

PARTNERS INITIATIVE

Ocean & Blue Economy Cycle



The Africa-Europe Foundation's mission amidst global challenges is to reforge the relationship between the two continents, building a genuine partnership and envisioning a shared future. Central to this endeavor is the imperative to empower and nurture local initiatives steered by communities.



The Partners Initiative provides support and expertise to develop youth-led grassroots initiatives to engage new audiences in Africa-Europe cooperation. The 2023 cycle focused on "Blue Economy and Ocean Governance."

By combining micro-awards of up to €5000 with access to mentorship and expertise from AEF's global network, we support these grassroots organizations to deliver impactful project workshops, town halls and convening in their communities to scale the visibility and impact of projects on priority areas of Africa-Europe cooperation.



Numerous organizations from diverse corners of Africa and Europe undertook initiatives to restore coastal areas and improve ocean sustainability. Their efforts encompassed:

- ✓ mangrove reforestation
- ✓ beach clean-up campaigns
- ✓ translating materials on ocean sustainability into local languages
- ✓ delivering workshops on blue economy and capacity-building, particularly for women and youth.



Partners Initiative is a testament to the significance of equipping local actors with the necessary resources and tools to implement programs that deliver impact within their communities.

This approach forms the bedrock of our collective efforts towards a more inclusive and impactful future for Africa and Europe.



PROJECT IMPACT AT A GLANCE

- **1500+** youth empowered
- Cross-continental partnership on ocean sustainability initiatives at a grass root level
- **7 projects** engaging youth from a diverse array of countries in both Africa and Europe including: Kenya, Nigeria, Tanzania, Germany, Estonia, France, Madagascar, Morocco, Togo, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Guinea, Angola, Portugal and Finland



1. KENYA YOUTH BIODIVERSITY NETWORK



Trained youth from coastal communities in Kenya on mangrove restoration.



Through intergenerational knowledge sharing with **30** Young people from 3 coastal counties of Kwale, Mombasa, and Kilifi.



Planted **1000** additional mangroves

2. TECH HUB - TANZANIA



Fostering youth and women's participation in the blue economy, enhancing resilience, and promoting sustainable practices, through capacity-building and green skills workshops.



Successfully planted **50** mangrove trees along Maweni Beach in Kigamboni.



Developed an Awareness Campaign which fostered online collaboration with UN SDG Action Campaign and World Cleanup Day.

3. MARINE DEBRIS CLEAN UP PROJECT - NIGERIA



Clean-Up Campaign that led to the removal of **23 tons** of marine debris from coastal areas, in Port Harcourt



Conducted environmental clean-up community sensitization

4. ARENA RECYCLING INDUSTRY - TANZANIA



Organized a beach clean up at Coco Beach, Dar es Salaam successfully collecting **690 kg** of plastic waste.



Conducted comprehensive workshop training sessions involving **40** coastal community members and **40** youth.

5. JE M'ENGAGE POUR L'AFRIQUE - FRANCE & MADAGASCAR



Hosted a Masterclass with expert advices and key knowledge on sustainable actions to preserve oceans and explore innovation to protect oceans.



Developed a booklet on the **10** recommendations to preserve oceans

6. COASTAL RESOURCE CENTRE - SOUTH AFRICA



Provided information to young people in rural coastal communities of the opportunities for innovation that abound within the ocean economy in South Africa.



Activity engaged both African and European youth during implementation

7. ECOANGOLA



Strengthened connection with coastal communities, providing profound insights into Chicala, a central coastal community in Luanda, highly dependent on marine resources and but largely impacted by pollution.



Investigations and environmental education campaigns fostered meaningful dialogues on biodiversity preservation, sustainability, and community involvement, particularly among youth.

RANGE OF PROJECTS UNDER THE 2023 CYCLE