

# SRO-EA 2024 Activity Report

*3<sup>rd</sup> Joint ICISOE | 17 October 2024*



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# OUTLINE

**01 Mandate of the Eastern Africa Sub-Regional Office**

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**02 Key Achievements in 2024**

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**03 Knowledge Products and outreach**

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**04 Partnership Results**

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**05 Action Points from the first Joint IC SOE Session**

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**06 2025 Planned Programme**

# UNECA Regional Office for Eastern Africa Mandate



United Nations  
Economic Commission for Africa

## Core Functions



THINK TANK

Generate  
Relevant Policy  
Research



CONVENING

Provide  
Platforms to  
discuss regional  
issues and  
solutions



OPERATIONAL

Provide policy  
advice and  
technical  
assistance

## SRO-EA Service lines

Policy Analysis. Data Analysis and Modelling.  
Capacity Building

## Mandate

Promote **structural transformation** and  
**sustainable development** of Member States

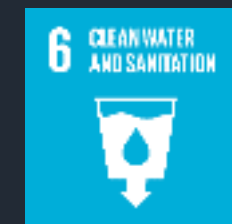
Promote **international cooperation** for Africa's  
development

## SDG Contribution

AfCFTA



Blue  
Economy  
&  
Tourism



# Key Achievements in 2024

**Overall Objective:** To achieve deeper regional integration in Eastern Africa by advancing the operationalization of the AfCFTA, harnessing the blue economy and tourism



## AfCFTA AND REGIONAL INTEGRATION

- ❖ Formulation of AfCFTA national implementation strategies
- ❖ Implementation of AfCFTA national strategies

## BLUE ECONOMY AND TOURISM POLICY

- ❖ Development of Blue Economy Strategies
- ❖ Domestication of the ECA Blue Economy Valuation Toolkit
- ❖ Construction of Tourism Satellite Account
- ❖ Development of Regional frameworks on Tourism



# Recent High-Level Engagements with Member States (1)



## High-level meetings between ECA delegation and Eritrean authorities:

- ❑ Capacity development to enable renewable energy design, development and operation by national experts
- ❑ Strategic advice on geothermal development for the regional market
- ❑ Population census and national accounts



# Recent High-Level Engagements with Member States (2)



## Somalia's long-term national Centennial Vision 2060

- ❑ Announced by H.E Dr. Hassan Sheikh Muhamud the President of Somalia, in his annual address to the nation
- ❑ Assessment workshop 21-22 July 2024;
- ❑ Working with the national economic council;
- ❑ Phase of writing– validation – launch;





## Burundi

- ❑ Training of Burundi AfCFTA committee and Private Sector
- ❑ Attendance of COMESA Heads of State Summit (Upcoming)

## Djibouti

Businesses received guidance and support to align their processes with AfCFTA requirements, enabling improved market access and competitiveness.



# Progress in Tourism Promotion

## IGAD Sustainable Tourism Master Plan 2024-2034: A Roadmap for Regional Cooperation and Growth





# Ethiopia Tourism Satellite Account



## Ethiopia

launched its first *Tourism Satellite Account*, a key tool for measuring the contribution of the sector on the Ethiopian economy





# Support to EAC Blue Economy



- ❖ National Consultations in all Member States
- ❖ Draft strategy and action plan reviews
- ❖ Validation of the Strategy Scheduled in October 2024



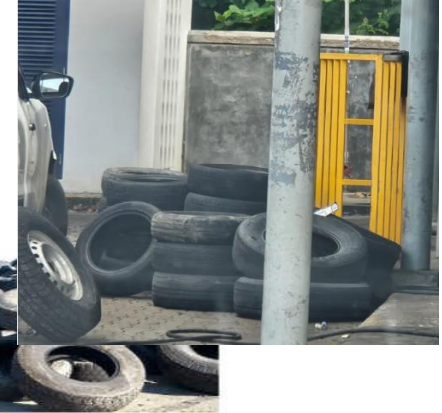
# Blue & Circular Economy: Bootcamp, and Pitch Competition



## Financial Support through UN SDG

## Fund to 8 MSMEs in Seychelles for:

- ❖ Plastic Recycling
- ❖ Promoting the use of recycled products
- ❖ CB on Carbon footprint Methodology
- ❖ 3D printing Technologies
- ❖ Development of Products with Shredded tires
- ❖ Reduction of Coconut waste
- ❖ Reuse and recycle of Coconut and coffee
- ❖ Capture used cooking oil and eliminate illegal dumping





# Knowledge Products and Outreach

**Publication 1:** SRP on *Macroeconomic and Social Developments in Eastern Africa 2024*: This report focuses on three aspects : (i) Trade Developments, (ii) Firm performance and (iii) tracking development towards SDGs

**Publication 2:** The Study report on *Investing in Eastern Africa-Opportunities and Challenges* . It examines the current state of investment and industrialization in Eastern Africa, analyses traditional and innovative investment approaches and proposes action plan for attracting quality investment in Eastern Africa.

**Publication 3:** *IGAD African Continental Free Trade Area: Regional Implementation Strategy*. The main objective of this regional implementation strategy is to provide a roadmap for the implementation of the Agreement.

**Publication 4:** *IGAD Sustainable Tourism Master Plan*: The study how Eastern Africa urban centers can position themselves as competitive tourism destinations. (Urban Tourism)

**Publication 5:** Report on *Fintech in Eastern Africa*. This study presents the current state of Fintech in Eastern Africa and before recommendations, it assesses the constraints to Fintech development

**Publication 6:** Study report on *Cryptocurrencies and crypto-assets in Eastern Africa*. The analysis presents a definition and functioning of crypto-currencies and crypto –assets in Eastern Africa

**Upcoming:** Study report on *Intraregional Trade and Food Security in Eastern Africa*



# Partnership

- ❖ IGAD Secretariat: IGAD STMP 2024-2034 which aims to foster regional cooperation, enhance competitiveness, and contribute to peace and stability in the region
- ❖ EAC Secretariat: Regional Blue Economy Strategic Plan
- ❖ AfCFTA Secretariat: Participation in AfCFTA Training programmes
- ❖ Horn of Africa: UN Regional Prevention and Integration Strategy for the Horn of Africa
- ❖ ICGLR: UN strategy for peace consolidation, conflict prevention and conflict resolution in the Great Lakes region
- ❖ UNDP: AfCFTA National Committee and the private sector to strengthen the understanding of requirements for trading under AfCFTA in Burundi and Rwanda
- ❖ Northern and Central Corridors: IWT development
- ❖ UNRCOs: Djibouti, Ethiopia Rwanda– UNSDCF

# Action points from 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint ICSOE Meeting

Club du Lac Tanganyika, Bujumbura, Burundi



26-29 September 2023

1. Strengthen capacity for youth and women to support the implementation of the AfCFTA;
2. Work with national and regional think tanks to ensure policy uptake
3. Continue supporting member States in the areas of AfCFTA, Blue Economy and Tourism;
4. Support economic diversification and value chain development;
5. Support small-holder farmers to build productive capacity



# 2025 Planned programme



Accelerating  
implementation

national

AfCFTA



Developing investment promotion  
interventions or initiatives



Designing and implementing policy  
frameworks on Tourism

**COMING  
SOON**

- African Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: Kampala, Uganda;
- Inclusive Pre-CoM Dialogue: Online
- Conference of Ministers of Finance (CoM):