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

Italian Cooperation component

Implemented by: Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (AICS)

Affiliated Entity: International Centre for Advanced Mediterranean Agro-nomic Studies (CIHEAM Bari)

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

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

Term: January 2021 to December 2024 (4 years)

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

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

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

Strengthened inclusive and sustainable blue economy value chains

KWALE County



Context

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

Objectives and Activities

Enhancement of fisheries co-management and strengthened fisheries value chains: Aics will promote the empowerment of BMUs through capacity development activities and through the development of a Code of Conduct enhancing enforcement of relevant regulations adopted by the Government of Kenya. Fisheries MSME will be provided with skills development, improved infrastructure, value addition equipment and productive resources inputs. Labelling schemes will be introduced to certify well-managed marine capture fisheries. Finally, community awareness campaigns to the benefit of the coastal population will be realized.





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Beneficiaries:

- Staff from 6 target County governments;
- 9 Beach Management Units;
- Small Scale Fisheries – SSF primary producers;
- 2 groups of smallholder farmers.

Identified BMUs are: Amu and Mbwejumwali (Lamu County), Uyombo and Mtwapa (Kilifi County), Shimoni, Kibuyuni and Mkwiro (Kwale County), Kipini (Tana River County) and Nyali (Mombasa County). Identified smallholder farmers groups are located in Matsangoni (Kilifi County) and Majimboni and Kubo (Kwale County) areas. Total number of direct beneficiaries is approximately 3,193.

Intended outputs:

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

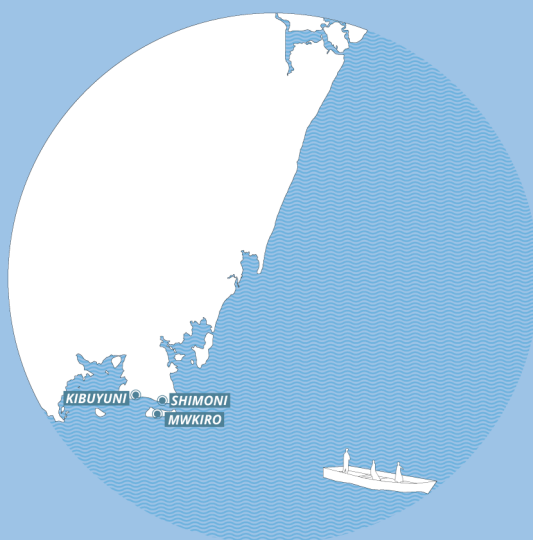
Improved capacity of farmers to operate along the cassava value chain: i) Agricultural extension offices of Kilifi and Kwale counties are empowered to support development of cassava value chain; ii) Cassava productivity, production, value addition and marketing are improved.

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

Improvement of the capacity of farmers to operate along the cassava value chain: AICS will promote capacity development for extension officers' in Kilifi and Kwale counties, establish cassava demonstration, bulking plots and processing units and promote marketing of cassava products.

Enhancement of the JKP Secretariat capacity to deliver its mandate: AICS will provide specialistic support as well as equipment and functioning of the Secretariat. AICS will also promote the organization of a Go Blue Programme workshop to foster knowledge sharing among all stakeholders. Finally, a comprehensive Coastal Master plan will be developed to establish objectives, principles and actions that should be applied to ensure sustainability of small-scale fisheries.

Envisaged interventions in Kwale County



Fishery Value Chain

In Kwale County, envisaged interventions to enhance fisheries co-management and strengthen fisheries value chains include support to Kibuyuni, Shimoni and Mkwiro BMUs and to local Small Scale Fishery producers through the promotion of skills development and capacity building activities; the provision of value addition equipment and productive resources inputs both for the fishery and for the seaweed value chains; the development of labelling schemes to certify well-managed marine capture fisheries; the application of a Code of Conduct to enhance enforcement of relevant fisheries co-management regulations; the realization of community awareness raising activities on fish consumption, good handling practice and food safety; the participatory development of a Master Plan establishing the objectives, principles and actions needed to ensure the sustainable development of small-scale fisheries.

Value addition equipment and productive resources inputs will be provided as follows:





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The group of women operating in seaweed farming in Mkwiro, Kwale County. 2021

Seaweed farming has been identified by AICS as a strategic sub-sector. Women in Shimoni and Kibuyuni form the highest proportion of seaweed farmers (75.2%), while youth and men contribute with 7.62% and 17.14% respectively. Income earned from the business give women the opportunity to contribute to the family decision-making process, representing an important tool to promote women empowerment and inclusion.

In recent years, the government of Kenya has committed to developing the sector, identified as a good prospect for social and economic development of coastal areas by diversifying livelihood opportunities for the fishing communities.

Contact:

Mr. Paolo Damato, Component Technical Coordinator Aics Nairobi

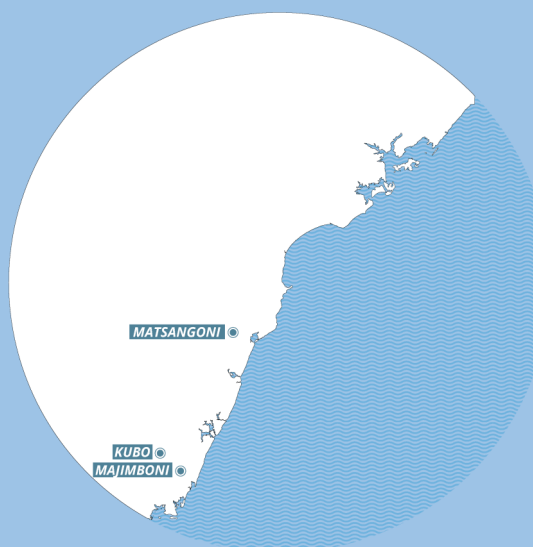
Email: paolo.damato@aics.gov.it

Shimoni BMU: provision of fiber boats (8 mt length); ice boxes for boats and fishing gears;

Kibuyuni BMU: provision of fiber boats (8 mt length); specific boats for sea weed transportation + equipment for seaweed harvesting; ice boxes for boats; fishing gears; installation of an ice production machine;

Mkwiro BMU: provision of fiber boats (8 mt length); specific boats for sea weed transportation; ice boxes for boats; fishing gears; equipment for seaweed harvesting + processing.

Cassava value chain



In Kwale County, envisaged interventions to improve the capacity of farmers to operate along the cassava value chain include provision of capacity building activities to technical staff from the County Government; support to Kubo and Majimboni smallholder farmer groups through the establishment of cassava demonstration bulking plots and processing units and the provision of innovative and improved equipment and infrastructure for cassava farming, processing and marketing.

Beneficiaries (Kwale County)

The number of direct beneficiaries in Kwale County is approximately **887**:

- 834 members of target BMUs, local traders and women employed in fish processing and seaweed farming (Shimoni - 385; Kibuyuni - 260; Mkwiro - 189);
- 50 smallholder farmers;
- 3 technical staff from the County Government benefitting from the participation into the Go Blue Programme workshops.

