



# Indian Ocean Academic Group (IORAG)

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



SA IORAG Secretariat  
10<sup>th</sup> WIOMSA Scientific Symposium  
30 October – 04 November 2017  
JNICC, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

# Background

- \* The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) was formally launched by a Ministerial Meeting in Mauritius in March 1997.
- \* The Association's stated broad objective is “to promote the sustained growth and balanced development of the Region and of the Member States\* , and to create common ground for Regional Economic Co-operation”.
- \* The main focus groups within IORA are: the Academic Group (the focus of this special session); the Trade and Investment Working Group; and the Business Forum. These groups report to the Meeting of Senior Officials who then advise the highest decision making authority of the Association, the Council of (Foreign) Ministers.

\*South Africa, India, Australia, Mauritius, Indonesia, Comoros, Iran, Madagascar, Oman, Tanzania, United Arab Emirates, Kenya, Bangladesh, Seychelles, Malaysia, Mozambique, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Yemen, Somalia. The Association also has Dialogue Partners - China, France, the United Kingdom, Egypt, Japan, Germany and the United States of America. Observer organizations to the Association are the Indian Ocean Research Group (IORG) and the India Ocean Tourism Organization.

# Background

The role set out for the Academic Group is both advisory and catalytic, with the following principal objectives:

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

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

SA has established the SA IORAG:

- To service the needs of government and business;
  - To promote intellectual dialogue between partners;
  - To serve as a vehicle for development and dissemination of the Indian Ocean Rim concept;
  - To serve the region through coordinated and rigorous research
- 
- **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;**
  - **To draw up academic networks with local and international partners;**
  - **To 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.



# SA IORAG STRUCTURE

## SA IORAG Steering Committee

- Chair: DST Director for Multilateral Cooperation
- DIRCO Director for IORA
- NRF Director for International Relations & Cooperation
- DHET Director for University Policy & Development Support
- SA IORAG Core Group Chair & Vice Chair
- Alternates



## SA IORAG Core Group

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Expert Group 1-8 Lead & Alternate
- SC Members

Secretariat

Expert Group 1

Expert Group 2

Expert Group 3

Expert Group 4

Expert Group 5

Expert Group 6

Expert Group 7

Expert Group 8

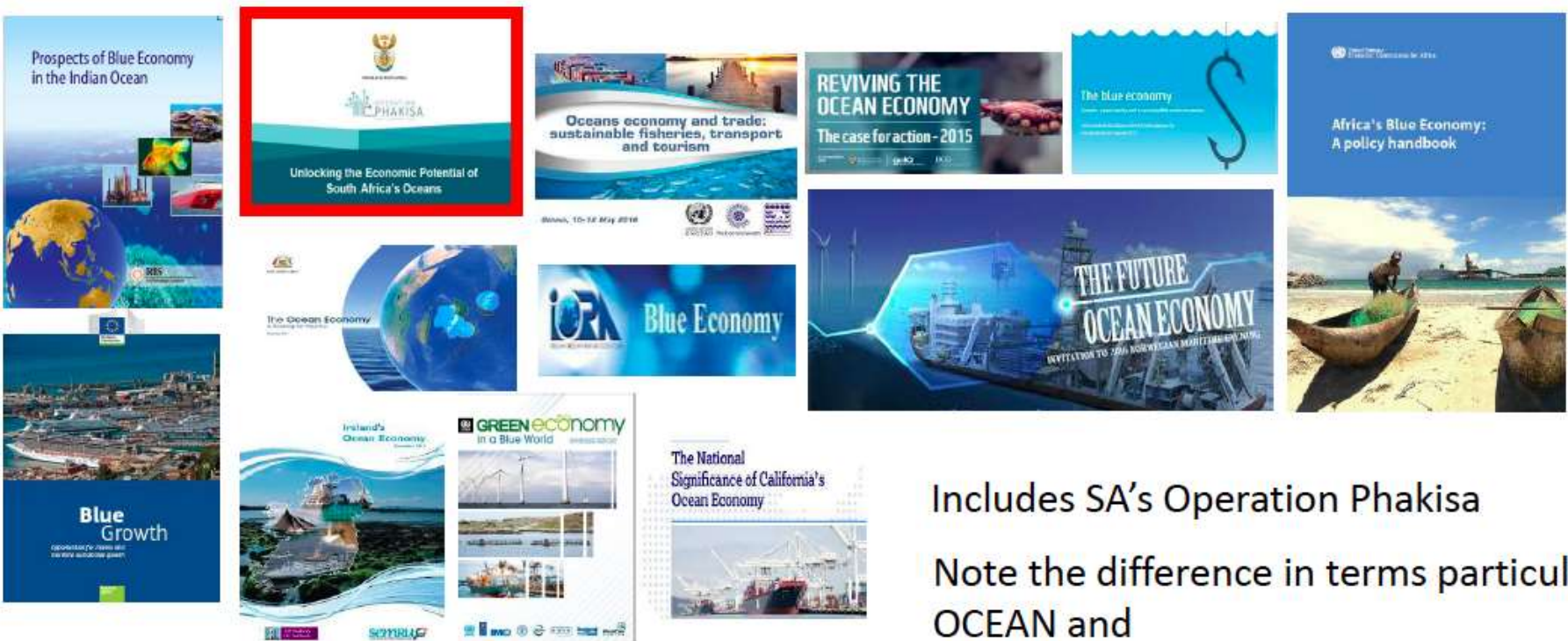


Focus Area	Group Leader/s	Theme/s
<b>Blue Economy (cross-cutting theme)</b>	<b>Prof Ken Findlay (CPUT)</b>	<b>Oceans Economies, Blue Economies and Ocean Governance in the Indian Ocean Rim Association</b>
Disaster Risk Management	Prof Henri Fouché (SU) Ms Ernesta Swanepoel (Private Consultant)	Determine 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) Prof Patrick Vrancken (NMU)	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,

# Blue Economy (cross-cutting theme)

## Prof Ken Findlay

Global increase in Ocean Economies as nations or regions turn to new opportunities to foster economic growth and food and energy security



Includes SA's Operation Phakisa

Note the difference in terms particularly OCEAN and BLUE ECONOMIES



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# Disaster Risk Management

Prof Henri Fouché (SU), Ms Ernesta Swanepoel (Private Consultant)

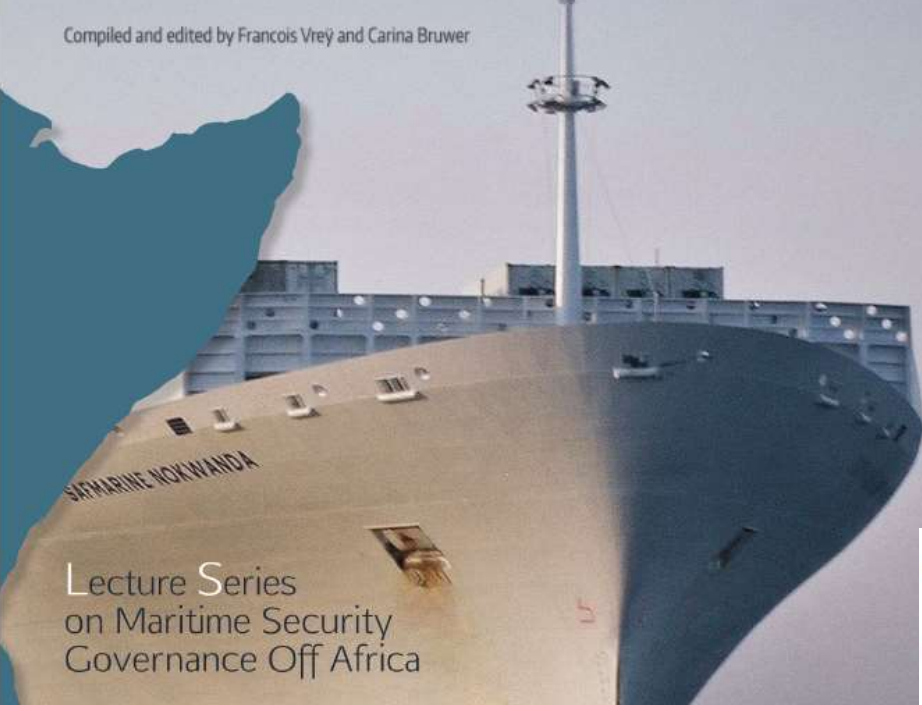
- \* **A brief description of the broad outline of DRM in certain IORA countries**
- \* The implications of paragraph 16(d) of the Jakarta Concord
  - \* One of the most important implications of is that it effectively brings two separate international policy instruments within the realm of IORA's focus to address DRM.
- \* The relevance of the Paris Agreement
- \* Lastly, the report makes recommendations for opportunities to incorporate the work undertaken by the Warsaw International Mechanisms

**A number of recommendations have been made from the report:**

- \* Collaboration with WIM EXPO
- \* Regional disaster coordination mechanism might be a vehicle to facilitate this
- \* IORA member states form a loose coalition with UNFCCC



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## Lecture Series on Maritime Security Governance Off Africa



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Francois Vreij (SIGLA)	

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# Fisheries Management (Fisheries & Aquaculture)

Dr Andy Cockcroft (DAFF)

Dr Niall Vine (UFH)

- \* Split into two projects (Fisheries and Aquaculture).
- \* Success will rely on active participation of member countries' co-ordinators
- \* Initial gap analysis of existing data (from FAO templates)
- \* Regional workshop to task countries to address gaps
- \* Regional co-ordinator to collate and interpret regional contributions in a report and identify opportunities and funding sources for research and co-ordination
- \* Report and final synthesis to be available to member countries and on the IORA website



Focus Area	Group Leader/s	Theme/s
Trade & Investment Facilitation	Dr Jaya Josie (HSRC) KGame Molope	<p><b>1) Assessing Multilateral Trade cooperation Potential &amp; Value Chains in the IORA region</b></p> <p><b>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.</b></p>
Academic Cooperation, Science & Technology	Dr Gilbert Siko (DST) Dr Mandla Msibi (WRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oceans and marine ecosystems under global change</li> <li>• Ecosystems, Biodiversity &amp; Biodiscovery</li> <li>• Water Recycling and Reuse (including Desalination)</li> </ul>
Tourism & Cultural Exchanges	Prof Jo-Ansie van Wyk (UNISA) Prof Haretsebe Manwa (NWU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable cultural heritage tourism development in IORA</li> <li>➤ How can cultural heritage tourism empower women?</li> <li>➤ What are the impacts of cultural heritage tourism on communities?</li> </ul>
Gender Empowerment (cross-cutting)	Prof Joleen Steyn Kotze (HSRC)	Setting a gendered research agenda for IORA

# Trade & Investment Facilitation

Dr Jaya Josie and Kgame Molope

## Objective

- To assess trade & Investment potential & GVC relationship within IORA
- Develop a multilateral regional economic integration index for IORA to monitor progress
- Review trade performance within IORA region

## Conclusions

- The network shows useful application for identifying relations within the region
- There is strong possibility of multilateralism
- The region has an opportunity of attracting:
  - Trade & Investment potential
- There is slight increase in investment within the IORA



# Trade & Investment Facilitation

Dr Jaya Josie and Kgame Molope  
Martin Cameron and Wilma Viviers

- \* World Economic Forum's Global Enabling Trade Report 2016 5 most problematic factors in each country ranked between 1 and 5
- \* IORA members – 66% (14/21) indicate that their major concern (rank 1,2,3) around exports is need to identify potential markets and buyers.
- \* While rest of members indicate less important, still within top 5 (of 12) items ranked
- \* Use DSM to apply a sequential filtering process (4 filters) that eliminates less promising export opportunities, and focuses on those country-product combinations that show the most potential

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# Academic Cooperation, Science & Technology

Dr Gilbert Siko (DST)

Dr Mandla Msibi (WRC)

**Oceans and marine ecosystems under global change:  
Ecosystems, Biodiversity & Biodiscovery**

**Water Recycling and Reuse (including Desalination)**

In progress

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# Tourism & Cultural Exchanges

Prof Jo-Ansie van Wyk (UNISA), Prof Haretsebe Manwa (NWU)

## **Commonalities**

- Some historical commonalities (slave & historical trade, migration patterns etc.)
- Membership of IORA and support for its strategic tourism & cultural exchanges policy
- Littoral states of Indian Ocean. Thus, common interest to protect Indian Ocean

## **Diverse**

- Histories
- Cultural and demographic composition
- Governments
- Tourism and cultural exchange policies
- Levels of economic development
- National interests

## **Recommendations**

- \* Formulation of IORA Tourism Strategy with realistic milestones
- \* Investment in development of intra-IORA tourism and cultural exchanges
- \* Stronger commitment by Member States to regional integration on political *and* practical level
- \* Improved role & participation of partnerships between IORA and private sector
- \* Assigning tourism and cultural exchanges portfolios to Member States

*Cultural & Heritage  
Tourism*



# Tourism & Cultural Exchanges

Prof Jo-Ansie van Wyk (UNISA), Prof Haretsebe Manwa (NWU)

The purpose of this study is two pronged.

- (1) how **cultural heritage tourism can be used to foster cultural exchanges** and
- (2) how **cultural heritage tourism can be used as vehicle of empowerment for women in South Africa and within the IORA member states.**

## Recommendations

- (1) The enabler mechanisms that would facilitate opportunities for cultural exchange and participation of women in cultural heritage tourism within the study area be put in place.
- (2) These countries share their experiences using formalised government structures that deal with Women in tourism with a focus on cultural heritage tourism.
- (3) Establish channels through which best practice can be shared.
- (4) Form partnerships – where countries share similar experiences.
- (5) Organise exchange programmes in order to experience cultural heritage products in each /selected countries

*Cultural & Heritage  
Tourism*



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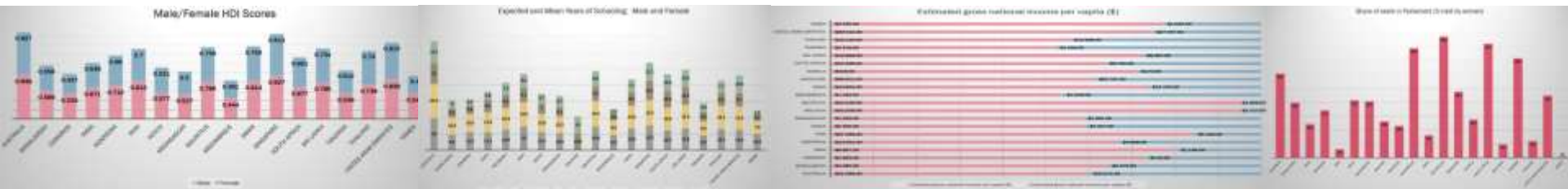
# Gender Empowerment (cross-cutting theme)

Prof Joleen Steyn Kotze (HSRC)

- Gender equality is high on the global agenda:
- Former Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals
- Various instruments and declarations where states commit to pursue gender equality
- 143 countries globally are committed to advancing gender equality
  - *Economic exclusion and marginalization*
  - *Violence*
  - *Gender discrimination*
- Gender equality seen as essential building block for sustainable human development
- Women and girls constitute half of the global population
- Gender equality is a fundamental human right

## Recommendations: Women in IORA conferences

- \* *Focus on economic redress and economic empowerment*
- \* *Move beyond to unpack & engage on structural barriers to achieving a gender equal IORA*
- \* *Need collaborative approach with NGOs involved in advancing women's issues and equality*
- \* *Need to create the policy narratives to advance gender mainstreaming and inclusivity*
- \* *Political will*





# South Africa's Theme



**“IORA – uniting the peoples of Africa, Asia, Australasia and the Middle East through enhanced cooperation for peace, stability and sustainable development”**

# 23<sup>rd</sup> IORAG Meeting

## Durban, South Africa

### 14 October 2017



# Notable Outcomes from the IORA 17<sup>th</sup> Council of Ministers\*

- ❖ **The COM supported the establishment of the ,**
  - Working Group on Women's Economic Empowerment**
  - Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security**
  - Working Group on the Blue Economy**

\*Durban Communiqué: The 17th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), Durban, South Africa, 18 October 2017. Full text available at: <http://www.dirco.gov.za/docs/2017/iora1020.htm>

# Notable Outcomes from the IORA 17<sup>th</sup> Council of Ministers\*

- ❖ **The COM encouraged Member States to utilise the IORA Special Fund for effective implementation of programmes in priority areas of IORA that lead to people-centered development in the region.**
- ❖ **The COM appreciated the institutionalization of the Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD) as an IORA mechanism.**

\*Durban Communiqué: The 17th Meeting of the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), Durban, South Africa, 18 October 2017. Full text available at: <http://www.dirco.gov.za/docs/2017/iora1020.htm>



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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>

