

Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCPP) in numbers

Madagascar

September 2026

The OCPP programme provided tailored support in Madagascar to help manage the marine environment more sustainably. This included strengthening marine science expertise, developing science-based policy and management tools, and creating education resources for coastal communities.

Seeking long-term change to Madagascar's marine environment

The overarching intended impact for OCPP was to deliver activities which supported partner countries to effectively manage human activities that place pressure on the marine environment and ensure that all of their citizens can benefit from its long-term sustainable use.

The OCPP identified the following areas in which the programme could deliver change in the way these issues were addressed in Madagascar through the generation and use of scientific knowledge to better inform policymaking and action:

- **Marine knowledge and capacity:** providing expertise towards sustainable marine ecosystem science and better marine environment monitoring.
- **Policies and guidelines:** supporting the creation of evidence-informed policies, frameworks and plans for sustainable marine ecosystem management, governance and budgeting.
- **Education and awareness:** piloting models and approaches towards community engagement and raising awareness on marine-related topics.
- **Networks and partnerships:** supporting cross-learning and innovation through networks and partnerships.

The programme supported a number of stakeholders to achieve these objectives. These included:

- Government ministries and national agencies responsible for marine and environmental governance
- Local and international NGOs and conservation organisations
- Academic and research institutions
- Regional and international partners

OCPP in Madagascar demonstrated consideration of **Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI)** in 2025 with the completion of a thematic GESI analysis and in delivery of their work in the following areas:

- Biodiversity
- Capacity building
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and support for the 30x30 Ocean Action Plan
- Education awareness
- Biodiversity policy

Funding for OCPP was provided through the overarching Blue Planet Fund (BPF) by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). OCPP was delivered by three British government Arm's Length Bodies (ALBs): the Centre for the Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO).

More information on OCPP can be found at:

[DevTracker Programme GB-GOV-7-BPFOCPP Documents](#)

The data shown covers OCPP activities between 2023–2026 only.

Key achievements in delivery

Outcome

The programme supported the implementation of best practice standards for Mendhoo Marine Protected Area (MPA) Compliance and Enforcement. MPA managers at Baa Atoll have been using the camera installed by OCPP as a pilot. As a result of this work, compliance with the MPA regulation has increased significantly, reducing the number of illegal landings on the uninhabited island by around 90%, and therefore reducing the risk of disturbance to nesting turtles and other flora and fauna at the site.

Furthermore, OCPP trained observers are now deployed on fishing vessels. Returns and reports are submitted by observers to the Regional Fisheries Management Organisation and review in ongoing engagement with the Malagasy fisheries department.

Madagascar National Parks have implemented the Seagrass Monitoring Protocol during their regular surveys in later 2025 and have shared the dataset attached confirming their regular monitoring activities are ongoing.

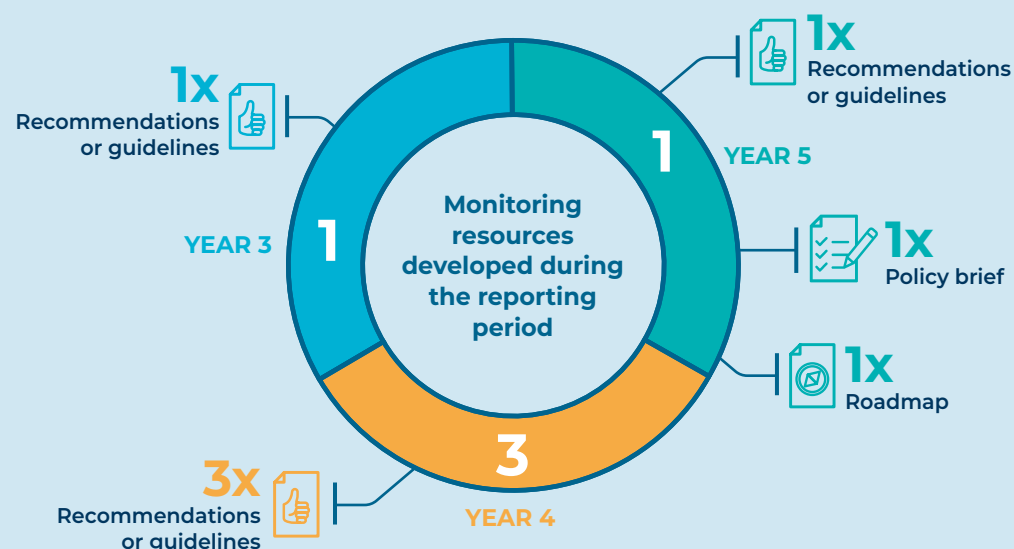
Marine knowledge and capacity

The programme worked to strengthen the capacity and capability of Malagasy stakeholders in marine science, management and governance. Of those surveyed 95% of participants reported increased knowledge and capacity.



Policies and guidelines

In Madagascar, the programme proposed or developed policy and regulatory recommendations. 86% of the products developed were reported to have included a consultation process.



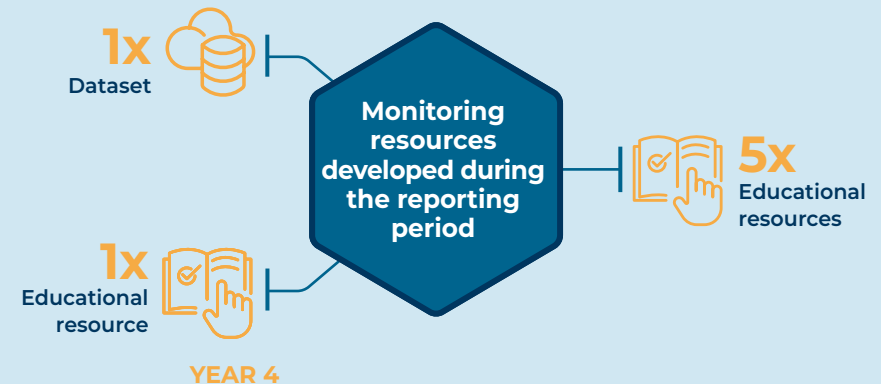
CASE STUDY

A Vessel Traffic Analysis was finalised in March 2024 with findings presented to key stakeholders. The analysis looked at vessel activity in Madagascar's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) which spans over 1,140,000 square kilometres. The EEZ provides significant opportunities for Madagascar if regulated and managed equitably.



Education and awareness

The OCPP took steps to enhance education, awareness and the exchange of scientific, technical knowledge and data in Madagascar on a variety of topics concerning the marine environment.



Networks and partnerships

The OCPP worked with the Government of Madagascar to develop and support active ocean-science related knowledge networks and partnerships – either as UK-partner country or in-country coalitions.

CASE STUDY

In September 2024 the Western Indian Ocean Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMAs) Forum was established. LMMAs are ocean areas managed by coastal communities to protect fisheries, safeguard marine biodiversity and support local livelihoods. The forum seeks to bring together LMMAs managers and practitioners from across the Western Indian Ocean region to engage in knowledge exchange, foster regional collaboration, and strengthen the collective capacity for locally-led marine conservation.