



KWALE COUNTY



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Funded by
the European Union

The Go Blue Project Result Area 2 is jointly implemented by United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Project aims at enhancing land-sea planning and management by addressing key socio-economic and environmental challenges while stimulating benefits from the blue economy. By promoting the economic growth of coastal urban residents and the preservation of coastal and marine resources, the project seeks to assist in the nation's transition to a sustainable blue economy. Undoubtedly, a vital element in the sustainability of blue economic development is the maintenance of healthy marine and coastal ecosystems. However, these important ecosystems are decreasing at an alarming rate because of growing, and increasingly frequent stresses.

Objectives

- Implement an integrated, ecosystem-based approach to land-sea planning and management by formulating land-sea planning guidelines.
- Ensure participation and inclusivity of women and young people and creation of jobs.
- Enhance institutional and individual capacities for a sustainable blue economy in coastal urban areas.

Planned Activities

■ Management of MPAs and LMMAs

The project will enhance Marine Protected Area (MPA) management and conservation in Kenya by conducting cost-benefit analyses for the implementation of an effective Diani – Chale Marine National Reserve involving site identification and assessment, as well as revising the Kisite-Mpunguti Marine National Reserve management plan through public consultations, including income opportunities for local communities. This seeks to expand the area under conservation in Kwale County. The project also supports locally managed marine areas (LMMAs) to enhance the conservation of coastal and marine resources.



Kisite-Mpunguti Marine National Reserve. Credit UNEP

■ **County Data Station.**

Strengthening of the County GIS (Geographic Information Systems) lab and creation of a data station in the Lands Department County Offices, which will host data on spatial planning, environment, blue economy, WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene), etc. and will be useful across all county departments, enabling informed decision making and efficient resource allocation.

■ **Enhancing Technical Capacity of staff**

The project will develop the technical capacity of county staff in data and information management. Key personnel will receive training to effectively utilize the data centre, enabling them to map natural resources, plan human settlements, and enforce development control measures. The project will enhance county staff's ability to manage data and information. Key personnel will be trained to use the data centre effectively, enabling them to map resources, plan settlements, and enforce development controls.

■ Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Assessments Mapping & Valuation

Assessments and valuation of coastal and marine ecosystems, vulnerability to climate change, and socio-economic conditions will be conducted to guide ecosystem-based disaster risk reduction planning and resilient economic development. The project will assess and value coastal and marine ecosystems, climate change vulnerability, and socio-economic factors. This information will guide plans for reducing disaster risks and developing a resilient economy.

■ Education and Training

Trainings will be provided to local communities, especially youth and women, to implement the management plan and offer alternative livelihood opportunities through customized solutions for MPA and areas of co-management.

Our Implementing Partners

