



OCEAN REVOLUTION MOÇAMBIQUE

Republic of Mozambique



EQUATOR
PRIZE
WINNER

Equator Initiative Case Studies

Local sustainable development solutions for people, nature, and resilient communities

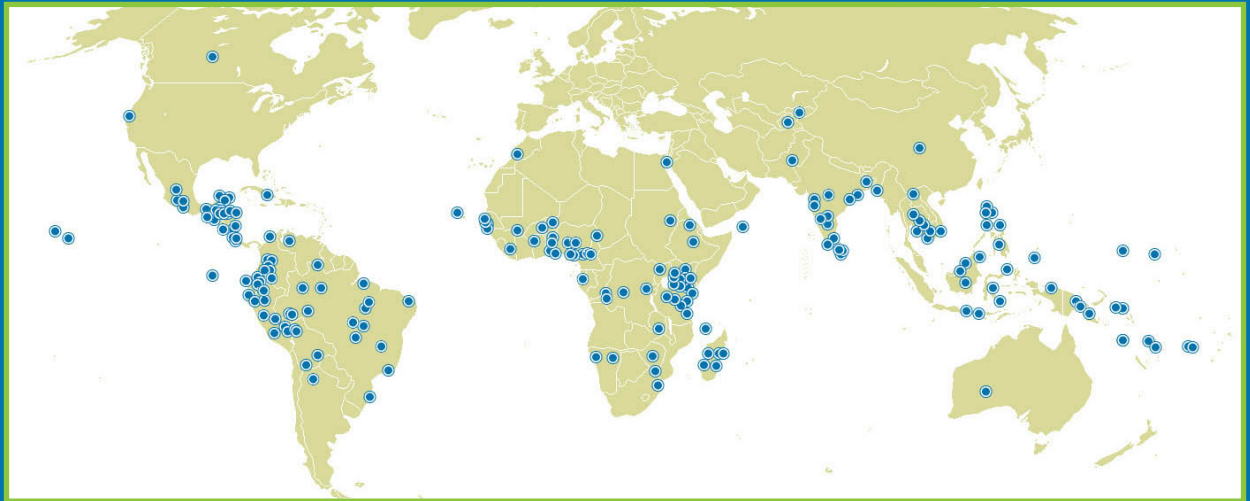
UNDP EQUATOR INITIATIVE CASE STUDY SERIES

Local and Indigenous communities across the world are advancing innovative sustainable development solutions that work for people and for nature. Few publications or case studies tell the full story of how such initiatives evolve, the breadth of their impacts, or how they change over time. Fewer still have undertaken to tell these stories with community practitioners themselves guiding the narrative. The Equator Initiative aims to fill that gap.

The **UNDP Equator Initiative**, supported by generous funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), awarded the Equator Prize in 2022 to 10 outstanding Indigenous and local communities from 9 countries. The winning organizations showcase innovative, nature-based solutions for tackling biodiversity loss and climate change. Selected

from a pool of over 500 nominations from 109 countries, the winners were celebrated at a high-profile event on November 30, in between the climate change and biodiversity negotiations at COP15 and COP27. The event was part of the **Nature for Life Hub**, a three-day series of virtual events designed to raise ambition for nature-based solutions in global biodiversity and climate policy. The winners are sustainably protecting, restoring, and managing forests, farms, wetlands, marine ecosystems, and biodiversity to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions, help communities adapt to climate change, and create a green new economy.

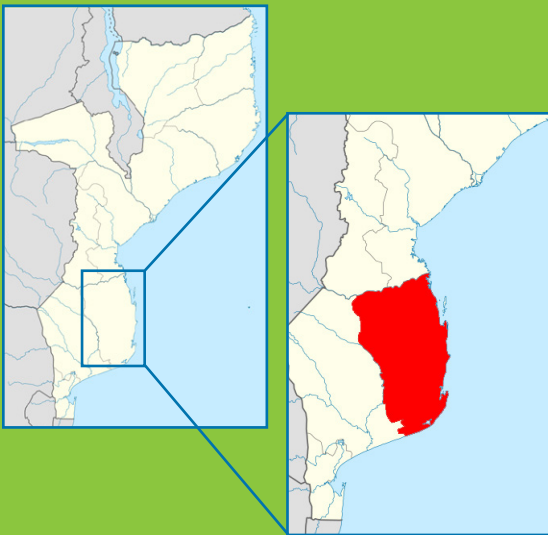
The following case study is one in a growing series that describes vetted and peer-reviewed best practices intended to inspire the policy dialogue needed to scale nature-based solutions essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



PROJECT SUMMARY

Through education, knowledge sharing, and social campaigns, Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) is leading a social movement to protect and honour the ocean as a source of wealth. The organization uses Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) and Indigenous practices to preserve and safeguard Inhambane Bay's vital habitats, including mangroves and seagrass beds. ORM's work has culminated in establishing community marine protected areas across the Inhambane seascape, designating aquatic breeding and feeding areas based on the same knowledge passed down for generations. Its work has restored seagrass beds and supported mangrove restoration initiatives, two of the most necessary habitats for replenishing the food chain, protecting coastal lands from storms and maintaining a stable climate.

Through careful discussion, sharing, and training, ORM has not only revitalized TEK but also embraced scientific monitoring and data analysis, providing vital evidence for governments, non-governmental organizations, and communities on the effectiveness of actions taken for ocean and community wellness. By facilitating environmental education programmes, supporting local women to pursue higher education in marine conservation, and supporting job training in sustainability and ocean-related trades, ORM is building an inclusive, nature-based economy in tandem with a network of protected ecosystems in Inhambane Province, Mozambique.



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KEY FACTS

Equator Prize winner

2022

Founded

2011

Location

Inhambane, Inhambane Province, Republic of Mozambique

Beneficiaries

3,500 direct beneficiaries; 25,000 indirect beneficiaries

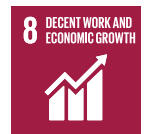
Thematic areas

Marine and coastal conservation/sustainable development; Biodiversity conservation; Preservation of Indigenous or Traditional knowledge

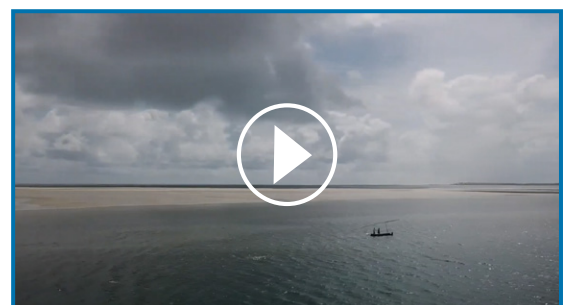
Fields of work

Protected area management; Mangrove forest conservation or restoration; Ecosystem conservation

Sustainable Development Goals addressed



EQUATOR PRIZE 2022 WINNER FILM





BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

I am from the community of Nhampassa, and my community is part of this project. I am a fisherman and for this reason, I had the opportunity to receive a scholarship for the professional course in plumbing. The idea of the trainings was to create new opportunities for young people, because most of the young people in the neighbourhood spend their lives fishing, with few alternatives. Being part of this project, I understood how my action [as a fisher] compromised the health of the oceans. I decimated marine resources, I was one of the decimators, maybe I didn't look at the size, I used non-recommended gear to catch the smallest fish that existed. I needed to fish for my livelihood, so when this project came along, initially I distanced myself from it.

The positive impact is that today I can support my family because I already have a different vision, and we have a lot of work here. I do some work and call some colleagues from the neighbourhood to do work with me. The future is to open my small business. I just processed business cards to distribute in more strategic homes and some companies that can give me work as well as to other people. Above all, having a small business and settling here in Nhampassa shows that this works and is the fruit of our partnership with ORM that has brought us new opportunities.

— Leandro Gaudêncio, Programme Participant, Ocean Revolution Moçambique

The coast of Mozambique, where East Africa meets the Indian Ocean, is recognized as critical to biodiversity and identified by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF) as a global biodiversity hotspot. Along Mozambique's southern coastline, Inhambane Bay and the entire Inhambane Province are home to mangrove forests, coral reefs, seagrass beds, estuarine systems, and plankton-rich waters. The aquatic life here is so rich that a vast majority of the total national fisheries production comes from this province. Inhambane Bay has been home to communities that depend on and care for the sea—for generations.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has designated Inhambane Bay and its surrounding waters as an Important Area for Marine Mammals (IMMA). IMMAs clearly identify areas of habitat vital to the conservation of marine mammal species. The vast richness of species found here is further supported as a Key Biodiversity Area in Tofo, Inhambane, a coastal area of dunes, barrier lakes, shallow seagrass meadows, mangroves, and reefs. Here, a series of reefs colonized by corals extends 40 kilometres along the coastline. Such habitats in Inhambane include

feeding, breeding, and nursery waters for marine mammals like the dugong (*Dugong dugon*), a relative of the sea manatee. While dugongs are listed on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species as vulnerable worldwide, in the East African region the dugong population has become even more threatened. Here, the dugong (*Dugong dugon Eastern Africa subpopulation*) is critically endangered and in sharp decline. Surveys conducted in 2018 showing that the only viable populations of dugongs left in East Africa are found in Mozambique, making their protection vital.

The most populated district surrounding Inhambane Bay is Morrumbene, followed by Maxixe, Jangamo, and Inhambane. Among these communities, coastal conditions consist of satellite dunes, beaches, and forests. Local communities depend on fishing and marine harvesting as their main livelihood, including collecting molluscs, sea cucumbers, crabs, shrimp, and fish. Many local community members are descendants from generations of coastal families with longstanding dependence on nature and who have used Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) to sustain natural fisheries.

However, Inhambane's cultural history of interdependence with the sea now faces new challenges. Like many coastal areas, Inhambane Bay is experiencing habitat destruction and biodiversity loss due to unsustainable fishing and collecting practices and overfishing. Many community members hope to continue Traditional Practices that reduce and regulate pressure on fisheries, but they face significant challenges in managing and enforcing these practices due to population growth and increasing governance complexities.

Origin and structure

In 2011, knowing conservation efforts would be crucial to restoring and protecting Inhambane Bay's biodiversity and ecological balance, community members formed the organization Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM). Through civic activism campaigns, the group promoted the sustainable use of marine resources, reconnecting communities with Traditional practices and explaining why they matter. ORM leaders introduced capacity building, education, and planning spaces for Community Fisheries Councils (CFCs). They also assisted in planning and developing CFCs where needed.

By 2017, ORM's awareness and capacity building culminated in the collaborative historical creation of several Community Conservation Areas, also called community Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in Inhambane. Over the course of several years, ORM and local communities developed 12 MPAs, linked together in a network of protection for Inhambane's most vital habitats. Community MPAs are leading to important benefits, including protecting and increasing biodiversity, ensuring food security, mitigating climate change by conserving

Inhambane Bay's coastal habitats include mangrove forests and seagrasses, both significant carbon sinks. Their destruction could reduce the region's carbon sequestration capabilities, negatively impacting the climate. Local climate impacts, including flooding, drought, and increasingly severe storms, are already hitting the area, increasing local communities' vulnerabilities to food insecurity, livelihoods, and other risks.

marine carbon sinks, supporting local livelihoods, and supporting the Traditional Ecological Knowledge of local communities.

ORM's mission promotes sustainable development that ensures biodiversity and safeguards the future of oceans. Its main objectives include fostering environmental education, supporting ecological protection, and promoting sustainable industries like ecotourism. Led by a board of directors and president, its democratically led meetings include 12 CFCs, community members, and supporting colleagues and experts. ORM leaders fund projects in partnership with foundations and global and multilateral organizations. All programme development and implementation decisions result from significant consultation with community members and are, at their root, a response to community needs. Since its founding in 2011, ORM has expanded from four to eight employees and from 40 to 200 volunteers.



Food insecurity

Fishing and collecting marine resources are major local food sources for coastal communities in the region. However, population growth, unemployment, and lack of alternative livelihoods have increased pressure on fisheries in Inhambane Bay, negatively impacting fish stocks. Driven by the need to support livelihoods, unsustainable fishing practices have also become a threat. These practices include methods like the use of fine-mesh nets, which capture juvenile and non-target species. Such indiscriminate fishing practices deplete fish and marine resources before they can replenish. Overfishing and overexploitation can cause a subsequent decline in fish and marine resource stocks.

The reduced availability of fish and marine resources like bivalves and crustaceans for local consumption and sale

compromises food security and economic opportunities for coastal communities. Combined with other environmental factors, like climate change, those declines in fish and marine stocks can impact the ecosystem's balance, affecting other marine species up the food chain and worsening the issue of biodiversity loss across multiple species.

Even more, patterns of inequality can compound food insecurity for specific groups. While artisanal fishing in places like Inhambane Bay is often dominated by women, other marginalized groups, including children, may face barriers to accessing marine resources. Finding ways to make the exploitation of marine resources more equitable is a significant concern as fisheries become increasingly depleted and food insecurity increases.

Lack of recognition of Traditional Ecological Knowledge

Historically, village Elders, known as *Mukhedzisseli* or 'Watchers,' many of whom were women, opened and closed crucial marine nursery areas to protect species during breeding and nursing. Watchers set these and other 'Ocean Rules' to help community members live harmoniously with the sea. However, for the past few decades, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), like the Ocean Rules, has been ignored or lost across many Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) communities, resulting in the communities and environment suffering.

Globally, as in Mozambique, the focus on standardized conservation approaches can easily ignore local and nuanced experiences and expertise. The lack of representation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities at federal and regional decision-making levels, a need for

more data and documentation on the effectiveness of TEK practices, and the prioritization of economic interests over social and ecological interests also play a role.

ORM is bringing back TEK, like Watchers and Ocean Rules, in tandem with formal Marine Protected Area designations to create a social-cultural ecosystem of conservation and socio-economic development. However, this framework also faces many challenges. While management systems based in TEK have been recognized by federal law, federal governing systems still prevail above community-based systems. Likewise, in Mozambique, governments remain hesitant to grant legal tenure and significant decision-making power over natural resources to communities, which they need to be effective independent managers of local natural resources.

Climate change

Inhambane Province communities are experiencing significant climate change impacts, including increased frequency and intensity of cyclones, higher temperatures, and more severe storms, drought, and flooding. These climate changes increase material damage to houses and community infrastructure. Predictive climate scenarios for the region support the climate observations of locals, with models suggesting increasingly severe weather events, temperatures, droughts, coastal erosion, and rising sea levels. Scientists warn that Inhambane Bay and much of coastal Mozambique are particularly vulnerable to sea level rise due to its low-lying coastal geography. As sea

levels rise, coastal erosion and flooding become more frequent, threatening coastal habitats and communities.

Climate change is also predicted to continue negatively impacting marine life and conditions within the sea. These impacts include ocean acidification, coral bleaching, loss of mangroves and seagrass beds, and shifting marine species distribution due to warming waters. Such issues could further deplete fisheries, impact the survival of biodiversity, and affect local communities and livelihoods due to the reduction of fish stocks and marine food sources.

Loss of biodiversity

Mozambique's coastlines provide habitats for thousands of species, including the critically endangered bowmouth guitarfish (*Rhina ancylostoma*), critically endangered bottlenose wedgefish (*Rhynchobatus australiae*), endangered whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*), vulnerable reef manta ray (*Mobula alfredi*), vulnerable bull shark (*Carcharhinus leucas*), vulnerable white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*), endangered green turtle, and vulnerable dugong (*Dugong dugon*).

Inhambane waters are also home to other spectacular species like seven dolphin species, 77 hermatypic coral species, humpback whales, and tiger sharks. Seagrass meadows, mangroves, sandy beaches, corals, dunes, and estuaries provide habitat for these diverse species, including various birds, to regenerate. Such thriving ecosystems provide nutritious and ample food sources for local communities, such as shrimp, sea cucumbers, clams, and crabs.

During recent decades, these habitats have become particularly vulnerable. Often located near human population cen-

tres, they are impacted by coastal development, waste and agricultural runoff, overuse, and over-extraction. Seagrass beds, common nurseries, and feeding grounds for dugongs and other species are particularly vulnerable to degradation from destructive shellfish harvesting practices, flooding, and runoff. For example, in nearby Maputo Bay, scientific analysis revealed that 86 percent of seagrass beds have already been lost, threatening local livelihoods, food security, biodiversity, and culture. As a result, the dugong has been given a special regional classification as highly endangered in East Africa.

Climate change impacts like sea level rise, intense storm events, coral bleaching, ocean acidification, and warming sea temperatures also change the conditions of habitats and accelerate biodiversity loss. Habitat loss affects both the species that depend directly on those habitats and the species higher up the food chain, impacting the overall balance of ecosystems in the area and threatening them with species loss and, even more severe, ecosystem collapse.



Establishing and managing marine protected areas

From 2017 to 2020, Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) created 12 permanent no-take Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) based on Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), including traditional Ocean Rules, in conjunction with mainstream MPA management methods. Traditionally, *Mukhedzisseli* or 'Watchers' kept these same 12 areas off limits during certain times of the year, demonstrating a long history of recognition of the importance of these specific sites. With growing pressures on the sea, Community Fisheries Councils (CFCs) decided to legislate the areas as permanent MPA no-take zones, totalling 1,262 hectares. To manage MPAs, ORM and 12 CFCs of Inhambane Province formed the Inhambane Bay Community Conservation Network (IBCCN), locally known as *Sidika*. The Mozambique government has formally recognized the IBCCN and its network of 12 MPAs, acknowledging the importance of IBCCN's conservation approach.

The IBCCN network of MPAs protects critically important areas like mangrove forests and seagrasses, which provide feeding, breeding, and nursery grounds for fish and marine invertebrates. These areas support a diverse array of invertebrates and sea birds, sequester atmospheric carbon,

and buffer coastlines from storms. Endangered species like dugongs, rays, and sea turtles are protected in these areas, and numerous commercial fish species important for food security including molluscs, crustaceans, and cetaceans, feed, and breed in these zones.

IBCCN has already seen indicators of biodiversity recovery such as increased abundance of marine resources and increased length and weight of catches. These results are helping to improve the diet and income of fisherfolk and fishing communities. In addition, the community-led conservation aspect of this model has resulted in enriching community collaboration, storytelling, capacity building, and leadership development among community members.

In 2020, the Marine Conservation Institute and its International Panel of Marine Science Advisors named IBCCN a Blue Spark, reflecting its effective marine protection. The Blue Spark ushers in support of planning and implementing improvements to MPAs using the Blue Park criteria as a blueprint for protected oceans. This honour is a precursor to receiving the Blue Park Award, a prestigious

“We, as fishermen from Mucuni, we had a scarcity of shellfish, that is: crabs, they no longer existed. When our partners from Ocean Revolution arrived, we sat together. They gave lectures to the community. The community agreed on creating a nursery—a nursery that is bringing results. Today, we have fish, we have crab. There was also training of young people—sailors and plumbers.”

— Pascoal Carlos, Member of the Community Fishing Council of Mucucune

designation for MPAs that meet the highest standards in biodiversity conservation.

Currently, IBCCN and its partners are taking action to create a legal instrument for the government of Mozambique

to recognize the tenure rights of communities over the sea so that communities can legally defend the seas in some cases. This legal instrument would extend beyond authorizing communities as MPA managers, instead establishing legitimate sea tenure for their protection.

KEY IMPACTS

Establishing and managing marine protected areas

- IBCCN has established 12 permanent no-take community marine protected areas (MPAs).
- Community MPAs protect 1,262 hectares.
- The Inhambane Bay Community Conservation Network (IBCCN) includes collaboration with 12 Community Fisheries Councils.
- IBCCN was recognized as a Blue Spark.



Restoring and monitoring seagrass meadows and mangrove forests

Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) has restored nearly 2,600 square metres of seagrass meadows and supports mangrove restoration initiatives along Inhambane Bay. The group also monitors and patrols many mangrove forests and seagrass meadows considered Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs). Restoration, management, and monitoring of mangroves and seagrass beds ensure these habitats are protected for diverse species that rely on them. Mangrove forests increase local carbon capture, improve climate resilience, and provide coastal resilience in the

face of cyclones, making their restoration and protection vital to the safety and well-being of local communities.

Decisions for managing and restoring mangrove forests and seagrass beds are based on monitoring activities carried out by ORM. These activities include two annual monitoring trips to collect data related to mangrove and seagrass composition and structure in permanent transects. Additionally, three quarterly fish monitoring trips are conducted to gather insights on fish weight, length, abundance, and

“In Inhambane Bay, we balance the protection of our mangrove and seagrass habitats and our communities that depend on them. We are using Traditional Knowledge from our Elders and the most modern marine science to conserve our bay. We hope to serve as a model for other coastal communities of Mozambique and around the world. Using Traditional Knowledge, modern science, and community decision-making to protect marine life works.”

— Sacramento Cabral, Programme Director, Ocean Revolution Moçambique

catch per unit effort (CPUE) outside of no-take zones, along with water parameters as indicators of ecosystem health. Additionally, three community patrols are conducted monthly, some with a police task force. Community patrols have resulted in increased compliance within no-take zones

and reduced cases of violations. ORM shares monitoring data with government members, community members, and other stakeholders to demonstrate the effectiveness of their work.

KEY IMPACTS

Restoring and monitoring seagrass meadows and mangrove forests

- Approximately 2,600 square metres of seagrass meadows have been restored.
- Two biological monitoring trips are employed annually.
- Three fish monitoring trips are conducted quarterly.
- Three patrols are employed monthly.



Establishing a culture of environmental education, research, and learning

Since its founding in 2011, Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) has supported education and knowledge transfer, recognizing education builds the foundation for long-term change. In conjunction with communities, the organization created environmental education programmes for 600 students from two primary schools and launched a weekly marine environmental class, now a mandatory part of the district education department's required curriculum for seventh graders. The group established a community lecture series that has reached over 30,000 people. ORM also launched a community radio programme with more than 18 million listeners. Local ocean education is also supported through films, television, reports, and articles written in local Indigenous languages.

ORM and Community Fisheries Councils have led several educational campaigns to protect endangered, threatened, and legally protected animal species such as sea turtles, manta rays, sharks, dugongs, dolphins, seahorses, and whales. Through lectures, educational documents, posters, and radio programmes, ORM and community leaders have impacted the protection of these threatened species. The result has been fewer and fewer records of protected species slaughtered or killed.

ORM supports scholarships for advanced academic degrees in archaeology, aquaculture, environmental engineering, coastal management, marine biology, and non-profit management. From 2016 to 2020, the organization provided scholarships—12 for women and five for men—helping

these local community members achieve academic accreditation to support work in sustainability and ocean-related industries. ORM also organizes research relationships with graduate students and researchers from Mozambique's largest and oldest university, Eduardo Mondlane University. The programme has helped promote a robust education, research, and learning culture in Inhambane.

Additionally, ORM organizes job-specific training opportunities, which have successfully improved local socio-economic conditions and reduced pressure on fisheries. In 2006, the group established Bitonga Divers, providing a professional training opportunity for rural Mozambicans in SCUBA diving. When Bitonga Divers was formed, there were no Mozambican SCUBA instructors or divemasters. Since then, Bitonga Divers has trained 21 instructors and 27 divemasters. ORM also introduced agricultural and technical programmes into its activities to create alternative income sources and reduce exclusive dependence or overdependence on fishing. The programme supports community members with subsidized inputs, technical assistance, and marketing for products and businesses.

Overall, ORM training has supported 700 men and 400 women in earning incomes since its founding. The organization has found community members more engaged and committed to protecting their local marine ecosystems due to education, learning, and research activities, resulting in positive environmental and social changes in Inhambane.

“My interaction with the natural world has been changing for the better since I started working with ORM because I learned a lot and came to better understand how to act without harming the natural environment.”

— Adelina Cuamba, Fisherwoman, Ocean Revolution Moçambique

KEY IMPACTS

Establishing a culture of environmental education, research, and learning



- Approximately 600 elementary students participated in environmental education.
- A marine environment course has been established as part of the mandatory seventh-grade school curriculum.
- The community lecture series has reached more than 30,000 people.
- A radio programme has reached more than 18 million listeners.
- Advanced degree scholarships have been provided for 12 women and five men.
- Bitonga Divers has certified 21 SCUBA instructors and 27 divemasters.
- ORM training has supported 700 men and 400 women in earning incomes.

Gender action

To ensure women's equitable engagement in fishing and related industries, Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) launched women-only group discussions. These discussions have empowered women and publicly recognized their Traditional Ecological Knowledge, experiences, and ideas. Group meetings help ensure women can express their opinions on managing fishery resources and contribute to decision-making.

Historically, men have dominated fishing activities, while women have carried out complementary agricultural activities such as growing cassava, coconut, and cashew, as well as raising small animals such as goats, chickens, pigs, rabbits, and ducks. ORM has seen women-only groups help change the tide on women's participation and

access to fisheries. ORM credits the groups with increasing women's participation in Community Fisheries Councils from 10 percent to 40 percent.

ORM also supports local women by designating educational opportunities and scholarships specifically for women. For example, from 2016 to 2020, the group awarded 12 women's scholarships for undergraduate, graduate, and PhD programmes related to sustainability and ocean topics at Eduardo Mondlane University. Associated research was conducted at the IBCCN and throughout the Inhambane Province. In addition, from 2016 to 2020, ORM held 31 talks on gender-related topics and supported three women in employment with job-specific training.

KEY IMPACTS

Gender action



- Women comprise 40 percent of Inhambane Community Fisheries Councils.
- ORM awarded 12 women's scholarships from 2016 to 2020.
- ORM shared 31 gender-related talks from 2016 to 2020.





POLICY IMPACTS

“I would like our government and other countries to be more supportive of community conservation initiatives and to recognize the importance of local communities and their knowledge for the management of marine resources.”

— Jacinto Romeu, President, Community Fisheries Council

National policy impacts

Ocean Revolution Moçambique’s (ORM’s) work is influencing policy at local and national levels. For example, ORM participates in national forums and meetings with government ministries and organizations to influence national policy action. ORM also conducts public consultations to prepare proposals for the introduction

of regulations on the management of resources. Locally, ORM conducts and promotes best practices and policies for managing fisheries resources with local Community Fisheries Councils. National and local-level actions have helped to create 12 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and establish a community-led management council.

Contributions to the global agenda

At the global level, ORM supports the implementation of several critical multilateral agreements, including the [Convention on Biological Diversity](#) (CBD), the [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#) (UNFCCC), and the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) (2030 Agenda).

For example, by establishing community Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), ORM supports the goals of climate action (SDG 13) and life below water (SDG 14). MPAs also support food security by allowing fisheries to replenish themselves, which helps reach the global goal of zero hunger (SDG 2). The established sustainable consumption and production pattern also helps meet the goal of responsible production and consumption (SDG 12). ORM’s focus on education, awareness, and training has helped hundreds

of community members, including women, find quality employment and obtain degrees related to sustainability and the environment. These actions support the goals of quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), and decent work and economic growth (SDG 8).

Likewise, ORM’s actions to preserve marine feeding and breeding zones and regenerate critical marine areas directly support Mozambique’s UNFCCC Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), which states its aim of regenerating mangroves and implementing protective measures for seaweed, seagrass, corals, and other breeding and feeding areas for fish. NDCs are countries’ self-defined pledges under the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC to help reduce catastrophic climate change impacts and adapt to global climate change.



REPLICATION, SCALABILITY, AND SUSTAINABILITY

“Winning the Equator Prize means a great honour, a lot of satisfaction, a sign of recognition for our work and a sign of commitment because it challenges us more and more to work to maintain this prestigious position that is now no longer just local but has become international.”

- Pascual Carlos, Fisherman

Replication

Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) replicates its work by sharing community success stories, testimonies, case studies, and impact reports that yield continued local interest in the organization’s conservation efforts. The organization writes regular activity reports and captures photos and videos of activities to share on its social media accounts and web pages. ORM also creates audio-visual

documentaries, speeches, and presentations to share at the provincial, national, and international levels. The organization’s collaborative efforts with local and national levels of government are helping more communities engage in the protection of their natural resources and learn how to become recognized and authorized managers of natural resource areas.

Scalability

Mozambique has a network of conservation areas (CAs) whose purpose is to preserve biodiversity and contribute to the socio-economic well-being of local communities. However, CAs face many challenges, including continued poverty and failed socio-economic improvements.

The Inhambane model, which has shown effectiveness in engaging local communities in conservation and improving livelihoods, could provide a scalable model to improve CAs through the launch of new Community Conservation Areas (CCAs) across Mozambique.

Sustainability

Ocean Revolution Moçambique’s focus on education, passing on Traditional Ecological Knowledge, and providing job opportunities to the next generation contributes to its long-term vision and sustainability. Since its founding in 2011, the organization has shown significant sustainable growth, doubling its employees and quadrupling its volunteers. Likewise, its financial support has grown through

partnerships with international and national foundations, organizations, and governments that share a concern for the world’s oceans. Establishing Marine Protected Areas also contributes significantly to the long-term sustainability of ORM’s mission. Supporting these areas through federal law will help set a precedent that could last beyond the organization’s scope.

FUTURE PLANS

Ocean Revolution Moçambique (ORM) plans to grow its programmes in alternative livelihoods, opening more opportunities for local community members to learn sustainable trades, especially women and young adults. In the longer term, ORM aims to expand its conservation model throughout the country, involving more people and inspiring the next generation to conserve oceans.

PARTNERS

- **Community Fisheries Councils:** Organizing and implementing partners on Ocean Revolution Moçambique's programmes and projects at the community level.
- **District Government:** Implementing partner supporting Ocean Revolution Moçambique's conservation activities.
- **Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM):** Partner in the scientific activities of Ocean Revolution Moçambique.
- **Fondation Ensemble:** Partner foundation supporting Ocean Revolution Moçambique's programmes.
- **Government of Mozambique:** Implementing partner supporting Ocean Revolution Moçambique's conservation activities.
- **Inhambane Provincial Government:** Implementing partner supporting Ocean Revolution Moçambique's conservation activities.
- **Megafauna Marine Foundation (MMF):** Partner supporting the implementation of Ocean Revolution Moçambique's programmes.
- **NatureMetrics, UEM:** Partner supporting scientific monitoring and data analysis.
- **Wildlife Conservation Society:** Partner supporting the implementation of Ocean Revolution Moçambique's programmes.

SOURCES AND FURTHER RESOURCES

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Equator Initiative acknowledges with gratitude Ocean Revolution Moçambique, particularly Antonio de Sacramento Cabral for his insight and support. All photos courtesy of Ocean Revolution Moçambique. Maps courtesy of United Nations Geospatial Information Section and Wikipedia.

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Suggested citation

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). 'Ocean Revolution Moçambique, Mozambique.' *Equator Initiative Case Study Series*. 2024. New York, NY.



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