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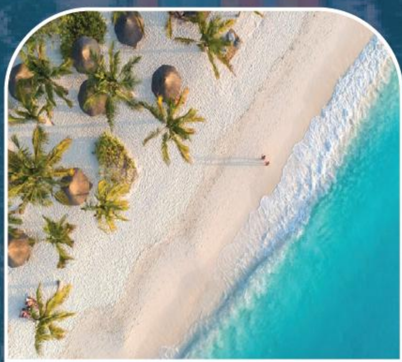

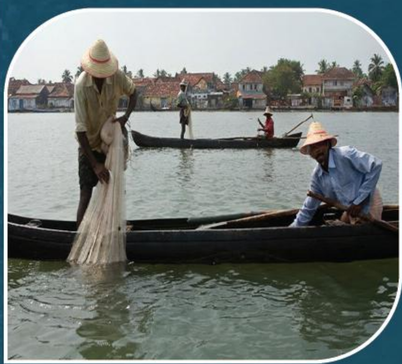



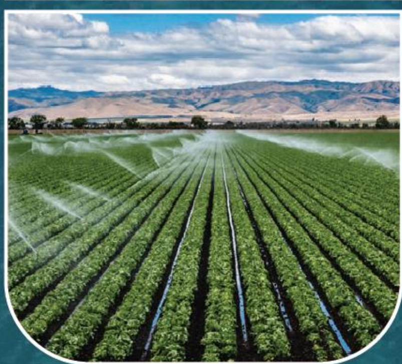

NATIONAL BLUE ECONOMY POLICY 2024

(Translated)

APRIL, 2024

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

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GLOSSARY

Aquaculture	Controlled farming of aquatic organisms such as fish, shellfish and aquatic plants in water bodies (ocean, lakes, rivers and ponds).
Aquatic Organisms	Plants, animals, fungi or micro organisms that live predominantly or entirely in water environment namely marine, freshwater and brackish water.
Biodiversity	The variety of living organisms from all sources including terrestrial ecosystems, aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, among species and of ecosystems
Blue Economy	Economic activities related to the sustainable use of aquatic resources for the benefit of society with due consideration of environmental conservation.
Blue Economy Resources	Resources available in aquatic areas including ocean, lakes, rivers, ponds, groundwater and wetlands. Examples of these resources include minerals, aquatic

organisms, natural gas and oil.

Climate Change	Long-term alteration of weather patterns on the Earth's surface due to an increase in greenhouse gases over a prolonged period of at least thirty (30) years. Climate change involves variations in rainfall, temperature, wind and humidity.
Deep Sea	An ocean area that encompasses the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), covering an area 200 nautical miles from the territorial waters, and an area beyond this zone, which is not under the jurisdiction of any national authority, where all nations can utilize the space, or open for use by all states.
Ecosystem	An area comprising of living organisms including plants, animals, bacteria, virus and protozoa interacting with each other and their non-living physical environment. This includes their interactions and dependencies among the organisms and their environment.
Environmental Pollution	Direct or indirect alteration of the physical, thermal, chemical, biological, or

	radioactive properties of any part of the environment by discharging, emitting, or depositing of wastes so as to adversely affect any beneficial use, to cause a condition which is hazardous to public health, safety or welfare, or to animals, birds, wildlife, fish or aquatic life, or to plants.
Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)	An area of the ocean extending up to 200 nautical miles, measured from the boundary of the territorial waters towards the ocean.
Territorial Waters	An area of the ocean under the authority of the United Republic of Tanzania extending 12 nautical miles from the high-water mark of the shoreline towards the sea.
Aquatic Areas	Areas existing in the ocean, lakes, rivers, ponds, and groundwater.
Water Efficient Irrigation Technology	Advanced systems and methods for irrigation that uses a minimal amount of water to achieve higher yields with less water.

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

CCM	*Chama Cha Mapinduzi*
DSFA	Deep Sea Fishing Authority
SADC	Southern Africa Development Community
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone

PREFACE

The Blue Economy is a concept that promotes economic growth through the sustainable use of aquatic (marine, brackish and freshwater) resources, in consideration of environmental conservation and public involvement. Tanzania has been implementing Blue Economy interventions through individual sectors, including Fisheries, Natural Resources, Tourism, Water, Agriculture, Energy, Transport, Mining, Investment, Industry, Trade and Environment. These sectors have been implementing the Blue Economy interventions based on sectoral policies, legislation, regulations and guidelines. Despite the existence of these policies and legal frameworks, there have been cross-cutting challenges that contribute to the country not benefiting fully from the blue economy resources including: lack of an integrated institutional framework for the coordination of the Blue Economy activities; lack of spatial plan for the use of aquatic areas; lack of strategic and integrated investment in the use of the Blue Economy resources; and inadequate research and expertise in the utilization of the Blue Economy resources.

Considering this situation, the Government has decided to develop a National Blue Economy Policy. The policy identified issues that the Government in collaboration with stakeholders will put more emphasis on creating an enabling environment to ensure the country benefits fully from opportunities arising from Blue Economy resources, to enhance the national economy for sustainable development. In addition, this policy will facilitate the country to contribute in achieving regional and international sustainable development goals.

Priority areas that are considered by this Policy include: Coordination of the Blue Economy activities; Sustainable Utilization of Aquatic Areas; Management of Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Deep Sea; Investment; and Research in Blue Economy Resources.

Successful implementation of this Policy relies on the effective participation of all stakeholders at all levels, including the Private Sector, Civil Society Organizations and Development Partners. I would like to recognize all who participated in one way or another in the process of preparing this Policy. Moreover, I hope that implementation of this Policy will enable the country to benefit fully from the available Blue Economy resources, and thus contribute to economic growth and national income for sustainable development.

Dr. Selemani Saidi Jafo
Minister of State, Vice President's Office,
Union and Environment

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Blue Economy is a concept that promotes economic growth through the sustainable use of Blue Economy resources with consideration to both environmental conservation and public involvement. The Blue Economy gained international recognition during the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development (Rio +20) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2012. During that Conference, coastal states succeeded in advancing the recognition of sustainable use of ocean resources considering economic, social and environmental dimensions. Moreover, during the International Conference on Sustainable Blue Economy held in Nairobi, Kenya, in 2018, African Heads of State directed the African Union to prepare a Blue Economy Strategy for Africa.

The Africa Blue Economy Strategy (2019) recognises all economic activities in marine, freshwater and groundwater. It includes five key areas namely:

i) Fisheries, aquaculture, conservation and sustainable aquatic ecosystems;
ii) Shipping/Transportation, trade, ports, maritime safety, security and enforcement;
iii) Sustainable energy and mineral resources and innovative industries;

iv) Coastal and maritime tourism, climate change, resilience, environment and infrastructure; and
v) Policies, institutional and governance, employment, job creation and poverty eradication and innovative financing.

Due to its importance, Blue Economy has been integrated into regional and international strategies and plans, such as the East African Community (EAC) Vision 2050; the SADC Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) (2020-2030); Africa Union Agenda 2063; and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030.

In the context of Tanzania, the concept of Blue Economy encompasses economic and social activities conducted in ocean, lakes, rivers, ponds and groundwater with due consideration of environmental conservation. This scope of blue economy is consistent with the African Union interpretation which includes both marine and freshwater. Tanzania has been implementing Blue Economy activities through relevant sectors which include Fisheries, Natural Resources; Tourism; Water; Irrigation; Energy; Transport; Mining; Investment; Industry; Trade; and Environmental Conservation.

The Blue Economy is of great importance to Tanzania due to the existence of immense marine and freshwater resources. These resources include: 61,500 km^2 of freshwater area, suitable for various uses including an estimated 126 billion cubic metres of renewable water resources per year. In marine waters, Tanzania has 64,000 km^2 of territorial waters and 223,000 km^2 within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). In addition, Tanzania has a coastline of 1,424 km, which is important for fisheries activities, tourism and marine biodiversity.

Tanzania also has 700 $km^2$of coastal forest; 1,440 km^2 of mangrove forest; and 3,580 km^2 of coral reefs. Further, Tanzania has legally designated conservation areas of 307,800 km^2 equal to 32.5 percent of the whole area of the country, part of which is related to blue economy. Similarly, approximately there are 33and 17types of harvestable marine and freshwater fish respectively. Moreover, there are approximately 57.54 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in the ocean; and 86 registered ports (harbours) and 885 informal ports for handling transportation of various goods. In addition, there are mineral reserves in the deep-sea including nickel, manganese, cobalt, polymetallic manganese nodules, polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crust. Therefore, for these resources to be more beneficial for the country, the Government has decided to integrate them under the framework of the Blue Economy.

The need for preparing a National Policy for the Blue Economy’s a result of existing challenges in achieving sustainable use of Blue Economy resources which include: lack of an integrated institutional framework for the coordination of the Blue Economy activities; lack of spatial plan for the use of aquatic areas; lack of strategic and integrated investment in the use of the Blue Economy resources; and inadequate research and expertise in the utilization of the Blue Economy resources.

1.1 The Current Situation

In Tanzania, Blue Economy activities are currently being implemented by the following sectors: Fisheries; Energy; Transport; Natural Resources; Tourism; Water; Agriculture; Mining; Environment; Investment; Industry; and Trade. The Government has set up sectoral policies and legal instruments for management of the Blue Economy activities in relevant sectors.

In Mainland Tanzania, sectoral policies that govern Blue Economy activities include: National Fisheries Policy (2015); National Energy Policy (2015); National Water Policy (2002); National Transport Policy (2003); National Tourism Policy (1999); the National Irrigation Policy (2010); Mineral Policy of Tanzania (2009); Sustainable Industries Development Policy (SIDP) (1996-2020); National Agriculture Policy (2013); National Trade Policy

(2003); National Investment Promotion Policy (1996); Small and Medium Enterprise Development Policy (2003); National Economic Empowerment Policy (2004);Cultural Heritage Policy (2008); National Forest Policy (1998); National Women and Gender Development Policy (2023); and National Environmental Policy (2021).

Moreover, sectoral legislation of relevance to blue economy include: The Fisheries Act Cap. 279; The Deep Sea Fisheries Management and Development Act Cap. 388; The Marine Parks and Reserves Act Cap. 146; The Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute Act Cap. 280; The Petroleum Act Cap. 392; The Electricity Act Cap. 131; The Rural Energy Act Cap. 321; The Oil and Gas Revenues Management Act Cap. 328; The Merchant Shipping Act Cap. 165; The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act, Cap. 415; The Ports Act Cap. 166; Dar-es-Salaam Maritime Institute Act Cap. 253; The National Institute of Transport Act, Cap. 187; The Tourism Act, Cap. 65; The Water Resources Management Act, Cap. 331; The Water Supply and Sanitation Act, Cap. 272; The National Irrigation Act, Cap. 435; Antiquities Act, Cap. 550; The Investment Act, Cap. 38; The Mining Act, Cap. 123; The Tanzania Meteorological Act, Cap. 157; The Natural Wealth and Resources (Permanent Sovereignty) Act, Cap. 449; The Natural Wealth and Resource Contract (Review and Renegotiation of Unconscionable Terms) Act, Cap. 450; and the Environmental Management Act, Cap. 191.

In 2023, key achievements from implementation of policies and laws relevant to the Blue Economy include: production of 513,802 tons of fishery products valued at Tanzanian Shillings 3.5 billion. These products include 479,977 tons from capture fisheries (of which freshwater contributed 85percent and marine waters contributed 15percent) and 33,825 tons from aquaculture including fish, seaweeds and sea cucumber farming. In addition, discovered natural gas reserve amounts to approximately 57.54 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF). Out ofthat, 47.13 TCF is available offshore in the Indian Ocean. There was also an increase of tourist cruise ships, up to eight (8) that transported 965 tourists arriving from various countries.

Other achievements include: improved availability of rural water supply services from approximately 58 percent in 2018 to approximately 77 percent in 2023; increased urban water availability supply services from approximately 78 percent in 2018 to approximately 88 percent in 2023; increased tonnage of goods cargo transported through Tanzanian ports from 13,727,770 for the year 2012/2013 to 24,899,000 in 2023, equivalent to an increase of 81 percent.

Potential opportunities in Blue Economy resources sectors in Tanzania include: investment in infrastructure for prospecting, exploitation and production of energy in aquatic areas; presence of local and international investors with the interest of investing in oil, gas and fisheries resources; underutilized potential economic activities in the Exclusive Economic Zone and Deep Sea; increasing production from irrigation farming; and investment in research and technology for promotion and development of Blue Economy activities.

Despite the presence of sectoral policies, legislation and guidelines in implementation of Blue Economy activities, potential opportunities have not been fully utilized due to cross-cutting challenges, which cannot be resolved by individual sectors. These challenges include: lack of an integrated institutional framework for the coordination of the Blue Economy activities; lack of spatial plan for the use of aquatic areas; lack of strategic and integrated investment in the use of the Blue Economy resources; and inadequate research and expertise in the utilization of the Blue Economy resources. The brief description of each challenge is outlined hereunder.

1.1.1 Coordination of the Blue Economy Activities

Implementation of Blue Economy activities through individual sectors has been inefficient due to lack of coordination. This situation contributes to uncoordinated investment that hinders benefits to multiple sectors. Unsustainable utilization of the ocean, lakes, rivers, ponds and wetland areas is contributing to loss of aquatic resources and conflicts among resource users. For example, disputes between the waterway transport and energy sectors in demarcating shipping lanes in the ocean against exploration and production of oil and natural gas in the ocean; and instances of multiple funding by different sectors on the same activity as a result of lack of coordination.

Similarly, the continued increase in illegal practices such as illegal fishing (use of explosives and chemicals in oceans, lakes and rivers) and trading of fish and fishery products; piracy through ship hijacking and robbery of fishers; smuggling of goods through informal ports estimated to be about 885 ports; cyber crimes involving interception of ship communications; marine and freshwater pollution due to plastic waste, oil spillage and waste from ships, sewage discharge, discharge of chemicals from industries and agricultural pesticides; human trafficking; drug trafficking; and illegal harvesting and transportation of mangrove forest products.

In order for Tanzania to be able to benefit fully with opportunities arising from Blue Economy activities, there is a need to establish coordination framework for Blue Economy activities among various stakeholders involved in managing and implementing Blue Economy activities in the country.

1.1.2 Utilization of Marine and Freshwater Resources

Marine and freshwater resources provide opportunities for key Blue Economy activities such as fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, energy production, transportation, mining and irrigation. Despite Sectoral Ministries implementing policies and overseeing the use of aquatic resources, demand for aquatic resources is increasing rapidly due to population growth and the expansion of economic activities. As a result of this increase, conflicts have emerged among resource users. For example, conflicts between fishers and seaweed farmers; small-scale salt miners and mangrove forest conservationists; and farmers, livestock keepers and water source conservationists, that can affect major strategic projects being implemented in the country.

The growth of Blue Economy is expected to increase activities that will have competition and conflicts in the use of aquatic areas such as exploration and extraction of oil, natural gas and underwater minerals, energy production using waves or wind, shipping and aquaculture. If there is no specific mechanism to plan the use of aquatic areas for these activities, it may lead to conflicts and environmental degradation and thus jeopardize the sustainability of blue economy activities in the country.

Therefore, there is a need to have a Marine Spatial Plan to enable the country to benefit from the opportunities of the blue economy. The main basis of this Plan is to manage the use of aquatic resources based on the needs of economic and social activities and the conservation of ecosystems and the environment.

1.1.3 Management of Blue Economy Activities in Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and Deep Sea

The United Nations adopted the Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) in 1982 which, among other things, directed Member States to designate an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) not exceeding 200 nautical miles. The main objective of the Convention is to manage and enable Member States to benefit from marine resources such as exploration and exploitation oil and natural gas; generation of electricity from waves, currents and wind; and exploration and exploitation of minerals and fisheries. Tanzania ratified the Convention in1985 and in 1989 enacted the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act, Cap 238, which defines the internal waters and territorial waters as 12 nautical miles wide and the Exclusive Economic Zone as 200 nautical miles wide. The Exclusive Economic Zone of Tanzania covers223,000 square kilometres.

In order to benefit from the opportunities arising from Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), Tanzania enacted the Deep Sea Fisheries Management and Development Act, Cap 388, R.E. 2023, which established the Deep Sea Fisheries Authority (DSFA), a Union institution to oversee fisheries activities in the EEZ. However, other resources in the EEZ such as oil and natural gas and minerals, are not recognized by the law. This situation prevents the country to benefit from these resources.

In this context, the Deep Sea Fisheries Management and Development Act, Cap 388 R.E. 2023, needs to be reviewed to broaden the mandates of the DSFA, to enable it to coordinate blue economy activities beyond fishing in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

1.1.4 Investment in the Blue Economy

Investment in the Blue Economy in the country has been sector-specific and fragmented resulting in low productivity. In addition, poor infrastructure and technology used in the investment of existing industries in the country has resulted in products produced not meeting the standards and needs of the domestic and international markets, thus leading to lack of competitiveness. This situation has contributed to inadequate investment in some activities of the blue economy such as fishing, mining, oil exploration and electricity generation. To increase productivity of the investment, it is important to identify areas that require strategic investment that links more than one blue economy sector. Such investment brings significant results, including obtaining value for money invested. For example, investment in a fishing port can be linked to processing industries, fish storage infrastructure, fish markets, cruise tourism and fish restaurants, thus having greater benefits from Blue Economy.

Despite Government investment in infrastructure and other services, there is still a need to raise awareness of existing investment opportunities in Blue Economy, and to create attractive incentives to encourage private sector investment. In addition, to expand the scope of investment the Government, in collaboration with other stakeholders, will explore innovative financing opportunities including blue bonds and blue carbon markets.

To benefit from Blue Economy resources, investments should be made in processing industries for value addition of products derived from these resources, considering international standards and certifications. This will ensure that products are competitive in international market thus increase foreign exchange earnings. This intervention will also contribute in job creation and increase income for various stakeholders in the value chains of Blue Economy resources.

1.1.5 Research on the Blue Economy Resources

Research on the Blue Economy resources is an important issue that enables a country to benefit from the available opportunities. In Tanzania, there have been various research initiative son the spatial distribution and abundance of the Blue Economy resources. However, there is insufficient research information available to facilitate full utilization of the Blue Economy opportunities for national development and social welfare. This research gap is a result of various challenges including shortage of experts, insufficient knowledge and transfer of emerging technologies relevant to the management of Blue Economy resources.

In addition, there is lack of infrastructure and modern technologies for conducting research and collecting information and data, for example, the lack of accredited laboratories and technologies for research resources on the sea bed, aquatic ecosystems, and renewable energy from offshore wind. Other challenges include: low coordination in conducting research involving multiple sectors; low dissemination of research results and technologies for use in society; low participation of the private sector in research activities; and high demand for financial resources to finance research. This situation leads to lack of accurate data and under-recognition of the benefits of Blue Economy resources. In this context, there is a need to strengthen research in the utilization of Blue Economy resources.

CHAPTER TWO

RATIONALE, VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

2.1 Rationale

Tanzania has significant opportunities to derive economic and social benefits from sustainable utilization and management of Blue Economy resources, given the abundant marine and freshwater resources in the country. To date, Blue Economy related interventions have largely been implemented by relevant sectors in accordance with their respective sectoral policies, laws and institutional frameworks.

However, several cross-cutting challenges have limited the country's ability to fully and equitably benefit from Blue Economy resources. These challenges include: lack of an integrated institutional framework for the coordination of the Blue Economy activities; lack of spatial plan for the use of aquatic areas; lack of strategic and integrated investment in the use of the Blue Economy resources; and inadequate research and expertise in the utilization of the Blue Economy resources.

These challenges have adversely affected the implementation of Blue Economy related activities including similar interventions being financed by different sectors without coordination; inadequate data and information coupled with limited institutional capacity in conducting research that informs the sustainable use and management of Blue Economy resources.

The National Blue Economy Policy serves as an important instrument for establishing an enabling and coordinated framework through which Tanzania can harness the full potential of its Blue Economy resources, to support sustainable national economic growth and development. This Policy does not replace existing sectoral policies, functions, laws or strategies relevant to the Blue Economy, but rather, it seeks to enhance integration and coordination across sectors in order to increase the contribution of Blue Economy to the national income, strengthen economic performance and promote sustainable development.

2.2 Vision, Mission and Policy Objectives

2.2.1 Vision

Tanzania with a strong, integrated, inclusive and sustainable blue economy.

2.2.2 Mission

To enable effective management and sustainable utilization of Blue Economy resources.

2.2.3 Policy Objectives

2.2.3.1Main Objective

To facilitate optimal utilization and sustainable management of the Blue Economy resources for inclusive, integrated and sustainable socio-economic development.

2.2.3.2Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the Policy are:

i) To strengthen coordination framework for Blue Economy activities in the country;
ii) To ensure effective planning and utilization of aquatic resources;
iii) To promote strategic and integrated investment in the sustainable utilization of Blue Economy resources;
iv) To enhance research on utilization and management of Blue Economy resources; and
v) To promote consideration of cross-cutting issues in implementation of Blue Economy activities.

CHAPTER THREE

POLICY ISSUES AND STATEMENTS

This Chapter outlines the specific issues addressed by this Policy which include: Coordination of Blue Economy activities; Utilization of aquatic resources; Strategic and integrated investment in Blue Economy resources; and Research on sustainable utilization and management of Blue Economy resources.

3.1 Coordination of the Blue Economy Issues

The implementation of Blue Economy activities through individual sectors has been less effective due to lack of coordination mechanism and weak communication among stakeholders of Blue Economy. This has resulted in uncoordinated investments that fail to generate mutual benefits across sectors; fragmented implementation of projects that is not cost effective; increased incidence of illegal activities within Blue Economy environments; and unsustainable utilization of aquatic resources. Furthermore, some of the Blue Economy activities such as energy and natural gas exploration, electricity generation from waves, water currents and winds; as well as deep sea mineral prospecting and extraction are implemented without a harmonized coordination and management system in both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

In this context, there is a need to establish a coordinated and integrated institutional framework to guide the implementation and management of blue economy activities by the Government and other stakeholders. Equally important, the strengthening of an integrated legal framework through the Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Cap. 238 and the Deep Sea Fisheries Management and Development Act, Cap 388, R.E.2023 is essential, to ensure that all activities conducted in the marine areas, including the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Deep Sea, are effectively coordinated, regulated and sustain ably managed.

Policy Objective

To strengthen coordination in the implementation and management of Blue Economy activities.

Policy Statements

The Government, in collaboration with other stakeholders, shall:

i) Establish an integrated institutional framework for the coordination of Blue Economy activities;
ii) Strengthen coordination in the management and utilization of Blue Economy resources within the Exclusive Economic Zone and Deep Sea; and

iii) Strengthen the management of Blue Economy resources in aquatic areas.

3.2 Sustainable Utilization of Aquatic (Marine and Freshwater) Resources

Marine and freshwater resources provide a wide range of Blue Economy activities including aquaculture, coastal tourism, energy generation, transportation, mineral extraction and irrigation-based agriculture. Demand for aquatic resources continues to increase rapidly due to population growth and expansion of economic activities.

In addition, the growth in Blue Economy activities is expected to intensify competition and potential conflicts in the utilization of aquatic resources. These include activities such as oil, natural gas and minerals exploration and extraction beneath the seabed; renewable energy generation from waves and offshore wind; as well as fisheries and aquaculture.

It is therefore essential to develop and implement an integrated and sustainable investment and utilization plan for aquatic areas that accommodates multiple economic activities while minimizing conflicts and preventing adverse environmental impacts for the present and future generations.

Policy Objective

To promote sustainable utilization of aquatic resources within the Blue Economy framework.

Policy Statements

The Government, in collaboration with other stakeholders, shall:

i) Strengthen sustainable utilization of aquatic areas; and
ii) Enhance community awareness and participation in the sustainable utilization of the Blue Economy resources.

3.3 Investment in the Blue Economy

The investment in the Blue Economy sectors in Tanzania has largely been sector- specific and un-coordinated, resulting in low productivity. In addition, inadequate infrastructure and the use of outdated technologies in blue economy related industries have led to products that do not meet domestic and international market standards, thereby reducing competitiveness. This situation has negatively affected investment in key Blue Economy activities, including fisheries, minerals and oil exploitation and renewable energy generation.

To enhance productivity, there is a need to identify and prioritize strategic investment areas that promote integrated and synergistic development across blue economy sectors.

Furthermore, limited investment in processing and value addition industries for blue economy products has constrained employment creation and income generation along the value chain. Similarly, many Blue Economy activities do not adequately comply with quality standards and international certification requirements, limiting the competitiveness of Tanzanian products in global markets and reducing foreign exchange earnings.

Policy Objective

To promote integrated and strategic investment in the sustainable utilization of Blue Economy resources.

Policy Statements

The government, in collaboration with other stakeholders, shall:

i) Promote integrated and coordinated investment across Blue Economy sectors;
ii) Encourage private sector participation and investment in the Blue Economy; and

iii) Promote investment in value addition along Blue Economy value chains.

3.4 Research on the Blue Economy Resources

Research plays a critical role in enabling Tanzania to fully harness the opportunities offered by the Blue Economy. It provides the evidence base required for the Government to design and implement effective policies, strategies and plans for the development, utilization and management of economic activities within the blue economy. Despite its importance, Tanzania faces significant challenges in conducting research related to blue economy resources, including their exploration, production and sustainable utilization. These challenges stem largely from limited research capacity, inadequate modern infrastructure and technologies, particularly advanced laboratories and specialized research equipment and shortage of skilled in aquatic sciences, meteorology and climate change as well as professionals with specialized skills and experience in maritime transport and related industries.

Additional constraints include limited capacity and appropriate technologies to support participatory and community-based research; insufficient adoption of multicultural and interdisciplinary research frameworks; weak mechanisms for technology transfer and community uptake of research outputs; limited participation of private sector in research and innovation activities; and limited financial resources to support sustained research and development in the blue economy.

Policy Objective

To strengthen research and development for the sustainable utilization and management of blue economy resources.

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Policy Statements

The Government, in collaboration with other stakeholders, shall:

i) Promote multicultural and integrated collaborative research related to the Blue Economy;
ii) ensure availability of modern infrastructure and technology to support research on Blue Economy resources;
iii) ensure availability of sufficient researchers with appropriate skills in research and development of Blue Economy resources;
iv) ensure effective dissemination of research findings, technology and knowledge to all stakeholders of the Blue Economy; and
v) Promote private sector participation in research and development of blue economy resources.

3.5 Cross-cutting Issues

3.5.1 Gender

Gender considerations are essential to the effective management and development of the Blue Economy. The Government recognizes the importance of gender equality and has developed and implemented various policies, laws, strategies and guidelines that promote integration of gender perspectives in the management and implementation of Blue Economy activities. Despite these efforts, further action is required to strengthen women empowerment and economic inclusion in the utilization, management and development of Blue Economy resources.

Policy Objective

To promote equal opportunities for men and women in Blue Economy related activities.

Policy Statements

The Government in collaboration with other stakeholders shall:

i) ensure the integration of gender considerations in policies, strategies and plans related to the development and management of Blue Economy resources; and

ii) promote gender equality and social inclusion in access to opportunities and benefits arising from the Blue Economy.

3.5.2 Good Governance

Good governance is a fundamental principle of resource management in Tanzania, and has been mainstreamed into national policies, plans and development programmes. The Government together with other stakeholders, has a responsibility to ensure that principles of good governance including transparency, accountability, participation and the rule of law are fully integrated into the sustainable development and management of Blue Economy resources.

Policy Objective

To promote good governance in sustainable utilization and management of Blue Economy resources.

Policy Statement

The Government shall strengthen the application of good governance principles in the sustainable utilization and management of Blue Economy resources development.

CHAPTER FOUR

LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONALFRAMEWORK

The National Blue Economy Policy shall be implemented in accordance with existing legal and institutional frameworks governing the relevant sectors of the Blue Economy. Sectoral policies, laws and institutional arrangements shall continue to form the primary basis for the implementation and management of the Blue Economy activities. However, in recognition of the current challenges arising from lack of an inclusive, effective and integrated coordination mechanism for Blue Economy activities within the Exclusive Economic Zone and Deep Sea, the Government shall undertake legal and institutional reforms to strengthen coordination. In this regard, the Deep Sea Fisheries Management and Development Act, Cap. 388,R.E 2023, shall be reviewed and amended to change the name of the Deep Sea Fishing Authority to the Deep Sea Management Authority with an expanded mandate to coordinate the utilization and management of all Blue Economy resources within the Exclusive Economic Zone and Deep Sea.

Furthermore, to ensure effective implementation of the National Blue Economy Policy across all sectors, relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies shall review existing sectoral laws, regulations and institutional frameworks to ensure alignment with this Policy. Where necessary, such legal instruments shall be amended or new legislation developed to facilitate coordinated, integrated and effective implementation of blue economy interventions.

CHAPTER FIVE

INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE

The National Blue Economy Policy shall be implemented through effective coordination among stakeholders from various sectors, including public sector, private sector, regional and international bodies, development partners and other relevant actors. Implementation of the Policy shall be undertaken by sectoral ministries responsible for Blue Economy related activities, under the overall coordination of the Office responsible for Blue Economy coordination.

5.1 Functions and Responsibilities of Stakeholders

The roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders involved in the coordination, management and implementation of the National Blue Economy Policy shall be as follows:

5.1.1 Office responsible for Coordination of the Blue Economy

This Office shall have the following responsibilities:

i) Coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Blue Economy Policy, Strategies, plans and programmes;
ii) Coordinate the preparation and implementation of the Marine Spatial Plan;

iii) Monitor and report on the implementation of the Blue Economy Policy, Strategies, plans and programmes to the National Ministerial Committee; and
iv) Serve as the Secretariat to the National Committee of Ministers and the Committee of Permanent Secretaries responsible for Blue Economy activities.

5.1.2 Office responsible for Regional Administration and Local Government Authorities

Coordinate and make follow-up on implementation of the National Blue Economy Policy within Regional Administrations and Local Government Authorities.

5.1.3 Office responsible for Environment and Union Matters

i) Develop, manage and coordinate implementation of guidelines on environmental protection in activities of the blue economy; and
ii) Coordinate union matters related to implementation of blue economy activities.

5.1.4 Office responsible for Public Service Management and Good Governance

i) Coordinate, manage and issue guidelines on good governance in implementation of Blue Economy activities;
ii) Coordinate establishment of a Blue Economy Coordination Office; and
iii) Coordinate establishment of the Institution responsible for Coordination and Management of all Blue Economy resources within the EEZ and Deep Sea.

5.1.5 Office responsible for Planning and Investment

i) Ensure that activities of the Blue Economy are prioritized in national development plans and strategies;
ii) Establish mechanisms to assess and monitor the contribution of the Blue Economy to the national revenues; and
iii) Create an enabling environment to facilitate investment in Blue Economy activities.

5.1.6 Office responsible for Coordination of Government activities

Provide guidelines and manage implementation of the National Blue Economy Policy.

5.1.7 Ministry responsible for Finance

i) Ensure that sectoral ministries allocate funding for implementation of Blue Economy activities intheir plans and budgets;
ii) Coordinate the mobilization of financial resources from innovative and cost-effective sources including public-private partnerships; and
iii) Facilitate access to investment capital for the implementation of Blue Economy activities.

5.1.8 Sector Ministries

5.1.8.1 Ministry responsible for Fisheries and Aquaculture

i) Manage the conservation and sustainable use of fisheries and aquaculture resources;
ii) Promote the development of fisheries and aquaculture;
iii) Develop and maintain enabling infrastructure for fisheries and aquaculture; and

iv) Promote investment in the fisheries and aquaculture sector in collaboration with stakeholders.

5.1.8.2 Ministry responsible for Water

i) Conserve, manage and develop water resources; and
ii) Ensure sustainable utilization, monitoring and evaluation of water resources.

5.1.8.3 Ministry responsible for Agriculture and Irrigation

i) Develop and maintain enabling infrastructure for irrigation;
ii) Promote research and technological innovation in irrigation-based agriculture; and
iii) Promote climate resilient and sustainable agricultural practices.

5.1.8.4 Ministry responsible for Energy

i) Promote investment in hydropower and other water-based energy projects;
ii) Promote and conduct the exploration, development, production and management of oil

and natural gas in marine and freshwater areas; and

iii) Promote of the development of alternative and renewable energy derived from blue economy resources.

5.1.8.5 Ministry responsible for Transport

i) Control and prevent environmental pollution from waterway transport;

ii) Promote investment in marine and inland water transport services;

iii) Provide weather and safety information to enhance the safety of vessels; and passengers travelling on water bodies.

5.1.8.6 Ministry responsible for Mining

i) Promote and coordinate geological surveys, mineral exploration and use of environmentally friendly mining technologies in aquatic areas;

ii) Strengthen institutional capacity and technical expertise in mineral exploration and mining in aquatic areas; and

iii) Promote investment in sustainable mineral exploration and mining in aquatic environments.

5.1.8.7 Ministry responsible for Natural Resources and Tourism

i) Manage and conserve coastal forests, marine ecosystems and beaches;
ii) Develop tourism activities in marine and freshwater areas; and
iii) Promote investment in tourism-enabling infrastructure in aquatic areas.

5.1.8.8 Ministry responsible for Industry and Trade

i) Promote an enabling business environment for Blue Economy activities;
ii) Promote value addition for products derived from Blue Economy resources;
iii) Facilitate market access for products derived from Blue Economy resources; and
iv) Promote the production of competitive products from Blue Economy resources for domestic and international markets.

5.1.8.9 Ministry responsible for Lands

Conduct survey and mapping of aquatic areas and adjacent areas.

5.1.8.10 Ministry responsible for Constitution and Legal Affairs

To provide legal advice and guidance on implementation of the Blue Economy activities.

5.1.8.11 Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs

i) Promote international cooperation for sustainable development of the Blue Economy; and
ii) Promote and publicise investment opportunities in the Blue Economy at the international level.

5.1.8.12 Ministry responsible for Defence

Ensure national security and protection of borders within the Blue Economy resource areas.

5.1.8.13 Ministry responsible for Internal Affairs

Coordinate matters related to security, law enforcement and prevention of criminal activities in the Blue Economy resource areas.

5.1.8.14 Ministry responsible for Works

Coordinate and oversee the development and maintenance of infrastructure supporting Blue Economy sectors.

5.1.8.15 *Ministry responsible for Education, Science and Technology*

i) Integrate Blue Economy issues into policies, strategies, planning, programmes and education curricula at all levels; and
ii) Coordinate research innovation and technological development related to aquatic resources.

5.1.8.16 *Ministry responsible for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups*

i) Promote gender equality, well-being and participation of women and vulnerable groups in the management and development of Blue Economy resources; and
ii) Develop and coordinate policies, guidelines and programmes that promote gender equality and empowerment of women and vulnerable groups within the Blue Economy.

5.1.8.17 *Ministry responsible for Culture, Arts and Sports*

Promote, manage and support the development of water-based sports and cultural activities.

5.1.8.18 Ministry responsible for Health

i) Develop and coordinate regulations, guidelines and programmes to prevent and control infectious diseases that may affect Blue Economy operations; and
ii) Provide public education and awareness on disease prevention to safeguard communities and Blue Economy operations.

5.1.8.19 Deep Sea Fishing Authority

i) Coordinate, manage and oversee the development of Blue Economy activities within the Exclusive Economic Zone and Deep Sea;
ii) Collaborate with relevant institutions to promote and facilitate investment in the Exclusive Economic Zone and Deep Sea; and
iii) Strengthen Tanzania's participation and representation in regional and international institutions and initiatives related to the Blue Economy.

5.1.8.20 Private Sector

i) Identify investment opportunities and invest in production and service activities within the Blue Economy;

ii) Partner with the Government in joint investments and public private partnership arrangements in Blue Economy projects; and
iii) Participate in relevant committees and platforms to contribute views and expertise to the development of Blue Economy.

5.1.8.21 Development Partners

Support government efforts by providing technical assistance, technology transfer and financial resources for the implementation of Blue Economy initiatives.

5.1.8.22 Civil Society Organizations

Participate in Blue Economy activities and promote community awareness and understanding of opportunities and benefits arising from the Blue Economy.

5.1.8.23 The Media

i) Provide timely, accurate and reliable information to the public on opportunities and developments related to the Blue Economy; and
ii) Collaborate with Sectoral Ministries and other stakeholders in the implementation of public education and awareness programmes on Blue Economy issues.

6.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and evaluation shall involve the systematic collection, analysis and use of information to access progress in the implementation of this Policy. Monitoring reports shall be prepared annually while a comprehensive evaluation report shall be produced every five years during the Policy implementation period.

Monitoring methods shall include, among others, periodic review sessions on the implementation strategy of the Policy and its associated strategies. Detailed procedures and indicators for monitoring and evaluation are provided in the Policy Implementation Strategy.

7.0 CONCLUSION

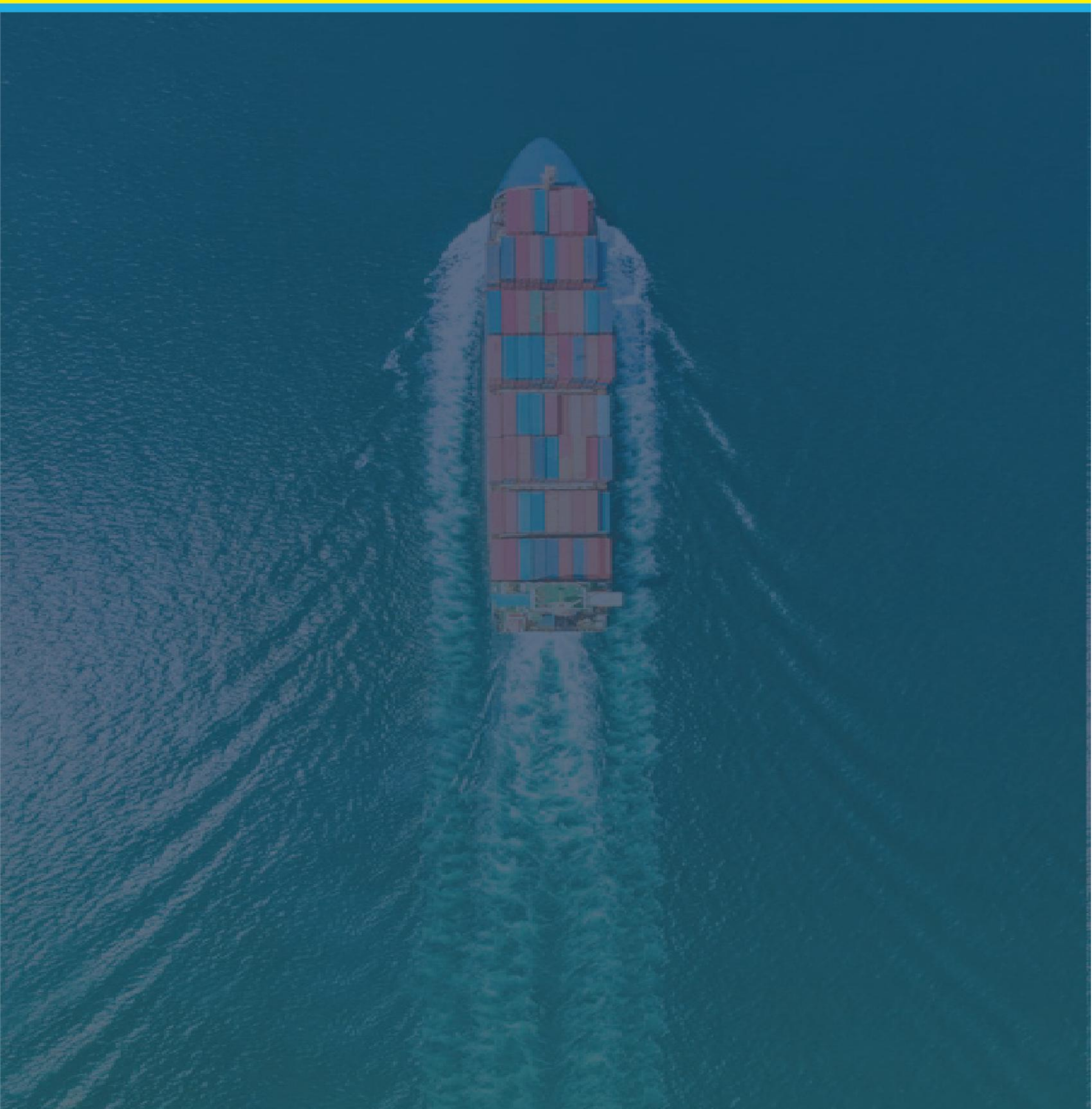
Implementation of Blue Economy activities in Tanzania has been undertaken through sector specific policies, laws, strategies and plans particularly in the sectors of fisheries, transport, natural resources, tourism, energy, water, industry, trade, investment and irrigation-based agriculture. Despite these efforts, the country has not yet fully realized the economic, social and environmental benefits arising from the Blue Economy potential. This is largely due to challenges including: lack of coordination among sectoral stakeholders; lack of dedicated institution to manage some of the activities within the Exclusive Economic Zone and the Deep Sea such as exploration and extraction of oil, natural gas and seabed minerals; low levels of strategic and coordinated investment; and insufficient research on Blue Economy resources.

Furthermore, global and regional commitments including the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2012 and the African Blue Economy Strategy, 2019 underscore the importance of sustainable use of marine and freshwater resources for economic growth, social development and environmental protection. At the national level, the Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Election Manifesto of 2020 and the Five-Year Development Plan

(2021/22 - 2025/26) prioritize the Blue Economy a key driver of national development and improved livelihoods.

In this context, the Government has formulated the National Blue Economy Policy as a strategic instrument to enable the sustainable utilization of Blue Economy resources formational economic growth and sustainable development. This Policy does not replace or negate existing sectoral policies, mandates, laws or strategies. Rather, it seeks to strengthen coordination, integration and alignment inspectoral plans and strategies to enhance the effectiveness, productivity and sustainability of Blue Economy development in Tanzania.

To ensure effective implementation of this Policy, Sectoral Ministries may review existing laws and regulations, and where necessary amend them or enact new legislation in line with the requirements of the National Blue Economy Policy.



VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,
Government City, Mtumba Area,
Vice President's Office Building,
P.O. Box 2502, 40406 DODOMA.

Email: ps@vpo.go.tz
Phone: +255 (26) 232 9006

Fax: +255 (26) 2329007 / 2963150