homes in the two towns of Malindi and Watamu. With GFCR's no objection to the project in 2023, funding will influence expansion southward toward the proposed TBCA zone. Once disbursed, the GFCR investment of US\$40k will have joined a US\$9M public investment and US\$300K private capital already deployed to begin construction in addition to a further private capital leverage of US\$5.3M from a separate financing round. Projected revenues start at circa US\$ 20k in the first year of operations to circa \$US1M by 2030.

Chumbe Island Coral Park (CHICOP)



The Chumbe Reef Sanctuary is a 100% no-take zone through effective management for 3 decades and is home to 55 ha of biodiverse reefs. The MPA houses 7 sustainable eco-lodges, providing tourists with the opportunity to appreciate the coral reefs and associated biodiversity through snorkelling and other activities. Miamba Yetu has recommended Okavango Capital Partners to support CHICOP with a US\$50k business Technical Assistance to explore how to further enhance revenue generation of the eco-lodge business whilst protecting the conservation model so as to ensure long-term security for Biodiversity Conservation and Education Services.

Kuruwitu Marine Concessions

The Oceans Alive foundation (OA) has been supporting the Kuruwitu coastal community in Kenya. The BMU is the custodian of 12,000 ha which includes a 30-ha closure that had been setup to manage overfishing and destructive fishing. OA and Miamba Yetu co-created a proposal for a feasibility study to explore the potential of marine concessions whereby the community would lease out ocean space for ecotourism to tourist operators to support the sustainable management of the Kuruwitu co-management area coral reefs and fisheries resources. The project has the potential to support approximately 429 community households through secured revenues from this financing mechanism. The circa US\$40k feasibility study will be undertaken in 2024. Miamba Yetu will engage a consultant to evaluate social safeguard mechanisms to ensure that community voices are represented and respected during the project evaluation and any subsequent implementation processes.

Tanzania Blue Economy Corridor Project - North Pemba Conservation Channel Area (PECCA)

In 2023, Miamba Yetu IP Blue Alliance submitted a concept to further invest in 4 reef-positive businesses for sustainable financing of North PECCA. These are Sea cucumber project, Mangrove crab project (Aqua hub), Fishery improvement project (Samaki Bluu) and eco-tourism (BlueWild EcoVenture), currently under review by the Miamba Yetu programme.

Blue Alliance has requested US\$820k in grants and US\$1.15M in concessionary debt whilst it will provide co-financing from its Blue Finance MPA impact loan facility of US\$1.45M and philanthropic co-funding of US\$0.6M. The four businesses above will help finance the conservation of approximately 28,000 ha of coral reefs, create jobs for approximately 1,160 fishers and residents in addition to revenue benefits to over 2,000 households. Review of the full proposal is expected to be undertaken in phase 2 of Miamba Yetu.

Ecoworld Recycling

Ecoworld is an entity born out of the Watamu Marine Association to address marine ecosystems which are threatened by plastic pollution or associated biodiversity loss. It is a social enterprise that drives communities towards environmental stewardship, providing income opportunities through sustainable efforts to curb plastic pollution. In 2023, Miamba Yetu engaged with Ecoworld to explore linkages and subsequently reviewed a concept seeking US\$500k grant or concessionary debt funding support to scale up plant and machinery in addition to operational needs. A full proposal is currently being developed by Ecoworld for further review by the Miamba Yetu team.

Fish Eagle Point (Pangani, Tanga, Tanzania)



Fish Eagle is an eco-friendly resort located in a small, protected area. They are in a peninsula surrounded by mangroves and coral reefs. In partnership with other organizations, they have a lease for 300 acres with the village to protect mangrove forest. They are also involved in coral restoration and have a closure for fishing of octopus and fish. Upon refurbishment/ acquisition, Fish Eagle has a huge potential to protect and restore coral reefs. Drivers and opportunity: Overfishing and destructive fishing from Increased sustainable tourism. This deal is being explored through OCP with a concept expected in early 2024.

Output 2.3 – Successful early-stage investments to test and implement the approach.

In 2023, WCS and BFA Global drafted an MOU for granting TECA companies (operating in Kenya, Tanzania, and Zanzibar) with positive coral reef impact follow-on support to build out their solutions. One of the TECA companies, Vua, was earmarked for funding from Miamba Yetu following an assessment of 7 companies in the first wave that were then shortlisted to 3. Miamba Yetu also provided support in the form of feedback to the companies under TECA. The intention to support Vua has served as a signal to other investors who have since invested in TECA companies. TECA companies have to date raised US\$ 140K post-graduation from Traction with Vua having attracted funding from Climate Collective. As the funding mechanism to deploy support is finalized and funds disbursed by GFCR, it is expected that the partnership will continue in 2024, when the next cohort of ventures will be assessed against their alignment with Miamba Yetu and GFCR's objectives. In 2023, the first cohort had the following achievements:

- All the graduated companies are operating in Kenya or Tanzania
- 4 out of 7 companies have female CEOs
- 55% of co-founders are women.
- Companies achieved over 200 users of their pilots in 3 months.

Vua – the TECA company that Miamba Yetu plans to support, is a fintech platform to facilitate and track payments to fish dealers and small-scale fishers (SSFs) via mobile money, encourage a savings culture by retaining a portion of SSFs' earnings through a check-off system (thereby enforcing financial discipline and making it easier to save) and manages disbursements by availing the savings during the low fishing season. This platform is available to fishers who practise sustainable pole and line fishing and also provides loans to purchase sustainable fishing gear.

B. Monitoring and Evaluation

The programme has continued to develop a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation (M&E) framework (refer to annex B) that will be applied in phase 2 of Miamba Yetu. Within it, each fund level indicator has assigned to it a methodology and means of verification in addition to the respective baselines (2023), early stage (2026), mid-term (2028) and final (2030) targets. Methods have also been developed for project – or sector-based – indicators for the current portfolio of projects (ecotourism, wastewater and plastics recycling). These are further expanded as more sectors are added to the portfolio of projects.

The Miamba Yetu M&E Framework also provides a strategy for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) from project activities. This includes describing the methodologies to be used under each sub-indicator, the sites to be prioritized, frequency of delivery, management, sharing and



reporting of resulting data and finally, how knowledge gained and lessons learned are leveraged to enhance this and other programmes. These are highlighted below:

- a) Data Collection methods for projects & fund indicators
- b) Proposed Sites, Frequency of Monitoring and Evaluation (Baseline Assessments, Early, Mid-term Reviews and Final Evaluations)
- c) Data Management, Sharing and Reporting (MERMAID, Kobo toolbox, reports, platforms)
- d) Knowledge Management and Learning Opportunities

Given that the first phase of Miamba Yetu has focused on closing its first set of projects, the first one being the Kwanini Foundation/Manta Resort project implemented by Blue Alliance, phase two is expected to further refine the framework with additional baseline data from the Sanivation and Chumbe projects which are expected to receive funding in early 2024. Periodic ecological and social data will also be collected in the priority sites to build on the existing data contained within the framework.

As for lessons learned, so far, WCS has been leading the data collection in priority coral reef sites with additional data provided by Blue Alliance for the North PECCA region. This requires coordination with the recipients to avoid duplications while ensuring that indicators are monitored effectively.

We explored various protocols for evaluation of trash on beach areas adjacent to coral reefs. Given the time-consuming nature of accurate recording of trends on trash deposition and quality of initial data received from community trash monitors, we agreed to instead focus on quantification of the amount of plastic removed from priority beach sites that is generated by project partners (e.g. Ecoworld).

C. Protected Areas Management Effectiveness

WCS assessed MPA management effectiveness in the TBCA for the Kisite-Mpunguti MPA and the Tanga Marine Reserves network in 2023 with support from the Blue Action Fund. We used the IUCN METT4 tool, but rather than opinion-based scoring, we co-created with the MPAs an evidence-based version that requires demonstration of accomplishments to achieve each score. We conducted the evidence-based METT for 18 priority questions and compared progress between scores in 2021 and 2023. In Kenya, the Kisite-Mpunguti MPA exhibited a 50% increase in METT scores compared to 2021 due to the support from WCS on management plan implementation, but also clearly shows areas where improvements are needed.

For the Kisite-Mpunguti MPA, WCS (with support from the Blue Action Fund) led the process of developing the 3-year management action plan with KWS and local communities, supported the MPA in infrastructure (build a classroom and offices), trained the MPA in ecological monitoring for fish and supported them with monitoring equipment including a boat engine, reviewed patrol approaches and developed a guide and training sessions for evidence handling to improve ability to prosecute when violations are found, and developed MPA posters on benefits and rules. Moving forward, WCS is the lead technical writer for the ecology section of the Kisite-Mpunguti 10-year strategic plan. WCS is exploring an



ecotourism solution with community involvement at the Kisite-Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve region. For Tanzania Tanga Marine Reserves, scoring was done, but reporting is still underway with completion by end February 2024.

Since the Nairobi Convention and government agencies actively participated in the November 2023 TBCA workshop, political support has increased with the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Kenya Wildlife Service (Kenya) and the Marine Parks and Reserves Unit (Tanzania) to establish their transboundary collaboration. Through the MOU, a joint management committee will be created to serve as a cross-border communication and coordination platform to fully develop and establish the TBCA. To summarise, these are the challenges experienced and solutions applied to continue the TBCA project:

TBCA Challenges experienced	TBCA Solutions applied
The COVID-19 pandemic limited movements across borders and made workshop organization more costly and difficult to undertake.	<p>Stakeholder meetings were held in separate countries under the leadership of KWS and MPRU and support of WIOMSA. The stakeholders were also separated into their respective groups to reduce numbers of people attending in one workshop.</p> <p><u>Benefit of this solution:</u> This enabled both organisations to adhere to COVID-19 protocols but was also able to encourage attendance of more in-country participants that raised the awareness of more people about the TBCA. Disaggregating the stakeholders into their sub-groups also allowed for more meaningful discussions (e.g., community members were able to speak more freely when with their peers).</p>
Turnover of political leaders occurred in both countries, which delayed stakeholder workshops due to changes in leadership roles at various government levels	<p>WIOMSA contacted the Nairobi Convention to get advice on the next steps to undertake and determine the best way to approach the political leaders</p> <p>Courtesy calls and in-person meetings with the new directors of various institutions were undertaken by the WIOMSA Executive Director to personally discuss the TBCA status and process, and gain support.</p> <p><u>Benefit of this solution:</u> Despite the delays, the in-person meetings facilitated the re-education of the government leaders about the importance of the TBCA region and the proposed plans.</p>
Discussions with the Ministerial leaders and regional partners (i.e., Nairobi Convention and African Union) showed that institutional support at all government levels is important to push the TBCA development process forward.	<p>The objectives of the stakeholder meetings held in August – September 2023 shifted to focus on developing the institutional arrangements to support transboundary collaboration, instead of refining the spatial plan for the TBCA</p> <p><u>Benefit of this solution:</u> Having institutional arrangements in place, particularly the clear roles and responsibilities of relevant government agencies can help improve the development</p>



	of the TBCA plan and also encourage uptake since there are already governance measures established.
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D. Enabling Policy Environment

At the regional level, the programme has set up an expert advisory panel which includes government representatives from partner Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) that will not only contribute to reviews of pipeline deals, but whose involvement could contribute towards aligning future deals to relevant policies.

WCS Policy Work in Kenya

In Kenya, WCS is supporting the government on marine spatial planning at national and county levels through developing ecological models which identify optimal coral reef, mangrove, and seagrass areas to protect in voluntary community closures to enhance fish biomass and climate resilience. In 2023, we completed the ecosystem models and a national community governance assessment. In 2024, we will be refining the models with field data as well as integrating community knowledge and views into the prioritization process. This project is funded by NORAD/LENFEST and will help direct Miamba Yetu to the optimal locations within priority sites.

The Kenya-Tanzania proposed TBCA has also been re-mobilized with support from WCS. The initial proposal for this area began through the Nairobi Convention in 2016, but due to inadequate funding support, after a legal and ecosystem scoping and reports, progress slowed. Since 2019, with support from the Blue Action Fund and in collaboration with the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), we have been supporting marine spatial planning in the TBCA to agree on potential boundaries and zonation and supporting a renewed political process. There was an intergovernmental meeting held in November 2023 during which the governments decided that they needed an MOU defining how the TBCA collaboration would proceed. The MOU was drafted in November 2023 with support from the African Union and is awaiting signature from the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife in Kenya and the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock in Tanzania. WCS, with financial support from the Blue Action Fund (BAF), implemented a project that contributed to the development of the TBCA and contracted WIOMSA to undertake marine spatial planning with stakeholders to define the boundaries and different management zones within the TBCA. WCS is now exploring opportunities to support the financial sustainability of the TBCA through ecotourism lodges within the MPA identified as a priority site – the Kisite-Mpunguti Marine Park and Reserve.



The Jumuiya Economic Development Secretariat is the regional economic development agency representing the six (6) Kenya coastal counties (Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, Tana River, Lamu and Taita Taveta) “Jumuiya Economic Bloc” charged with regional coordination of cooperation, policy harmonization, promotion and investment facilitation of the regional assets. Miamba Yetu and the government-backed Jumuiya Economic Development Secretariat (JKP) signed a Collaborative Framework Agreement. WCS, as a key participant, committed to supporting the identification, co-implementation, and co-funding of projects through the Miamba Yetu program. The organization will develop interventions to transition coastal communities away from practices that degrade reefs and linked coastal habitats. Additionally, WCS will engage in joint activities with JKP on topics such as the protection of reefs, sustainable ocean production, sustainable tourism, and circular economy and pollution. On the other hand, JKP will establish linkages with key activities under the EURO 25M Go Blue project, including the Mikindani Waste Management initiative and the implementation of a Blue Carbon REDD+ project. They will cooperate in the design and joint support of projects under Go Blue 2.0, focusing on Go Blue Growth and Go Blue Environment. Beyond Go Blue 2.0, JKP will engage in joint activities covering the protection of reefs, sustainable ocean production, sustainable tourism, and circular economy and pollution. The signing of the Collaborative Framework Agreement for implementation in 2024 represents a significant commitment from both WCS and JKP towards the shared vision of conserving marine resources and promoting sustainable development in the Jumuiya region.

Policy Work in Tanzania

On August 21st 2023, Blue Alliance Zanzibar, and the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar signed a long-term collaborative management agreement for North PECCA. This agreement aims to protect 17,000 ha of marine ecosystems and contribute to the island's blue economy. This partnership between Miamba Yetu's project's co-implementer and the government of Zanzibar, was an important milestone in showcasing the power of collaboration to manage Marine Protected Areas effectively and sustainably in the proposed TBCA by preserving the critical marine ecosystems and empowering local communities.

Also in Tanzania, WCS is working as an implementing partner of the USAID supported Heshimu Bahari Activity which among its objectives, is looking to develop enabling policies for private sector investments in marine conservation. The first deliverable of this work was a report of sustainable financing mechanisms for MPAs in Tanzania and Zanzibar. WCS and conservation partners including Heshimu Bahari are exploring the setup of a consortium of active marine conservation groups that investors in MPAs can rely on for technical assistance support. We expect in the upcoming months or years to work closely with the Heshimu Bahari Activity and to contribute to the development of policies that can link this function to the Environmental and Social Impact Assessments that are mandatory yet not effectively applied.

Some large investment projects are scheduled for the region, especially around Tanga. Unfortunately, the Tanzanian Environment Act (2004) does not contain very strong mitigation targets and as a result projects may not invest in appropriate actions to limit and compensate for their impacts. Fortunately, the largest investor, EACOP, is committed to following IFC Standards and is committed to investing toward meeting net gain targets for biodiversity in these critical areas. The Independent Advisory Panel overseeing EACOP's biodiversity and social programs, and on



which WCS has representation, hopes to engage with government to promote updating of regulations to include no net loss and net gain policies so that all companies would be required to adhere to best practices related to avoidance, minimisation and offsetting of impacts.

E. Complementary Initiatives

Our Blue Future

In December 2022, Miamba Yetu joined a new initiative in the Southwestern Indian Ocean (SWIO) region called Our Blue Future (OBF) which aims to bring multiple stakeholders working in the region towards a Sustainable Blue Economy. This collaboration would help position WCS and the Miamba Yetu programme as a leading organization in the blue financing space amongst the OBF partners who comprise a majority of the active development organizations in the region including GIZ, WWF, Finance Earth and SWIO-TUNA. Miamba Yetu is currently engaged with the OBF consortium to identify future opportunities with mutually beneficial outcomes.

GoBlue Project (Kenya)

The Go Blue Project (valued at EUR24.75M) is an initiative funded by the European Union that will focus on building the capacity for integrated participatory and sustainable economic growth, the conservation of coastal marine environments and effective governance in all six coastal counties in Kenya. Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani (JKP) - which runs the Go Blue project - is a Kenyan regional economic development agency representing the six (6) Kenya coastal counties (Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, Tana River, Lamu and Taita Taveta) “Jumuiya Economic Bloc”. JKP and WCS signed a collaborative framework agreement within which WCS and JKP will collaborate on marine conservation activities that benefit coastal communities dependent on marine resources in areas of mutual strategic interest. In 2024, Miamba Yetu will work with JKP to explore the potential to collaborate on the US\$350,000 Mikindani constructed Wetland system which will treat raw sewage that flows into Tudor creek.

Triggering Exponential Climate Action (TECA) Venture Launcher

BFA Global launched the TECA initiative with support from FSD Africa in April 2022. TECA is a dynamic venture launcher that seeks to identify and fund talented individuals passionate about climate action, empowering them to transform their ideas into impactful ventures. The initiative aims to create sustainable solutions that promote the climate resilience of rivers, seas, lakes, oceans, and the communities that rely on these natural resources. In 2023, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was drafted between the Miamba Yetu SPV (to be incorporated) and BFA Global. Miamba Yetu plans to continue supporting eligible Blue Economy start-ups graduating from TECA in phase 2 (2024 onwards).

NORAD/Lenfest assessment of optimal locations for community closures (Kenya)

Under the Pew Lenfest program and with additional funding from NORAD, WCS has launched key aspects of scientific work in partnership with Macquarie University and engaged multiple stakeholders in the process to identify optimal locations of community closures to improve fish stocks and climate resilience in Kenya. In 2023, existing habitat models were improved by reducing error and increasing predictive capacity. We also participated in a stakeholder workshop with the national MSP committee to ensure that results of this work are timely and impactful. In



addition to this, we undertook community governance analysis in 30 communities spanning the coastline evaluating social capacity, governance capacity, and ability to adapt to change (adaptive capacity). Results of this project will help prioritize areas for GFCR investment in community closures and fisheries/ecosystem management. In particular, as we are scoping the possibility of developing a concessions model with the Kuruwitu community to support fisheries management there. We will use the results of the NORAD/Lenfest project to determine priority places to replicate the model trialled and developed with Kuruwitu. Ultimately, we aim to find ways to financially support a network of community closures in optimal places to support coral reefs.

Blue Carbon (TBCA)

In Kenya and Tanzania, we are working with several communities on evaluating the potential for blue carbon projects at community levels. In Kenya, this relates to the Vanga Blue Forest initiative, and we are supporting communities in adding seagrass closures to existing mangrove-based carbon sales schemes to increase community willingness to protect marine space. In Tanzania, we are scoping high priority areas north of Tanga where we can develop community-run mangrove and seagrass management areas as we evaluate the potential for carbon sales. We are currently in discussion with the Tanzania Forest Service and Plan Vivo to identify governance solutions that align with Government Carbon Regulations and Plan Vivo's certification requirements. We have a regional blue carbon coordinator joining WCS (under other funding) to further evaluate suitable sites, costs, and return on investment for blue carbon projects in communities and MPAs and make recommendations for investment. We will use this work as the basis for future GFCR investments in blue carbon projects.

Mpunguti Marine Park & Reserve

With complementary project funding, WCS completed management plans for the Kisite-Mpunguti Marine Park & Reserve in the southern Kenya TBCA and for the Tanga Marine Reserves network in the northern Tanzania TBCA. WCS will be the lead technical support to the government on drafting the upcoming 10-year management plan for Kisite which launches in 2025. These management plans highlight core areas where the MPAs can use support through GFCR including the potential for new community and commercial concessions models in Kisite-Mpunguti and need for creative solutions to sustainable financing in the Tanga Marine Reserve network due to extremely low ecotourism potential. In addition, in Tanzania, we are exploring blue carbon models as a way to generate MPA revenue. WCS also completed fisheries co-management plans for 6 TBCA communities (3 in Kenya and 3 in Tanzania), and established credit and savings initiatives as well as ecotourism initiatives and fisheries value addition evaluation. These are small-scale and community led, and if there are opportunities for small grant support, we have clear pathways to benefit communities. In Kenya, we have been working with the South African NGO Abalobi to develop smartphone data collection tools for fishers that allow instant viewing of data trends around individual and community fish catch and are working to explore how use of these tools can improve fishing businesses and mobilize communities in coral reef conservation. As an example, the pilot community has been opposed to marine conservation for 30+ years and through this approach has now agreed to ban all reef seines from their area and is developing an action plan to do so. In the next year, we will explore possibilities to scale up this approach.

USAID (Tanzania)



USAID is supporting the US\$25M Heshimu Bahari project, of which WCS is a partner, to strengthen the existing network of MPAs across the Pemba channel. Meetings have been held with stakeholders including an investor meeting in August 2023 with ZIPA and small island investors to kick-start engagement on potential collaborations to implement conservation of key coral hotspots around the islands. 6 investors have expressed some level of interest so far. To complement this, WCS is also exploring opportunities to work with ZIPA and the parent ministry, in partnership with Heshimu Bahari, to set up a consortium of locally active marine conservation groups to support resorts in key areas manage their marine resources.

The Great Blue Wall (GBW)

Miamba Yetu is following the ongoing development of the Great Blue Wall which is being spearheaded by IUCN across the Western Indian Ocean to identify areas of collaboration. Partners such as BFAGlobal TECA, are also collaborating with GBW which would help scale impact in the region.

F. Gender Mainstreaming

The programme is supported by the WCS regional social safeguards coordinator with the support of both WCS Africa and WCS global rights and community directors - helping in making sure that gender mainstreaming, strategies and action plans are incorporated and monitored throughout the projects.

Social and Environmental Safeguards (SES) strategy:

The programme is developing a social and environmental safeguards strategy which follows the GFCR and UNDP Environmental and Social Framework (ESF) and the national laws [and state and local laws, where applicable] and regulations of Kenya and Tanzania, depending on where the proposed project will be located. The strategy includes guidance for the programme to conduct meaningful consultations with all projects to ensure gender inclusivity and responsiveness, tailored to the needs of vulnerable groups.

Further, Miamba Yetu continues to adopt its 3-tier strategy to address gender equity. During project scoping and open calls, special consideration will be given to enterprises that are women-led or support development of women in business. Further, for the venture launcher- TECA, women entrepreneurs will also be given special consideration for support.

For projects that are funded or financed, the social screening tool for project proposals includes indicators community inclusivity and equity, assessing whether projects support women-led businesses or build skills for women entrepreneurs or women in managerial positions. It also includes assessment on products or services that explicitly benefit women.

Representation and Participation:

In the course of its operations in the region, WCS requires 50% representation of women across both older and younger age groups. The organization is committed to ensuring women's active involvement in decision-making processes and project development, adhering to the 1/3 rule, particularly relevant in Kenya due to the significant underrepresentation of women. Kenya's 2010 constitution stipulates that no more than



two-thirds of members in elective and appointive bodies should be of the same gender. Achieving the 1/3 target is ambitious given cultural norms, but the overarching goal is to attain 50% representation in both Kenya and Tanzania wherever feasible.

WCS follows a standard procedure, aligning with the GFCR Gender Policy, to record gender in attendance lists. This will help identify the number of women and female fishers and participants benefiting from business ventures, contributing to a project's overall score and favouring those that promote female inclusivity.

Risk coverage:

As for social risks, principle 2 of the strategy covers gender equality and women empowerment, asking questions such as:

- Is there a likelihood that the proposed Project would adversely impact gender equality and the situation of women and girls?
- Would the Project potentially reproduce discrimination against women based on gender, especially regarding participation in design and implementation of access to opportunities and benefits?
- Would the Project potentially limit women's ability to use, develop, and protect natural resources?

In the ongoing funded project – Kwanini - reporting provided by the IP, Blue Alliance (formerly Blue Finance), showed that the project addressed gender and social inclusion as highlighted in the gender action report below:

Gender Action Report

Linked Programme Outcome	Objective	Action	Indicator	Milestone – 2023	Remarks
Outcome 1: Protected priority coral reef sites and climate change refugia (Kwanini Project)	<i>Strive for at least >1/3 female representation in leadership.</i>	<i>Ensure that meetings have equal gender representation, that elections of leaders follow the 1/3 rule, and promoting the importance of gender equity in businesses that are financed by the program,</i>	<i>No. of women and men attending project meetings, and in leadership positions</i>	Currently 30% of people employed by Kwanini Foundation are women.	The project will seek to reach 50% of women employed in the MPA at Kwanini.



Outcome 2: Transform livelihoods of coral dependent communities (Kwanini Project)	Women have improved opportunities for sustainable livelihoods in coastal communities	Ensure distribution of finance flows equitably towards women-led businesses in coral reef dependent communities	Number of women and men supported financially in reef positive business ventures	10 men and 4 women earn their remuneration equitably from the Kwanini Foundation. Target Indirect community beneficiaries in Makangale-Tondooni, Wete, Njao, Mnarani School are: Men - 3,145 Women - 4,380	The project aims to report benefits to women in the wider North PECCA region within which this project is located and where more MPA projects are being considered.
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The upcoming Sanitation wastewater management project will also be highlighted in terms of its importance to gender equity since access to sanitation and clean environments disproportionately impact women, girls, and the disabled. The goal will be to maintain its achievement of most of the 2x gender challenge targets as the baseline. On the 2x gender challenge, the company was co-founded by Emily Woods, a female entrepreneur (50% executive representation). The team comprises 7 out of 16 women in leadership/management positions (44%) and a further 23 out of 58 employees (40%) also female.

V. Programme Governance & Management

A. Programme Governance

Since 2022, WCS and OCP have been actively engaged in enhancing and expanding the governance and management systems to streamline process flows and achieve positive outcomes for the project.

In 2023, the existing governance system underwent a slight modification. Between the SPV board and the technical committees, is a Project Steering Committee (PSC) established in November 2023 to oversee the programme and chaired by WCS' Regional Director – East Africa, Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean. This director brings extensive experience in small-scale enterprises and financing. The overall composition of the management team remains relatively unchanged. Governance involves the active participation of Okavango Capital Partners, with representatives from Conservation Capital, the WCS Regional Marine Programme Director, country directors for the marine program in



Kenya and Tanzania, and the Conservation Finance Specialist from the Markets Team at WCS Global. The WCS Global marine program also participates in an advisory capacity, particularly in program implementation and M&E. The Program Director for Miamba Yetu manages the programme and coordinates the governance systems' operation, ensuring effective information sharing, communication, and organization and is closely involved in the conservation finance engagements. The governance system incorporates mechanisms for making decisions regarding supported activities. The Expert Advisory Panel also reviewed the governance structure.

Before the PSC was established, the programme was guided by strategy meetings comprising WCS and Okavango. The first meeting was held on 13th and 14th February 2023 (see Annex – Strategy Meeting Report Feb 2023). The outcome of the meeting was:

- A financing structure that addresses the movement of investments vs. grants.
- An organogram of the roles and responsibilities of the programme team (WCS and OCP).
- A step-by-step process flow of deal reviews from origination of deals to closing.
- Specific deliverables for the 3 deals (Sanivation, Chumbe and Mr Green) and timelines for presentation to GFCR.
- Agreement to partner with the TECA venture launcher.

The second meeting was held on the 2nd of August 2023 (see Annex – Strategy Meeting Report Aug 2023). Decisions made were:

- To proceed with review of the priority proposals for Sanivation, Chumbe and Mr Green and Kuruwitu deals;
- Wait for WCS legal approval for the SPV before Okavango incorporating it;
- Establishment of an expert advisory panel;
- Hire an identified candidate for the marine scientist position for Tanzania;
- Include a blue carbon intervention in Tanzania (Tanga) should the assessment by the Blue Carbon coordinator come back positive.

B. Programme Management

This system aims to ensure technical and financial feasibility and contributions to coral reef conservation and local community well-being. The program has established two filters for project approval. The first, the Ecological and Communities Assessment Team, comprises experts from Miamba Yetu program countries and external experts who review proposals periodically. The second, the Finance Assessment Team, includes representatives from Okavango and Conservation Capital Partners, the WCS Conservation Finance Specialist, the WCS Programme Director, and additional reviewers meeting at least once every two months.

Once projects are approved by the technical teams, recommendations move to the PSC for final discussion before submission to the GFCR funding process. This ensures that only financially sound projects contributing to positive social and reef conservation goals are forwarded for final approval and funding.

As part of program implementation and to crowd in capital, WCS and OCP are in the final stages of establishing an SPV. This mechanism, designed for effective blended finance, aims to attract additional investment and create partnerships to support project incubation and loan financing. The



proposed structure could serve as a model for blended finance facilities funding conservation-related ventures in the region, offering a game-changing, long-term, and sustainable financing solution. The governance system mirrors that described above, ensuring the integrity of all Miamba Yetu projects and overseen by a board currently comprising OCP with new investors being able to take positions in the future. The team is currently developing Terms of Reference for a legal consultancy to create a corporate charter covering the optimal legal structure and operational approach for the SPV. The Charter will be shared with GFCR in 2024 to establish effective mechanisms for disbursements and investments through the SPV by the first half of 2024.

C. Programme Operations

Human Resources

The programme onboarded the GFCR Tanzania Marine Scientist during the reporting period with a master's degree and 15 years of marine experience. This has further strengthened ecological and social activities in Tanzania including data collection from priority sites and participation in technical reviews of concepts and proposals.

WCS onboarded a regional M&E marine scientist to support our work regionally in the WIO with a master's degree and 11 years of marine experience. The M&E scientist is supporting GFCR across the TBCA.

The WCS Social Safeguards Coordinator for the WIO and East Africa region is working with the programme to develop an Environmental and Social Safeguards strategy which will integrate GFCR and WCS frameworks and policies. The strategy is expected to be finalized in the first half of 2024.

Knowledge sharing and capacity building

WCS has led the development of the coral reef data collection and sharing platform MERMAID. MERMAID has over 1,000 global user sites and >39,000 transects in 29 countries. To ensure that coral reef data is secured, standardized and available to scientists and stakeholders, WCS is contributing to the MERMAID global dashboard storing data from coral reef surveys conducted as part of this project as well as disseminating data summary with partners and stakeholders. MERMAID will be used as support for our monitoring and evaluation work in the Miamba Yetu project.

For other programme findings, data will be preserved in cloud servers and common platforms to facilitate real-time collaboration across various stakeholders, mitigating communication gaps that could impede project success. Additionally, other relevant web-based cloud platforms like OneDrive will also be utilized when necessary.

Progress towards achieving targets will be well documented through regular updates during stakeholder meetings and in annual project reports. These meetings and reports will draw upon information generated from the mentioned cloud-based data management systems. They will



provide a clear overview of implementation status against targets for all indicators, highlighting any challenges that may act as bottlenecks to the project. Furthermore, documenting and sharing insights gained from addressing these challenges will be integral to this process.

The knowledge derived from processed data will be disseminated through various WCS-approved platforms, including scientific publications, scientific conferences, regional and local stakeholder workshops, and other relevant media channels. This ensures that valuable insights are shared effectively to benefit stakeholders and advance understanding in the field.

During the 31st International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB) held in Kigali, Rwanda in July 2023, WCS and Miamba Yetu program showcased an exhibition booth, delivered two presentations during the symposium (one on the threats assessment and one on leveraging capital to drive reef-positive investments in Kenya & Tanzania), as well as a presentation on the Kenya-Tanzania Trans-Boundary Conservation Area. Held every 2 years on a rotating basis across the 5 continents, the 2023 ICCB edition was the first to take place in Africa since 2007. As an official sponsor of the event, WCS had prominent visibility and hosted a reception with partners and key stakeholders in attendance. The congress was a tremendous opportunity to promote WCS' conservation work and achievements on a global stage including the GFCR funded Miamba Yetu programme.

Processes and Procedures

The program embraces transparency by proactively communicating project activities to relevant government authorities within the jurisdictions where the GFCR program operates. The programme has ensured government participation in the reviewing of deals through the establishment of the expert advisory panel. This panel comprises relevant government experts who provide valuable feedback on project proposals. Since formalizing this procedure which has become a prerequisite before proposal submission for funding approval from GFCR and embedding this within the program's governance and management arrangements, projects will be expedited. In early 2024, WCS will release a call for reef-positive project proposals across Kenya and Tanzania.

Systems and Technology

Continued efforts are underway to integrate all WCS Trans-Boundary Conservation Area (TBCA) data into the MERMAID platform in a consistent and easily shareable format. Over the past year, data from seven sites (four in Tanzania and three in Kenya) were entered into the MERMAID database, facilitating better data management and accessibility.

Data from socio-economic surveys and catch data are collected with the tool Kobo toolbox, an online and centralized server system to manage survey-based data. Kobo toolbox allows for easy data sharing with partners and stakeholders. All WCS data is backed up in the cloud in secure files on OneDrive as an additional precaution.



VI. Resource Mobilisation

WCS has a long history of strong partnerships in both Kenya and Tanzania with international and local development partners and the respective governments. The Kwanini project secured US\$70,000 in grant funding from the Ocean Risk and Resilience Action Alliance (ORRAA) to be disbursed in 2023, against a GFCR grant of US\$350,000. The grants support the North PECCA operations and reef-positive businesses including the Kwanini project.

The programme will strive to leverage its network of development partners to leverage the 1:1 grant co-funding target.

For example, as the program moves to phase 2 (2024-2026), WCS could attract additional philanthropic funding to improve the pot of funding available for de-risking, project incubation and grant program expansion. Sources of this include the:

- US\$6M grants under contract USAID Heshimu Bahari project in Zanzibar applied towards small island investments in ecotourism. WCS is a partner in this project and meetings held to discuss collaborative funding
- US\$5.6M Blue Action Fund focusing on the eastern side of Pemba. WCS is an implementing partner to the project and will ensure a co-financing approach is leveraged with Miamba Yetu to scale impact within MPAs in the project area of Eastern Pemba
- Potential grant co-matching support on implementation of marine concessions through Oceans Alive. This serves the purpose of the feasibility study and will unlock GFCR interventions.
- The EUR25M GoBlue project is being implemented in Kenya with the coastal county government coalition and UNEP amongst other development partners. Focus areas include constructed wetlands and community closures and livelihoods in the TBCA. WCS has signed a collaborative agreement with the regional economic bloc to co-implement mutually beneficial solutions in Kenya.
- US\$1.1M targeted by Blue Alliance towards North PECCA businesses (highlighted in section IV), with a co-financing leverage of 1:1. The proposal for this suite of solutions is being reviewed by WCS and Okavango and is expected to be paired with the proposed co-funding.

Overall grant co-funding targets are provided in Miamba Yetu's 2023-2030 M&E Framework (Annex B).

RESOURCE MOBILISATION EFFORTS – Revenue Generation

The programme used phase 1 (2022-2023) to move from the administrative structuring, ecological assessment and pipeline development towards reviewing and implementing bankable projects beginning 2023 onwards. Challenges were faced with delays in funding for the SPV setup and approvals for Sanivation to enable disbursement within the year. The Kwanini project was however funded in 2023 with baselines and targets for revenue generation provided by the IP – Blue Alliance. The amount of revenue generated from sustainable financing streams for the Kwanini was provided as US\$40,000 in voluntary contributions with 2024 and 2025 projections given as US\$400k and US\$700k respectively.



Moving forward, the revenue generation/stream ambitions and targets will be incorporated with the development of the SPV and with each deal that successfully passes the review process. Overall revenue generating targets are provided in Miamba Yetu's 2023-2030 M&E Framework (Annex B).

RESOURCE MOBILISATION EFFORTS – Investment

Miamba Yetu's SPV is being established in order to facilitate various sources of capital into projects approved for funding. Once the SPV is set up, OCP will work towards fund-raising, including earmarking its Okavango fund for Miamba Yetu solutions that it deems fit to invest in through the SPV.

For ongoing projects, the grant to Blue Finance is blended with a committed debt injection of USD300k structured through the IP – Blue Finance (now Blue Alliance). This is a 1:1 ratio of grant to debt committed for this project. Blue Alliance has also submitted a proposal to Miamba Yetu to fund US\$820k in grants, US\$1.15M in concessionary debt (BlueBridge or Investment fund) whilst it will provide co-financing from its Blue Finance MPA impact loan facility of US\$1.45M and philanthropic co-funding of US\$0.6M. This would bring the co-financing leverage to 1:1.

The Sanivation project that is awaiting a final no objection from UNCDF's Investment Committee before disbursement has secured US\$9M in public capital structured as multilateral debt by the World Bank through the Government of Kenya to the county of Kilifi and MAWASCO which sub-contracted Sanivation to undertake the project. GFCR will have joined the round with US\$540k, a 16:1 grant to public funding ratio. Miamba Yetu's position in the transaction will be to influence Sanivation's expansion southward towards the proposed TBCA in Kwale county where more co-funding could be unlocked through the government and other partners to provide the waste to value treatment plants in coral reef-threatened sites.

The pipeline listing (Annex A) will see the 2024 pipeline scoping, progression and subsequent deals develop into proposals where commitments and pledges will be more accurately projected, adding to the existing secured and anticipated investments from phase 1 of the programme. These include eco-tourism investments that will develop from the Kuruwitu co-managed area as a result of the marine concessions feasibility study, ecotourism projects in Zanzibar in partnership with the USAID Heshimu Bahari project, a new ecotourism opportunity in Fish Eagle Point, Tanga, Tanzania and the Mombasa MPA virtual aquarium center which will be explored through a subcontracted market/business feasibility. All these are in addition to the Sanivation and Blue Alliance deals mentioned above.

Overall (aggregated) co-investment targets are provided in Miamba Yetu's 2023-2030 M&E Framework (Annex B).

VII. Risk Management and Mitigation

Miamba Yetu has developed a comprehensive proposal template tailored for financing applicants has been developed and is being used to evaluate projects. This template includes a dedicated risk section, enabling applicants to identify potential risks and outline strategies for mitigating them.

Furthermore, the program has in place stringent evaluation criteria for reviewing project proposals. Each proposal will undergo a thorough vetting process employing a checklist and grading system that evaluates applications based on various criteria, notably including risk assessment and mitigation strategies. Projects lacking sufficient evidence of risk mitigation will be requested to refine their strategies before being considered for funding.

Implemented projects will undergo routine risk assessments as part of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) procedures. The programme's M&E framework also includes a strategy for Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) that provides guidelines on how the programme plans to adapt and learn from its ongoing projects. The measures below will help inform future projects risk management procedures.

	Event	Risk Level	Likelihood	Impact	Risk Management, Treatment	Risk/Treatment Owner	Risk Valid From/To
Contextual Risks							
	Political instability	Medium	1	4	The projects implemented will align with the objectives of the local governments.	WCS/OCP	Project start to end
	Recessions and global economic contingency	High	3	3	The project will ensure revenue margins to account for some degree of financial instability. Sound financial monitoring will help economic resilience. Tourism projects will need particular attention and will need to include appropriate sensitivity analyses to ensure assumptions consider recession of other factors. Exploring income diversification will form part of the strategy.	OCP	Project start to end
	Pandemic	Medium	1	3	The programme implementation will consider the potential for a persistent COVID pandemic thus implementing measures to allow stakeholder meetings and field missions. Projects such as tourism	WCS/OCP	Project start to end



					requiring visitation to generate revenue will be especially vulnerable if another pandemic were to occur		
Climate change	High	4	3		The technical teams will assess each project in terms of vulnerability to climate change and assess the specific risks associated with each project. At the same time, project development will consider opportunities for investment and income related to specific climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.	WCS	Project start to end
Programmatic Risks							
Failure to reach ecological sustainability	High	3	4		The programme will carefully select and monitor implementation and provide a mechanism to halt implementation and support in case of failing to provide ecological sustainability. Many external shocks will fall out of the control of WCS.	WCS	Project start to end
Failure to reach financial sustainability	High	3	3		The financial assessment team will carry out effective due diligence and take a cautious approach to project assessment and approval so that there is a relatively high level of confidence in the success of the project. At the same time, the programme will carefully monitor implementation to ensure compliance and to spot any red flags as early as possible in the implementation process. Where serious concerns exist, the program could halt implementation and support in case of failing to provide financial sustainability.	OCP	2024 to end
Conflict with communities	Medium	2	4		The programme will ensure that communities are consulted at all stages of a project implementation and development and will be included in design, where appropriate. All projects will be screened for ecological as well as livelihood/social benefits and priority given to those that address local issues and concerns.	WCS	Project start to end
Institutional Risks							



Implementation of environmentally damaging projects	Medium	1	4	To the extent feasible WCS will engage with the private sector to promote early mitigation and help coordinate the use of funds available by the private sector to compensate for impacts. EACOP offers an example of a company that is committed to meeting IFC Performance Standards, and relationships are already established; other projects will need follow-up.	WCS	2024 to end
Fiduciary Risks						
Funds not used for the intended purposes	Medium	2	4	The program will build in systems to track the use of funds; the monitoring system will track outcomes against milestones to identify any abnormalities early in the process	WCS/OCP	2024 to end

Key:

Risk Level: *Very high, High, Medium, Low*

Likelihood: *Almost Certain – 5, Likely – 4, Possible – 3, Unlikely – 2, Rare – 1*

Impact: *Extreme – 5 Major - 4 Moderate - 3 Minor - 2 Insignificant - 1*

Assumptions:

The program operates under the assumption that the decision-making process and framework in place are sufficient to identify ecologically sound and financially sustainable projects. Additionally, it assumes that the M&E framework (and strategy) can effectively detect both positive and negative impacts on the environment, local communities, and the financial viability of projects. For example, for the Kuruwitu project, we are conducting an independent evaluation on the current social safeguards in place within the community, considering the work of Oceans Alive, to ensure that adequate structures are in place before proceeding with the feasibility study. This will help the project identify any community-related risks and take appropriate mitigating actions depending on the outcome of the evaluations.

Regarding grievance management of projects already underway, the program has refined its management structure to now include the PSC mentioned earlier, which is integrated with the governance and management of the SPV. The program currently draws guidance from the WCS Global Grievance Redress Mechanism policies and procedures. However, in 2023, Miamba Yetu, with the guidance of the regional social safeguards coordinator, drafted a programme-specific social safeguards strategy that integrates the UNDP SESP and WCS' policies including its Global Grievance Redress Mechanism policies and procedures. Once the strategy is approved and effectively in place (planned for the first half of 2024), these policies will be applicable to all funded projects or activities especially those that could contribute to or cause human rights abuses, safeguarding violations, or infringements on the rights of individuals or communities.



The current procedure for grievances is that they can be submitted through either email or verbally to WCS ground staff (or focal points), who are responsible for forwarding them to the WCS Social Safeguards Management Team (SSMT). The SSMT is tasked with developing a grievance review plan and conducting investigations, documentation, monitoring, and communication processes. Furthermore, parties involved are encouraged to report grievances to the Programme Director, who oversees the day-to-day management of the Miamba Yetu program. This procedure will be expanded on in the strategy under development.

VIII. Lessons Learned & Adaptive Management

Lessons

1. We trialled a format for applicants to use a prescribed concept template and after several applications, determined that we were unable to properly review the information submitted and we also needed more information to confidently recommend projects to move to full proposals. The concept is therefore undergoing a revision process based on feedback from the expert panel and we will be releasing a new concept note format in early 2024. Further, based on the feedback from the expert advisory panel, we made minor updates to our criteria table for project proposal review to ensure the review accurately scores the projects. These revised concept and proposal templates will allow for a streamlined review and decision-making process.
2. We explored ways to evaluate beach trash and learned that the most cost-effective measure was recording the amount of plastic waste removed from beaches.
3. We are drafting a call for project proposals to ensure we get diverse candidate projects into the pipeline.
4. Based on GFCR feedback, we are developing an environmental and social safeguards strategy for Miamba Yetu that incorporates WCS and GFCR policies.

Challenges and Adaptive Management

The top threats of overfishing and destructive fishing remain a concern with national marine parks - which are small territories - being protected. These drivers of degradation are covered extensively in "Annex I - threats assessment" (see pages 6-12 for comprehensive narrative on these threats). WCS has, over the decades, worked towards addressing these threats by working with communities. Offering alternative livelihoods doesn't necessarily translate to reduced pressure on fishing grounds. Instead, we are working to leverage the GFCR model to incorporate complementary sources of sustainable revenues for communities in return for and to justify the setting up of sustainably-managed fisheries closures which would help restore fish stock and balance to the coral reef habitat.

Solutions in Tanzania have been slower to develop but will be impactful once they gain traction. For example, the work being undertaken with the USAID-funded Heshimu Bahai project involves introductions with the small island investors and regular government engagement for support with these engagements. This process will take time to allow the relationship with the prospective clients to develop into a partnership. Once the clients are accepting of our marine conservation proposals, solutions will be quick to implement and replicate across islands.

In Kenya and Tanzania, we have recognized some staffing shortages for GFCR and will be adding these positions to our funding replenishment requests (program officers for both nations and a field research assistant for Kenya). We will be supporting the regional M&E scientist to work on the Miamba Yetu program and ensure data quality across the project.

In December 2022, the programme learned that Pegasus Capital Advisors (GFCR-appointed investment fund manager) was facing a challenge with securing no objection letters from the Government authorities in Kenya and Tanzania to be able to deploy Green Climate Fund-anchored junior tranche

investments in the two programme countries. WCS agreed to aid Pegasus in securing those agreements. Challenges were encountered in requesting the no objection letters. Finally, in 2023, following engagements with the Tanzania NDA, a no objection letter was received during COP28. However, the format was not in the prescribed template and WCS is engaging the NDA to issue the NOL in the prescribed template. The programme has attempted to engage the Kenya NDA and was directed to the parent Ministry to write to the NDA to enable it to consider the request. A letter was sent to the PS – Blue Economy and Fisheries and is yet to receive a response. This is a challenge the programme is still attempting to overcome, and it is hoped that through further engagements through partners and with the Ministries, the letters will be forthcoming.

Further, the time taken for project development has taken longer than anticipated - and there is a need to improve mechanisms for deployment of funds from Blue Bridge. WCS has also encountered challenges of taking part legally in the SPV, and, following consultations with its legal department and OCP, developed an approach that will secure a role with OCP to invest in projects via Miamba Yetu. This will be explored further together with GFCR to ensure the best approach is adopted.

Annex A – Data Update Excel File

Pipeline table - refer to separate excel file

Annex B – Results Framework

Miamba Yetu M&E Framework (2023-2030) – refer to separate file

Annex C – Resource Mobilisation

Source	Type of Co-Financing	Amount	Date	Status
ORRAA (IFO Blue Alliance)	True	US\$70,000	2023?	Secured
FSDAfrica (IFO BFAGlobal-TECA)	True	US\$100,000	2023	Secured
World Bank/Government of Kenya (IFO Sanivation)	Parallel	US\$ 9,000,000	June 2019	Secured
Government of Kenya (IFO Sanivation)	Parallel	US\$ 4,000,000	2026	Anticipated
Blue Alliance (TBD)	True	US\$500,000	2024	Anticipated
Blue Alliance (TBD)	True	US\$600,000	2025	Anticipated
Ecoworld Recycling	True	US\$100,000	2024	Sought
USAID (IFO Heshimu Bahari project)	In-Kind	US\$100,000	2024	Sought
Small Island Investors, Zanzibar	Parallel	US\$100,000	2024	Sought
Small Island Investors, Zanzibar	In-Kind	US\$100,000	2025	Sought
UNEP/GoBlue project	Parallel	US\$100,000	2024	Sought
UNEP/GoBlue project	In-Kind	US\$100,000	2024	Sought
Fish Eagle Point	In-Kind	US\$50,000	2025	Sought
Sub-total Secured co-financing			US\$9,170,000	
Subtotal Anticipated co-financing			US\$5,100,000	
Subtotal Sought financing			US\$650,000	
GRAND TOTAL			US\$14,920,000	

Annex D – Communications and Visibility

Miamba Yetu has integrated communications as a supportive tool to accomplish several objectives.

- Sharing with the public through social media and policymakers from the parent ministries and related MDAs to the programme as an investment vehicle that can complement existing initiatives to scale impact. This was especially the case during COP28 when Miamba Yetu participation was highlighted in GFCR and WCS social media posts.
- Providing appropriate visibility and recognition to the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) and other donors through public fora within the programme countries (Zanzibar Tourism and Investment Exhibition, Marine Regions Forum), regionally (Africa Blue Economy Summit, WIOMSA MPA Finance Workshop) and globally (Africa Climate Summit, COP28).
- Keeping donors, partners, supporters, and other interested parties regularly updated on the project's progress through participation in various events, progress reports to GFCR, dissemination of updates through social media (LinkedIn posts, WCS X -previously twitter) and Facebook posts).
- Deploying roll-up banners, trifold leaflets, and updated factsheets at the ICCB symposium in Kigali.
- Engaging regional, national and local stakeholders and ensuring they are well-informed about the project's pipeline of projects through community and expert outreach, meetings, and local communications. The expert Panel is one channel through which the programme disseminates its progress as the panel consists of government officials and technical experts from CSOs, NGOs and academia from Kenya, Tanzania including Zanzibar.

External Media Coverage

- [Africa Blue Economy Summit](#) : As part of a collaboration, WCS and Our Blue Future (OBF) held a workshop on finance solutions at the 2023 Africa Blue Economy Summit in Cape Town. Challenges and opportunities in blue finance were discussed. Programme Director Fahd Al-Guthmy also participated in the evaluation of start-ups being funded under Triggering Exponential Climate Action (TECA), a venture launcher founded by BFA Global.
- [WCS COP28 feature on coral reef breakthrough](#), with Miamba Yetu Programme Director.

Published Programme Content

- [LinkedIn Miamba Yetu 2023 promotion post](#) – background of the programme, 2022 achievements and 2023 ambitions.
- [WIOMSA News brief 2023](#) – Promoted Miamba Yetu in the regional newsletter.
- [Africa Climate Summit side event LinkedIn post](#) - The Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR), Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS), UN Environment Programme (UNEP), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) held an event on Bankable Coral Reef-based Resilience Solutions for Kenya and Tanzania.

Event Features

- [Africa Blue Economy Summit \(Feb 2023\)](#): Collaboration with Ocean Hub Africa and co-hosted side event with OBF to engage regional players on Miamba Yetu as an investment vehicle.
- [Zanzibar Tourism Investment and Travel exhibition \(Feb 2023\)](#): Launch of the green/blue Zanzibar declaration and showcasing Zanzibar to potential investors. Strengthened partnership with the government and identified potential opportunities in waste management.

- [Africa Impact Investing Summit \(Feb 2023\)](#): Conventional investor and fund manager forum where latest trends were shared and GFCR promoted with Miamba Yetu. Co-investor potential identified.
- [Kenya Wildlife Service Investments Forum \(Aug 2023\)](#): Announcement of the parks leasing/concessions portfolio across the country including marine parks in the Kenyan coast. Confirmed with senior officials the possibility of having Mombasa MPA included.
- [Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority Small Island Investor meeting \(Aug 2023\)](#): Secured connections with small island investors through USAID Heshimu Bahari project. Currently in pipeline development.
- [Africa Climate Summit \(Sep 2023\)](#): Participated in a side event co-organized with GFCR and UNEP, with additional panellists from Sanivation and OCP.
- [WIOMSA MPA Finance workshop \(Sep 2023\)](#): Practical workshop with key MPA stakeholders on financial mechanisms for MPAs. Strengthened partnership with management representatives and Blue Nature Alliance (GFCR and WCS partners).
- [International Coastal Clean-up \(ICC\), \(Sep 2023\)](#): Miamba Yetu supported the clean-up by providing protective hand gloves for the groups that went out to collect trash at the Mombasa Marine National Park and Reserve. Over 787 kilograms of mainly plastic beverage bottles, straws, bottle caps and glass bottles were collected and taken for recycling.
- [Marine Region Forum \(Nov 2023\)](#): Co-organized blue finance theme, presented on Miamba Yetu where the founder CHICOP (project) also showcased the MPA. Introduced to Principal Secretary at vice president's office that eventually led to No Objection Letter release at COP.
- [COP28 \(Dec 2023\)](#): Amplified Miamba Yetu at GFCR and partner events, whilst engaging with delegates. Obtained no objection letter from the Tanzanian Nationally Designated Authority to allow Pegasus-managed GCF investments into the country. Programme Director amplified Miamba Yetu at [Sustainable Trade Africa](#) event with high-level delegates from African and Middle Eastern countries

Primary Creative Assets

- The programme has developed new trifold leaflets which double as fact sheets and are distributed at public and stakeholder events.
- Miamba Yetu has distributed roll-up banners for both Kenya and Zanzibar marine offices. These are being used at marine or related events – exhibition booths, workshops etc.

Reef Positive Solutions Case Studies

- 31st International Congress for Conservation Biology (ICCB) (Jul/2023): held in Kigali, Rwanda, WCS and Miamba Yetu program showcased an exhibition booth, delivered two presentations during the symposium (one on the threats assessment and one on leveraging capital to drive reef-positive investments in Kenya & Tanzania), as well as a presentation on the Kenya-Tanzania Trans-Boundary Conservation Area.
- Showcasing the Kuruwitu Marine Co-Management model to the world at Monaco Ocean Week where community champions Katana Ngala and Remy Safari spoke about their coral reef conservation and restoration work.

Speakers identified and featured as programme Champions

Kuruwitu Community Welfare Association members Remy Safari and Katana Ngala supported Miamba Yetu at Monaco Ocean Week by speaking at the event titled, “Unlocking Blue Finance for Coastal Communities and Climate Resilient Coral Reefs”. They spoke about their biggest challenges as custodians of fisheries resources in Kuruwitu and their future of our oceans and their thoughts about coastal

fisheries. The Kuruwitu co-managed area is a priority site where Miamba Yetu, with Oceans Alive foundation, is supporting a feasibility study to investigate the possibility of marine concessions by the Beach Management Units.

The programme has shortlisted 3 individuals as potential programme champions in both programme countries. Their credentials will be shared once they have been engaged and consent to being Miamba Yetu programme champions.

2024 Communications Strategy

The WCS regional Communications Coordinator (East Africa, Madagascar, Western Indian Ocean) will support the Programme Director with GFCR communications and visibility work. This role involves close collaboration with the GFCR Strategic Engagement and Partnerships Coordinator on amplifying the programme. The coordinator will also support by producing tailor-made communication material and content for diverse audiences. Plans for 2024 include:

- A programme communications and visibility strategy for phase 2 will be developed with the support of the Communications Coordinator for the region (to be hired in early 2024). Content will cover focal areas, operational scope, reporting mechanisms, approval processes, and budgetary considerations.
- Participation in local, national, regional and global workshops, symposiums, conferences and investment summits including those with Miamba Yetu partner/stakeholder participation. These include: BlueInvest Africa 2024, Ocean Decade Conference, COP29 etc).
- Formally onboarding 2-3 Miamba Yetu champions with at least one from each of the two programme countries - Kenya and mainland Tanzania/Zanzibar. 3 candidates have been shortlisted in 2023 and will be engaged to join before their information is shared and publicized.
- Regular updates (at least quarterly) of communications content such as program fact sheets, publications in the WCS and GFCR quarterly newsletters and GFCR Trello platform.
- Establishment and maintenance of a dedicated Miamba Yetu webpage (as part of the WCS domain).
- Creation of online and print marketing materials, including banners, flyers, and posters, as needed, for use at public events, stakeholder and partner engagements.
- Facilitation of the Reef+ Knowledge and Finance Accelerator for coral reef-positive action by disseminating information on case studies. Additionally, tapping into its extensive resources to address challenges in project structuring and potentially attracting co-financing.
- Drafting and disseminating program news, updates, and content across WCS, GFCR and partner social media platforms including LinkedIn, X (previously Twitter) and Facebook.
- Participation in the International Marine Conservation Conference (Oct 2024).

Further, Miamba Yetu's M&E Framework contains information on knowledge dissemination including:

- Knowledge created will be disseminated to technical communities via scientific or finance conferences at national and regional levels. For example, the next ICCB or WIOMSA symposium.
- Following 2nd or final round social surveys, we will hold feedback sessions with stakeholders highlighting results. This is planned for the Kuruwitu feasibility study.
- Results will be presented in Kenya during the WCS Annual Fishers' Forum.

Annex E – Expert Panel Meeting Report

See separate file

Annex F – Ecological, Social and Financial Screening Criteria

See separate file

Annex G – Strategy Meeting report (Feb 2023)

See separate file

Annex H – Strategy Meeting report (Aug 2023)

See separate file

Annex I – Threats Assessment

See separate file

Annex J – SPV Business Plan

See separate file