



29th ANNUAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP

Theme:

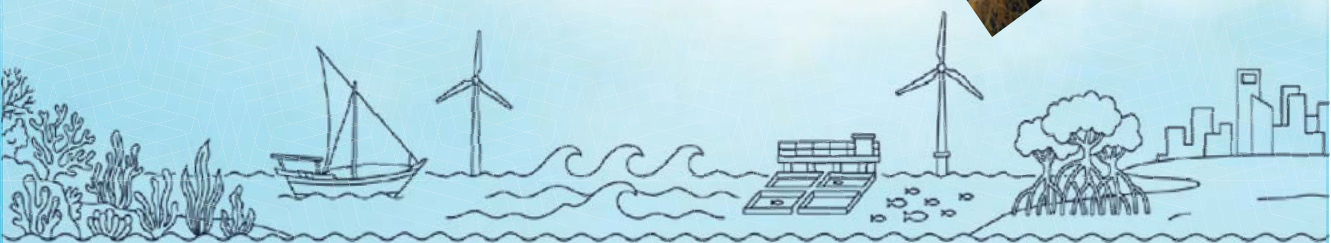
Transforming Tanzania's
Blue Economy for Inclusive
& Sustainable Development



25TH AND 26TH MAY, 2026



ZANZIBAR



Ambasáid na hÉireann | Tanzania
Embassy of Ireland | Tanzania
Ubalozhi wa Ireland | Tanzania

Workshop Synthesis

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Executive Summary

Tanzania possesses significant opportunities to advance an inclusive and sustainable Blue Economy. This was confirmed during REPOA's 29th Annual Research Workshop across discussions on fisheries, aquaculture, seaweed farming, coastal tourism, maritime transport, trade, finance, climate resilience, governance, partnerships and research. Participants repeatedly emphasized that the country's Blue Economy potential is no longer in question. The central challenge is how to translate that potential into tangible, inclusive, sustainable, and investable development outcomes.

A recurring message throughout the workshop was that Blue Economy transformation should not be viewed as a collection of individual sectors or projects. Rather, it requires a broader systems-based approach that connects governance, financing, infrastructure, research, climate resilience, human capital, value chains, and community participation. Participants consistently challenged siloed approaches to development and called for more integrated and coordinated approaches capable of delivering long-term transformation.

Discussions highlighted that Tanzania enters this transition from a potential position of considerable strength. The country possesses extensive marine and inland water resources, a strategic geographic location, growing institutional momentum, increasing investor interest, and expanding recognition of the Blue Economy as a driver of economic transformation, job creation, food security, trade, and environmental sustainability. However, participants noted that realizing this potential will require moving beyond policy ambition towards effective implementation, coordinated investments, and measurable outcomes.

Governance and coordination emerged as foundational requirements for success. While significant progress has been made in establishing policies, strategies, and institutional frameworks, participants emphasized the need for stronger implementation mechanisms, improved institutional coordination, enhanced accountability, and greater alignment across sectors and jurisdictions.

Financing was another dominant theme throughout the workshop. Discussions demonstrated a growing shift from focusing solely on mobilizing capital towards developing financing systems that are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the realities of Blue Economy enterprises. In that regard, the central challenge was the limited capacity to unlock and effectively deploy financing through the preparation of bankable Blue Economy projects. Innovative approaches such as blended finance, guarantee schemes, climate finance, Blue Bonds, and public-private partnerships were highlighted as important mechanisms for reducing risk and expanding investment opportunities.

Participants also emphasized the importance of value addition as a pathway for economic transformation. Across multiple sectors, discussions highlighted opportunities to strengthen value chains, improve processing capacity, expand market access, support innovation, and increase competitiveness in regional and international markets.

A strong emphasis was placed on inclusion. The workshop repeatedly highlighted the importance of the need to demonstrate tangible outcomes in terms of job creation, livelihood diversification, and sustained income generation for women and youth. Participants underscored that meaningful inclusion within the Blue Economy should be assessed by its ability to deliver measurable employment and enterprise outcomes, supported by targeted skills development, access to productive assets, and

integration into commercially viable value chains. This was in addition to ensuring that women, youth, artisanal fishers, seaweed farmers, cooperatives, and coastal and lakeside communities are able to participate meaningfully in and benefit from Blue Economy growth. Sustainable transformation was, therefore, framed not only as an economic objective, but also as a social and developmental imperative.

Climate resilience and environmental sustainability emerged as cross-cutting priorities. Participants emphasized that the long-term success of the Blue Economy will depend on maintaining healthy ecosystems, strengthening adaptive capacity, and integrating environmental stewardship into development planning and investment decisions.

Collectively, discussions pointed towards nine interconnected pillars that provide a practical roadmap for advancing Tanzania's Blue Economy transformation: Systems Thinking; Governance and Coordination; Financial Inclusion; Value Addition; Infrastructure, Connectivity and Security; Science, Research and Innovation; Climate Resilience; Human Capital Development; and Community-Centred Development.

Ultimately, the workshop demonstrated that Tanzania possesses many of the ingredients necessary to build a thriving Blue Economy. The challenge moving forward is not whether the opportunity exists, but how effectively the country can mobilize the partnerships, institutions, investments, knowledge, and leadership required to transform that opportunity into inclusive, resilient, and sustainable development outcomes.

Workshop Background

The 29th Annual Research Workshop on Transforming Tanzania's Blue Economy for Inclusive and Sustainable Development was held from 25–26 May 2026 at the Golden Tulip Airport Hotel in Zanzibar. It was organized by REPOA in collaboration with the Zanzibar Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, the National Planning Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania, and the CRDB Bank PLC.

The workshop was convened against a backdrop of growing recognition of the Blue Economy as a strategic driver of economic transformation, job creation, food security, trade, climate resilience, and sustainable development. Discussions explored how Tanzania can better harness its extensive marine and freshwater resources, strategic geographic position, and emerging investment opportunities to accelerate inclusive and sustainable growth. It provided a platform for examining the opportunities, challenges, and strategic pathways for advancing Tanzania's Blue Economy agenda.

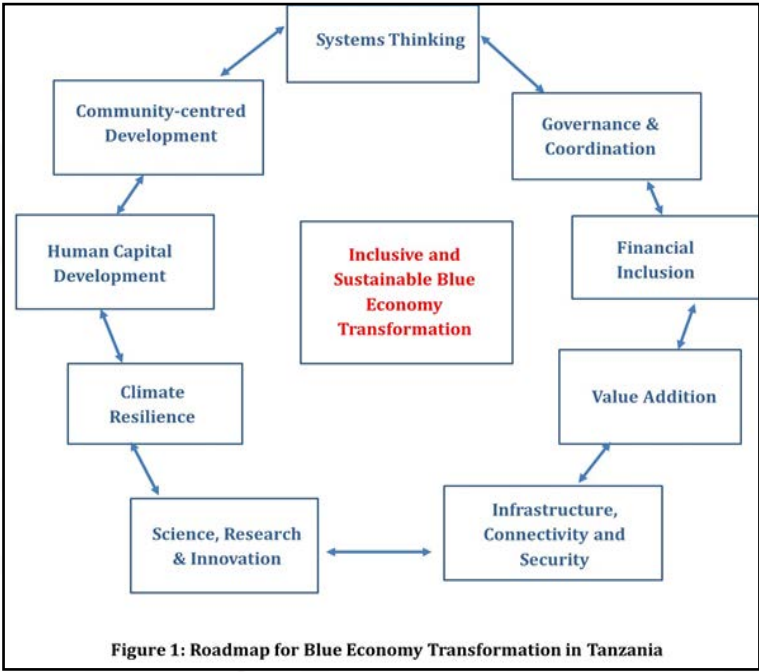
Through keynote presentations, panel discussions, technical sessions, and plenary discussions, participants shared evidence, experiences, policy perspectives, financing innovations, and practical lessons from Tanzania, the East and Southern African region, and beyond. Particular attention was given to governance and coordination, financing mechanisms, value chain development, climate resilience, infrastructure, research and innovation, human capital development, and community participation as critical enablers of Blue Economy transformation.

While discussions covered a wide range of sectors, institutions, and development priorities, a common framework began to emerge from the interactions between presentations, panel discussions, technical sessions, and stakeholder reflections. Together, these discussions pointed towards a set of interconnected priorities that can guide Tanzania's Blue Economy transformation agenda.

Roadmap for Blue Economy Transformation

The workshop consistently challenged siloed approaches to development. Discussions highlighted the importance of linking marine and freshwater systems, connecting seascapes with the landscapes that influence them, strengthening coordination across sectors and institutions, and fostering collaboration among governments, communities, researchers, financiers, and private sector actors. Participants repeatedly stressed that progress in one area is often dependent on progress in others.

The framework presented below reflects this systems perspective. The circular arrangement of the nine pillars emphasizes that Blue Economy transformation is not a linear process in which one priority is addressed before another. Rather, it is a dynamic and interconnected system in which governance, financing, infrastructure, research, resilience, human capital, value creation, and community participation must advance together. Sustainable transformation, therefore, depends not only on the strength of individual pillars, but also on the relationships and synergies between them.



REPOA 29th Annual Research Workshop, "Transforming Tanzania's Blue Economy for Inclusive and Sustainable Development" – 25&26 May, 2026 - Airport Golden Tulip, Zanzibar

Beyond identifying priority areas for action, the workshop also generated several broader insights regarding the nature of Blue Economy transformation. These insights reflect recurring themes that emerged across presentations, discussions, and stakeholder engagements and help explain why certain priorities repeatedly surfaced throughout the workshop.

Key Strategic Insights

While the Roadmap for Blue Economy Transformation identifies priority areas for action, discussions throughout the workshop also generated several broader insights regarding the nature of transformation itself. These insights emerged from the interactions between keynote presentations, panel discussions, technical sessions, and stakeholder reflections, and help explain why certain themes repeatedly surfaced throughout the workshop. Collectively, they highlight important considerations for policymakers, investors, development partners, researchers, and practitioners seeking to advance Tanzania's Blue Economy agenda.

Beyond identifying what needs to be done, these insights offer perspectives on how transformation can be approached, where critical challenges lie, and what conditions are necessary for long-term success.

The strategic insights presented below represent recurring messages that cut across sectors, institutions, and stakeholder groups, and provide an interpretive lens through which the workshop's broader findings can be understood.

Strategic Insight 1: From Resource Endowment to Value Creation

Tanzania possesses significant marine and freshwater resources, yet workshop discussions repeatedly highlighted that resource abundance alone will not drive transformation. Sustainable growth will depend on the country's ability to strengthen value chains, expand processing and value addition, improve logistics and market access, and enhance competitiveness in regional and global markets.

Strategic Insight 2: Financing Follows Governance

Investment confidence is closely linked to the quality of governance systems. Strong institutions, clear mandates, coordinated implementation structures, and predictable regulatory environments reduce risk and attract investment. Conversely, fragmented governance and overlapping mandates can undermine financing efforts and slow implementation.

Strategic Insight 3: Inclusive Transformation Requires Inclusive Financing

The workshop demonstrated that broad-based participation in the Blue Economy cannot be achieved through conventional financing models alone. Women, youth, artisanal fishers, coastal communities, emerging enterprises have limited capacity to unlock and effectively deploy financing through the preparation of bankable Blue Economy projects require financing mechanisms that address barriers related to collateral, risk, financial literacy, and market access.

Strategic Insight 4: Climate Resilience Is an Economic Imperative

Climate resilience should not be viewed solely as an environmental concern. The sustainability of fisheries, tourism, aquaculture, infrastructure, and coastal livelihoods depends on the health of

marine and freshwater ecosystems. Climate adaptation and ecosystem protection are, therefore, fundamental to long-term economic growth.

Strategic Insight 5: Blue Economy Transformation Requires Systems Thinking

One of the most significant insights emerging from the workshop was that successful Blue Economy transformation depends on aligning governance systems, financing mechanisms, infrastructure investments, scientific evidence, market development, human capital, and community participation. Progress in one area is unlikely to be sustained without complementary investments in others.

The importance of systems thinking was reinforced through discussions on Source-to-Sea management, One Health, climate resilience, governance, financing, and value-chain development. Participants repeatedly highlighted those rivers, coastal ecosystems, marine resources, communities, markets, and institutions are interconnected, and that interventions targeting a single component in isolation are unlikely to achieve lasting results. Sustainable transformation therefore requires integrated approaches that recognize and strengthen the relationships between environmental, economic, and social systems.

While many discussions focused on governance, coordination, financing, sustainability, and institutional development, participants also highlighted a number of emerging opportunities capable of attracting investment, creating employment, strengthening value chains, and accelerating economic transformation. These opportunities cross both established and emerging Blue Economy sectors and represent potential entry points for public, private, and blended investment.

Emerging Investor-Ready Opportunities

While much of the workshop focused on governance, coordination, financing, sustainability, and institutional development, discussions also highlighted a number of emerging opportunities capable of attracting investment, creating employment, strengthening value chains, and accelerating economic transformation. These opportunities cross both established and emerging Blue Economy sectors and reflect areas where Tanzania possesses comparative advantages, growing market potential, and increasing investor interest.

Collectively, they demonstrate that Blue Economy transformation is not only a policy and governance agenda, but also an economic opportunity agenda. Realizing this potential will require strategic investments, enabling policy environments, innovative financing mechanisms, strengthened infrastructure, and partnerships capable of linking local enterprises and communities to national, regional, and global markets.

The following opportunities were identified during the workshop across multiple sectors and stages of the Blue Economy value chain, reflecting both immediate investment prospects and longer-term areas for strategic development. Taken together, these opportunities highlight the breadth of Tanzania's Blue Economy investment landscape and the potential for strategic interventions to drive inclusive and sustainable growth.

Fisheries and Aquaculture Modernization

The fisheries and aquaculture sector emerged as one of the most promising areas for investment. Participants emphasized opportunities to expand sustainable fish production through cage farming,

hatcheries, feed manufacturing, cold-chain infrastructure, fish processing facilities, and improved post-harvest handling systems. Strategic investments in modern production technologies, financing mechanisms, and value-chain development could significantly increase productivity while enhancing food security and export competitiveness.

Seaweed Value Addition and Marine Bioeconomy

Seaweed was consistently identified as a high-potential Blue Economy subsector. Opportunities include processing facilities, improved drying and storage infrastructure, deep-water farming technologies, and product diversification into animal feeds, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, biostimulants, and nutritional supplements.

Coastal and Marine Tourism Development

The workshop underscored the significant potential of coastal tourism as a driver of economic growth, employment creation, and community development. Investment opportunities exist in accommodation facilities, marine recreation services, ecotourism ventures, cultural tourism products, transport infrastructure, and destination marketing.

Ports, Logistics and Trade Infrastructure

Several presentations highlighted the strategic importance of ports, maritime transport systems, and logistics corridors in supporting Blue Economy growth. Opportunities were identified in port modernization, cold-chain systems, cargo handling facilities, maritime services, transport corridors, and supporting infrastructure.

Renewable Energy and Green Maritime Solutions

Emerging opportunities were identified in offshore wind, wave energy, tidal energy, and other clean energy solutions linked to coastal and marine environments, together with green shipping initiatives and climate-smart infrastructure.

Maritime Security and Digital Monitoring Systems

Opportunities are emerging in maritime surveillance, coastal monitoring, vessel tracking systems, drone technologies, and integrated security infrastructure.

Skills Development and Blue Economy Innovation Ecosystems

A recurring theme was the growing demand for specialized skills. Opportunities, therefore, exist in maritime academies, technical training centres, innovation hubs, incubation programmes, and industry-academia partnerships.

Research, Innovation and Knowledge Generation Opportunities

Alongside investment opportunities, participants repeatedly emphasized the importance of research, innovation, and evidence generation in supporting sustainable Blue Economy development. Discussions identified several knowledge gaps and emerging areas requiring further investigation to strengthen decision-making, policy development, and investment planning.

The research opportunities outlined below reflect priority areas where additional evidence,

innovation, and interdisciplinary collaboration could support more effective implementation of Tanzania's Blue Economy agenda while strengthening long-term sustainability and resilience.

Source-to-Sea Systems

Research is needed to strengthen integrated planning and management across river basins, coastal zones, and marine environments.

Blue Economy Financing

Further research is required on financial inclusion, risk-sharing mechanisms, blue finance instruments, insurance products, and investment de-risking strategies.

Value Chain Development

Studies are needed to identify opportunities for value addition, market expansion, and industrial upgrading in fisheries, aquaculture, seaweed, and other marine-based products.

Climate Resilience

Participants highlighted the need for evidence on climate impacts affecting marine resources, coastal infrastructure, livelihoods, and ecosystem services.

One Health and Blue Economy

The One Health perspective revealed opportunities for interdisciplinary research linking environmental health, animal health, and human well-being within Blue Economy systems.

Marine Spatial Planning and Governance

Research can support improved governance by evaluating the effectiveness of marine spatial planning, institutional coordination mechanisms, and policy implementation frameworks.

Technology and Innovation

Further work is needed on digital technologies, monitoring systems, surveillance tools, renewable energy applications, and innovations that improve sustainability and productivity.

Strategic Priorities for Policy Action and Blue Economy Transformation

Beyond specific investment opportunities and research themes, workshop discussions also highlighted a number of broader strategic priorities requiring sustained attention from policymakers, development partners, financial institutions, private-sector actors, and other stakeholders. These priorities represent cross-cutting issues that will influence the pace, inclusiveness, and sustainability of Blue Economy transformation in Tanzania.

Collectively, they highlight areas where strengthened policy action, institutional coordination, strategic investment, and multi-stakeholder collaboration will be required to unlock opportunities, address persistent challenges, and support long-term transformation. The priorities outlined below reflect recurring themes that emerged across the workshop and provide a broad agenda for future action in advancing an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Blue Economy.

Governance and Institutional Effectiveness

- Effectiveness of existing Blue Economy governance and coordination mechanisms.
- Policy harmonization across sectors and jurisdictions.
- Models for strengthening implementation and accountability.

Financing and Investment

- Innovative financing mechanisms for Blue Economy enterprises.
- Blended finance, guarantees, Blue Bonds, and risk-sharing instruments.
- Investment readiness among coastal communities and SMEs.

Value Chains and Industrial Development

- Fisheries and aquaculture value chain upgrading.
- Seaweed value addition and industrialization.
- Regional and global market opportunities for Blue Economy products.

Climate Resilience and Environmental Sustainability

- Climate adaptation strategies for fisheries, aquaculture, and coastal communities.
- Ecosystem restoration and conservation models.
- Economic impacts of climate-related risks on Blue Economy sectors.

Climate Finance and Blue Financial Instruments

- Blue Bonds and blended finance mechanisms.
- Climate adaptation financing and insurance products.
- Risk-sharing instruments and investment de-risking frameworks.

Human Capital and Workforce Development

- Skills gaps in emerging Blue Economy sectors.
- Maritime education and technical training.
- Youth participation and employment pathways.

Community Participation and Inclusion

- Community-led Blue Economy governance models.
- Indigenous and local knowledge systems.
- Gender-responsive approaches to Blue Economy development.

Data, Science, and Innovation

- Blue accounting systems and measurement frameworks.
- Data gaps affecting policy and investment decisions.
- Technology and innovation pathways for Blue Economy growth.

Preliminary Conclusions

The 29th Annual Research Workshop provided an important platform for reflection on the opportunities, challenges and strategic actions required to advance Tanzania's Blue Economy as a driver of inclusive and sustainable development. Bringing together policymakers, researchers, development partners, financial institutions, private-sector actors and practitioners, the workshop demonstrated a growing national and regional commitment to unlocking the economic, social and environmental potential of marine and aquatic resources.

A central message emerging from the discussions was that Tanzania's Blue Economy potential is no longer in question. Participants repeatedly highlighted the country's extensive coastline, rich marine and inland water resources, strategic geographic location, and growing policy commitment as strong foundations for Blue Economy transformation. The discussion therefore moved beyond identifying opportunities towards examining the practical actions required to translate potential into tangible development outcomes.

The workshop underscored the need to shift from resource extraction to value creation. Across discussions on fisheries, aquaculture, seaweed farming, maritime transport, coastal tourism and emerging ocean industries, participants emphasized the importance of strengthening value chains, increasing productivity, expanding value addition, and creating decent employment opportunities. Blue Economy transformation was therefore framed not merely as an environmental or sectoral agenda, but as a broader economic transformation agenda capable of contributing to food security, trade, industrialization and community resilience.

Financing emerged as one of the most significant themes throughout the workshop. However, discussions demonstrated that the challenge is no longer simply one of mobilizing capital. Rather, attention is increasingly shifting towards improving investment readiness, reducing perceived risks, strengthening institutional capacity, expanding financial inclusion and developing financing mechanisms capable of reaching local actors. Innovative instruments such as blended finance, blue bonds, public-private partnerships, impact investment and guarantee schemes were highlighted as important pathways for unlocking investment while supporting sustainable development objectives.

A recurring message throughout the workshop was the importance of inclusion. Participants consistently emphasized that the benefits of Blue Economy growth must extend beyond large-scale investors to include women, youth, small-scale fishers, seaweed farmers, cooperatives and coastal communities. The success of the Blue Economy will ultimately be measured not only by investment volumes and economic returns, but also by the extent to which it improves livelihoods, expands opportunities and strengthens resilience among the communities that depend most directly on marine and aquatic resources.

Further discussions underscored the importance of conservation and sustainable resource management as fundamental pillars of long-term Blue Economy success. Several participants expressed concern that insufficient attention is sometimes given to the protection and restoration of marine and freshwater ecosystems despite their central role in sustaining livelihoods, economic activities, and future growth opportunities. The workshop highlighted the critical role of coastal and lakeside communities as custodians of these resources and emphasized the importance of strengthening community participation in conservation efforts to ensure that economic development

and environmental stewardship advance together.

The workshop also highlighted the critical role of governance, institutional capacity and coordination. While Tanzania has made significant progress in developing policies, strategies and institutional frameworks to guide Blue Economy development, participants noted that effective implementation will require stronger coordination across sectors and institutions, enhanced technical capacity, improved data systems, and clear mechanisms for translating policy commitments into measurable results. Discussions repeatedly emphasized that investment alone cannot deliver transformation without capable institutions to guide and sustain it.

An important insight emerging from the workshop was the growing recognition that Blue Economy development requires integrated and systems-based approaches. Presentations on Source-to-Sea management and One Health demonstrated that sustainable outcomes cannot be achieved through isolated sectoral interventions. Rather, the health of rivers, coastal ecosystems, marine resources, communities and economies are interconnected. Sustainable Blue Economy development therefore requires coordinated action across sectors, disciplines and institutions, with equal attention given to environmental sustainability, economic growth and human wellbeing.

The workshop further highlighted the importance of partnerships in advancing the Blue Economy agenda. Government institutions, research organizations, financial institutions, development partners, private-sector actors and local communities each have distinct but complementary roles to play. Participants repeatedly emphasized that no single institution can drive Blue Economy transformation alone and that long-term success will depend on sustained collaboration, knowledge sharing and collective action.

Ultimately, the workshop demonstrated that Tanzania possesses many of the ingredients necessary to advance Blue Economy transformation, including natural resource endowments, policy commitment, growing institutional momentum and increasing investor interest. The challenge moving forward is to translate these advantages into coordinated investments, effective implementation and measurable outcomes that deliver both economic prosperity and environmental sustainability.

As discussions throughout the workshop illustrated, the question is no longer whether Tanzania has the potential to build a thriving Blue Economy. Rather, the challenge is how quickly and effectively that potential can be translated into inclusive, resilient and sustainable transformation for current and future generations.



29TH ANNUAL RESEARCH WORKSHOP

“Transforming Tanzania’s Blue Economy for Inclusive and Sustainable Development”

● 25TH AND 26TH MAY 2026 ●

VENUE: GOLDEN TULIP, AIRPORT, ZANZIBAR

PROGRAMME

DAY 1: MONDAY, 25TH MAY 2026		
TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
08:00 – 08:45	Arrival, Registration & Exhibition	ALL
08:45 – 09:00	Arrival of Guest of Honour	
OPENING PLENARY		
09:00 – 09:05	Overview of the Workshop Programme	Master of Ceremony
09:05 – 09:15	Welcoming Remarks from REPOA	Dr. Donald MMARI, REPOA Executive Director
09:15 – 09:25	Welcoming Remarks from the Host	Captain Hamad Bakar HAMAD, PS, Ministry of Blue Economy & Fisheries
09:25 – 09:35	Remarks from REPOA's Core Partners	H.E. Nicola BRENNAN, Ambassador of Ireland to Tanzania & EAC
09:35 – 09:45	Welcoming the Ministers	Prof. Rwekaza MUKANDALA, Board Chairperson – REPOA
09:45 – 09:55	Remarks from Collaborating Institutions	Hon. Prof. Kitila Alexander MKUMBO, Minister of State, President's Office, Planning and Investment
09:55 – 10:00	Welcoming the Guest of Honour	Hon. Massoud Ali MOHAMMED, Minister of Blue Economy & Fisheries, Zanzibar
10:00 – 10:20	OPENING ADDRESS	Hon. Hemed Suleiman ABDULLA, Second Vice President, Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar
10:20 – 10:25	Vote of Thanks	Ms. Rehema TUKAI, Board Vice-Chairperson – REPOA
10:25 – 10:35	Group Photo & Tea Break	REPOA Communication Team

DAY 1: MONDAY, 25TH MAY 2026

10:35 – 10:55	Keynote Address 1	Dr. Firas RAAD, World Bank's Division Director for Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe <i>"Positive Response to the Financing Needs of the Blue Economy Sector in Tanzania and Other African Countries"</i>
10:55 – 11:15	Keynote Address 2	Prof. Neema M. MORI, Chairperson of the Board of CRDB Bank PLC. <i>"Successfully Advancing the New Modes of Financing the Blue Economy in Tanzania"</i>
11:15 – 11:25	Some key reflections from the keynote presentations	Dr. Jamal MSAMI Director of Strategic Research – REPOA
11:25-13:25	PLENARY SESSION 1: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR SUSTAINING THE GROWTH AND TRANSFORMATION OF THE BLUE ECONOMY	CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Sherif Ali SHERIF, Minister of Trade and Industrial Development, Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar
	Presenters and Panelists	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Prof. Joseph SEMBOJA, Member of the Executive Board, REPOA <i>"Pursuit for Sustaining Growth and Transformation of the Blue Economy in Tanzania"</i> PANELISTS: Captain Hamad Bakar HAMAD, Principal Secretary, Zanzibar Ministry of BE and Fisheries Ms. Magdalena NGOTOLAINYO, Acting Director of Blue Economy Department, Vice President's Office Dr. Elysee NZOHABONAYO, Director Aquaculture Management and Development, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization Dr. Andrew MOLD, Director, UNECA—East Africa Office, Kigali, RWANDA
13:25 - 14:25	LUNCH BREAK	ALL

14:25 - 16:25	PLENARY SESSION 2: FINANCING THE BLUE ECONOMY'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH	CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Tausi KIDA, Permanent Secretary – Planning and Executive Secretary – National Planning Commission
	Presenters and Panelists	KEYNOTE SPEAKERS Mr. Ebson UANGUTA , Governor, Bank of Namibia. <i>"Sustainable Mobilization of the Blue Economy Funding—the Namibian Leadership"</i> . Ms. Hellen DALALI , Head of Sustainability, Equity Bank <i>"New Bank Financing for the Blue Economy: Driving Sustainable Finance and Community Impact Across Tanzania's Coastal Regions"</i> . PANELISTS 1. Ms. Charlotte De FONTAUBERT , Senior Fisheries Specialist, World Bank. 2. Mr. Salum RAMADHAN , African Development Bank. 3. Mr. Maregesi A. SHAABANI , Head of Agribusiness, CRDB BANK PLC.
16:25 - 16:35	TEA/COFFEE BREAK	ALL
16:35 - 17:30	"SPECIAL SESSION OF THE NATIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION"	CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Blandina KILAMA , Deputy Executive Secretary, National Planning Commission. • Presentation of the BE Research Agenda on Dira 2050 1.Dr. Crispin RYAKITIMBO – Manager, Private Sector Engagement, National Planning Commission 2.Prof. Japhet J. KASHAIGILI , Sokoine University of Agriculture, 3.Prof. David G. MHANDO , Sokoine University of Agriculture. 4.Prof. Robinson MDEGELLA , Sokoine University of Agriculture.
17:30 - 18:00	"SPECIAL SESSION OF 30 YEARS OF REPOA"	CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Rwekaza MUKANDALA , Board Chairperson – REPOA. Dr. Donald MMARI , REPOA Executive Director. LAUNCH OF THE SPECIAL PUBLICATION ON "POLICY INNOVATIONS FOR IMPROVED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN TANZANIA" .

18:00 – 20:00	DINNER AND SPECIAL SESSION ON “FINANCING BLUE ECONOMY IN TANZANIA”	CRDB BANK Introduction – Dr. Donald MMARI , REPOA Executive Director. Key Statement – Prof. Neema M. MORI , Chairperson of the Board of the CRDB Bank PLC.
DAY 2: TUESDAY, 26TH MAY 2026		
07:30 – 08:30	Arrival, Registration & Exhibition	ALL
	PLENARY SESSION 3: BUILDING THE BLUE ECONOMIES OF THE COASTAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH EFFECTIVE SUPPORT FOR: FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE	CHAIRPERSON: Prof. Paschal MIHYO , Senior Research Fellow, REPOA.
	Presenters and Panelists	KEYNOTE SPEAKERS Prof. Johannes IITEMBU , Department of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, Sam Nujoma Campus, University of Namibia. <i>“The Essence of Supporting the Blue Economies of the Coastal Communities in Our Countries”.</i> Mr. Emmanuel M. TUTUBA , Governor, Bank of Tanzania. <i>“Role of the Central Bank and the Government in Supporting the Blue Economy’s Opportunities for Growth—Insights and Best-Cases from the Bank of Tanzania”.</i> PANELISTS ● FISHERIES 1. Dr. Nazael Amos MADALLA , Director of Aquaculture, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries. 2. Dr. Salim Moh’d HAMZA , Officer in Charge, Ministry of Blue Economy & Fisheries, Pemba Office. ● AQUACULTURE 1. Goodward MULUBWA , Big Best Company, Mwanza. 2. Mr. Buriyan Mussa HASSAN , Acting Director of Fisheries Management and Development, Deep Sea Fishing Authority. 3. Dr. Masoud RASHID , Director General, Zanzibar Seaweed Company (ZaSCO). 4. Prof. Sebastian CHENYAMBUGA , Sokoine University of Agriculture.
10:30 – 10:50	TEA BREAK	ALL
10:50 – 12:50	PLENARY SESSION 4: TRANSFORMING TRADE EXPANSION THROUGH THE BLUE ECONOMY INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT: MARINE TRANSPORT; MARITIME SECURITY; & COASTAL TOURISM.	MODERATOR: Mr. Aboud Suleiman JUMBE , Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism and Heritage - Zanzibar

10:50 – 12:50	Presenters and Panelists	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Dr. Nomtha HADI, Director of Research, The South African International Maritime Institute (SAIMI), South Africa. “The African Best Cases of the Blue Economy Infrastructure Management and Opportunities for Support to Tanzania.” PANELISTS MARINE TRANSPORT (SHIPPING, PORTS, & CORRIDORS) 1. Mr. Gilbert BOOIS, Marine Transport Expert, Namibia. MARITIME SECURITY 1. Brigadier General Seif Athmani HAMISI Director General, Mzinga Corporation. 2. Salma Suleiman OMAR, Acting Director Department of Port & Shipping, Zanzibar Maritime Authority (ZMA). ● COASTAL TOURISM 1. Ms. Lathifa K. SYKES, Executive Secretary, Tanzania Aviation Operators Association (TAOA). 2. Mrs. Raya JUMA, Chief Executive Officer, Zanzibar Association of Tour Operators.
12:50 – 13:50	LUNCH BREAK	ALL

13:50 – 15:50	PLENARY SESSION 5: BLUE ECONOMY PARTNERSHIPS, RESEARCH AND RENEWABLE ENERGY	CHAIRPERSON: Ms. Hellen DALALI , Head of Sustainability, Equity Bank.
	Presenters and Panelists	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Dr. Obakeng MOLELU , Science to Policy Programme Manager, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA). <i>"Blue Economy Partnership Best Cases and the Underlying Research Frameworks"</i> PANELISTS • BLUE ECONOMY PARTNERSHIPS 1. Zahor Kassim El KHAROUSY, Deputy Principal Secretary, Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries. 2. Dr. Mectrida K. BONEPHACE, Sokoine University of Agriculture. • BLUE ECONOMY RESEARCH 1. Dr. Ismael Aaron KIMIREI, Director General, Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI). 2. Dr. Nicholas TUTUBA, Manager, Research and Development, National Planning Commission. RENEWABLE ENERGY'S CONTRIBUTION TO BLUE ECONOMY TRANSFORMATIVE INTENT 1. Engineer Kato KABAKA , Director of Advisory & Consultancy Services, Energy CARDS.
15:50 - 16:00	TEA BREAK	ALL
16:00 -17:00	CLOSING SESSION	CHAIRPERSON: Dr. Donald MMARI , REPOA Executive Director.
	Key reflections and recommendations	Dr. Betty Jayne HUMPLICK , Rapporteur.
	CLOSING REMARKS	◇ REPOA ◇ CORE PARTNER ◇ Planning and Investment, President's Office ◇ Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries, Zanzibar



Guest of Honour-- Hon. Hemed Suleiman ABDULLA, Second Vice President, Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar





Honourable Ministers / Guests





Key-Note Speakers

Dr. Firas RAAD, World Bank



Prof. Neema M. MORI, Chairperson of the Board of CRDB Bank PLC.



Mr. Ebson UANGUTA, Governor, Bank of Namibia



Mr. Emanuel TUTUBA, Governor, Bank of Tanzania



Dr. Jamal, MSAMI, REPOA



Dr. Nomtha HADI, SAIMI, South Africa



Ms. Hellen DALALI, Equity Bank, Tz.



Prof. Johannes IITEMBU, Department of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, Sam Nujoma Campus, University of Namibia.



Dr. Obakeng MOLELU, Science to Policy Programme Manager, Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA).



REPOA's New Publication—"Policy Innovations for Improved Agricultural Production in Tanzania".





PARTICIPANTS











National Planning Commission



CRDB





Workshop Logistics Managers



REPOA-Rapporteur



Chairperson



MC-REPOA



MC-REPOA



Appreciation to our development partners:



Ambasáid na hÉireann | Tanzania
Embassy of Ireland | Tanzania
Ubalozi wa Ireland | Tanzania



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