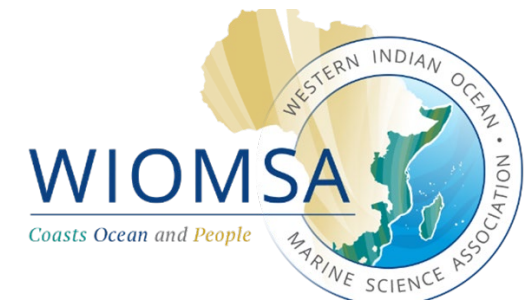




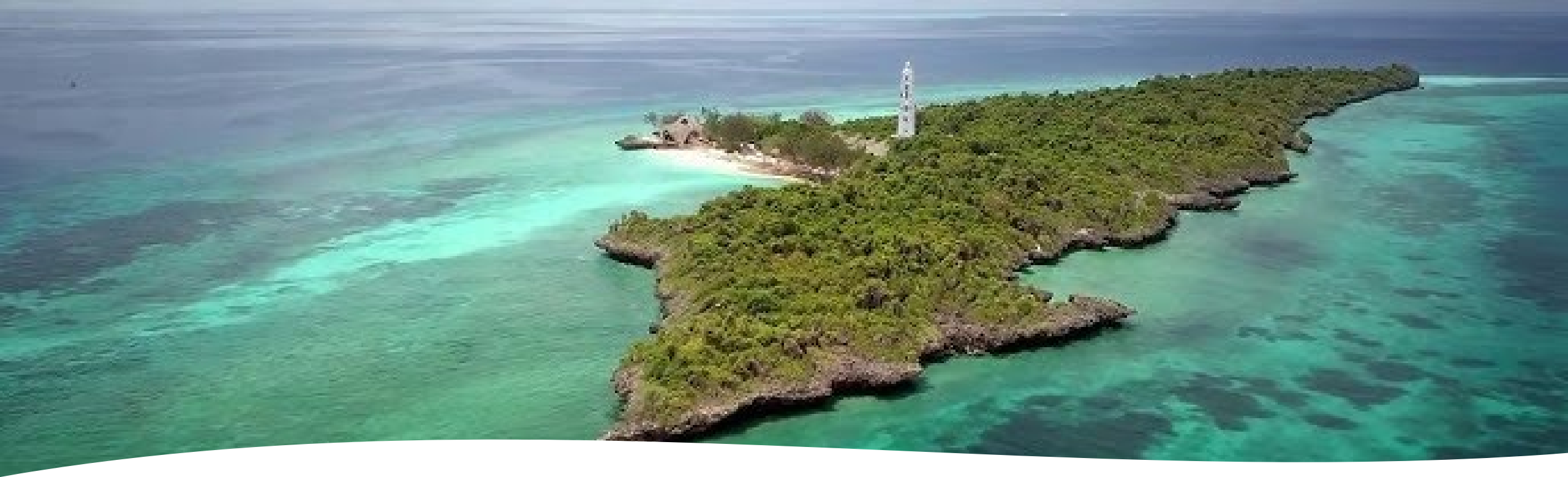
***Exploring the Current State of
Marine Conservation and the
Challenges Ahead***

Webinar on IMPAC6
14 May 2026

Arthur Tuda



www.wiomsa.org



Good News for the Ocean

10% of the Ocean Is Now Protected

- Historic global milestone
- Millions of km² newly designated
- Momentum growing for 30x30

...So why are we still worried?

The Uncomfortable Reality



10% protected...but achieved 6 years late

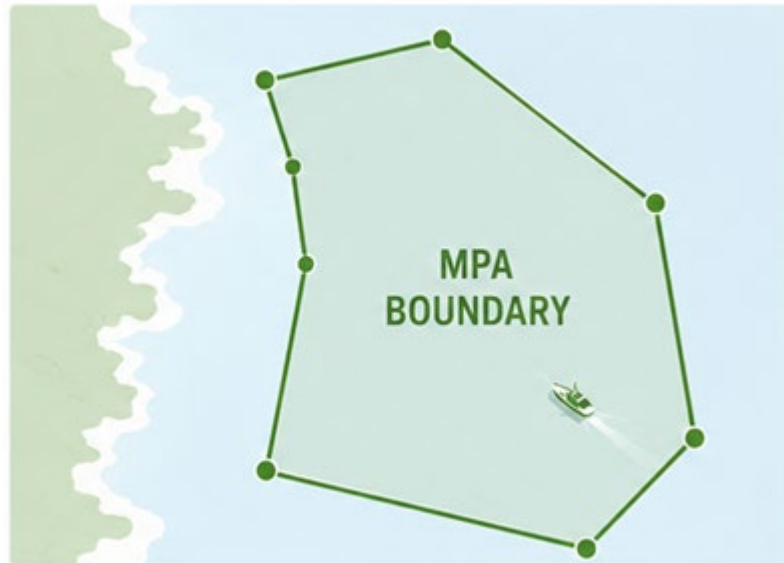
30 x30 by 2030...protection must triple

Less than 4% ...effectively managed

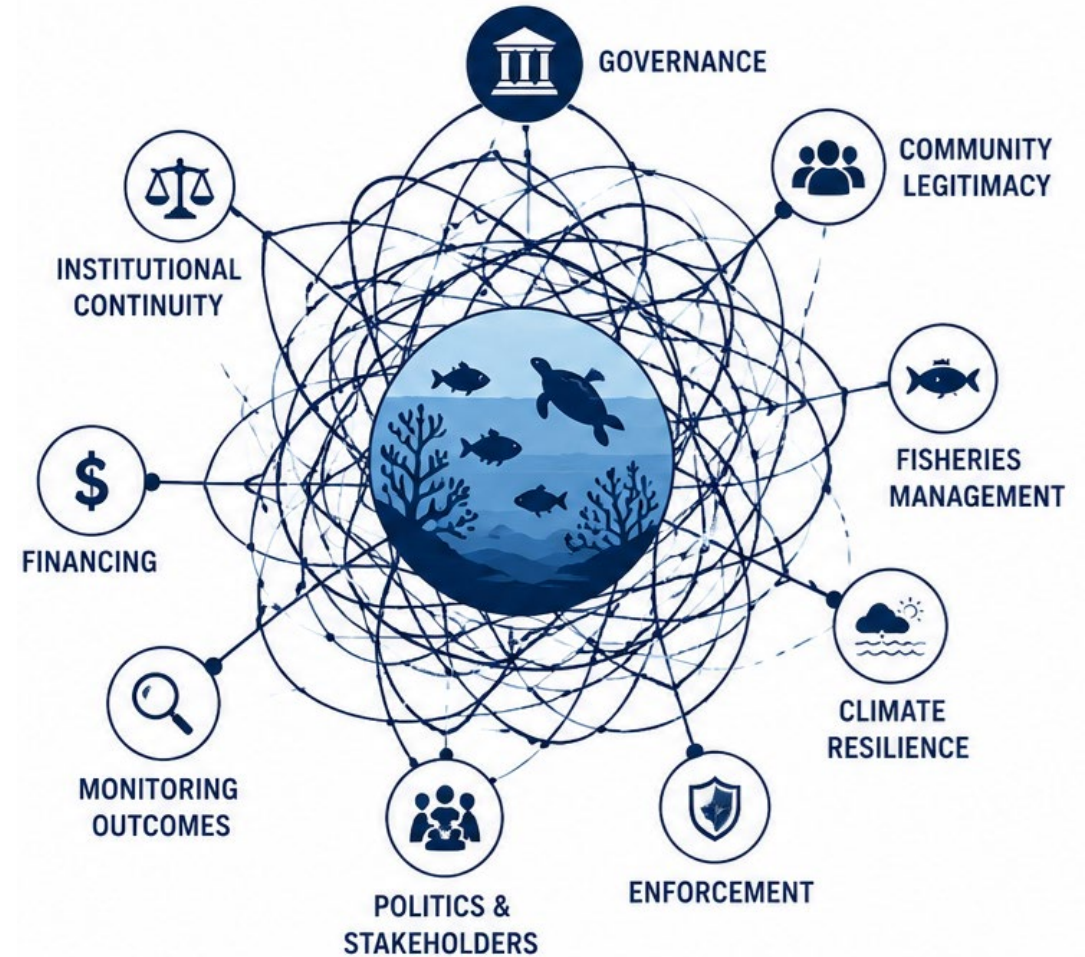
Political reversals are growing...protection can disappear overnight

Management effectiveness? Still largely

Protection is progressing ... let's do more for conservation



CONSERVATION IS THE HARD PART.



Not all MPAs are protecting nature.



REVIEW | [Open Access](#) |

Ocean protection quality is lagging behind quantity: Applying a scientific framework to assess real marine protected area progress against the 30 by 30 target

[Elizabeth P. Pike](#) , [Jessica M. C. MacCarthy](#), [Sarah O. Hameed](#), [Nikki Harasta](#), [Kirsten Gorud-Colvert](#), [Jenna Sullivan-Stack](#), [Joachim Claudet](#), [Barbara Horta e Costa](#), [Emanuel J. Gonçalves](#) ... [See all authors](#)

First published: 09 May 2024 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/conl.13020> | [VIEW METRICS](#)

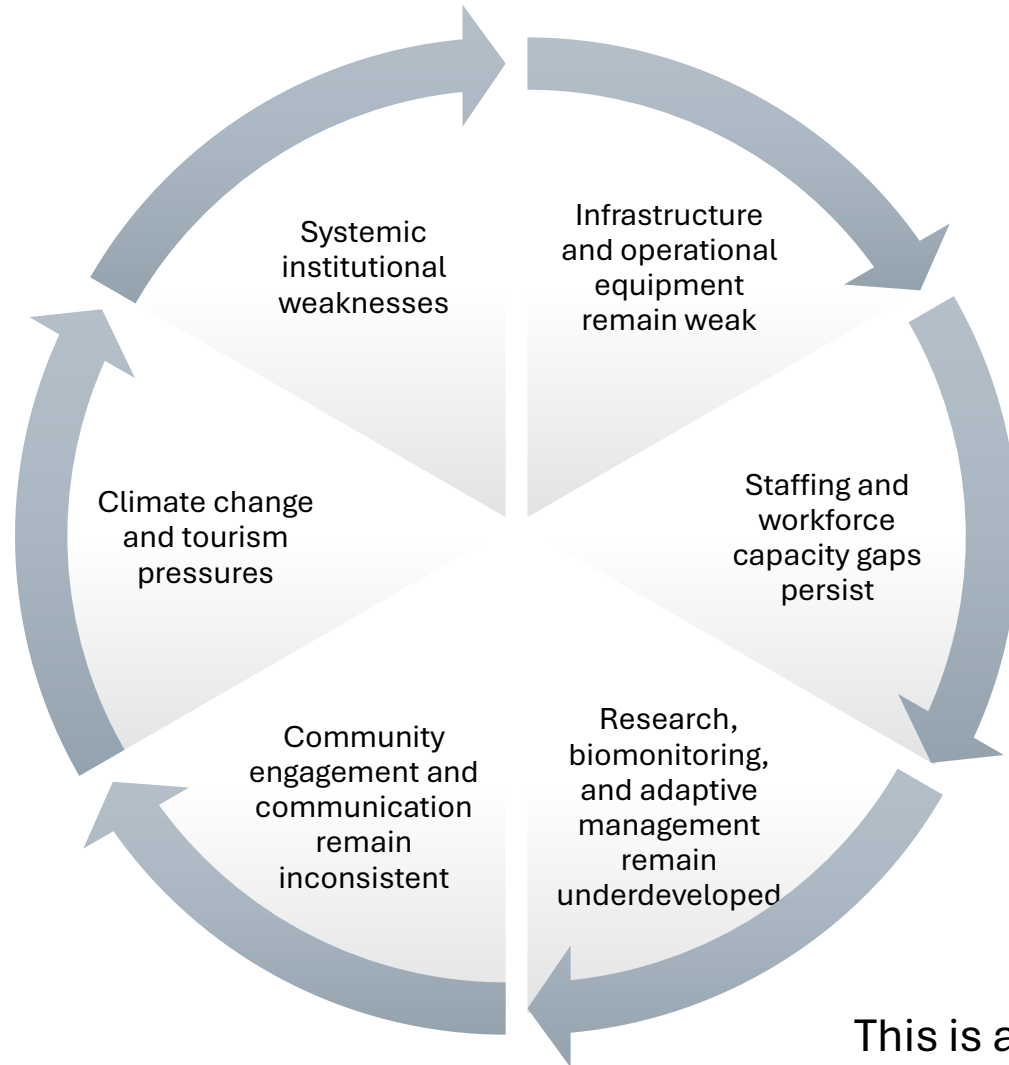
1 in 4 MPAs are not implemented

One-third allow activities incompatible with conservation



Persistent Marine Protected Area Management Problems

same problems after nearly a decade...analysis of 2015 and 2024



This is a systems problem



-  Somalia
-  Kenya
-  Tanzania
-  Mozambique
-  South Africa
-  Seychelles
-  Mauritius
-  Madagascar
-  Comoros
-  Réunion (France)

THE GLOBAL CONSERVATION TRAP



AREA

30x30
MPA coverage
km² protected
political announcements
maps



SYSTEMS



GOVERNANCE



FINANCING



WORKFORCE & CAPACITY



ENFORCEMENT & COMPLIANCE



COMMUNITY LEGITIMACY



MONITORING & DATA



INSTITUTIONS



CLIMATE RESILIENCE



POLITICAL STABILITY

WE MEASURE
AREA.

BUT ECOSYSTEMS
DEPEND ON
SYSTEMS.

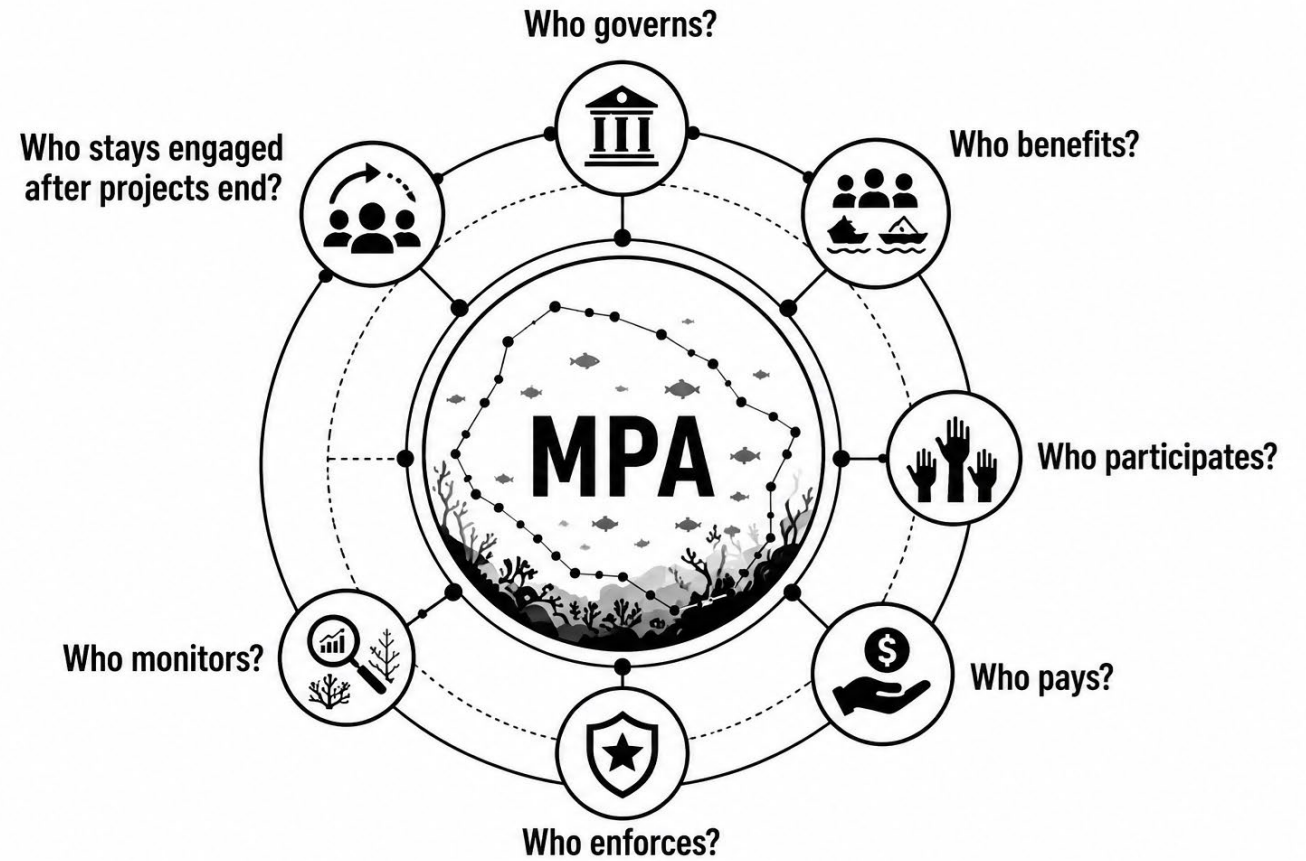
AND SYSTEMS
**ARE HARDER
TO BUILD.**

The Risk of Cherry-Picking Conservation

The GBF is broader than 30x30



The governance challenge



Who will actually manage 30x30?

- **30x30 is not only a spatial target.”**
- **“It is a human capacity challenge.**



Western Indian Ocean MPA Network



Building a Professional Workforce for Marine Conservation in the Western Indian Ocean Region

TRAIN addresses competency gaps and future skills

REFORM tackles institutional, governance, and financing structures that determine long-term effectiveness

RETAIN strengthens HR systems, career pathways, and leadership pipelines

So What Must Change Before 2030?

Effectiveness

Legitimacy

Systems...

3 years and 7 months





**What Is IMPAC6
Really About?**

An opportunity to ask difficult questions.

Thank you

