



**AFRICAN UNION**  
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU**  
**FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES**



**Sweden**  
**Sverige**

# **POLICY MEASURES TO STRENGTHEN REGULATORY FRAMEWORKS FOR SUSTAINABLE COASTAL, MARITIME TOURISM, OIL & GAS AND MINING ACTIVITIES TOWARDS AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION IN ANGOLA**

**Luanda, June 2024**

**Disclaimer:** The views and opinions expressed in this article are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official Policy or position of the African Union – Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources.

All rights reserved. Reproduction and Dissemination of material in this information product for educational or other non-commercial purposes are authorized without any prior written permission from the copyright holders provided the source is fully acknowledged. Reproduction of material in this information product for resale or other commercial purposes is prohibited without written permission of the copyright holders.

Requests for such permission should be addressed to:

The Director  
African Union – Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)  
Kenindia Business Park, Museum Hill, Westlands Road  
P.O. Box 30786-00100, Nairobi, KENYA  
Or by e-mail to: [ibar.office@au-ibar.org](mailto:ibar.office@au-ibar.org)

Published by AU-IBAR, Nairobi, Kenya

**Copyright:** © 2024 African Union – Inter African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)

# Table of Contents

<b>Document review and approval</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Acknowledgements</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>1. Background</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)	1
1.2 The implementation of African Blue Economy Strategy (ABES)	1
<b>2. Angolan planning system</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1 Long term strategy - ELP2050	2
2.2 National Development Plan – PDN	3
2.3 Policy Framework	4
<b>3. Governance and Implementation</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>4. Conclusions and Recommendations</b>	<b>13</b>

# Document review and approval

## Revision history

Version	Author	Date	Revision
01	Carlos Borges	2024-07-10	

## This document has been reviewed by

	Reviewer	Date reviewed

## This document has been approved by

	Subject matter experts		
	Name	Signature	Date reviewed

## Acknowledgements

We would like to express our gratitude to the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Angola for their trust and support in our collaboration. Their dedication to sustainable fishing practices and the preservation of marine biodiversity contributes significantly to the work carried out.

Additionally, we would like to thank the collaboration and availability of the different ministries and public and private bodies that participated in the consultation session.

Furthermore, we thank the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) for their commitment and professionalism in improving the protection of marine resources on the African continent. AU-IBAR's leadership in promoting best practices, policies and capacity building has been a cornerstone in promoting progress and innovation in the field of animal resource management. Their strategic guidance and support enrich the work to be carried out, allowing us to achieve impactful results that have repercussions on the African countries involved.

AU-IBAR's vision for a sustainable and prosperous future for Africa's marine resources continues to inspire and guide our work, reinforcing the importance of collaboration in addressing complex environmental challenges.

## I. Background

### *1.1 The African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)*

With a mandate to support and coordinate the utilization of livestock, fisheries, aquaculture, and wildlife as resources for both human well-being and economic development in the Member States of the African Union, the AU-IBAR – a specialized technical office of the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (DARBE) of the African Union Commission (AUC) – is currently undertaking intervention in the fisheries, aquaculture sector.

Under the guidance of the African Union Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) the technical team assigned, shared regional and national guidelines and discussed inputs with the different local stakeholders, from the institutional side, the private sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

The Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS) guides this intervention, which aims at improving governance of the sector for increased sustainable contribution to food security, livelihoods, and wealth creation.

Deriving from the framework of the African Union 2063, the Africa Blue Economy Strategy (ABES) guides the development of an inclusive and sustainable blue economy that significantly contributes to continental transformation and growth, through advancing knowledge on marine and aquatic biotechnology, environmental sustainability, marine ecosystem utilization, management and conservation and carbon sequestration, the growth of Africa-wide shipping industry, the development of sea, river and lake transport, the management of fishing activities on these aquatic spaces, and the exploitation and beneficiation of deep-sea mineral and other marine resources.

The common goal defined in this intervention is the implementation of the aquatic biodiversity conservation in the context of the ABES.

### *1.2 The implementation of African Blue Economy Strategy (ABES)*

The Africa Blue Economy Strategy (ABES) aims the environmental sustainability and biodiversity protection as key strategic goal for health ecosystems and sustainable blue economy development. The project is therefore supporting the implementation of the Africa Blue Economy Strategy.

With support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), the AU-IBAR shapes a three-year implementation project on “Conserving Aquatic Biodiversity and Ecosystems in African Blue Economy”.

The overall objective of the Project is to enhance the policy environment, regulatory frameworks, and institutional capacities of AU member states and regional economic communities to sustainably utilize and conserve aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems.

The specific objectives of the project are as follows:

- a) Ratify and/or align relevant international/regional instruments related to blue economy themes (with specific reference to protecting and conserving biodiversity);
- b) Optimizing conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity while minimizing conflicts among blue economy sub-themes;
- c) Strengthening measures for mitigating the negative impacts of coastal and marine tourism oil, gas, deep sea mining, and climate change on aquatic biodiversity and environment; and
- d) Strengthening gender inclusivity in aquatic biodiversity conservation and environmental management.

## 2. Angolan planning system

### 2.1 Long term strategy - ELP2050

The Long-Term Strategy (ELP) 2050 of the Angolan Government is a bifocal plan, with a clear vision for building the best possible future, visibly and decisively developing short-term initiatives to ensure that Angola is heading in the right direction. The ELP envisages a diversified and prosperous economy to ensure the creation of wealth, taking into account population growth, thereby guaranteeing an increase in productivity in all sectors and reducing dependence on the oil and gas sector, as well as ensuring Angola’s food sovereignty.

With the identification of vast untapped potential in mining, the government noted the need for extraordinary transformation, essentially creating a non-diamond sub-sector from scratch, which will require increased investment in non-diamond prospecting. Regarding the diamond subsector, it

plans to apply transparency measures to ensure that investment in prospecting continues at least at the current levels.

The government will also continue to take advantage of and seek to maximize available opportunities in the sector, increasing efficiency and investor attractiveness. Despite the drop in global demand, it remains essential to maintain competitiveness in the sector. Additionally, the government plans to attract investments to other downstream sectors, namely refining, which offer opportunities for growth and economic development.

As for tourism, the Angolan government will focus on the development of infrastructure for growth and attracting large-scale tourists in the medium to long term. The State aims to position the country in the category of long stays and medium-high spending.

The ELP's approach includes both a short-term approach and a medium to long-term approach, which is reflected in the National Development Plan (PDN).

## *2.2 National Development Plan – PDN*

Aligned with the Long-Term Strategy (ELP) of the Angolan Government, the National Development Plan 2023-2027 (PDN 2023-2027) has ushered in a new era with the formulation of public policies. The plan is sharply focused on the impact of the actions to be implemented over the next four years and is steered towards strengthening two priority development pillars. These pillars will serve as engines for the development process and will positively influence public choices, namely:

- Developing human capital: This is aimed at widening access to health services, knowledge and technical and scientific skills; fostering the development of culture and sports; stimulating entrepreneurship and innovation.
- Guaranteeing sustainable and inclusive economic diversification led by the private sector alongside food security.

The National Development Plan 2023-2027 encompasses a set of programs oriented towards different sectors with activities impacting Angolan biodiversity. These are the programs for each sector:



- Tourism: The promotion and development of tourism program (PLANTUR) aims to ensure the development of infrastructure and services, as well as the training and professional development within the scope of service provision.
- Fisheries: The sustainable exploitation of living aquatic resources and salt, and the sustainable development of aquaculture program is aimed at ensuring the sector's growth by attracting investments, coordinating and developing infrastructure, and improving the regulatory framework.
- Oil & Gas: The Development and Consolidation of the oil and gas industry program aims to boost sector growth in upstream and downstream subsectors at a national level, by creating synergies and coordinating with other industries to enhance operational efficiency.
- Mining: The development and modernization of geological-mining activities program aims to increase Angolan geological knowledge, its production capacity, and to ensure the sector's value chain with professional development in different fields of operation.
- Energy and Water: The expansion and modernization of the national electric system programs are aimed at the energy sector, with the intent to expand the electricity distribution and marketing network, and explore opportunities for capitalizing on renewable potential and production capacity. These programs are aligned with the water sector through the Expansion and Modernization of the Water Sector program, with the objective of ensuring the sustainability of the sector's services, as well as an integrated water resources management model.
- Transports: The expansion and modernization program of the transport and logistics sector aims to develop the transport sector in a sustainable way, maximizing its potential and port infrastructure.

## 2.3 Policy Framework

The assessment of impacts on environmental sustainability and aquatic biodiversity in Angola is a crucial task that is required to ensure the conservation of aquatic biodiversity for future generations. The assessment will help to identify the main challenges that Angola faces regarding environmental sustainability and aquatic biodiversity conservation, as well as strategies to counter these challenges and promote sustainable development.

The master plan will rely on existing legislation, laws, and legal arrangements to promote sustainable coastal and marine tourism, oil and gas exploration and production, and mineral mining. The Master Plan will also propose necessary amendments to improve the legal frameworks concerning the sustainability of activities related to the coastal and marine areas.

### 2.3.1 Policy Objectives and Strategic Policy Actions for CMT<sup>1</sup> Sector

#	Policy objective	Strategic Policy Actions
1	To enhance the effectiveness of enforcing and ensuring compliance with environmental protection and health laws, guidelines, and regulations, with a particular focus on marine debris and guidelines for the use and disposal of plastics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Enforce strict regulations and guidelines for the use and disposal of plastics.</li> <li>. Promote the adoption of a circular economy approach to plastic use</li> <li>. Collaborate regionally and internationally to address transboundary marine debris</li> <li>. Establish an interagency and multi-sectoral collaboration to enforce legislations and prosecute infringements</li> <li>. Coordinate the roles of all agencies involved in managing coastal and marine ecosystems to ensure coherent policies and optimal resource protection</li> <li>. Rapidly integrate ratified conventions and treaties into national legislation at all levels of government</li> <li>. Identify climate change drivers, both human and natural, and respond accordingly</li> </ul>
2	To strengthen ocean governance frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Create ocean governance policies based on best practices and ensure they are regularly updated</li> <li>. Encourage engagement in regional and international processes and enforce existing laws and regulations</li> <li>. Advocate for participation in regional and international processes, increase enforcement actions, and promote voluntary compliance</li> </ul>
3	Restore and preserve coastal and marine ecosystems to a healthy and functional state, including mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, and other vital marine habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Raise awareness about the importance of healthy ecosystems through public campaigns</li> <li>. Conduct mangrove rehabilitation and planting programs, accompanied by awareness campaigns</li> <li>. Initiate afforestation programs for non-mangrove forests along the coastal strip</li> <li>. Implement and enforce existing laws and regulations relating to corals, destructive fishing, and other human activities impacting seagrass beds</li> <li>. Encourage informed participation in conservation efforts through capacity building, training, and multi-stakeholder information dissemination</li> <li>. Explore business opportunities in the Blue Tourism sector</li> <li>. Develop and implement a coordinated Marine Spatial Plan and update the existing Integrated Coastal Zone Management Programme</li> <li>. Take actions to protect and conserve land masses that provide defense from coastal erosion and protect coastal areas and communities from the impacts of oceans</li> </ul>
4	Enhance the information and database, as well as research and development collaborations, in the coastal and marine tourism sector in Angola	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Enhance research institutions and academia, and promote capacity building for research, including providing funding and infrastructure support</li> <li>. Support and encourage research and capacity enhancement across sectors for the conservation, protection, and management of coastal and marine resources</li> <li>. Foster coordination and collaboration among research institutes, universities, and other agencies</li> <li>. Utilize research findings to guide evidence-based decision-making and policy development</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Coastal Marine Tourism

#	Policy objective	Strategic Policy Actions
5	To minimize and counteract marine pollution, including solid and liquid waste management, and address the degradation of coastal infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Implement and encourage adherence to MALPOL regulations, with a focus on ballast water management and compliance with antifouling paint standards</li> <li>. Establish early warning systems to prepare for and respond to adverse weather conditions</li> <li>. Promote the construction of resilient infrastructure that can withstand the impacts of climate change</li> </ul>

### 2.3.2 Policy Objectives and Strategic Policy Actions for Oil & Gas Sector

#	Policy objective	Strategic Policy Actions
1	To ensure effective planning for the use of ocean space, with clear policies to protect critical habitats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Create a strong inter-agency and multi-sector Marine Spatial Plan workgroup and develop a comprehensive plan for Marine Spatial Planning</li> <li>. Map and identify living aquatic resources and their habitats for long-term sustainability</li> <li>. Gather location-specific baseline data for species and habitats, map out species migratory routes, and conduct censuses</li> <li>. Expedite the adoption and implementation of international conventions related to biodiversity conservation</li> </ul>
2	To guarantee that developments in the sector adhere to all environmental protection and health laws, guidelines, and regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Develop and implement an environmentally friendly policy for oil and gas exploration and mining, including eco-friendly infrastructure design</li> <li>. Require the integration of biodiversity conservation plans into the business plans of companies in the oil and gas sector</li> <li>. Enforce existing legislation with clear procedures for the polluter pay principle</li> <li>. Ensure that all oil industry companies operate in line with global industry best practices and standards</li> <li>. Increase surveillance of operating areas to improve compliance and protect biodiversity</li> <li>. Conduct thorough environmental impact assessments for offshore projects and review environmental impact assessment reports</li> <li>. Consider increasing penalties for policy and regulation violations</li> <li>. Manage, maintain, enforce, and periodically review and update the National Oil Contingency Plan to enhance Angola's marine pollution response capability.</li> <li>. Strengthen and increase ship inspections to ensure seaworthiness and promote collaboration between relevant regulators</li> <li>. Raise public awareness about ship-source and land-based oil/chemical pollution through campaigns</li> <li>. Encourage the transition from fossil fuels to green energy sources for ships and promote the use of by-products from oil and gas exploration and production</li> <li>. Regularly review policies and guidelines to ensure they remain effective and up to date</li> </ul>

#	Policy objective	Strategic Policy Actions
3	To improve the response to environmental pollution resulting from oil and gas exploration, production, and transportation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Improve technical training programs in the oil and gas industry by incorporating curricula into local institutions, vocational training centers, and universities to produce skilled labor for all aspects of the industry</li> <li>. Develop or acquire advanced technology and best practices to mitigate pollution</li> <li>. Strengthen regulatory agencies and implement an inter-agency approach to promptly address oil spills and pollution, ensuring fast responses to reported incidents</li> <li>. Enhance monitoring, control, and surveillance of the entire industry and actively operating areas or fields, including the performance of plants such as Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) platforms, integrity checks of bunkering ships, barges, pipelines, and other equipment and installations</li> </ul>

### 2.3.3 Policy Objectives and Strategic Policy Actions for Mineral Mining Sector

#	Policy objective	Strategic Policy Actions
1	Ensure complete adherence to regulations and guidelines for the sustainable extraction and mining of minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Strengthen the enforcement of the Mining Act through consistent monitoring and evaluation, control audits, and inspections</li> <li>. Implement and enforce significant penalties for violations</li> <li>. Allocate sufficient financial resources to facilitate effective audits and inspections</li> <li>. Increase community awareness and formalize artisanal mining activities through education and promotion of environmentally friendly mining practices and ecosystem conservation</li> <li>. Incorporate sand and other unregulated minerals according to the Mining Act 2016</li> </ul>
2	Achieve a suitable equilibrium between mining activities and environmental conservation to ensure sustainable ecosystem services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Strengthen enforcement of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA/EIA), including the implementation of Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans (EMMP), scheduled Rehabilitation and Biodiversity Conservation Plans</li> <li>. Implement policies to formalize and train artisanal miners</li> <li>. Establish comprehensive schedules for mine waste management plans</li> <li>. Develop policies for a multi-agency approach to conserve marine ecosystems during offshore mineral exploration and mining</li> </ul>
3	Enhance the artisanal mining sector, reduce the impacts of artisanal mining on aquatic biodiversity and the environment, and strive to achieve zero harm or loss of property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Introduce legislation to integrate the formalization of artisanal mining operations to support livelihoods and entrepreneurship in communities with environmental benefits</li> <li>. Create frameworks for the establishment and official recognition of Artisanal Mining Committees (similar to BMUs) to enhance the management of artisanal miners</li> <li>. Raise awareness and enforce compliance with the Children's Act and gender equality constitutional requirements</li> <li>. Establish and enforce sufficient financial and human resources capacity in artisanal mining for environmental conservation, rehabilitation, and management</li> <li>. Build capacity for health and safety in mining, with ongoing audits and inspections to improve working conditions</li> <li>. Allocate funds for capacity building in health and safety and provide incentives for environmentally responsible mining practices and best practices in health and safety</li> </ul>

#	Policy objective	Strategic Policy Actions
4	. Ensure that compensation and benefits are distributed fairly and equitably along the mineral value chain, extending beyond the corporate social responsibility (CSR) boundaries	. Conduct wide community engagement and establish implementation of benefit sharing framework e.g. Community Development Agreements (CDA) . Integrate mine land owners in the Blue Economy dialogue for mineral/land compensations while aligning all CDAs to Africa, EAC and National BE strategy . Implement the Revenue/benefit sharing formula between National Governments, County Governments and Communities, with upward revision to give more benefits to communities
5	Create a metadata repository for sharing data and information, developing disaster resilience, and achieving a sustainable balance between mining, heritage conservation, and the preservation of culture	. Conduct geological mapping and mineral exploration while establishing a structured data-sharing system for the benefit of the environment . Improve the collection, organization, and documentation of relevant data and information for sustainable mining and increase awareness among local communities . Establish and reinforce data sharing mechanisms to enhance effective decision-making processes . Map out sensitive and vulnerable ecosystems and biodiversity hotspots, and implement measures to protect them from geological and natural disasters . Develop disaster resilience plans and allocate resources for mapping vulnerabilities in coastal and marine zones . Create disaster resilience management and response guidelines with strict enforcement . Map, document, and designate heritage sites for preservation

List not exhaustive of local legislation with impact in CMT:

### CMT

- Presidential Decree No. 88/23, Marine Spatial Planning Plan of March 20, 2023;
- Presidential Decree No. 183/22, National Strategy for the Sea of Angola (ENMA) of March 22, 2022;
- Merchant Marine, Ports and Related Activities Law No. 34/22, of September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022 (Law amending Law N. ° 27/12, of August 28);
- Estatuto Orgânico, Decreto Presidencial n.º 284/22 de 8 de Dezembro;
- Lei n.º 6-A/04, de 8 de Outubro, dos Recursos Biológicos Aquáticos;
- Medidas de Gestão das Pescarias Marinhas, da Pesca Continental, da Aquicultura e do Sal, Decreto Presidencial n.º 63/24 de 22 de Fevereiro;
- Presidential Decree no. 100/22, Approves the amendment of article 26 and the addition of article 26.º-A of Presidential Decree no. 139/13, of 24 September, which approves the Continental Fisheries Regulation;
- Environmental Conservation Areas, Law no. 8/20.
- Resolution No. 2/22, Accession of the Republic of Angola, the Agreement on Measures Relating to Port State aimed at Preventing, Deterring and Eliminating Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing;
- National Environmental Education Strategy 2022-2050 - Presidential Decree No. 149/22,

of 9 June;

- Regulation on Environmental Conservation Areas, Presidential Decree No. 50/24;
- National Environmental Education Strategy 2022-2050, and delegates powers to the Holder of the Ministerial Department responsible for the Environment Sector, Presidential Decree No. 149/22;
- Angola's Hydrocarbon Exploration Strategy 2020-2025, Presidential Decree No. 282/20;
- National Climate and Environmental Observatory, Presidential Order No. 8/22.

## **Oil & Gas**

- Law to Combat Smuggling of Petroleum Products - Law no. 5/24, of 23 April;
- the Regulation on the Exercise of Exploration Activities for Mineral Resources, Oil and Gas in Conservation Areas - Presidential Decree No. 51/24, of 6 February;
- Law to Combat Smuggling of Petroleum Products - Law no. 5/24, of 23 April
- Technical and Procedural Standards for Refining Activity - Executive Decree no. 217/17, of 10 April;
- Oil Sector Organization Readjustment Model - Presidential Decree no. 109/16, of 26 May;
- Regulation on Operational Discharge Management - Executive Decree no. 97/14, of 8 April;
- Calculation basis for environmental taxes applicable to oil industry projects - Joint Executive Decree no. 140/13, of 13 May;
- Law on the Transport and Storage of Crude Oil and Natural Gas - Law no. 26/12, of 22 August;
- Tax Incentives for National Companies in the Oil Sector - Presidential Legislative Decree No. 3/12, of March 16;
- Law on the Exchange Regime Applicable to the Petroleum Sector - Law no. 2/12, of 13 January;
- Regulation on the Petroleum Information System - Presidential Decree no. 58/11, of 30 March;
- Safety, Hygiene and Health in Petroleum Operations - Decree no. 38/09, of 14 August;
- Recruitment, Integration, Training and Development of Angolan Personnel and Hiring of Foreign Personnel to Execute Petroleum Operations - Decree-Law no. 17/09, of 26 June;
- Law on the Taxation of Petroleum Activities - Law no. 13/04, of 24 December
- Petroleum Activities Law - Law no. 10/04, of 12 November;
- Regulation on environmental protection during petroleum activities - Decree no. 39/00, of 10 October.

## Mineral Mining

- Law n° 31/11 - Law of the Mining Code. (with all relevant legislation)

**CONCLUSION:** Angola's challenge in terms of public policies for the protection of marine life and sustainability of the seas, rivers and lakes, is not in the omission of legislation, but in the effective compliance with it, as well as the need to ensure its regulatory adequacy and a preventive and proactive monitoring and inspection action.

- Coastal and marine tourism, along with the associated sector, are putting significant pressure on the sustainability of the supporting habitats, ecosystems, and resources. This is resulting in serious impacts and degradation of critical marine flora and fauna, as well as disturbance of marine mammals, and inequitable sharing of tourism benefits, among other issues. To address these challenges, it is essential to enhance public awareness and information sharing, strengthen ocean governance frameworks, improve compliance and enforcement mechanisms, restore and conserve habitats and ecosystems, reduce and mitigate marine pollution, including plastics, enhance resource co-management, and bolster research, information sharing, and collaborations. Achieving these objectives will require tailored information packaging for different stakeholder groups, regular capacity building workshops, the development of robust ocean governance policies with best practices, encouragement of participation in regional and international processes, increased enforcement actions, and voluntary compliance.
- In the oil and gas exploration and production sector, there are significant policy gaps related to spatial-temporal plans for the ocean space, lack of clear policies for critical habitats, low compliance with regulations, inadequate enforcement of Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA) for oil and gas exploration, insufficient response to oil and gas spills/leaks, limited research and innovation capacity for sustainability, and a lack of data and information sharing. Additionally, there are issues related to infringement on innovation and intellectual property rights. To address these challenges, proposed strategic policy actions include establishing a robust inter-agency and multi-sector working group to develop and regularly update Marine Spatial plans, mapping and identifying aquatic resources and habitats/ecosystems for long-term sustainable use, expediting the domestication and implementation of international conventions related to biodiversity conservation, enacting environmentally friendly oil and gas exploration and mining policies, enforcing existing legislation (e.g., EMCA 1999, including ESIA/EIA), and ensuring the operation of oil industry companies at global industry best practices and standards.

- The mineral mining and extraction sector is facing challenges including low compliance with regulations and guidelines for sustainable extraction, an imbalance between mining and environmental conservation, lack of equitable benefit sharing and compensation schemes, unregulated artisanal mining leading to serious degradation of marine ecosystems, weak offshore exploration and mining regulations, and the absence of a data and information sharing platform to support harmony between mining, heritage, and conservation.

### 3. Governance and Implementation

To implement the strategy, an organizational structure must include a Regional Steering Committee, a Regional Coordination Unit, and National Focal Points. The composition of the Steering Committee will be agreed upon at the stakeholder validation meeting and will meet once a year to review progress reports and approve the following year's PTBAs.

The Steering Committee, which will be the guiding and monitoring body for the strategy, will ensure the proper implementation of actions in accordance with the objectives set, and it will approve the work programs and the corresponding provisional budgets. The secretariat of the Steering Committee will be provided by AU-IBAR.

The Regional Coordination Unit will be installed within the Executive Secretariat of AU-IBAR and will coordinate the various interventions within the framework of the implementation of the strategy. Its main tasks will be to develop operational action plans with relevant partners, ensure the relation with partner implementing institutions, prepare reports for the steering committee and its meetings, ensure the preparation and smooth running of evaluations (mid-term and end of project, impact), and regularly monitor projects and programs while informing the indicators of the strategy.

The National Focal Points, designated by the Ministries in charge, will assist the Regional Coordination Unit in aligning national initiatives with the regional strategy.

Making a rigorous estimate of costs and developing a financing scheme is a «must do» condition for the successful implementation of the strategy, as the mobilization of resources for financing is essential.

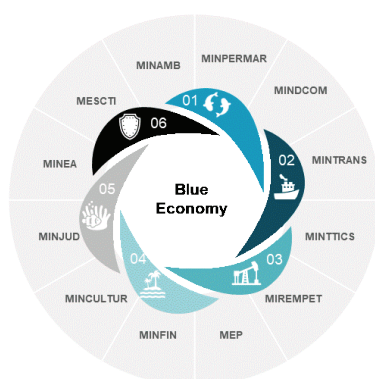


With the aim of ensuring the implementation of the Blue Economy program in Angola, the creation of a Multisectoral Commission - CMEA is underway.

The Multisectoral Commission for the implementation of the Blue Economy (CMEA) is coordinated by the Minister of State for Economic Coordination and has as deputy coordinator the Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources; The Multisectoral Commission is supported by a Technical Group, coordinated by the Secretary of State for Fisheries and Marine Resources and integrated by Secretaries of State representing the Ministries, for periodic monitoring of the implementation of the Blue Economy implementation Agenda in Angola, assisted by commissions specialized work areas. The Coordinator of the Multisectoral Commission may invite other Ministerial Departments, Provincial Governors and representatives of other bodies to make contributions, whenever the matters to be addressed so require. The Multisectoral Commission may, whenever necessary, coordinate joint actions with the Multisectoral Commission for Maritime Affairs (CMAM).

#### CMEA responsibilities

- Ensure the implementation of the Blue Economy in Angola;
- Develop guidelines for the transformation to the Blue Economy;
- Ensure governance for the implementation of the Blue Economy; Ensure the articulation of the measures to be adopted with the Angolan National Sea Strategy (ENMA 2030);
- Adopt measures that are necessary to implement the Blue Economy in Angola; Approve the respective work schedule.



A governance model it's being discussed and formalized in Angola, under the orientation of the Minister of State for the Economic Coordination, and could be the umbrella for the present initiative, supported by a sub-group leaded by Her Excellency Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources.

## 4. Conclusions and Recommendations

The coastal maritime assessment of Angola reveals critical challenges and opportunities in conserving aquatic biodiversity and ecosystem, regarding policy guidelines and frameworks.

Key findings indicate significant biodiversity, including numerous endemic species, but also substantial threats from overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution, and climate change. Coastal mangroves, estuaries, and coral reefs are particularly vulnerable, experiencing degradation that compromises their ecological integrity and the services they provide. Current policy frameworks show gaps in enforcement, inadequate funding, and insufficient integration of local communities' traditional knowledge and practices.

### **Recommendations:**

- 1) Strengthen Regulatory Frameworks: Enhance existing laws and regulations to provide comprehensive protection for critical habitats. Implement stricter controls on fishing practices and coastal development activities that threaten biodiversity;
- 2) Increase Funding and Resources: Allocate more financial resources for conservation initiatives, including monitoring, research, and restoration projects. International partnerships and funding mechanisms should be explored to support these efforts;
- 3) Community Involvement and Capacity Building: Empower local communities through education and participation in conservation activities. Integrate traditional knowledge into policy-making processes to ensure culturally sensitive and effective management strategies;
- 4) Pollution Control: Implement stringent measures to reduce pollution from industrial, agricultural, and urban sources. Promote sustainable waste management practices and the use of eco-friendly technologies;
- 5) Climate Change Adaptation: Develop and implement action plan to mitigate the impacts of climate change on coastal ecosystems. This includes protecting and restoring mangroves and other natural buffers to enhance resilience against sea-level rise and extreme weather events.

- 6) Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): Preserve and expand the network of MPAs to cover ecologically significant areas. Ensure proper enforcement and management of these areas to allow ecosystems to recover and thrive.
  
- 7) Research and Monitoring: Invest in scientific research to fill knowledge gaps about Angola's coastal ecosystems. Establish a robust monitoring system to track the health of these ecosystems and the effectiveness of conservation measures.
  
- 8) Cross-Sectoral Coordination: Foster collaboration between governmental agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to ensure a unified approach to biodiversity conservation. Establish a coordinating body to oversee the implementation of policies and initiatives.

By addressing these recommendations, Angola will enhance the conservation of its rich aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems, ensuring their sustainability for future generations.



African Union  
Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)  
Kenindia Business Park  
Museum Hill, Westlands Road  
P.O. Box 30786  
00100, Nairobi, KENYA  
Telephone: +254 (20) 3674 000 / 201  
Fax: +254 (20) 3674 341 / 342  
Website: [www.au.ibar.org](http://www.au.ibar.org)  
Email address: [ibar.office@au-ibar.org](mailto:ibar.office@au-ibar.org)