UNITED NATIONS
REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE
PLATFORM
AFRICA

AFRICA REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE PLATFORM

2025 RESULTS REPORTING

OPPORTUNITY/ISSUE-BASED COALITIONS AND TASK FORCES

OIBC-4 "Fostering Climate Action, Resilience and Food Systems"
Co-conveners: FAO, UNDP, UNEP, ECA

Members: FAO, UNEP, UNDP, UNDRR, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNECA, OHCHR, UN-Habitat, UNHCR, WFP, WMO, UNFCCC, UNDESA, UNCTAD, ILO

Reporting guidelines:

- Results must showcase **collective achievements of the OIBC/Taskforce (i.e. minimum 3 agencies involved) and joint system-wide efforts at the regional level** that contributed to the advancement of the UN 2030 Agenda, as well as the AU Agenda 2063.
- Results **should not duplicate UNCT reported results**, **nor should it include individual agency results**.
- Results should **track performance against the 2025 annual workplan in annex**;
- Results should be **framed around one or several key transitions** to accelerate delivery of the SDGs: (1) Food systems; (2) Energy access and affordability; (3) Digital connectivity; (4) Education; (5) Jobs and social protection; and (6) Climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution;
- Please limit responses to **300 words per output achievement**, noting the final annual report to be submitted for all Six OIBCs together is limited to 3,500 words.
- For capacity building workshops and ,trainings please **indicate the number of people trained, the list of countries covered**, as well as **concrete results and impact of the workshops and trainings**.
- Please include **website links and sources** for figures and data. Use visualizations where possible.

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REPORTING TEMPLATE

- **PROGRESS ON FLAGSHIP INITIATIVES**

[Please briefly highlight key collective, inter-agency achievements by your OIBC/TF in support of Member States and/or RCs/UNCTs against the 2025 Annual Workplan in the annex]

Flagship Initiative number 1: *Climate Change*

- ♣ Strategic Output *[please state]*
- ♣ Achievement *[maximum 300 words per output]*

Output A: CARBON MARKETS

In the first half of 2025, UNEP, in collaboration with UNDP and UNFCCC, led a series of regional initiatives to enhance climate finance, Article 6 engagement, and carbon market development in Africa. These activities focused on bridging supply and demand, supporting country-level carbon market readiness, and fostering investor engagement to accelerate climate action and sustainable development.

Key Transition Focus:
Climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution

Results / Outputs:

- Workshops / Roundtables on Climate Finance and Carbon Markets
- **London Climate Action Week Supply & Demand Roundtable**: Ghana and Ethiopia presented their carbon market frameworks, JREDD, and policy updates to 90 investors and buyers.
- **Johannesburg Africa-focused Roundtable:** Uganda and Ethiopia presented to 80 regional stakeholders, highlighting opportunities in African carbon markets.
- **Country Missions:** Targeted climate finance and carbon market support missions conducted in Zambia, Ethiopia (twice), and South Africa, enhancing technical guidance and stakeholder engagement.
- **Regional Engagement**: UNEP in collaboration with OIBC4 members participated in the Africa Climate Summit, providing expert support on carbon market mechanisms and facilitating joint agency collaboration.
- Joint Proposals: Submitted a collaborative carbon market proposal for DRC with UNEP, UNFCCC, UNECA and UNDP, aiming to strengthen Article 6 implementation and carbon finance mobilization.

Impact
Enhanced visibility of African carbon markets among investors, strengthened multi-agency collaboration on Article 6 implementation, and built momentum for regional carbon finance initiatives.

Strategic Output I: Collaboration across OIBCs and across the OIBC4 workplan activities through a nexus approach

UNEP provided financial support to the Opportunity Issue-Based Collaboration (OIBC-4) and the Regional Collaborative Platform (RCP) Joint Secretariat for organising a High-Level UN Resident Coordinators Dialogue (UNRC) on 6 April 2025 at the margins of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) in Kampala, Uganda. The event aimed to inform a wide range of stakeholders, including representatives of African Member States, UN Regional Directors, UN Resident Coordinators, and African Union Commissioners on emerging issues arising from the three thematic

areas including (1) COP 29 Outcomes & African Priorities (2) Operationalizing Article 6 on Carbon Markets in Africa (3) Enhancing Energy Access by leveraging COP 29 and Regional Initiatives.

Key outcomes of the dialogue included the following:

1. **COP 29 Outcomes:** The need for African countries to strengthen internal capacities, adopt a self-reliant approach, and engage collectively under the African Union to achieve climate and development goals. It also highlighted the opportunities and challenges in accessing climate finance, including the New Collective Quantified Goal and the Loss and Damage Fund, and the need for robust governance to access funds and carbon market mechanisms.
2. **Article 6 of the Paris Agreement on Carbon Markets:** Africa's potential to leverage carbon markets for sustainable development through mechanisms like bilateral ITMO trading, the Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism, and non-market approaches. Realizing these opportunities requires strengthening regulatory frameworks, institutional capacity, and financial access, and ensuring safeguards, with regional coordination and leadership being crucial for transforming carbon market potential into tangible benefits for Africa.

3. **Energy Access:** The dialogue highlighted Africa's major energy access issues, with 685 million people without electricity. It emphasised the importance of regional cooperation, mobilising climate and private investments, and expanding decentralised renewable energy solutions to address structural barriers. Strategic measures such as regulatory reforms and regional power integration are essential for ensuring energy access that promotes inclusive growth and climate-resilient development, with leadership from African countries.

Additionally, UNEP provided financial support to OIBC4 for the organisation of a Planning Retreat on April 12, 2025, in Kampala, Uganda. This retreat led to the creation of a draft work plan for the Opportunity Issue-Based Coalition (OIBC4) for the 2025–2026 period. The OIBCs implement programs under the guidance of the Africa Regional Collaborative Platform Joint Secretariat.

Africa Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN)

The Twentieth Session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN-20) was jointly organized by UNEP, relevant UN agencies, the African Development Bank (AfDB), and the African Union Commission (AUC). It was held from 14–18 July 2025 in Nairobi, Kenya, under the theme *"Four Decades of Environmental Action in Africa: Reflecting on the Past and Imagining the Future."* The session also marked AMCEN's 40th anniversary (AMCEN@40).

OIBC4 Conveners participated actively in the meeting, which concluded with the adoption of twelve key decisions, with climate change emerging as a central theme aligned with OIBC4's mandate on climate action, resilience, and food systems.

The session served as a strategic platform for African Ministers and stakeholders to:

- Reflect on 40 years of AMCEN's legacy in environmental governance and celebrate AMCEN@40.
- Define Africa's environmental priorities for 2025–2027, identifying key actions for the next biennium.
- Strengthen Africa's unified positions for upcoming global environmental negotiations on climate change, biodiversity, chemicals and waste, and oceans.

- Promote collaboration across institutions and stakeholders, enhancing the implementation of global and regional environmental frameworks.

AMCEN-20 was both a commemorative and forward-looking event, charting pathways for action, financing, policy coherence, and institutional collaboration toward a green and resilient Africa.

Relevance of AMCEN-20 Decisions to OIBC4 Work

- Climate Change and Biodiversity decisions align directly with OIBC4's core focus areas of resilience, food systems, and climate action.
- The Omnibus Decision on Integrated Governance and Africa's Priorities (2025–2027) offers a framework for aligning joint UN programmes under OIBC4.
- Decisions on Chemicals & Waste and the Oceans/Blue Economy broaden the agenda to include pollution control and circular economy issues relevant to sustainable food systems.
- Participation and negotiation decisions reinforce Africa's collective voice in global fora, ensuring that OIBC4's outcomes inform regional and international processes.
- The Drought Protocol is particularly significant for resilience and adaptation in Africa's drylands, directly supporting food systems and livelihoods.

As Secretariat of AMCEN, UNEP which is also a member of OIBC4 transmits AMCEN Declarations and related decisions through the AMCEN Presidency to the African Union's Specialised Technical Committee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment (ARBE)—an AU ministerial body that reviews and endorses submissions for consideration by Heads of State and Government.

OIBC4 at COP30

OIBC-4 was represented by UNECA, UNFPA, and UNDP at COP30, actively participating in high-level dialogues, side events, and technical sessions. For the first time, OIBC-4 successfully co-organized and co-hosted side events, marking a significant milestone in its engagement. These events showcased Africa's priorities on carbon markets, gender-responsive climate action, and resilience. Details of the four events are summarized in the accompanying table.

COP30 OIBC 4 - Events

Event Name	**UN Agencies Involved**	**Other Partners**	**Key Focus Areas**
Aqinile Investor Roundtable – Showcasing Urban Resilience (Azerbaijan Pavilion)	UNDP RSCA Resilience Hub, UN-Habitat, UNEP	AUC, Afreximbank	Urban resilience, risk-informed infrastructure, governance reforms
Bodies, Borders & Burdens: Centering Health and Gender in the Non-Economic Loss and Damage Agenda	UNDP, UNFPA	ACHCGA - African Center for Health, Climate & Gender Justice Alliance, Government of Kenya	Gender-responsive climate action, SRHR, mental health, GBV prevention

Africa Climate, Peace and Security Partnerships Roundtable	UNDP, UNECA, UNOAU	AfDB, AUC	Climate–peace–security nexus, adaptation as a peacebuilding tool
Strategic Dialogue on Climate Finance for Climate Peace & Security in Africa	UNDP, UNECA (with AU Commission and partners)	African Union Commission, regional bodies	Financing peace-positive climate action, integrated pipelines

Support to DRC on Carbon Markets

OIBC-4 also participated in the side event titled "Crédit Carbone, Économie du Climat et Recherche," which launched DRC's carbon markets programme. The session highlighted DRC's vast forests and renewable energy potential as strategic assets for global climate action. Speaking at the launch ceremony, OIBC4 representatives who were from UNDP and UNECA emphasised that effective participation in carbon markets under Article 6 requires robust capacity building, governance reforms, and scientific research to ensure transparency and integrity. OIBC-4 reaffirmed its commitment to support the Government of DRC and its Climate Change Network through technical assistance focused on developing a GCF project for a research center and a comprehensive capacity-building programme.

Strategic Output B: Early Warning for Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Building

Achievement: At the national level the following achievements can be cited:

National implementation of the Early Warning for All (EW4All) was undertaken in collaboration with WMO, UNDRR, ITU, IFRC, UNCT and RCs. In 2025, Rwanda, Tanzania, Ghana, Sao Tome and Principe, Cabo Verde, Kenya, Malawi, Chad, Zambia, the Gambia and DRC were supported to launch the EW4All in their respective countries. Their capacity needs were assessed and the development of their road map are at different stages.

To date,27 launches have been conducted and 11 and 7 roadmaps are under finalization. The 4 pillar leads (WMO, UNDRR, ITU and IFRC) are committed to supporting the implementation. However, coordinated financing across all UN agencies will be essential to prevent fragmented approaches and to ensure the long-term success and sustainability of the UN Secretary-General's Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative.

- **Kenya launch, 20-23 May 2025**

UNDRR, in collaboration with the WMO and OIBC4 members, supported the launch of the Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL) Initiative in Kenya. This marked a significant milestone in Kenya's commitment to disaster preparedness and climate resilience. The launch event, held in Nairobi from 20 to 23 May 2025, was followed by a national workshop tailored for the global EW4All framework to Kenya's specific risk profile. The workshop brought together national authorities, international partners, and stakeholders to develop a strategic roadmap for expanding and strengthening Kenya's early warning capabilities.



Kenya EW4ALL Launch Group photo

On 20-21 March 2025, Tanzania also joined the EW4All initiative. Key ministries, UN agencies and other stakeholders articulated Tanzania's priorities across the four pillars of early warning. A roadmap is now available with key actions, outcomes, resource needs and responsibilities outlined, and it is undergoing review.

Additionally, an EW4All multi-stakeholder consultative workshop was conducted in Zambia on 25 and 26 September 2025. The event was presided over by the Vice President of Zambia and supported by the Resident Coordinator of Zambia, UN agencies and sectoral ministries whose mandates support different aspects of the EW value chain. The event culminated in the development of a national roadmap draft that will go through different levels of endorsement in the coming weeks.

- In addition to the EW4Al launches, UNDRR, in collaboration with other OIBC 4 members, supported the development of a "Framework to enhance the production, access and use of risk knowledge" in Seychelles, Madagascar and Mozambique. These frameworks directly support the Pillars and will address challenges associated with data availability, data sharing protocols, technological solutions for risk knowledge as well as the governance of risk knowledge in each of these countries. The EW4ALL was also launched in Tanzania from 20-21 March 2025**.**

Integrate gender metrics in the EW4All development

The EW4ALL launch and roadmap process integrated gender considerations by ensuring representation of all gender groups. The roadmap also includes a dedicated section on gender as a cross-cutting issue to be addressed across all pillars. In addition, UNDRR, in collaboration with IGAD and other OIBC4 members, supported the training of stakeholders in Kenya on gender, a capacity-building effort that will continue to be strengthened.

In December 2025, UNDRR, in collaboration with WMO and RCO Mozambique, organized an exchange visit to Mozambique for Ethiopia and South Sudan. The main objective of the visit was to facilitate the sharing of lessons learned and best practices between the participating countries and the host country, with a view to strengthening their multi-hazard early warning systems through the establishment and operationalization of Situation Rooms in their respective countries. ICPAC was also part of the delegation. The exchange visit served as an important platform for South-South Collaboration and peer-to-peer

learning. Following the visit, participating countries were supported to develop action plans to guide the implementation of lessons learned and best practices identified during the visit.

In December 2025, UNDRR, WMO, ITU, and UNOHRLLS organized the Africa Workshop on Early Warning and Early Action in Least Developed Countries in Conflict and Post-conflict Situations in Africa. A three-day workshop gathered nearly 100 participants from 13 African LDCs representing government agencies, NGOs, UN bodies, telecom authorities, and the private sector. The event advanced the EW4All initiative's efforts to strengthen early warning systems (EWS) across Africa, especially in conflict and post-conflict contexts. Participants collaborated to align global frameworks with local needs and improve inclusive, people-centered early warning design and implementation. The workshop also identified key financing opportunities, including SOFF, CREWS, and the Green Climate Fund, to scale up EWS investments.

E. Strategic Output: Disaster Loss and Damage related support to countries

UNDRR, UNDP and IOM are coordinating the provision of-support to roll-out the Disaster Tracking System in Africa. Countries in the pipeline are:

- Mauritius
- Seychelles
- Madagascar
- Ethiopia
- South Sudan
- Uganda
- Liberia
- Mozambique

UNDRR, in collaboration with other relevant OIBC4 members, and the Santiago Network Secretariat, organized a workshop for LDCs and SIDS in Africa in July 2025. The workshop was attended by 33 African countries enabling participants to enhance their understanding of the Santiago Network, including the modalities for requesting technical assistance and accessing the Loss and Damage Fund. Following the workshop, 23 countries submitted their draft requests for technical assistance from the Santiago Network.

FLAGSHIP 2: Food Systems and Food Security

Strategic Output: Value chains on the support countries to take advantage of opportunities of harnessing value chains, focus on critical minerals and agriculture

- FAO, UNIDO and UNECA collaborated to support the African Union's Common African Agro-Parks (CAAPs), an initiative under the CAADP Malabo Declaration, which aims at boosting regional trade for agricultural commodities by increasing local processing of key agricultural products. The support strengthened the institutional capacity of the CAAPs-Secretariat (FARA) by deploying qualified experts upgrading the digital infrastructure and developing a fully redesigned monitoring, evaluation and learning system to address FARA's operational needs and ensure effective tracking of programme outputs and outcomes.
- Two pilot projects are currently under development; (1) the Zimbabwe-Zambia CAAP focuses on developing integrated value chains for maize and dairy products, targeting enhanced food security and agro-industrial growth in Southern Africa; and (2) Cote d'Ivoire – Ghana Common Agro-Park centered on cocoa, leveraging the economic and industrial potential of the world's two largest cocoa producers.

- UNEP in collaboration with OIBC4 members participated and contributed to the Regional workshop on Food waste and loss for Sub-sharan Countries held on 27-29 October 2025 in Pretoria, South Africa. UNEP and members of OIBC4 are contributing to data collection in various African countries. Advocacy, partnership and capacity and skill development.

Strategic Output:H: Africa's Voice

- Strategic Output: *Africa's Voice*
- Achievement *[maximum 300 words per output]*

- **G20 priorities for Africa**

  - UNCT OF South Africa, including UNEP UNIDO, ILO, UNDP Supported countries to leverage SA G20 Presidency working groups on DRR, Environmnet and Climate Sustainability , Energy Transition and other working groups' outcomes.
  - UNDRR, UNEP, WMO and other relevant OIBC 4 members have been supporting South Africa's Presidency of the G20. UNDRR as Secretariat of the Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction. Working Group meetings were held in Durban in April 2025 and in Johannesburg in June 2025, and the final meeting was held in Cape Town in October 2025.

Support to the South African G20 Presidency

Under the South African G20 Presidency, the following are key deliverables

a) Compendium of risk transfer solutions to enhance community access to liquidity before and after disasters.
b) Paper on Cellular Broadcasting, outlining progress, barriers, and enablers for scalable early warning systems.
c) Compendium of case studies showcasing flood- and cyclone-resilient infrastructure designs.
d) High-level principles for financing in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for consideration by the DRR Working Group.
e) Recovery Readiness Assessment Framework developed and piloted.
f) Compendium on policy incentives promoting investment in nature-based DRR solutions, including tax benefits and climate finance mechanisms.

UNCT and OIBC4 Contribution

The UN Country Team (UNCT) of South Africa, including UNEP, UNIDO, UNDP, and ILO, provided coordinated support to the Presidency across key Working Groups and Task Forces, notably:

- Energy Transition (ETWG)
- Environment and Climate Sustainability (ECSWG)
- Sustainable Finance Working Group

UNEP, as OIBC4 Convener, led technical support to the Global Bioeconomy Initiative (GBI) and the Critical Minerals Pillar of the Presidential Task Force.

Core Areas of Support

- Technical inputs to Presidency-led Working Groups and Initiatives.
- Alignment with AU Agenda 2063 and Africa's environmental priorities.
- Coordination of UNCT support to ensure coherence and continuity from previous G20 presidencies.

- Facilitation of **c**ross-sectoral collaboration and translation of project outputs into tangible G20 contributions.
- Identification of legacy initiatives with long-term impact for Africa.

Energy Transition Working Group (ETWG)

UNEP and OIBC4 members provided scientific and policy guidance for Presidential Publications on:

- Decentralized Energy Systems, emphasizing their central role in Africa's energy transition.
- Socio-economic safeguards for coal-dependent regions.

This collaboration began in January 2025 and culminated in the endorsement of the ETWG Legacy Programme at the 4th Energy Ministerial Meeting in Durban, marking one of South Africa's key G20 legacies.

Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG)

UNEP and OIBC4 contributed technical inputs to the revised ECSWG papers, covering six thematic priorities:

1. Biodiversity
2. Land Degradation
3. Chemicals and Waste
4. Climate Change
5. Air Quality
6. Oceans and Governance

Their contributions ensured coherence with multilateral environmental processes, legacy initiatives, and global sustainability commitments.

Africa Climate summit and UNFCC Climate Week

Africa Climate Summit 2, in Addis Ababa

UNECA in collaboration with OIBC-4 members such as WMO, UNDRR, WFP, FAO, UNDP, UNEP and UNICEF led the organization of five mandated sessions on climate change adaptation and resilience, Leveraging AI for Resilient Agriculture, Energy, and Risk Systems in Africa, climate financing and shifting from aid to partnership topics. The outcomes from these sessions submitted to ACS-2 organizing committee for their inclusion in the final Addis Ababa Declaration.

Side event on the progress of the implementation of the EW4All initiative in Africa was jointly organised by WMO, UNDRR, ITU, IFRC, Member States and other partners on 9th September 2025 during the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2). In addition, UNDRR, WMO, ITU, and IFRC participated in and contributed to the High-level dialogue on Early Warning Systems, co-organized by World Resources Institute and UNDRR. Furthermore, UNECA, UNDRR, WMO, UNDP and other OIBC 4 member organizations took part in and contributed to Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference, which preceded the ACS2.

OIBC 4 participated in several side events and High-level dialogues which culminated into a synthesis paper outlining a story line from ACS 1 to ACS 2 and from COP 29 to COP 30. The Paper outlines the progression in COP priority areas of interest for Africa.

Africa Climate Week

NDC Clinics: jointly organized by UNFCCC, UNFCCC RCCs, UNEP, and UNDP

The 2025 Africa NDC Clinics were organized in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, as part of the Second Climate Week: Dialogues for Ambition and Implementation in Africa, bringing together government representatives and development partners to strengthen the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Two regional sessions were convened: the Anglophone and Lusophone Clinic (1–2 September 2025) and the Francophone Clinic (5–6 September 2025). The events were jointly organized by the UNFCCC Secretariat and its Regional Collaboration Centres (RCCs), UNDP, UNEP, in addition to the NDC Partnership, and GIZ, and focused on practical solutions to accelerate climate investment mobilization and implementation of ambitious NDCs.

The clinics brought together government officials from more than 50 African countries, primarily from ministries responsible for environment, finance, planning, and climate policy, alongside representatives from regional development banks, international organizations, and technical partners (UN-HABITAT, AfDB, BOAD, OECD). The discussions centred on strengthening institutional governance for climate action, prioritizing climate investments aligned with national development goals, and developing bankable project pipelines capable of attracting public and private finance. Country case studies and peer exchanges highlighted emerging practices such as climate budget tagging, climate finance units within ministries of finance, public–private partnerships, and the use of innovative financing instruments including green bonds and blended finance mechanisms.

A key outcome of the clinics was a country-led mapping exercise, through which participating delegations identified priority investment areas, concrete follow-up actions, institutional responsibilities, and capacity needs for advancing NDC implementation. Overall, the clinics strengthened peer learning and inter-ministerial collaboration, while reinforcing the importance of aligning climate policy, finance, and development planning to accelerate implementation of the Paris Agreement across Africa.

FLAGSHIP 2: Food Systems and Food Security

Thematic initiative: Collaboration across OIBCs through a nexus approach -Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus

Achievement: Member States and institutions developed action plans based on shared lessons to drive accelerated local progress. The developed action plans included 29 proposed projects/interventions for eleven Sub-Saharan African countries. Additionally, the outcomes and recommendations from the workshop were used to develop an action plan and roadmap to strategically guide accelerating progress on the WEFE Nexus in Sub-Saharan Africa through nexus-informed policies, investments, and practices.

This work was co-led by **UNOSD** in collaboration with partners including **UNDESA, UNESCO, UNEP CTCN, and UNU INWEH** in a workshop which was held from 4-6 March 2025 on Accelerating Progress on Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus in Sub-Saharan Africa

Countries involved were Seychelles, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zimbabwe, Chad, Mozambique, Burundi, South Africa, Zambia, Senegal, Comoros, Zambia, Gambia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, and Sudan.

On 25 November 2025, UNOSD in collaboration with UNU-INWEH, UNESCO, and UNEP-CTCN, convened the webinar *Accelerating the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus for Sub-Saharan Africa*. This webinar reflected on progress to advance the WEFE Nexus to accelerate multiplier effects for SDG progress in Sub-Saharan Africa and ensure greater resource security. The webinar built on the

outcomes of the March 4-6 2025 workshop held in Addis Ababa with Member State representatives, experts and stakeholders to present the regional roadmap and discuss next steps.

A key outcome of the webinar included the presentation of the policy brief, *Accelerating Progress on the Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems (WEFE) Nexus in Sub-Saharan Africa,* which was presented for public comment. The brief focuses on mapping ministerial mandates in the region related to the nexus to realize efficiencies. The brief includes a call to strengthen inter-ministerial and institutional coordination across water-energy-food and ecosystems planning to leverage a nexus approach for efficient and effective planning and policy.

Output G:TransboundaryAquifers / Surface Water

Strategic Output G: Transboundary Aquifers / Surface Water]

Achievement: Cooperation of transboundary aquifers / surface water

i. **Horn of Africa:** As part of the creation of the Groundwater Access Facility (GAFa), a UNDP led initiative with UNICEF and UNESCO as the main contributors, an open access / source innovative platform was developed to facilitate sustainable groundwater resource management, data accessibility, and informed decision-making. Furthermore, a User Needs Assessment was carried along with trainings of the participating countries. 50 projects have been conceptualized by the countries.

ii. The Kilimanjaro Transboundary Aquifer System project (Kenya-Tanzania), financed by GEF, implemented by FAO and executed by UNESCO was launched in March 2025 aiming to enhance the knowledge of the resource and support capacity development, aiming to provide direct access to safe and clean drinking water 100,000 people and provide improve coverage on water access to additional 615,000 people among other targets

iii. Groundwater for Resilience (GW4R), is a World Bank financed project, with UNDP, UNICEF and UNESCO providing technical assistance to the IGAD Secretariat and the beneficiary countries. The project supported the enhancement of the IGAD groundwater data hub by assessing the Groundwater Information System, providing an overview of its existing functionalities and recommendations for improvement. UNESCO further capacitated IGAD and its Member States by providing them information on best Practices from Global Groundwater Data Hubs and on Machine Learning in Water Resources Management. Lastly, it harmonized various geological and hydrogeological maps and organized training on Regional Data Sharing Framework. UNICEF has been working on the second pillar of the works in Mitigating Drilling Risks in the HoA and Enhancing Contract management in Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia. Furthermore, on improving RWSS Management Models in the HoA borderlands. UNDP has led capacity development efforts in Field Engagement and Data Collection, and in Capacity Building and Institutional Strengthening

ADDITIONAL AREAS OF COLLECTIVE WORK OUTSIDE THE OIBC/TF WORK PLAN

[Please briefly highlight any additional relevant regional support provided by your OIBC/TF to Member States and/or RCs/UNCTs that was <u>not</u> initially indicated in the 2025 Annual Workplan]

UNDRR and OIBC4 members supported the African Union Commission in successfully organizing two sessions of the Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction during the reporting period. These meetings brought together all relevant stakeholders, including representatives from Member States and Regional Economic Communities, and resulted in concrete recommendations to advance progress in

implementing the *Programme of Action for the Implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 in Africa* adopted by the African Union Heads of State and Government in 2017.

Area number 1 [*please state]*

Achievement *[maximum 300 words per output]*

Through the Environmental Sustainability, Resilience and Preparedness Result Group under UNCT Ethiopia, OIBC4 supported the development of a Joint Work Plan for July 2025- December 2026 in support of the implementation of the UNSDCF. The Joint Work Plan aligns with government priorities as well as the thematic initiatives of OIBC 4. Area number 2 [

Achievement *[maximum 300 words per output]*

FAO, WFP and UNECA collaborated to prepare the draft regional overview of food security and nutrition in Africa 2025. The report tracks progress on food security and nutrition indicators across Africa.

FAO is partnering with RCs in Ghana, Cameroon, Tanzania and Uganda through FAO's Analytical Support Mechanism for Agrifood System Country Programming and Evidence (SCOPE) to deliver targeted analytical expertise in support of the United Nations country-level programming processes (i.e. the CCA/UNSDCF), which involves several UN Agencies, to accelerate agrifood systems transformation.

- **SPECIFIC COUNTRY LEVEL SUPPORT TO RCs/UNCTs**
  - *[Please indicate specific country-level support provided by the OIBC/TF to Member States and/or RCs/UNCTs from January 2025 to date.*

Country *[name]*

- [*Please indicate type of support – maximum 300 words*]

Eswatini

OIBC4 received a request for technical support from the UN Resident Coordinator (RC) and UN Country Team (UNCT) in Eswatini on 28 August 2025. This request, transmitted through the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO), was inspired by a high-level mission undertaken in March 2025 by the UNEP Director and Regional Representative for Africa, a Convener of OIBC4

UNFCCC, WMO, UNEP, UNDP, FAO, UNECA/IDEP, and CEMUNE (a strategic partner) collaborated with the Resident Coordinator of Eswatini, the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini, and Eswatini National Experts on Climate Change to deliver a **High-Level Environmental Diplomacy and Negotiation Dialogue** under the theme *"Empowering National Experts for Effective Environmental Policy Negotiations."* The three-day dialogue, held from **October 13 to 15, 2025**, provided a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange and institutional capacity development.

Climate and negotiation experts from across the UN system facilitated targeted modules designed to strengthen both the technical and strategic competencies of participants. As **COP30** approaches, Eswatini's growing leadership in environmental diplomacy is increasingly recognised as a model for replication across the continent. The initiative also contributed to advancing a more unified African position on climate ambition, finance, and just transitions — ensuring that outcomes from COPs are effectively translated into real-world action.

Key recommendations from the training included the following:

• Establishing a national platform of negotiators
• Developing a manual or handbook based on the training modules

• Promoting intergenerational learning and mentorship
• Strengthening cross-sectoral coordination

-
- UNDRR is supporting the RCs and UNCT to develop Humanitarian Need Overviews with DRR considerations

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FACED BY OIBCs/TFs

[Please indicate key opportunities, challenges and areas of improvement for your OIBC/TF during the remaining period in 2025 and throughout 2026 – maximum 500 words]

Opportunities

Utilisation of HLPF as a fulcrum point for regional collaboration and profiling of success cases.

Opportunities

- **Leveraging High-Level Political Forums and Global Agendas:** Use HLPF, COP30, G20 Working Groups, and Africa Climate Summits to amplify Africa's voice and showcase OIBC4 joint work plan.
- **Stronger Collaboration Across OIBCs:** The WEFE Nexus and integrated programming open doors for cross-coalition resource mobilisation and collective impact.
- **Increased Visibility through Early Warning for All (EW4All):** The momentum from multiple national launches positions OIBC4 to anchor regional leadership on resilience and adaptation.
- **Growing Recognition of Carbon Markets and Loss & Damage Finance:** Demand from Member States creates space for OIBC4 to influence regulatory frameworks and provide technical thought leadership.
- **Joint Knowledge Products and Analytical Capacity:** Production of synthesis reports, roadmaps and policy briefs offers an opportunity to strengthen OIBC4's knowledge brokerage function.
- **Engagement with AU Platforms and Regional Economic Communities:** Entry points through the African Union, CAHOSCC, CAAPs and IGAD allow for policy alignment and uptake.
- **Momentum around Digital and AI Innovation for Climate Action:** Interest in AI for early warning, climate analytics and food systems can attract innovation funding if positioned strategically.

Challenges

- **Coordination Burden and Limited Technical Staff Across Agencies:** Ensuring consistent engagement from 15+ agencies strains limited personnel and slows decision-making.
- **Fragmented Communication and Visibility of OIBC4 Impact:** Lack of a unified communication strategy makes it difficult to demonstrate joint value-added to RCs, AU and Member States.
- **Resource Mobilisation Gaps:** Many strategic outputs depend on ad hoc agency contributions with no pooled financing mechanism, risking delays in delivery.
- **Maintaining Momentum Beyond Launch Events:** Follow-through after high-visibility events like the High-Level UN Resident Coordinators Dialogue (UNRC).

- **Complexity of Nexus Approach Implementation:** Translating WEFE nexus language into actionable programmes is challenging for countries and requires simplified tools and messaging.
- Ensuring coordination as well as communicating the benefits of the WEFE Nexus, given the limited staff resources.
- **Competing Agency Priorities and Reporting Structures:** Agencies still operate in siloed planning cycles, which can weaken joint accountability.
- **Ensuring Gender and other cross-cutting issues are Systematically Integrated:** Gender and youth considerations require stronger operationalization and metrics across outputs.

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UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE PLATFORM AFRICA

ANNEX: OIBC-4 Multi-year Workplan 2025-2026

OIBC 4 – FOSTERING CLIMATE ACTION, RESILIENCE AND FOOD SYSTEMS										Co-conveners: UNEP, FAO, ECA, UNDP	Budget/ Resources
Key joint results area *Please indicate alignments with the SDGs results framework*	**Flagship initiatives and related strategic outputs** Flagship and thematic initiatives to be delivered jointly by at least three or more entities	**Time frame**								**Responsible Parties**	
		2025				**2026**					
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
SDG2, SDG7, SDG13, SDG17	**FLAGSHIP 1: CLIMATE CHANGE**										
	A: Carbon markets		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	UNDP, UNECA, FAO, UNEP, UNICEF, UNCTAD…….	
	• Carbon markets ▪ Updating the primer ▪ Infographics										Consultant
	• Status of Carbon Credits in Africa ▪ Review of carbon trading										Consultant

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	• Myths and facts about CM ▪ Document providing clarity on CM										Consultant Communication support
	• Advisory services to countries based on requests ▪ Address on need basis requests from RCP and other adhoc requests										All OIBC4 support determined on the activity basis
	B. Early warning systems ▪ Support countries to implement Early Warning for All Initiative at the country level. ▪ Development of Early Warning for Air Pollution's methodology and tool boxes with the listed partners. ▪ Mapping of the implementation status in countries ▪ Integrate gender metrics in the EW4All development									UNDRR, WMO, ITU UNESCO, UNICEF, UNECA, UNDP, UNFPA, ILO, UNEP, WFP……	A few resources are available Need to mobilize additional resources

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	C: **Climate governance and policy support**		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	▪ NDCs, LT-LEDs and NAPs ▪ Respond to requests by countries ▪ Entities to provide status of work ▪ Support country offices in the NDC3.0 development process ▪ Support Youth and gender consultations on NDC3.0									UNDP, UNECA, UNEP, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO……..	Resources required for missions, data etc. Status reports
	▪ Development of Early Warning for Air Pollution's methodology and tool boxes with the listed partners. ▪										
	• Mainstreaming climate change and Disaster Risk Reduction into NDPs ▪ Respond to country requests ▪ Mapping of the implementation status in countries									UNECA, UNDP, UNEP, WMO, UNICEF, UNDRR, UNFPA, UN-Habitat ……	A few resources are available

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	• Support to COPs ▪ Provide technical/analytical capacity to AGN ▪ Contribute to African Pavilion and its activities ▪ Provide capacity building and support for NGCCFPs on the development of the new Gender Action Plan and adoption at COP30 ▪ Capacity building workshop for NGCCFP on SRHR, GBV, HP and climate change								UNECA, UNDP, UNEP, WMO, UNICEF, UNDRR, UNFPA, UN-Habitat …….	Contribution by agencies
	D: Energy		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	UNECA, UNDP, UNEP, FAO, UNICEF, UNFPA, WFP…….	
	• Link between energy transition and climate finance including CM ▪ Develop knowledge products									Consultancy services

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	• Link between energy and critical minerals ▪ Develop knowledge products ▪ Assess implications of critical minerals and green skills for youths and women in Africa										Consultancy services
	• Energy Access ▪ Knowledge products on productive uses of energy and development ▪ Knowledge products on Energy efficiency and cooling in selected countries										Collate information existing in Agencies
	E: Disaster, Loss and Damage		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

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	• Support countries to quantify and track loss and damage and access the fund • Provide analytics on the functioning of loss and damage funds • Explore loss and damage in health, gender, population dynamics and SRHR								UNDRR, WMO, UNESCO, UNECA, UNDP, FAO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN-Habitat ……..	Agencies to map out what they are implementing on loss and damage Small available resources with Agencies
	FLAGSHIP 2: FOOD SYSTEMS AND FOOD SECURITY									
	F: Food Systems and Food Security		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	FAO, UNEP, UNDP, WFP, UNDRR, UNICEF, UNFPA, ILO, UNCTAD, UNECA….	

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	• Bioeconomy ▪ Provide technical support to promote Bioeconomy										Technical support to countries through legislative work using national resources on request
	• Value chains ▪ Support countries to take advantage of opportunities of harnessing value chains, focus on critical minerals and agriculture ▪ Development of account project on Innovative Climate Action to Accelerate Green and Inclusive Industrialization in the Southern Africa Region										Agencies to mobilize resources on ad hoc basis I

ANNEX: OIBC-4 Multi-year Workplan 2025-2026

	• Innovations, technologies ▪ Support countries to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) for production ▪ Map countries on existing technologies in Africa to share experiences and lessons learned ▪ Apply AI for Early Warning on Environmental hazards.										Agencies to mobilize resources on ad hoc basis

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	• Food systems risk management ▪ Provide support to national food systems pathways ▪ Support countries to enhance nutrition under changing climate ▪ Support countries to generate risk information to inform food systems risk management (Map food system risks management in countries and devise mitigation actions ▪ Monitor the soil pollution and biodiversity related to food ecosystem. ▪ Promote food security and climate resilience through trade in the IGAD Region										Agencies to mobilize resources on ad hoc basis
	G: Transboundary Aquifers / Surface Water		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

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	• Cooperation of transboundary aquifers / surface water ▪ Reinforce capacity building for countries in basic and applied sciences and scientific research ▪ Strengthen innovation and technology development for use in ocean science, climate change resilience & water resource management in Africa									UNESCO, UNEP, FAO, UNDP, UNDRR, UNICEF, UNFPA…….	Contribution by Agencies
	• Establishment of Flood and Drought Early Warning Systems ▪ Provide technical support to countries on Climate Resilience and Natural hazards preparedness and prevention										Contribution by Agencies
	H: Africa's voice		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

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	• G20 priorities for Africa ▪ Support South Africa in the Identification of G20 priorities on climate and food systems ▪ Support countries to leverage on G20 working group on DRR and other working groups outcomes ▪ <u>Explore engagements with G20 Presidency on the new ccGAP</u>									UNEP, UNDRR, WMO, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNFPA, FAO, ILO., UN-Habitat	Mobilize resources among Agencies
	• Africa Climate summit and UNFCC Climate Week ▪ Preparation of technical papers on climate issues ▪ Contribute to the programme of ACS/W										Contribution by Agencies Liaison with African Union and UNFCCC
	I: Collaboration across OIBCs through a nexus approach		x	x	x	x	x	x	x		

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	• Engagement with all OIBCs on implementation of this plan ▪ Sharing lessons and experiences based on this plan ▪ Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystems Nexus (expert group meeting in 2026 and periodic activities) (see report from March 2025 ▪ Coordination and resource mobilization									All OIBC Agencies	No dedicated resources needed Contribution by UNOSD (2025) and further amount tbd for 2026 based on expressed demand and regional interest for continued engagement on nexus (from UNOSD funds)