



SCALING CIRCULAR PLASTICS ACTION IN AFRICA

Monday, 6 September | 12h30 - 13h45 CEST / 13h30 – 14h45 EAT (1h 15 mins) | Room: H3 - Ocean and Islands

Partners

International Union for Conservation of Nature / OceanHub Africa / ImpactTrack

Context

IUCN recognizes that preventing and reducing plastic pollution to the environment is more than just waste management. National efforts to increase plastics recycling and upcycling are vital to a circular economy approach, but such actions by themselves are insufficient for transforming the current linear economy model of take-make-dispose. As noted by a recent study by PEW and SYSTEMIQ, recycling is projected to account for no more than 20% globally in plastic leakage reductions by 2040. A shift to a circular economy therefore requires coordinated interventions at all stages of the plastics lifecycle, including in including resource extraction and refining, design and manufacture of products, trade and retail, use and reuse, repair and remanufacturing, recycling, and final disposal when necessary.

IUCN has built on the learnings from its first set of supported projects to establish the Circular Plastic Economy Innovation Lab (CPEIL) to accelerate, at regional, national and sub-national levels, the transition at scale towards a circular plastic economy as a driver of development of a sustainable, inclusive and resilient blue economy in the Western Indian Ocean region. IUCN has engaged OceanHub Africa to inspire and assist innovative impact initiatives and nurture an environmentally conscious and profitable economy that would effectively mitigate plastic pollution to the ocean.

In order to accelerate the implementation and scale up actions on the ground, IUCN, through the kind support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) has channelled more than US \$300,000 to initiatives in Kenya, Mozambique, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, and Vietnam to help harness to power of innovation, science and blue entrepreneurship in order to catalyse ground breaking business ideas, design unique business models and provide state of the art incubation support to drive the development of sustainable, inclusive and resilient enterprises. The Agence Française de Développement (AFD) has also supported the development and publication of relevant circular economy case studies in Tanzania. The supported initiatives contribute to the sustainable conservation and management of marine and coastal resources and habitats, create lasting social impact men, women and youth, and strengthen the resilience of national circular plastic economies.

The session aims to cement the place for business and local actors in catalysing the transition to a circular economy, and importantly, invite development partners to increase investments and funding to support the scaling and replication of such action in the African continent for increased positive impact to nature and people.

Proposed programme on next page.

Funded by:



Sida



Proposed Programme (75 min):**Moderator:** Janaka De Silva, Senior Programme Coordinator, IUCN Global Marine & Polar Programme (GMPP)

Segment	Speaker
Opening address (5 mins)	Catherine Lecouffe , <i>Task Team Leader, Fisheries & Aquaculture, Ocean, AFD</i>
Kenya's journey in addressing plastic pollution (5 mins)	Prof. Fred Segor , <i>Principal Secretary (PS), State Department of Wildlife, Kenya</i>
IUCN's Close the plastic tap programme (5 mins)	Luther Bois Anukur , <i>Regional Director, IUCN ESARO</i>
Key intervention areas to address plastic leakage in the WIO region (5 mins)	Peter Manyara , <i>Regional Project Manager, Marine Plastics and Coastal Communities, IUCN ESARO</i>
Measurement, management and communication in circular economy: Lessons from IUCN supported projects (10 mins)	Ricardo Scacchetti , <i>Founder/Director, Impact Track</i>
The Circular Plastic Economy Innovation Lab (CPEIL): IUCN/OHA Incubation+ Programme (10 mins)	Alexis Grosskopf , <i>CEO & Founder, OceanHub Africa (OHA)</i>
Round table 'deep dive' – each societal sector has 10 minutes for their discussion (20 min) a. Private sector innovation in a circular economy (3R Mozambique, EcoAct Tanzania, Greenway Africa) b. The role of NGOs and community-based organisations in scaling national circular action (Watamu Marine Association, WildOceans, Mazingira Yetu Organization, Associação de Limpeza e Meio Ambiente)	
Way forward in unlocking the Blue Circular Cities roadmap in the WIO region (10 mins)	Thomas Sberna , <i>Regional Technical Coordinator – Coastal and Ocean Resilience, IUCN ESARO</i>
Closing and vote of thanks	Janaka De Silva , <i>Senior Programme Coordinator, IUCN Global Marine & Polar Programme (GMPP)</i>