



Report on the Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic Group (IORAG) Outreach Programme: An Initiative of the South African Chapter of the Academic Group



Compiled by:
 Nicole du Plessis
 Karabo Mphogo
 Narnia Bohler-Muller
 Selby Modiba

August 2018



Name of Meeting, Countries

IORAG Regional Outreach Programme – Tanzania, Seychelles, Mauritius

Date of Meetings

Tanzania – 2 July 2018

Seychelles – 4 July 2018

Mauritius – 6 July 2018

Participant Names and Organisations

See Annex 1 for the list of participants from each country.

Background and purpose of meeting

In March 2017, the IORA Action Plan was welcomed by the Council of Ministers Meeting and acknowledged at the Leader’s Summit in Jakarta. A number of flagship initiatives with respect to the IORAG were approved in the IORA Action Plan 2017 – 2021. These include –

Short Term

- Strengthen the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG)

Medium Term

- Strengthen cooperation with universities in the Indian Ocean, including the University Mobility in the Indian Ocean Region (UMIOR)
- Strengthen the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) through the sharing of information and knowledge
- Implement training and capacity building programs

At the 23rd IORAG held in Durban in 2017, Member States expressed their support for South Africa’s proposal for the institutional reform of the IORAG that included strengthening and improving the coordination and performance of the academic group.

Subsequent to this, South Africa proposed to undertake an IORAG Outreach Programme (or Roadshow) to showcase the structure of the South African Chapter of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic Group (SA IORAG) and gain support from Member States to have more academic engagement within IORA (See Annex 2 for the Concept Note). The meetings were also proposed to encourage academics to attend the Indian Ocean Dialogue and IORAG meeting to be held in South Africa in August 2018.

Due to the fact that few African countries attended the IORAG meetings and to have a high impact with the programme, it was decided that the programme would be phased and approach African states first. The meetings would be individual events and co-hosted with the academic focal points in participating countries. Invitations were sent to all eight African IORA Member States; favourable responses were received from Tanzania, Mauritius and Seychelles.



Relevance to IORA

As noted above, IORA has adopted an action plan of which one of the goals is strengthening academic cooperation among Member States. The South African Department of Science and Technology, through the Directorate: Multilateral Cooperation, has supported the establishment of the SA IORAG as a vehicle for South Africans to pursue academic cooperation and technological transfer within the region and to support South Africa's priorities as Chair of IORA (2017-2019). The outreach programme was held to strengthening academic ties in the region and show South Africa's commitment to IORA.

Presentation Title/s

(see Annex 3)

1. IORAG Outreach Programme to the African Member States – Mr S. Modiba
2. A Synopsis of the IORA Academic Group – Prof N. Bohler-Muller
3. The South African Chapter of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic Group – Ms N. du Plessis

Summary of Meetings and Outcomes

(Feedback from country contact points provided in Annex 4)

Tanzania – 2 July 2018

Contact persons: Prof Prosper Honest Ngowi and Dr Francis Mwajande, Mzumbe University

Venue: Mzumbe University, Dar es Salaam

Participants: 41

The meeting was led by Prof Ngowi and facilitated the introductions and outlined the purpose of the meeting. Prof Ngowi noted that there were very few publications from Tanzanian academics on research in the Indian Ocean Region which was very concerning.

Participants included representatives from various Tanzanian universities (including students) and research institutions as well as the media. The welcome and opening address was delivered by Prof G. Nyamsogoro on behalf of Prof Kusiluka, the Mzumbe University Vice Chancellor.

Presentations by the guest speakers were followed by a presentation by Dr Mwajande on the priorities of Tanzania and also the commitment of starting IORAG-TZ. Questions and comments were taken after the presentations. This included discussion on cultural research opportunities, how Tanzania could create its own knowledge network and academic group, how to ensure the sustainability of the academic group and how to access funding for research through IORA.

Mr Modiba emphasised the importance of having a structure in place to coordinate the IORAG activities and working with the foreign ministry and any other related ministry that may need to be consulted or showed interest.



Key outcomes include,

- A commitment to establishing a Tanzanian Chapter of IORAG modelled after the South Africa structure (IORAG-Tz) led by Mzumbe University in collaboration with the other universities.
- Prioritising the publication and dissemination of research and knowledge about the Indian Ocean Rim Association and Academic Group.



- Promoting intellectual dialogue between academicians and policymakers and strengthening of their knowledge economy.
- Prioritising youth involvement/graduate participation in research related to IORA.
- Prof Ngowi and Dr Mwaijande to attend the 5th IOD and 24th IORAG Meetings in Durban, South Africa.

A record of the proceedings can be viewed at: <http://www.ngowitv.co.tz/indian-ocean-rim-academic-group-seminar-episode-one/> (see video first)



Seychelles – 4 July 2018

Contact person: Mrs Kelly Hoareau, *James Michel* Blue Economy Research Institute (BERI), University of Seychelles

Venue: University of Seychelles, Anse Royale

Participants: 25

The meeting was led by Mrs. Kelly Hoareau who facilitated the welcome and introductions. Participants included the National Institute for Science, Technology and Innovation (NISTI), academics and postgraduate students from the university and various research organisations. Presentations by the guest speakers were followed by Mrs Hoareau who provided a brief introduction to the programmes of the university and the *James Michel* Blue Economy Research Institute, **including the work of the three research institutes dedicated to issues relevant to the region – the Blue Economy, Creole Language and Culture, and Peace and Diplomacy.** She noted that due to various priorities and commitments, formal government structures do not always enable wider collaboration that could advance the research agenda of the institute (and the country), and that this is where the IORAG and the establishment of national academic focal points could play a role. Mrs Hoareau also showcased the IORA Special Fund project undertaken by Seychelles in response to questions around project funding within IORA - WIO-net: A Network of Environmental Research in the Western Indian: <https://bit.ly/2KZYJZk> and <https://youtu.be/htfoPINJUA4>. This is an online platform for facilitating collaboration amongst organisations within the region. The pilot phase included Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles. Other IORA members could be included on the network in future and they are investigating the potential for hosting a regional conference led by project partners.

In line with maritime safety and security in the region and following the visit of the Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs to Seychelles, where he met President Danny Faure, the Peace and Diplomacy Research Institute would like to play a role in supporting Seychelles' efforts in assisting with the process of nation building in Somalia. This can be in the form of a Research and Information Centre based at the University of Seychelles which will operate independently of the Government. The Centre will promote impartial research findings and other information to assist in policy-making.

Cultural Conservation was raised as an issue of concern as it was felt that the history of the Indian Ocean was losing its value. Prof Bohler-Muller indicated that Tourism and Cultural Exchanges was a priority area within IORA and this was being addressed through the new Core Group on Tourism. The publishing of research and policy briefs in the Journal of the Indian Ocean Region was encouraged. In the discussion surrounding knowledge sharing, the issue of knowledge theft was raised as there had been prior incidents of this working with international role players.

The sustainability of having a national academic group was also raised. It was indicated that by engaging with government entities, the political will to engage fully with IORA could be secured. While South Africa had elected to form groups on each of the six priority areas and the two cross-cutting areas, other Member States could focus on those areas of most importance and for which they had capacity.

Key outcomes include,

- BERI would investigate the possibility of establishing a national chapter of the IORAG in Seychelles.

- BERI would distil the list of key research ideas discussed during the meeting, and communicate this (through foreign affairs) to the relevant entities/counterparts of IORAG to strengthen regional cooperation in research.
- BERI would liaise with the Seychelles national focal point to discuss the inclusion of Mrs Hoareau in the delegation to the 5th IOD and 24th IORAG.



After the meeting the SA delegation met with Mr Xavier Estico, the CEO of NISTI, for an information sharing discussion.

Mauritius – 6 July 2018

Contact person: Prof Suresh Bhagwant, University of Mauritius

Venue: University of Mauritius, Reduit

Participants: 15

The meeting was led by Prof Bhagwant. Participants included faculty members, Prof Sobhee, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Academia of the university, Mr Anderson (IORA Secretariat) and Prof Attri (Chair in Indian Ocean Studies).

After the guest presentations, the discussion focussed on the research being undertaken by the university and their areas of interest. This included,

- Maritime safety and security as piracy in the region was a problem;
- Disaster risk management as a particular issue for small islands states due to climate change and the need for these states to work together to address this challenge;
- Increase student mobility;
- The need to develop partnerships on the conservation of culture and language in the region; and
- How the university was being pro-active in its approach to teaching and adapting to new skills needs e.g. in marine sciences.

It was also noted that while the university has strong research capabilities, there was a lack of ability to consolidate the research. Creating a national structure similar to the South African Academic Group could therefore help facilitate this.

Prof Bhagwant indicated his intention to attend the 5th IOD and 24th IORAG meeting in Durban, South Africa.



Visit to the IORA Secretariat

After the meeting at the University of Mauritius, a visit was undertaken to the offices of the IORA Secretariat. This included meeting the IORA Secretary General Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe and other members of the IORA Secretariat as well as providing a summary of the outreach meetings and its outcomes. This was followed by a brief discussion on the upcoming IOD and IORAG meetings.



Outcomes and Future Actions

The outreach programme was well received in each of the three countries visited. The value of IORA and the need for greater collaboration among Member States was recognised but the lack of clear mechanisms for engagement is a limiting factor.

Common areas of research identified were the Blue Economy, Marine Sciences and Cultural/Heritage Studies. Tanzania, Seychelles and Mauritius expressed interest in developing national academic groups. Concerns around funding and sustainability were highlighted in Tanzania and Seychelles.

After the positive responses received, especially the involvement of more academics within the IOD and IORAG, it is suggested that a second leg of meetings is organised later in 2018 or early 2019. This could be larger events with multiple countries involved or continue with individual country meetings.

Annex 1: Participants List

South Africa

No.	Name	Organisation	Email Address
1	Prof Narnia Bohler-Muller	Human Sciences Research Council	nbohlermuller@hsrc.ac.za
2	Mr Selby Modiba	Department of Science and Technology	Selby.Modiba@dst.gov.za
3	Ms Karabo Mphogo	Department of Science and Technology	Karabo.Mphogo@dst.gov.za
4	Ms Nicole du Plessis	South African Environmental Observation Network	iora.ag.sa@gmail.com

Tanzania

No.	Name	Organisation	Email Address
1	Hamad Khamis Juma	TEKUDAR	hamadkhjuma@gmail.com
2	Martin L. Fute	MUSO-DCC	Martinfute13@yahoo.com
3	Avit J. Mmochi	IMS, Zanzibar	avitimmochi@gmail.com
4	Emmanuel B. Chagsha	MUSO-DCC	Chagsha99@gmail.com
5	Faisal Issa	MU-DCC	garoyoror@yahoo.com
6	Fr. Dr. Charles Kitima	SAUT	charleskitima@yahoo.com
7	Nasir Abdallah	MWANANCHI	Nasd2016@gmail.com
8	Daudi Aidan	NGOWI TV	aidanidaudi@gmail.com
9	Dr. Joseph Sungau	MU-MAIN COMPUS	jsungau@mzumbe.ac.tz
10	Benard Lugongo	DAIL NEWS	Blugongo@gmail.com
11	Mwasimba Mm	MU	mmmwasimba@mzumbe.ac.tz
12	Mary Rutenge	MU	mrutenge@mzumbe.ac.tz
13	Eliza Mwakasangula	MU	efaty@mzumbe.ac.tz
14	Godwin Sanasio	MU	gsanasio@mzumbe.ac.tz
15	Emmanuel Panja	TEKU-DSM	Panja.emmanuel@yahoo.com
16	William Mwakisu	MU	mwakisuw@mzumbe.ac.tz
17	Oscar Job	HABARILEO	Mbiaji2012@gmail.com

18	Chris Kidanka	THE EAST AFRICAN	kidanka@hotmail.com
19	Fabian Cassim	MU	pammyenyelwa@mzumbe.ac.tz
20	E. Massawe	MU	evancemassawe@a.c
21	Irine Mark	TZ.DAIMA	imarkmeero@gmail.com
22	Paschal Buxay	MU	pbuxay@mzumbe.ac.tz
23	Victorius Kamuntu	DCC	vicamtu@mzumbe.ac.tz
24	Janeth Mumangi	DCC	jamumangi@mzumbe.ac.tz
25	Irene Waziri	DCC	irenewaziri@mzumbe.ac.tz
26	Dr. Francis Mwaijande	DCC	mwaijandef@gmail.com
27	Dr. M. Kachwamba	DCC	mwakachwamba@mzumbe.ac.tz
28	Prof. Cuthbert Kimambo	DVC-RS/ UDSM	kimambo@udsm.ac.tz
29	Mr. Ntufye Mwakyoja	RO-COSTECH	Taraj03@yahoo.com
30	Ms. Renatha Mukinga	DCC	rmukinga@mzumbe.ac.tz
31	Coretha Kombe	DCC	ckombe@mzumbe.ac.com
32	Mary Kossam	DCC	
33	Amiri Chowo	DRIVER	Amirirashidi-chowo@yahoo.com
34	Dr Emmanuel Chao	MU-MAN	ejchao@mzumbe.ac.com
35	Rugazia Nyombi	MWALIM NYERERE MEM	rgnyombi@gmail.com
36	Geofrey Matata	IRINGA UNIVERSITY	Geofrey.matata@gmail.com
37	Prof Prosper H. Ngowi	MZUMBE UNIVERSITY	pngowi@mzumbe.ac.tz

Seychelles

No.	Name	Organisation	Email Address
	Veronique Morel	Multilateral Affairs Division -DoFA	VMorel@mfa.gov.sc
1	Captain Wilton Ernesta	Seychelles Maritime Academy	deputydirector@sma.edu.sc
2	Cindy Chang-Leng Clair	Trade Division - Finance	cindy@finance.gov.sc
3	Joseph Raj	NISTI	xjosephraj@gmail.com
4	Cindhuja	NISTI	cindhuja.k@gmail.com
5	Mariliana Leotta	Green Island Foundation	mleotta@gif.sc
6	Jessica Moumou	SIF	jessica_moumou@yahoo.com
7	Sharifah Arrisol	Climate Adaptation Management (CAMS)	s.arrisol@env.gov.sc
8	Allison Lucas	Climate Adaptation Management (CAMS)	alucas@env.gov.sc
9	Michael Wagner	OPEN CITIES AFRICA	mwagner@allspatial.info
10	Kelly Hoareau	BERI - UniSey	Kelly@unisey.ac.sc
11	Uvicka Bristol	BERI - UniSey	uvicka.bristol@unisey.ac.sc
12	Rowana Walton	BERI	rowana.walton@unisey.ac.sc
13	Laura Blamey	BERI	laura.blamey@unisey.ac.sc
14	Jerome Harlay	BERI	jerome.harlay@unisey.ac.sc
15	Sylvanna Antha	BERI	Sylvanna.Antat@unisey.ac.sc
16	Prema Servina	UniSey Global Engagement	Prema@unisey.ac.sc
17	Diana Benoit	UniSey Peace and Diplomacy	diana.benoit@unisey.ac.sc
18	Dennis Hardy	UniSey Peace and Diplomacy	Dennis.Hardy@unisey.ac.sc
19	Penda Choppy	UniSey Creole Language and Culture	penda.choppy@unisey.ac.sc
20	Madina Regnault	UniSey Sustainable Tourism	madina.regnault@unisey.ac.sc
21	Monika Bar	UniSey - Law (security/governance)	Monika.Bar@unisey.ac.sc



Mauritius

No.	Name	Organisation	Email Address
1	Professor S. K. Sobhee	University of Mauritius	
2	Associate Professor (Dr) S. Bhagwant	University of Mauritius	deanfos@uom.ac.mu
3	Associate Professor (Dr) (Ms) M. Nowbuth	University of Mauritius	
4	Associate Professor (Dr) (Mrs) S. Dyall	University of Mauritius	
5	Dr R. Bhagooli	University of Mauritius	
6	Ms D. Kaullysing	University of Mauritius	
7	Dr F. Khoyratty	University of Mauritius	
8	Mrs R. Seethiah	University of Mauritius	
9	Mr R. Sultan	University of Mauritius	
10	Professor V. N. Attri	CIOS	vnattri@iora.int
11	Mr Graham Anderson	IORA Secretariat	hg.anderson@iora.int



Annex 2: IORAG Outreach Concept Note

IORAG OUTREACH PROGRAMME

South Africa

Date to be confirmed

Background

The Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) was established in recognition of the importance of the academia in the Indian Ocean region. The role of the IORAG is to:

- service the needs of Government and Business
- promote intellectual dialogue amongst the participating Member States
- serve as a vehicle for the development and dissemination of the Indian Ocean Rim Concept
- serve the region through coordinated and rigorous research

South Africa, as the current chair of IORA, to show its commitment to on-going engagement within IORA, has established a South African Chapter of the IORAG which is intended to serve as an advisory body towards realising the priorities of South Africa as Chair and the goals of IORA. South Africa's theme for the chairship is "IORA – uniting the peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through enhanced cooperation for peace, stability and sustainable development", and through prioritising cooperation within the IORAG, South Africa hopes to make a meaningful impact during its term as IORA Chair.

In March 2017, the IORA Action Plan was welcomed by the Council of Ministers Meeting and acknowledged at the Leader's Summit in Jakarta. A number of flagship initiatives with respect to the IORAG were approved in the IORA Action Plan 2017 – 2021. These include –

Short Term

- Strengthen the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG)

Medium Term

- Strengthen cooperation with universities in the Indian Ocean, including the University Mobility in the Indian Ocean Region (UMIOR)
- Strengthen the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) through the sharing of information and knowledge
- Implement training and capacity building programs

At the 23rd IORAG held in Durban in 2017, Member States expressed their support for South Africa's institutional reform that included strengthening and improving the coordination and performance of the IORAG.

Proposal to strengthen and improve the coordination and performance of the IORAG

As Chair of IORA, South Africa is proposing to launch a series of regional Outreach Programmes (road shows) targeting academics and IORAG Representatives of those regions. The purpose of the road shows will be to:

- Implement the actions as set out in the IORA Action Plan.
- Showcase the structure of the South African chapter of the IORAG and encourage Member States to form similar networks.
- Encourage representation and participation at the Indian Ocean Dialogue and IORAG meetings, as well as other relevant IORA meetings and workshops.



- Build greater awareness of the IORAG, and by extension IORA, within the rim academic community.
- Brainstorm potential projects of regional significance that can be undertaken through the auspices of IORA.

The first of such programmes could be focused on the African Member States as a pilot project. Nine of the current 21 Member States are in Africa (Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa and Tanzania) of whom five are Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

It is hoped that engaging with academics from in their home countries (via their IORAG Representatives) will foster greater involvement within the framework of IORA and use of this as a platform to expand academic dialogue between Member States. Subsequent regional events could then be scheduled for the rest of the IORA community if deemed successful.

The event/s would be organised by South Africa, as IORAG Chair, and the host country's IORAG Country Representative/focal point. It is proposed that such an event/s involving the various country IORAG Country Representatives include their broader research/academic community (students, emerging researchers, and established academics) from each African IORA Member State.

Proposed Dates

The proposed pilot project should take place in 2018 in advance of the 2018 Indian Ocean Dialogue (1-2 August 2018) and IORAG (3 August 2018) meeting.

Funding

In-kind contributions or co-funding for venue hiring, accommodation, meals, and travel arrangements for select academics identified by the host country/ies will need to be determined. Funding for the Secretariat and Member States to attend would also need to be identified and mobilised.



It is important to note that potential as a host country, you can apply to the IORA Special Fund for financing (totalling US\$110,000) on a 50/50 basis for non LDC Member States, or on a 90/10 basis for LDCs. Dialogue Partners would need to fund their own delegations if they choose to attend. South Africa will fund its delegation to attend the road show event/s.

Proposed Format

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks
2. Introduction to IORA and the IORAG (IORA Secretariat, if present)
3. The South African Chapter of the IORAG and current areas of research
4. Experiences and research interests of other African Member States
5. Host country research interests (lead by host country academic focal point)
6. Discussion on potential areas of collaboration (co-chaired by SA and host country focal point).




Annex 3: Presentations delivered by the South African Delegation

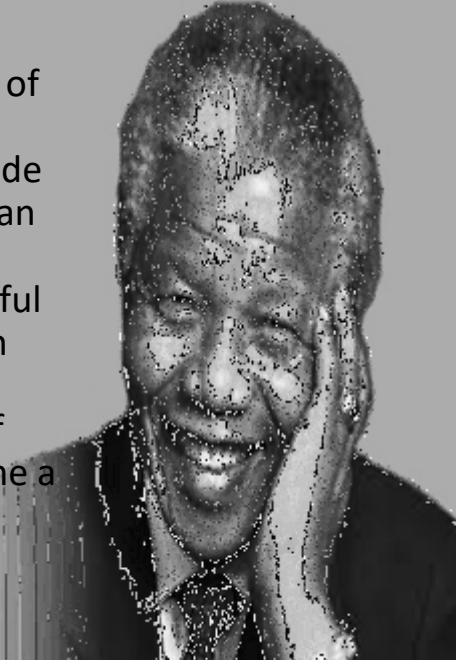


A Synopsis of the IORA ACADEMIC GROUP

Prof Narnia Bohler-Muller
Chair, IORAG South Africa



“the natural urge of the facts of history and geography . . . should broaden itself to include the concept of an Indian Ocean Rim for socio-economic cooperation and other peaceful endeavors. Recent changes in the international system demand that the countries of the Indian Ocean shall become a single platform”



Former President Nelson Mandela, 1995. India

Origin



- Established as Indian Ocean Rim Initiative in Mauritius; March 1995
- Formally launched in March 1997 by the conclusion of a Charter to promote sustainable growth and balanced development in the region and to focus on economic cooperation



Foundation

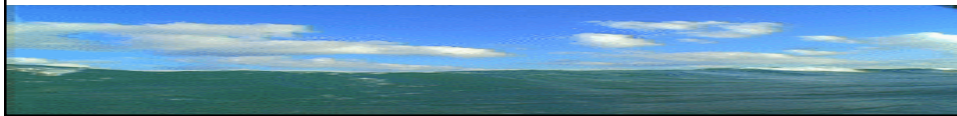
- IORA, formerly known as Indian Ocean Rim Association for regional cooperation (IOR-ARC) consists of an association of coastal states bordering the Indian Ocean, all dependent on its resources to varying degrees.
- Region is home to 2 billion people, united in their diversity from Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Australasia.
- It may also be divided into a number of 'sub-regions' with their own regional groupings such as ASEAN, SAARC, GCC, SADC and the AU. But members are bound together by the Indian Ocean and its heritage.



Institutional Development

Establishment of Administrative Mechanisms and Structures:

- Charter of IORA – basic principles and guidelines
- Council of Ministers
- Troika
- Secretariat
- Committee of Senior Officials
 - IORBF
 - **IORAG**
 - WGTI
 - Sub-Committee on Finance
 - Establishment of new Core and Working Groups



IORA-AG 2017

- Academic Group met on 14 October 2017 in Durban
- First time Chaired by South Africa
- Trioka includes: Outgoing Chair Indonesia; Vice-Chair UAE
- As a regional Think Tank IORA-AG must support South Africa's vision of ***“uniting the peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia, and the Middle East through enhanced co-operation for peace, stability and sustainable development”***.



South Africa's reform agenda

- **Strengthening** the AG

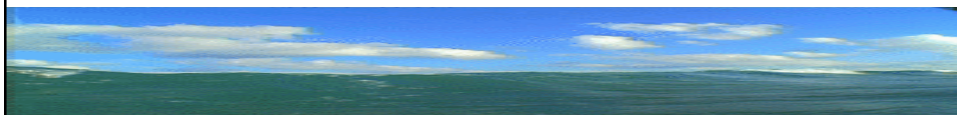
The role of the IORAG is to promote intellectual dialogue between participating member countries by providing coordinated and rigorous research results and outputs, and to serve as a vehicle for the development and dissemination of the research based policy-making and decision-making support.

- Encourage the establishment of ***national academic groups*** and academic focal points in order to ensure research coordination across the region.
- The ***Indian Ocean Dialogue*** must be utilised as a platform for more in-depth discussions on the academic issues of research, development, and innovation and fall under the auspices of the AG, the Think Tank for IORA.



Reform agenda cont.

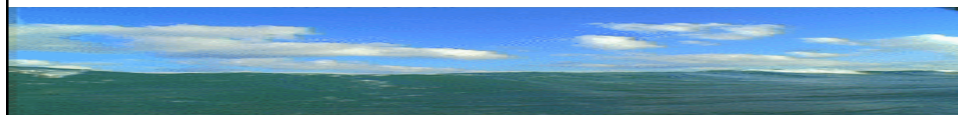
- ***IOM***: key objective is to facilitate the mobility of researchers and post-graduate students within the IORA member countries and Dialogue Partner countries. The mobility should also be subjected to a rigorous competitive process and also align to the priorities and cross-cutting areas of the IORA.
- ***Centers of Excellence***: Criteria for hosting the CoEs is to be developed by a Standing Sub-Committee; location of the CoEs will be dependent on the strengths of Member States in the respective IORA priority areas.
- Focus on implementing the IORA ***Action Plan*** adopted together with the Leadership Concord.





South Africa's national chapter

- South Africa shared its experience with the establishment of a national AG and focal point
- SteerCom consisting of DST, DIRCO, NRF, HSRC and DHET
- Secretariat located at SAEON iora.ag.sa@gmail.com
- Sub-theme groups, based on the 6 priority and 8 cross-cutting areas, have been established comprising experts from amongst others US, NWU, CPUT, NMU, Unisa, UFH, UFS, SAEON, DST and HSRC
- Awareness and research initiatives are growing



Quo Vadis?


- Establishment of a Standing Sub-Committee to consider IORA-AG reforms and the implementation of the Action Plan from an academic/ research perspective
- Facilitate with the IORA Secretariat the submission of academic focal points by Member State and Dialogue Partner
- Mainstreaming gender equality and women's empowerment in all activities
- Continue to cooperate for mutual benefit: skills transfer, technology sharing, capacity building, especially with IORA special agencies RCSTT and the Chair of Indian Ocean Studies
- Enhance engagement with Dialogue Partners
- Grow and strengthen the national chapter of the IORA-AG




THANK YOU



IORAG OUTREACH PROGRAMME TO THE AFRICAN MEMBER STATES



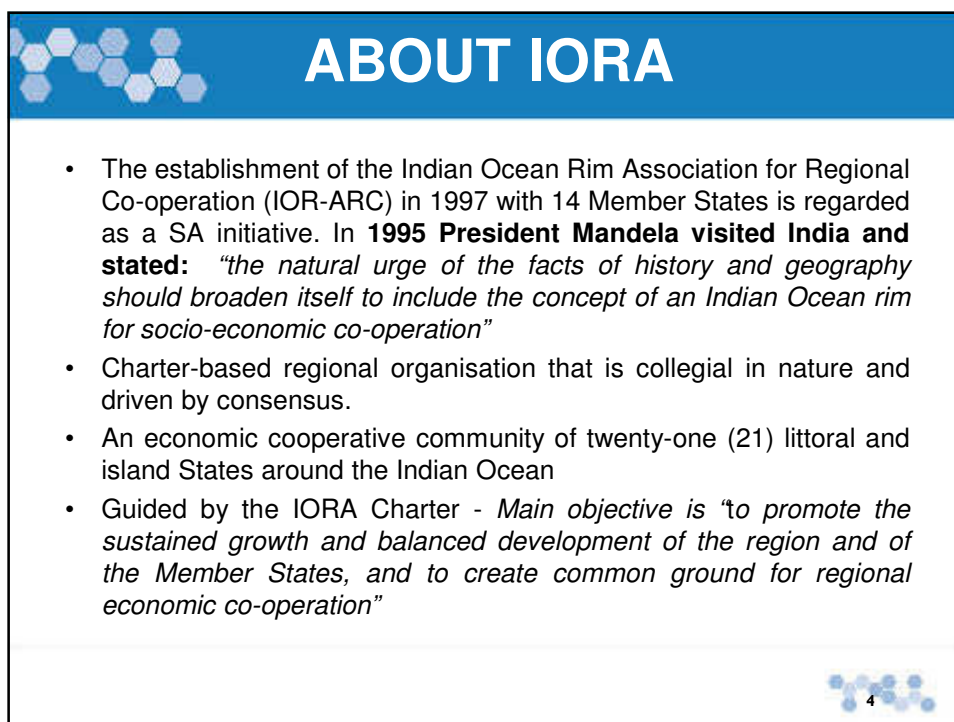
Mr Selby Modiba
Deputy-Director: Multilateral Cooperation
DATE: 6 July 2018
University of Mauritius, Mauritius



science
& technology
Department
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Outline of the presentation

- Background on Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)
- Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) Outreach programme



ABOUT IORA CONT...

- Is the 3rd largest Ocean
- Carries half of the world's container ships
- Carries one third of the bulk cargo traffic
- Carries two thirds of the world's oil shipments
- Is a lifeline for international trade and economic development
- Has a third of the world's population
- Produces goods and services worth over \$1 trillion. Intra IORA trade is about \$777 bn
- Is rich in strategic and precious minerals and metals; marine resources; agricultural wealth; significant human resources and considerable technological capabilities



5

MEMBERSHIP

The Association's membership (21 + 7):

- ✓ **South & East Africa:** Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Somalia
- ✓ **Gulf:** Iran, Oman, Yemen & the UAE
- ✓ **South Asia:** Bangladesh, India & Sri-Lanka
- ✓ **The South Eastern Indian Ocean:** Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore & Thailand
- ✓ **Dialogue Partners:** USA, Japan, France, UK, Egypt, China, Germany
- 7 Least Developed Countries (LDC) – 5 Africa
- All NAM members except for Australia
- 12 Commonwealth Member States

Potential members: Pakistan, Djibouti, Maldives, Myanmar



6

IORA STRUCTURE

- Council of (Foreign) Ministers (COM): annual = Apex body
- Committee of Senior Officials (CSO): COM & Bi-annual
- **Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG)**
- Indian Ocean Rim Business Forum (IORBF)
- Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI)
- Specialised Agencies: Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT – Iran) & Fisheries Support Unit (FSU - Oman)
- Secretary General & permanent Secretariat in Mauritius
- Special Fund for development

7

SA IN IORA

- SA assumed Chair at the 17 COM in Durban
- SA leads the IORA Troika (Indonesia & UAE)
- IORA an important platform to pursue:
 - ✓ Domestic imperatives such as the NDP, Nine-Point Plan (esp. Operation Phakisa: Oceans Economy), growth & development policies, etc.
 - ✓ International imperatives such as the AU's Agenda 2063; 2050 African Integrated Maritime Strategy (AIMS); NEPAD, and Agenda 2030 (SDGs)
- SA best served by being at the helm of IORA along with the SG
- New SA SG: Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe (Feb 2018)
- DIRCO seconded official at Secretariat in Mauritius

8

Theme for SA Chairship

- *Theme: “IORA – uniting the peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through enhanced co-operation for peace, stability and sustainable development”*
- Theme encompasses SA view that the Indian Ocean Region should be characterised as a region of peace, stability and development within which to pursue the goal of promoting (economic) cooperation for the wellbeing and development of the countries and peoples of the region



9

SA substantive Priorities

- Maximise linkages between Operation Phakisa: Oceans Economy and IORA’s Blue Economy strategic outlook
- Support for the African Agenda (Agenda 2063 & AIMS 2050)
- Maritime Safety & Security (WG)
- Enhance trade and investment: BF & WGTI revitalisation, Tourism (Core Group) and SME (MoU)
- Women’s Economic Empowerment and gender equality (WG)
- Water use and management
- Reform of the IORAG to increase academic participation.
- Research, Development and Innovation (RDI), including the 2nd International Indian Ocean Expedition (IIOE2)



10

Rationale for the IORAG outreach

- 23rd IORAG held in Durban SA on 14 October 2017 – resolved that there is a need for popularization of IORAG
- The meeting entrusted the Chair of the IORAG (SA) to champion the process.

Why?

- IORAG was established to serve as a think tank with view to inform and provide evidence based advise to CSO/COM.
- It has been observed that the IORAG meetings are usually attended by government officials/diplomats- do not result in vibrant academic discussions.



Objectives of the outreach

- Information sharing and awareness about IORAG to academic communities of the Association
- Promote and encourage academic collaboration in IORA amongst member states
- Forge partnerships amongst academics in IORA and through bilateral means
- Present opportunities to be accrued from IORAG interactions
- Encourage formulation of academic networks in IORA



Objectives cont...

- Showcase the structure of the South African chapter of the IORAG and encourage Member States to form similar networks.
- Encourage representation and participation at the Indian Ocean Dialogue and IORAG meetings, as well as other relevant IORA meetings and workshops.
- Build greater awareness of the IORAG, and by extension IORA, within the rim academic community.
- Brainstorm potential projects of regional significance that can be undertaken through the auspices of IORA.

13



THANK YOU

14



Selby.Modiba@dst.gov.za
+27128436393



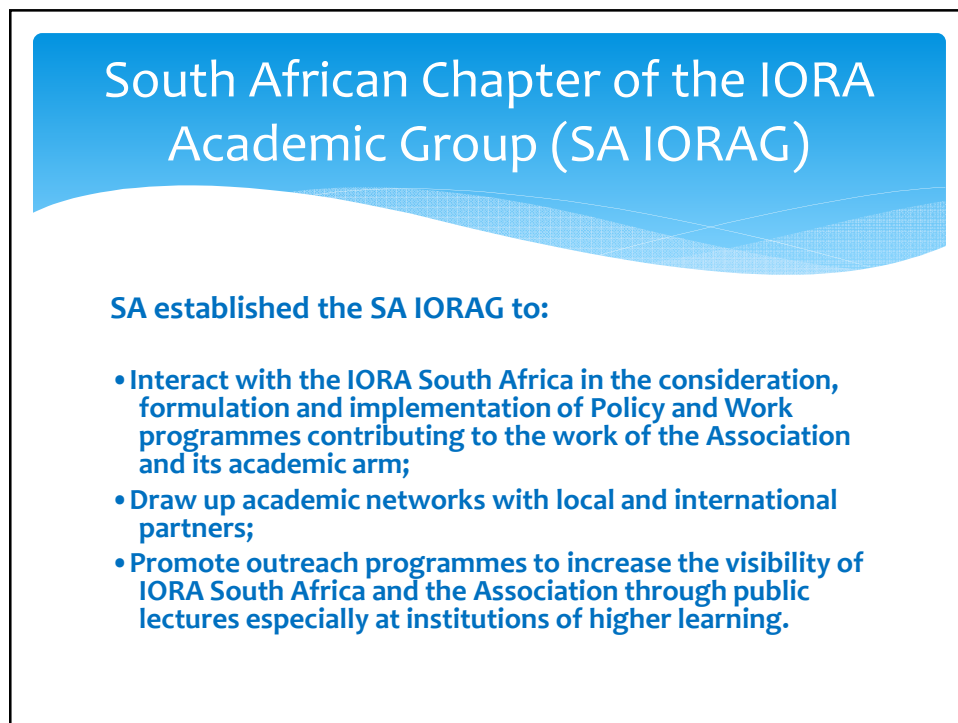


The slide features a blue background with a white wave pattern at the bottom. In the top left corner is the IORA logo, which includes a globe and the text 'iORA INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION'. To the right of the logo, the text 'Indian Ocean Academic Group (IORAG)' is written in white. The main title 'The South African Chapter of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic Group' is centered in white. At the bottom, the text 'SA IORAG Road Show 2-6 July 2018 Tanzania – Seychelles - Mauritius' is displayed in black.

Indian Ocean Academic Group (IORAG)

The South African Chapter of the Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic Group

**SA IORAG Road Show
2-6 July 2018
Tanzania – Seychelles - Mauritius**



The slide has a blue header with a white wave pattern at the bottom. The title 'South African Chapter of the IORA Academic Group (SA IORAG)' is centered in white. Below the title, the text 'SA established the SA IORAG to:' is in blue. A bulleted list of three points follows, all in blue text.

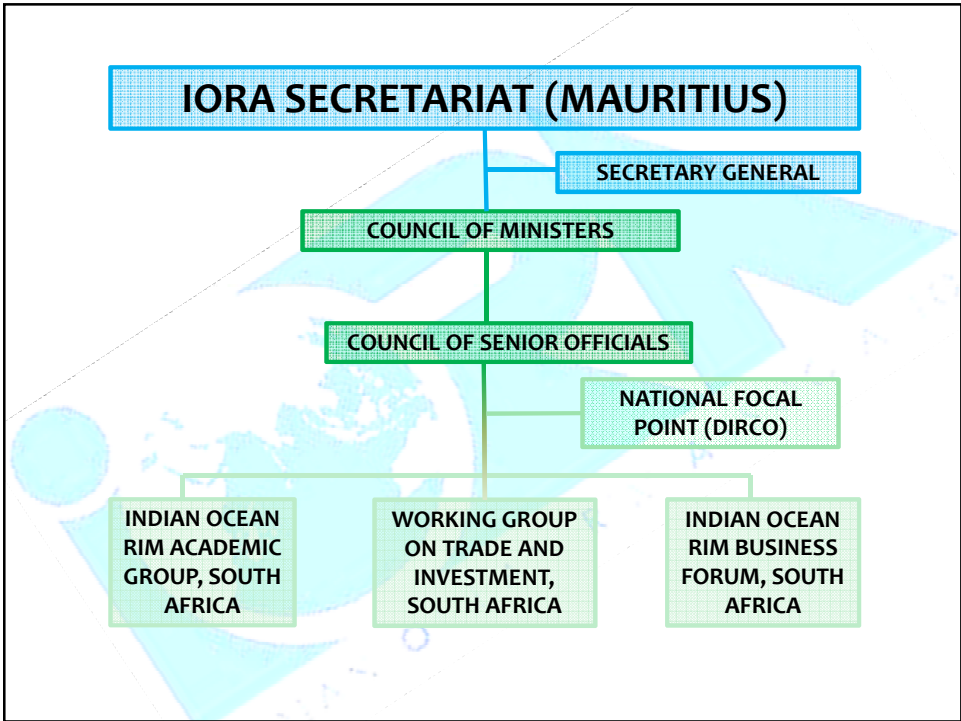
South African Chapter of the IORA Academic Group (SA IORAG)

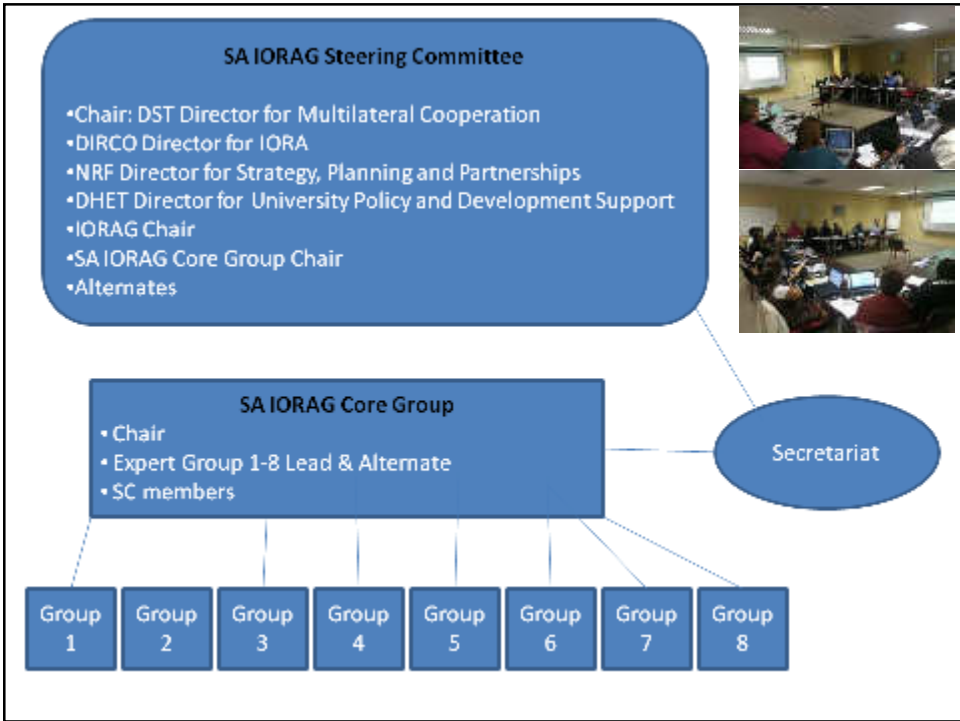
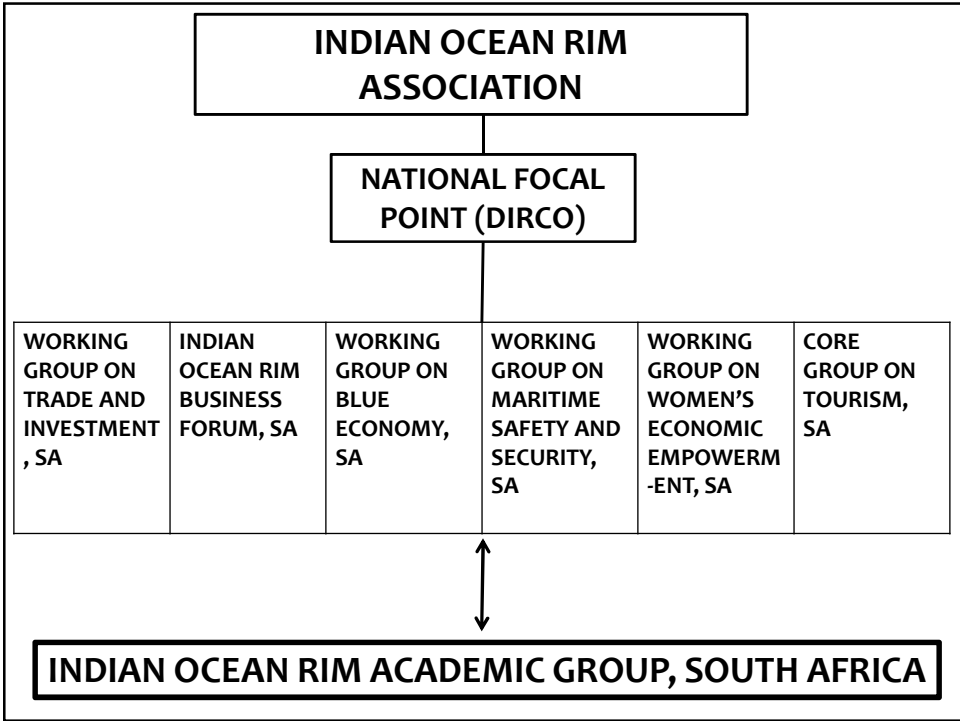
SA established the SA IORAG to:

- **Interact with the IORA South Africa in the consideration, formulation and implementation of Policy and Work programmes contributing to the work of the Association and its academic arm;**
- **Draw up academic networks with local and international partners;**
- **Promote outreach programmes to increase the visibility of IORA South Africa and the Association through public lectures especially at institutions of higher learning.**

SA IORA Chairship

- * SA took over the chairship of IORA in October 2017, with the UAE as Vice-Chair.
- * This means SA representatives will chair the different focus groups (**Academic Group**/Trade and Investment Working Group/Business Forum).
- * Prof Narnia Bohler-Muller (HSRC) is representing SA as Chair of the IORA Academic Group.
- * Dr Juliet Hermes (SAEON) has taken over as Chair of the SA IORA Academic Group.





Focus Area	Group Leader/s	Theme/s
Blue Economy (cross-cutting theme)	Prof Ken Findlay (CPUT)	Oceans Economies, Blue Economies and Ocean Governance in the Indian Ocean Rim Association
Disaster Risk Management	Ms Ernesta Swanepoel (Private Consultant) Prof Henri Fouché (SU)	Determine whether or not there are grounds for collaboration between the IORA and the UNFCCC to further enhance and strengthen DRM within the region as set out in paragraph 16(d) of the Jakarta Concord
Maritime Safety & Security	Prof Henri Fouché (SU) Ms Busi Khaba (MONASH)	Conducting collaborative research in Africa to strengthen IORA maritime safety and security Lecture series on maritime security governance off Africa
Fisheries Management (Fisheries & Aquaculture)	Dr Andy Cockcroft (DAFF) Dr Niall Vine (UFH)	To develop a synthesis of fisheries and aquaculture information and related activities of Indian Ocean Rim countries on a biennial basis: Report on catches/production, resource status, current research initiatives, challenges,

Focus Area	Group Leader/s	Theme/s
Trade & Investment Facilitation	Dr Jaya Josie (HSRC) KGame Molohe (NWU)	1) Assessing Multilateral Trade cooperation Potential & Value Chains in the IORA region 2) Towards expanding intra-Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) trade: a TRADE-DSM analysis of bi-lateral realistic export opportunities between Thailand and South Africa.
Academic Cooperation, Science & Technology	Dr Gilbert Siko (DST) Dr Mandla Msibi (WRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oceans and marine ecosystems under global change • Ecosystems, Biodiversity & Biodiscovery • Water Recycling and Reuse (including Desalination)
Tourism & Cultural Exchanges	Prof Jo-Ansie van Wyk (UNISA) Prof Haretsebe Manwa (NWU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable cultural heritage tourism development in IORA ➤ How can cultural heritage tourism empower women? ➤ What are the impacts of cultural heritage tourism on communities?
Gender Empowerment (cross-cutting)	Prof Joleen Steyn Kotze (HSRC)	Setting a gendered research agenda for IORA

Desktop studies funded by the SA IORAG

- **Disaster Risk Management**
 - IORA And Disaster Risk Management: Fostering Collaboration With Existing International Bodies *
- **Tourism and Cultural Exchanges**
 - Tourism and cultural exchanges in the Indian Ocean Region *
 - Impacts of Cultural Heritage Tourism on Communities in the Indian Ocean Region
 - Empowerment of Women Through Cultural Heritage Tourism Development

* Published in Journal of the Indian Ocean Region

Desktop studies funded by the SA IORAG

- **Gender and Women's Economic Empowerment**
 - An Assessment of the State of Gender in IORA for a Future Research Agenda *
- **Trade and Investment Facilitation**
 - Towards expanding intra-Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) trade: a TRADE-DSM analysis of bilateral realistic export opportunities between Thailand and South Africa
 - Assessing Multilateral Trade Cooperation Potential & Value Chains in the IORA Region
- **Maritime Safety and Security**
 - Lecture Series on Maritime Governance off Africa (available freely online: https://www.sun.ac.za/english/faculty/milscience/sigla/Documents/UNODC%20SIGLA/UNODC-SIGLA_AB%20Final%208%20Nov.pdf)

* Published in Journal of the Indian Ocean Region

SAEON marine and coastal Nodes, Observation, modelling and research

**SAEON Elwandle Coastal Node
SAEON Egagasini Offshore Node**

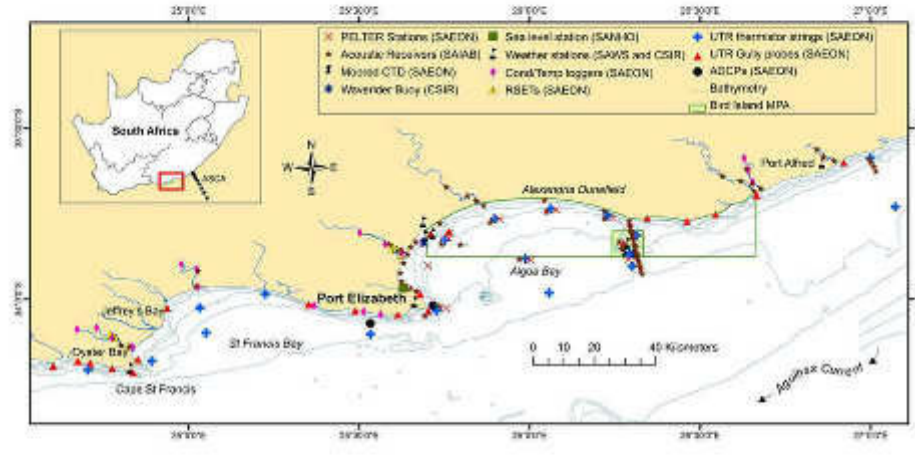


South African Environmental Observation Network

A comprehensive, sustained, coordinated and responsive South African in situ environmental observation network that delivers long-term reliable data for scientific research and informs decision making for a knowledge society and improved quality of life.



Coastal Observations: Sentinel Site for Long Term Ecological Research



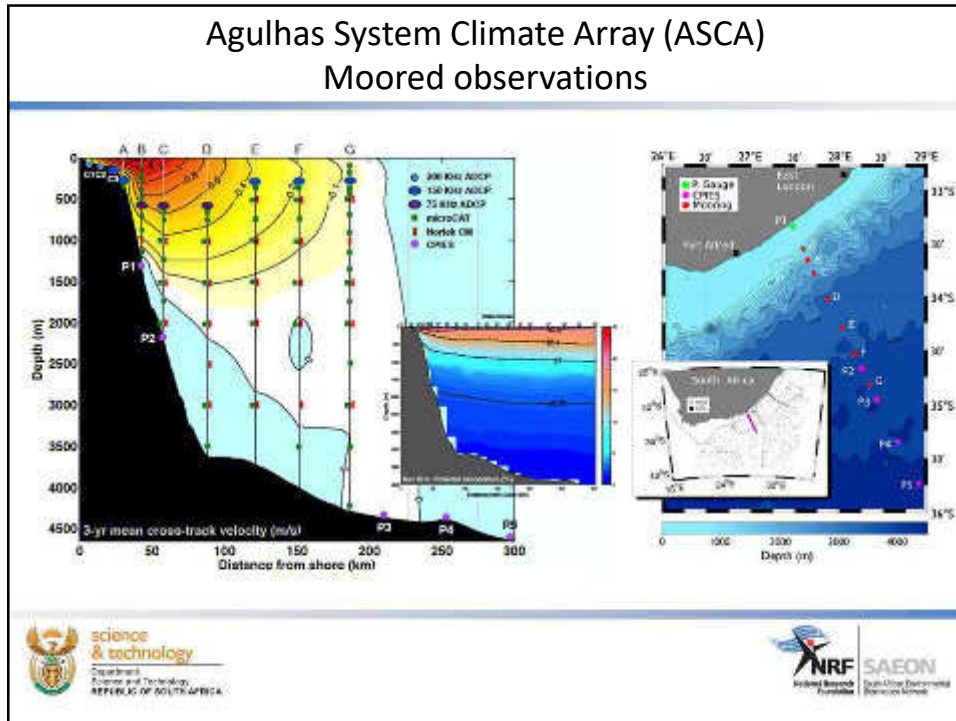
>100 *in situ* instruments, collecting data continuously (mostly delayed time measurements)



SAEON Marine Node Infrastructure: Tools in the field

SAEON Egagasini Offshore Node
&
Agulhas System Climate Array
(ASCA)





Offshore biodiversity & habitat Ski-Monkey III - Towed benthic camera

- Live image feed
- 3 laser area calibration
- Photo/Video
- MicroCAT CTD
- Benthic Plankton net
- Sediment cone dredge

The top image shows the Ski-Monkey III towed benthic camera rig being deployed from a ship's deck. Below are three panels of underwater video footage showing diverse benthic life, including crabs, starfish, and various invertebrates on the seafloor.

science & technology
Department of Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NRF **SAEON**
National Research Foundation
South African Environmental Observation Network



Email: Nicole du Plessis, Project Coordinator, iora.ag.sa@gmail.com
 Juliet Hermes SA IORAG Chair, juliet@saeon.ac.za
 Any of the theme leaders

For further information please see:
<http://www.iora.net/>
<http://iora-sa.org/>
<https://www.facebook.com/SA-Indian-Ocean-Rim-Association-Academic-Group>

INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION



ANNEX 4: Country Reports and Meeting Notes as received from Tanzania, Seychelles and Mauritius

Report on South Africa delegation for IORA Outreach Programme at Mzumbe University



Mzumbe University , Tanzania, July 2nd, 2018

Introduction

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) was established in 1997 with 21 members with the objective to promote blue economy. Tanzania is among the IORA member countries found at www.iora.net. A number of IORA meetings have been conducted with less participation of Tanzania. South Africa, the current chair of IORA, prepared its commitment to on-going engagement within IORA, has established a South African Chapter of the IORAG which is intended to serve as an advisory body towards realizing the priorities of South Africa as Chair and the goals of IORA. The South Africa's theme for the chairship is "IORA – uniting the peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through enhanced cooperation for peace, stability and sustainable development", and through prioritizing cooperation within the IORAG.

The South Africa delegation for the Indian Ocean Rim Association- Academic Group (IORAG) conducted an Outreach programme at Mzumbe University on July 2nd, 2018 with the objective to:

1. Implement the actions as set out in the IORA Action Plan.
2. Showcase the structure of the South African chapter of the IORAG and encourage Member States to form similar networks.
3. Encourage representation and participation at the Indian Ocean Dialogue and IORAG meetings, as well as other relevant IORA meetings and workshops.
4. Build greater awareness of the IORAG, and by extension IORA, within the rim academic community.
5. Brainstorm potential projects of regional significance that can be undertaken through the auspices of IORA.

The South Africa delegation included the following:

1. Prof. Narnia Bohler-Muller - Chairperson IORAG
2. Mr. Selby Modiba -Deputy Director, Multilateral Cooperation,
3. Karabo Mphogo Department of Science and Technology, South Africa
4. Nicole du Plessis -Project Coordinator, IORA

1.0 Opening of the Outreach programme

The outreach programme was officiated by Mzumbe University, Vice Chancellor Academics, Prof. Ganka Nyamsogoro. He welcomed the South Africa delegation to Mzumbe University. He appreciated for the initiatives to start research on Blue economy on under the auspices of the Indian Ocean Rim Association as well as the establishment of Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic Group (IORAG). He further expressed the readiness and willingness of Mzumbe University to host and lead the IORA- Tanzania chapter.

He also recognized the Memorandum of Understanding between Mzumbe University and the Human Sciences research Council (HSRC)

2.0 Presentations

Four presentations were made followed by discussion on Indian Ocean Rim Association Academic group- Tanzania Chapter participation. The attended participants had an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the way forward.

1. IORAG Outreach Programme to the African Member States
2. A Synopsis of the IORA- Academic Group
3. The South African Chapter of the Indian Ocean Rim Association- Academic Group

3.0 Key issues

The key issues from the presentations included the following:

1. The role of IORAG is to promote intellectual dialogue between and among participating member countries, in which Tanzania is a member

Encourage the establishment of IORAG and academic focal points for coordinating research in the IORA priority areas including;

1. Maritime safety & security,
2. Trade & investment,
3. Fisheries management,
4. Disaster risk management,
5. Tourism & Cultural exchange,
6. Academic, Science & Technology,
7. Blue economy,
8. Women economic empowerment.

4.0 Closing

The workshop was closed by the Vice Chancellor-Academics, Mzumbe University, Prof. Nyamsogoro. He reiterated the appreciation to South Africa IORAG-Chair for choosing Tanzania, in particular, Mzumbe University to be the first stop in the IORAG outreach programme. For that, Mzumbe University would work hard to ensure the started initiatives go along.

He emphasized that Mzumbe would play the role of IORAG focal point in Tanzania and called for all other Universities, R&D present and not present to take active participation on IORA research areas based on the areas of excellence. Furthermore, the DVCA suggested for the forming IORAG Tanzania chapter to include members from other Universities.

Post-Workshop meeting

Attended

1. Prof. Narnia Bohler-Muller - Chairperson IORAG
2. Mr. Selby Modiba -Deputy Director, Multilateral Cooperation,
Department of Science and Technology, South Africa
3. Nicole du Plessis -Project Coordinator, IORA
4. Prof. Prosper Ngowi Mzumbe University
5. Dr. Francis Mwaijande Mzumbe University
6. Dr. Issa Faisal Mzumbe University

Agenda

1. Tanzania IORAG
 2. Access to regional research resources
 3. Publication
 4. Sustainability
 5. Participation to the August meeting
- 1.0. Discussion dwelt on the forming a Tanzania chapter for Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group. Based on the lessons from the South Africa- IORAG; the criteria for the chapter should be among others; small, inclusiveness, core leaders on each research sub-theme based on the areas of excellence of the participating universities, research& development institutions. It was agreed that Mzumbe University, the coordinating institution will lead the formation of the Tanzania IORAG and submit a report to the IORA Chairperson (Prof. Nania –South Africa) by 30th July, 2018.
- The structure and composition: It was agreed that it should include among others the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Commission for Science and Technology, Universities in the research areas.
- 2.0. Access to regional: Tanzania chapter for Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group will need to develop researches (priority) based on the national development framework and request from other IORA members to partner on the areas if they have similar research interest. These should be channeled through the IORA Chair and the Secretariat by 30th August, 2018.
- 3.0. Publication: Members should be encouraged to publish through the available journals including: Indian Ocean Rim Association journal. Tanzania chapter for Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group can also request for a special issue publication if it calls for research on areas of national or regional interest (within the IORA areas such as Blue economy)

- 4.0. Sustainability of Tanzania chapter for Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group was discussed in terms of financial sustainability. It was suggested that Tanzania IORAG submits application through Department of Technology to be mainstreamed through the current bilateral agreement between South Africa Department of Technology and COSTECH. Joint submissions of research with South Africa IORAG can open up more attraction from the regional resources
- 4.1. Tanzania participation to the August 2018 IORA Meeting. It is the interest of the IORA Chair to see many Tanzanians attending the forthcoming meeting in August in South Africa.

Appendix: List of Participants

S/N	NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE CONTACT	EMAIL/ADDRESS
1	HAMAD KHAMIS JUMA	TEKUDAR	0713667226	hamadkhjuma@gmail.com
2	MARTIN L. FUTE	MUSO-DCC	0756669768	Martinfute13@yahoo.com
3	AVIT J. MMOCHI	IMS, Zanzibar	0715477200	avitimmochi@gmail.com
4	EMMANUELL B. CHAGSHA	MUSO-DCC	0756186123	Chagsha99@gmail.com
5	FAISAL ISSA	MU-DCC	0755948808	garoyoror@yahoo.com
6	FR. DR. CHARLES KITIMA	SAUT	0768342853	charleskitima@yahoo.com
7	NASIR ABDALLAH	MWANANCHI	0713062281	Nasd2016@gmail.com
8	DAUDI AIDAN	NGOWI TV	0766936399	aidanidaudi@gmail.com
9	DR. SUNGAU, JOSEPH	MU-MAIN COMPUS	0785571741	jsungau@mzumbe.ac.tz
10	BENARD LUGONGO	DAIL NEWS	0713636856	Blugongo@gmail.com
11	MWASIMBA MM	MU	0787380309	mmmwasimba@mzumbe.ac.tz
12	MARY RUTENGE	MU	0657037034	mrutenge@mzumbe.ac.tz
13	ELIZA MWAKASANGULA	MU	0757826887	efaty@mzumbe.ac.tz
14	GODWIN SANASIO	MU	0658592935	gsanasio@mzumbe.ac.tz
15	EMMANUEL PANJA	TEKU-DSM	0753451205	Panja.emmanuel@yahoo.com
16	WILLIAM MWAKISU	MU	0717690753	mwakisuw@mzumbe.ac.tz
17	OSCAR JOB	HABARILEO	0719009600	Mbiaji2012@gmail.com
S/N	NAME	ORGANIZATION	PHONE CONTACT	EMAIL/ADDRESS
18	CHRIS KIDANKA	THE EAST AFRICAN	0762552174	kidanka@hotmail.com

19	FABIAN CASSIM	MU	0784825824	pammyenyelwa@mzumbe.ac.tz
20	MASSAWE .E.	MU	0715855081	evancemassawe@a.c
21	IRINE MARK	TZ.DAIMA	0713190066	imarkmeero@gmail.com
22	PASCHAL BUXAY	MU	0655188800	pbuxay@mzumbe.ac.tz
23	VICTORIUS KAMUNTU	DCC	0769472656	vicantu@mzumbe.ac.tz
24	JANETH MUMANGI	DCC	0784509961	jamumangi@mzumbe.ac.tz
25	IRENE WAZIRI	DCC	0714765396	irenewaziri@mzumbe.ac.tz
26	DR. FRANCIS MWAIJANDE	DCC	0717763926	mwaijandef@gmail.com
27	DR.M. KACHWAMBA	DCC	0712938571	mwakachwamba@mzumbe.ac.tz
28	PROF.CUTHBERT KIMAMBO	DVC-RS UDSM	0754281680	kimambo@udsm.ac.tz
29	MR.NTUFYE MWAKYOJA	RO-COSTECH	0784247626	Taraj03@yahoo.com
30	MS.RENATHA MUKINGA	DCC	0715466261	rmukinga@mzumbe.ac.tz
31	CORETHA KOMBE	DCC	0754343737	ckombe@mzumbe.ac.com
32	MARY KOSSAM	DCC	0783947464	
33	AMIRI CHOWO	DRIVER	0786430470	Amirirashidi-chowo@yahoo.com
34	DR EMMANUEL CHAO	MU-MAN	0757588424	ejchao@mzumbe.ac.com
35	RUGAZIA NYOMBI	MWALIM NYERERE MEM	0715981970	rgnyombi@gmail.com
36	GEOFREY MATATA	IRINGA UNIVERSITY	0757808600	Geofrey.matata@gmail.com



Indian Ocean RA-AG <iora.ag.sa@gmail.com>

RE: IORAG Outreach Programme actions and session documents

Kelly Hoareau <Kelly@unisey.ac.sc>

4 July 2018 at 13:29

To: Cindy Chang-Leng <cindy@finance.gov.sc>, Michael Wagner <mwagner@allspatial.info>, "asst.director" <asst.director@sma.edu.sc>, Angela Marie <Angela.Marie@nisti.gov.sc>, Madina Regnault <Madina.Regnault@unisey.ac.sc>, Diana Benoit <Diana.Benoit@unisey.ac.sc>, Mariliana Leotta <mleotta@gif.sc>, Keith Andre <andrite.kit@gmail.com>, "jessica_moumou@yahoo.com" <jessica_moumou@yahoo.com>, Joseph Raj <xjosephraj@gmail.com>, Laura Blamey <Laura.Blamey@unisey.ac.sc>, Cindhuja Kamalraj <cindhuja.k@gmail.com>, "s.arrisol@env.gov.sc" <s.arrisol@env.gov.sc>, Sylvanna Antat <Sylvanna.Antat@unisey.ac.sc>, Allison Lucas <alucas@env.gov.sc>, Uvicka Bristol <Uvicka.BRISTOL@unisey.ac.sc>, Jérôme Harlay <Jerome.Harlay@unisey.ac.sc>, Rowana Walton <Rowana.Walton@unisey.ac.sc>, Dennis Hardy <Dennis.Hardy@unisey.ac.sc>, Penda Choppy <Penda.Choppy@unisey.ac.sc>, Monika Bar <Monika.Bar@unisey.ac.sc>, Prema Servina <Prema@unisey.ac.sc>
 Cc: Veronique Morel <VMorel@mfa.gov.sc>, Justin Valentin <Justin.Valentin@unisey.ac.sc>, Joelle Perreau <Joelle.Perreau@unisey.ac.sc>, Selby Modiba <Selby.Modiba@dst.gov.za>, Indian Ocean RA-AG <iora.ag.sa@gmail.com>, Xavier Estico <estico.xavier@gmail.com>, Cecil Masoka <Cecil.Masoka@dst.gov.za>, Karabo Mphogo <Karabo.Mphogo@dst.gov.za>, Narnia Bohler-Muller <nbohlermuller@hsr.ac.za>

Dear All,

I would like to thank you for your active participation in today's event.

Key points to note:

- BERI will distill the list of key research ideas discussed today, and communicate this (through foreign affairs) to the relevant entities/counterparts of IORAG to strengthen regional cooperation in research
- BERI will continue to investigate options for developing a Seychelles Chapter
- BERI will check with MFA to determine who is attending the meeting in August (and check to if UniSeey can still be nominated and build on today's discussions)
- BERI will confirm arrangements with MFA regarding free access to the journal

Attached:

- Presentations from today
- List of attendees and contact details (I have included the contact details for the national IORA focal point from MFA in red)

Warm regards,

Kelly

From: Kelly Hoareau
Sent: Tuesday, July 3, 2018 9:46 AM

To: Cindy Chang-Leng <cindy@finance.gov.sc>; 'Michael Wagner' <mwagner@allspatial.info>; 'asst.director' <asst.director@sma.edu.sc>; Ajith Bandara <Ajith.Bandara@unisey.ac.sc>; 'Xavier Estico' <estico.xavier@gmail.com>; Angela Marie <Angela.Marie@nisti.gov.sc>; Madina Regnault <Madina.Regnault@unisey.ac.sc>; Diana Benoit <Diana.Benoit@unisey.ac.sc>; 'Mariliana Leotta' <mleotta@gif.sc>; Keith Andre <andrite.kit@gmail.com>; jessica_moumou@yahoo.com

Cc: 'Dr Frauke Fleischer-Dogley' <ceo@sif.sc>; 'nancy@sif.sc' <nancy@sif.sc>; Capt. Valmont <dg@smsa.sc>; 'Alain Decomarmond' <adecommarmond@gov.sc>; 'Veronique Morel' <VMorel@mfa.gov.sc>; MLarsen@mfa.gov.sc; 'Philippe Michaud' <Philippe.michaud@statehouse.gov.sc>; 'Danielle Jupiter' <jupiterdanielle@yahoo.com>; Jérôme Harlay <Jerome.Harlay@unisey.ac.sc>; Laura Blamey (Laura.Blamey@unisey.ac.sc) <Laura.Blamey@unisey.ac.sc>;

Meeting with the Indian Rim Academic Group Outreach Programme held in the Council and Senate Room on Friday 06 July 2018 at 9:00 hrs.

Members Present:

Professor S K Sobhee-Chairperson, Ag Vice Chancellor and Pro VC Chancellor
(Academia)

Associate Professor (Dr) S Bhagwant-Dean Faculty of Science

Mr S Modiba-Delegate from South Africa Indian Ocean Academic Group

Professor N Bohler-Muller- Delegate from South Africa Indian Ocean Academic Group

Ms N du Plessis- Delegate from South Africa Indian Ocean Academic Group

Ms K Mphogo- Delegate from South Africa Indian Ocean Academic Group

Mr G Anderson- Delegate from South Africa Indian Ocean Academic Group

Associate Professor (Dr) (Ms) M Nowbuth -Academic Staff, Faculty of Engineering

Associate Professor (Dr) (Mrs) S Dyall-Head of BioSciences and Ocean Studies, Faculty of Science

Dr R Bhagooli-Academic Staff-Faculty of Science

Ms D Kaullysing- Academic Staff-Faculty of Science

Dr F Khoyratty-Academic Staff-Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Mr R Sultan- Academic Staff-Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

Professor V N Attri-Chair IORA

Chairperson welcomed the delegation from South Africa and presented an overview of the University:

- Brief on the 6 Faculties at UoM
- Research being carried out at UoM within the region and in the pacific region
- Highlighted on the Poles of Research Excellence
- Partnership between UoM and Government, Private Sectors

The Dean, Faculty of Science, being the focal point nominated by the Vice-Chancellor was requested to elaborate on the objectives of the meeting.

The Dean apprised members of the following:

- Strengthen cooperation between IORAG and Academics at UoM through the sharing of information and Knowledge
- Implement training and capacity building programs
- Showcase the roadmap of the blue economy
- Develop human resources by pulling strength and work together e.g. promote development and focus on Fisheries and Food security
- Promote effective partnership between stakeholders
- Help to control nature pathway for vulnerable species

Mr S Modiba, Prof N Bohler-Muller and Ms N du Plesis made a powerpoint presentation on South African IORAG Institutional set-up:

- Country benefits and Opportunities of setting-up similar structures
- Partnerships and collaboration opportunities
- Networks with other research programmes(SAIAB-SAEON-Agulhus II,IOE2)
- Host country research interests

Associate Professor Dr (Ms) M Nowbuth apprised the delegates about the former Faculty of Ocean Studies which was created mainly as training needs to support different sectors such as Tourism, Marine and Fisheries. It was a great challenge to develop the blue economy. She proposed the following:

- Develop a regional collaboration and make use of IT facilities to share data and resources
- Organise annual symposium thus allowing researchers, academics and students to build a link

The Head of Department of BioSciences and Ocean Studies gave an overview of her department. She talked about the two Poles of Research Excellence, interdisciplinary research (sustainable marine diversity and molecular life sciences poles) and the research being carried out in the lagoons.

After discussions members agreed that the following needs to be done:

- To consolidate efforts for the establishment of National Chapter
- To bring together research areas with IORA
- To consolidate IORA academic group

The meeting ended at 11:50 am.