DAVID O. OBURA, Ph.D.

Coral Reefs, Oceans Climate Resilience/Adaptation - Evolution/biogeography Management and policy for sustainability at scale Coastal Oceans Research and Development in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO East Africa) P.O.BOX 10135, Mombasa 80101, Kenya Tel: +254-715 067417 dobura@cordioea.net; <u>www.cordioea.net</u> Skype/twitter: dobura Nationality: Kenya

Personal mission – as an individual and scientist with a passion for oceans and biodiversity, and bridging the developing and developed worlds, to play my part in moving people, organizations and countries to greater sustainability.

Principal research interests and application to policy and management:

	Research/research support	Application to policy & management	Strategy, outreach and innovation
Corals, reefs & climate	Coral and reef ecological resilience, reef recovery dynamics, coral life history strategies and climate change impacts.	Hazard forecasting related to short term climate variability, building adaptive capacity, planning for regional scale conservation and management.	I participate in multiple ocean fora and working groups, principally at regional and global levels, providing an African and developing country perspective on biodiversity, nature conservation, sustainability and development issues.
Evolution & biogeography	Evolutionary history and biogeography of corals and coral reefs in the western and northern Indian Ocean.	Regional scale planning for marine conservation and sustainable use of marine natural resources.	Being a science and sustainability communicator on coral reefs and oceans, I increasingly play a role in bridging gaps and building partnerships for large scale and long term conservation.
Livelihoods & adaptation	Resourceuse,perceptionsandsustainability in relationto climate variability andchange.	Building capacity for adaptation to climate change to enhance food and livelihood security.	The increasingly complex and pressing social and ecological issues require innovations in thought and practice, and harnessing the power of ICT and big data, my 'near future' in personal and professional development.

These are implemented through the following roles and collaborations

CORDIO	1999 to date. Founding Director of CORDIO East Africa. CORDIO's activities include primary research, monitoring and coordinating partners in studies on the implications of coral bleaching and mortality on coral reef biophysical and socio-economic parameters, biogeography of coral reef species, fish ecology and reef fisheries, and using this knowledge in conservation planning, fundraising, and capacity building for coral reef science in the Western Indian Ocean. CORDIO is a member of the Consortium of NGOs for the Conservation of the Western Indian
	Ocean (<u>www.wio-c.org</u>). We are the smallest member, and the only one that is purely regional and focused on ocean research and conservation. As the Founding Director of the organization, I use this as a strong platform for engagement in regional marine issues, such as under the Nairobi Convention (the Regional Seas convention) and in relation to countries and national and international partners.
IUCN	 International Union for the Conservation of Nature: 2008-present. Commissions – Chair, Coral Specialist Group and Member, Marine Conservation Sub-Committee (MCSC), Species Survival Commission. 2006-2012. Programme – Chair, Working Group on Climate Change and Coral Reefs. Global Marine Programme. 1999 to present – East Africa Marine programme – partner and contributing member,. Membership – CORDIO East Africa is a member since 2008.
High Level Panels and Working Groups	 2014-2017. Steering Committee, bioDISCOVERY (FutureEarth/DIVERSITAS), 3 yr appointment. 2014-ongoing. GOOS BioEco – Global Ocean Observing System Biodiversity and Ecosystems Panel. 2014- ongoing. MPA Action Group, a grouping of NGOs and Foundations aligning messages and communications to support MPA expansion and enhancement globally, led by WWF Netherlands, Adessium Foundation.

	 2013-2014. Global Partnership for Oceans Blue Ribbon Panel, to identify principle and criteria for investments for the GPO. See https://globalpartnershipforoceans.org/ 2012-ongoing. GEOBON Oceans working group (#5). 2005-2009. World Bank-GEF – Coral Reef Targeted Research and Capacity Building project. Member of the Bleaching Working Group.
Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA), Kiribati	2000 ongoing, Senior Research Associate, Global Marine Programs, New England Aquarium, USA. Chief scientist on coral reef and marine biodiversity surveys of the Phoenix Islands leading to designation of the 2 nd largest MPA and largest World Heritage site in the world, and endowment funding for conservation.
Kwetu Training Centre	<i>Board member since 2000.</i> Chairman of the Board 2007-2015. A non-profit-making NGO providing training and applied research on sustainable livelihoods in rural coastal areas.

Education and employment

Academic	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Univ. of Miami, USA, 1995. Division of Marine Biology and
	Fisheries, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science (RSMAS). Dissertation
	title: Environmental Stress and Life History Strategies, a Case Study of Corals and River
	Sediment in Malindi, Kenya. Advisor: Dr. Peter W. Glynn.
	Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) with Honours, Harvard University, USA, 1989. Biology Department.
	Thesis with Highest Honours.
	International Baccalaureate (Distinction). Lester B. Pearson United World College of the Pacific.
	1983-85. CIDA fellowship.
Past positions	2006-09. Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Biological and Chemical Sciences (Centre for
	Marine Studies), University of Queensland. Brisbane, Australia.
	1997–98. Research Fellow, Coral Reef Conservation Program, Mombasa, Kenya
	1995–96. Senior Conservation Associate, New England Aquarium, Boston, USA
Awards	2007. Fellow of the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association

Experience

 Principal projects (current)
 2009 ongoing. Northern Mozambique Channel Initiative. Strategic Advisor with WWF (since 2014) leading the development of a regional initiative for sustainable use and development based on valuation and management of core assets. For CORDIO, this project grew out of a research project "Is there a Western Indian Ocean "coral triangle?" funded by the WIOMSA Marine Science for Management programme (2008-11), leading to close engagement with the WWF Madagascar and Western Indian Ocean Islands programme (MWIOPO) and WWF International's Global Marine Programme (www.cordioea.net/nmc). Northern Mozambique Channel initiative.

 2015 area project
 Corput Deef Manitering Network (CORMN). Strategic leadership bringing.

2015 ongoing. Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN): Strategic leadership bringing together four main constituencies to strengthen global reporting on coral reef health: the coral reef conservation and monitoring community (ICRI/GCRMN); the biodiversity management and conservation community (represented by the IUCN members and commissions); the coral reef science community (ICRS/ISRS) and the global observation science community (GOOS /GEOBON). A 4-year action plan (2017-2020) is being developed in 2016, to identify how to bring these communities together and build commitment for concerted action to report on Aichi Target 10, and thereafter, on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network in the Western Indian Ocean (GCRMN-WIO): Ongoing consultancies (2013 to present) with the Indian Ocean Commission ISLANDS and Biodiversity projects, to support regional capacity and coordination for coral reef monitoring. Primary output will be a regional GCRMN report for the WIO, in 2016.

Coral reef resilience and health. Science to management, measuring resilience, advice to management partners and NGO/INGOs, Marine Spatial Planning. Multiple projects in which CORDIO is a partner (Kenya, Djibouti, Mozambique Channel countries), with IUCN, ICRAF (International Centre for Research in Agroforestry) and IRD (Institute for Research for Development, France).

Coral bleaching forecasting for the Western Indian Ocean. Principal investigator, CORDIO, and developing partnership with WIOMSA, UNESCO-IOC, IGAD-GHACOF, SERVIR Africa.

	Adapting to climate change – coping with short term climate variability through seasonal forecasting of climate-related hazards, and use of climate adaptation information in Local Government. CORDIO, CSIR (South Africa), Kenya Meteorological Dept, U. of Cape Town and other partners. WIOMSA-MASMA.
Science to policy and manage- ment (Climate change, reef resilience)	 For indication of past projects, see publications list 2011-ongoing. Marine World Heritage. An ongoing role with the Marine Programme of UNESCO's World Heritage Centre and IUCN's World Heritage programme, starting with a study of potential marine World Heritage sites in the Western Indian Ocean, author of IUCN thematic guidance on expanding marine World Heritage globally, and advisory/contributor role in projects on mWH in the Arctic and the High Seas 2011 June. ASCLME/SWIOFP (Agulhas-Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems project/South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project) Science to Governance workshop, South Africa. 2011 June. WIOMSA COMPASS Resource person in MPA managers course/accreditation. 2010 May. UNEP/HABITAT Cities and climate change project. Climate change sensitisation workshop for Mombasa Municipal Council. 2009 July. Royal Society/Zoological Society of London/IPSO – expert meeting and statement on "The coral reef crisis: addressing the threats of climate change & ocean acidification" 2009 January. Regional Consultation Meeting on the Development of the Global Climate Change Adaptation Network In Africa. UNEP Nairobi. 2009-ongoing – Reef resilience training. Participation in The Nature Conservancy-led managers training and capacity building in using resilience principles in management (technical role, workshops in Kenya, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Zanzibar). 2008 Jotober – IUCN Conservation Forum and Congress. Three forum sessions on reef resilience, management and climate change, and drafting of IUCN Resolution 4.080 "Mobilizing action to build resilience and assist adaptation to climate change of coral reefs and marine ecosystems and people that depend on them" 2008 January. Madagascar national vulnerability assessment for marine and terrestrial biodiversity. WWF-US and Conservation International, funded by Macarthur Foundation. 2006 November. IUCN Delegation
	 ecosystems and fisheries. Conservation International. Tananarive, Madagascar 2006 April. GBIF conference. Climate change impacts on African tropical marine biodiversity – Cape Town, South Africa. 2005 October. Climate change impacts on tropical marine biodiversity - current trends and potential scenarios for scleractinian corals. Climate Change & Biodiversity in Africa. Royal Society/Natural History Museum/South African National Biodiversity Institute. 2003 October. Resilience, coral bleaching and MPA design. Plenary address, WIOMSA Third Scientific Symposium, 15th - 18th October 2003. Maputo, Mozambique 2003 October. World Parks Congress, IUCN, Durban, South Africa. Two Sessions: 1) Adaptive responses for nature conservation to climate change: Linkages in the Landscape; 2) Building
	protection of bleaching resistant sites into MPA networks: The Next 20 Years and Beyond: Incorporating Resilience into MPA Design and Management.
Science-policy communications	 2015. GEOBON Book chapter - Methods for the observation of marine biodiversity 2013-14. World Ocean Assessment, contributing author to Chapters 34 and 35 2013-14. Western Indian Ocean State of the Coast report, Chapters 29-33 2011. GEO-5 Report: Contributing Author for Chapter 2: Options for Africa 2007. State of the Environment, Coast, Kenya. Member of core team. 2006. IPCC. Expert reviewer - WGII Fourth Assessment report 2006. GEO-4 Report. Peer reviewer – Global Environment Outlook report.
Community-	 2002-3. GIWA (Global International Waters Assessment) 2002-3 – member of Somali Coastal Current subregion team. 2011. Biodiversity and natural resource monitoring. Community Conservation Areas project with

based research and action, raising awareness and adult education	 East African Wildlife Society. Darwin Initiative. 2007-10. Development of participatory adult education model combined with capacity building for sustainable livelihoods and ICT4D. SPIDER, Sweden. 2007-9. Kuruwitu Conservation Area. Technical support, natural resource monitoring. 2001 – ongoing. SocMon WIO - support to development and implementation of the Socioeconomic monitoring programme of the western Indian Ocean, with NOAA/SocMon global/GCRMN. 1999-2006. Participatory monitoring of fisheries, Diani-Chale area, Kenya. CORDIO
	1997-98. Participatory monitoring and indigenous knowledge mapping, south coast, Kenya. MacArthur Foundation/AAAS
Methods and manuals	 2014. Coral reef monitoring manual for the SW Indian Ocean islands Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network 2009. A Framework for Social Adaptation to Climate Change, combining elements of the SocMon programme and social-ecological resilience concepts. IUCN working group on Climate Change and Coral Reefs. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland (Marshall et al. 2009) 2007-9. Resilience Assessment of coral reefs. An assessment protocol for coral reefs, focusing on coral bleaching and thermal stress. IUCN working group on Climate Change and Coral Reefs. IUCN, working group on Climate Change and Coral Reefs. IUCN working group on Climate Change and Coral Reefs. IUCN working group on Climate Change and Coral Reefs. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland. Obura, D.O. and Grimsditch, G. (2009). www.iucn.org/cccr/publications. 70 pages. ISBN: 978-2-8317-1151-5
	2005. Manual and guidelines for assessing Tsunami Damage to Coral Reefs. International Coral Reef Initiative/International Society for Reef Studies
Environmental Appraisals/ Impact Assessments	 Critical appraisals 2015. Independent review of EIA for Lamu Port development, 1st phase (LAPSSET Corridor project). EIA on the first 3 berths of the Lamu Port, conducted by HezTech Engineering Services for the Ministry of Transport, February 2013. Expert witness in High Court Case brought by Save Lamu/Katiba Institute. 2015. Independent review of EIA for Sand Harvesting on coral reefs, Kwale County. EIA conducted by Africa Waste and Environment Management Centre for the China Road and Bridge Corporation, March 2015. 2014-5. Independent review and expert witness of Whale Shark Adventures/Seaquarium EIA on capture and captivity of whale sharks at Tiwi, Kenya. Critique contributed to rejection of
	 EIA. Expert witness in ongoing National Environment Tribunal (Kenya) case. 2013. Contributor, evaluation of the EIA for Anadarko/ENI on natural gas mining and an onshore plant in Palma Bay, northern Mozambique. Led by IUCN. 2009. Expert witness of Blazer Watamu development plans, to National Environment Tribunal, Kenya. Critique contributed to revocation of EIA licence.
	 EIA leader 2011 Project leader, East African Wildlife Society. EIA of Community Conservation Area management plans. 2007-11 East Africa Submarine Cable project (EASSy), TEAMS and LION2 submarine cable projects, Telkom Kenya. 1999 Baseline Ecological surveys and EIA of TIOMIN Resources Inc., Kenya. Coast Environment Services, South Africa 1997 Mombasa Wastewater Ocean Outfall–Environmental Assessment. World Bank. 1994–95 Rapid Biodiversity Resource Appraisal, Canberra. World Bank–GEF\AusAID.
Student supervision	 Obed Matundura; MSc; University of Nairobi, Kenya. 2015-16; co-supervisor; climate Benjamin Cowburn; PhD; Oxford University; UK; 2012-ongoing; co-supervisor; Biological Juliet Furaha; PhD; Academia Sinica; Taiwan; 2012-ongoing; co-supervisor; Biological Estelle Crochelet; PhD; Univ. of Reunion. 2015. Thesis reviewer; Biological. Josphine Mutiso; Masters; Pwani University; Kenya;2013-ongoing; co-supervisor; Biological Innocent Wanyonyi; PhD; Kalmar University; Sweden; 2009-ongoing; co-supervisor; Biological Sander den Haring; PhD; James Cook University; Australia; 2013; co-supervisor; Social Oscar Henrikson; PhD; Stockholm University; Sweden; 2011; support; Biological Michael Olendo; Masters; VLIR; Belguim; 2009; co-promoter; Biological

- 10. Sarah Ater; Masters; Newcaslte University; UK; 2008; support; Social
- 11. Cosmas Munga; Masters; VLIR; Belguim; 2008; co-promoter; Biological
- 12. Juliet Furaha; Masters; Moi University; Kenya; 2008; co-supervisor; Biological
- 13. Stephen Mangi; PhD; York University; UK; 2008; support; Biological
- 14. Petra Souter; PhD; Stockholm University; Sweden; 2007; support; Biological
- 15. Sangeeta Mangubhai; PhD; Southern Cross University; Australia; 2006; support; Biological
- 16. Shakil Visram; PhD; York University; UK; 2006; support; Biological
- 17. Innocent Wanyonyi; Masters; Newcaslte University; UK; 2005; support; Social
- 18. Rennatus Mdodo; Masters; University of Georgia; USA; 2000; support; Biological

Regions	Indian Ocean – Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Seychelles, Comoros, Mayotte, Scattered
•	Islands (France), Madagascar, South Africa, St. Brandons island, Chagos, Myanmar.
	Red Sea/Gulf of Aden – Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Somaliland.
	Pacific Ocean – Kiribati (Phoenix Islands, Line Islands), Fiji, Galapagos islands (Ecuador).
Survey and	2016 Mayotte and Europa, French territories and Iles Eparses in the Mozambique Channel (IR
research	SIREME project)
expeditions	2015 Quirimbas archipelago, northern Mozambique. Reef health assessments for Our Seas
	Our Life project (w. Zoological Society of London and Fauna and Flora International).
	2015 Pate/Lamu archipelago, Kenya. With The Nature Conservancy/Northern Rangelands
	Trust – Coast. Reef resilience and status in support of Community Conservation Areas.
	2014 Djibouti. Coral reef assessment for seascape conservation planning.
	2014 Myeik Archipelago, Myanmar, with Fauna and Flora International. Coral diversity and
	resilience assessment.
	2014 Pristine Seas/National Geographic expedition to Inhambane/Bazaruto, Mozambique
	2014 SeaKeys expedition to Sodwana Bay reefs, iSimangaliso Wetland Park, South Africa.
	2011 Quirimbas archipelago to Nacala, northern Mozambique. CORDIO/WIOMSA program on
	the WIO center of diversity.
	2011 Scattered Islands (Mozambique Channel – Glorieuse & Tromelin), France. Resilience
	assessments and coral biogeography.
	2010 Tara Oceans, coral reef resilience scientist - Djibouti, St. Brandons (Mauritius), Mayotte.
	2010 Conservation International Marine Rapid Assessment and Climate resilience study of
	northeastern Madagascar. Lead scientist. Conservation International.
	2009 Southern Line Islands, Kiribati. Invited expert, National Geographic Society.
	2009 Farquhar atoll, resilience assessment. National Geographic Society.
	2008 Climate change vulnerability surveys of the Nosy Hara marine park, northwestern
	Madagascar. WWF Madagascar
	2008 Saudi Arabian Red Sea. Living Oceans Foundation.
	2008 Seychelles resilience assessments. Aldabra atoll, Amirantes group. IUCN/ICS
	2007, 2009 Climate change vulnerability surveys of the Mafia Island Marine Park and
	Songosongo archipelago, Tanzania. WWF/GEF.
	2006 Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean
	2005 Northern Line Islands, Kiribati/USA. Invited expert, Scripps Institution of Oceanography.
	2005 Mayotte, GIS/Lag-May expedition to western barrier.
	2005 Seychelles - Tsunami impact assessment, UNEP/IUCN/CORDIO.
	2004 Mafia Island Marine Park. Coral biodiversity surveys, WWF Tanzania.
	2003 Mnazi Bay Marine Park, Tanzania. Baseline ecological surveys. IUCN/TMPRU
	2003 Pemba, Mozambique. Coral biodiverity surveys, CORDIO.
	2002 Cosmoledo atoll, Seychelles. CORDIO/ICS/Environment Dept, Seychelles
	2000, 2002, 2005 & 2009. Phoenix Islands, Kiribati. Establishing and leading the development
	of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area (PIPA), and the PIPA Science programme.
	1998-2007 (annual). Kiunga Marine Reserve, Kenya, WWF and Kenya Wildlife Service.
	1998 Djibouti. IUCN
	1998 Masoala Peninsula, Wildlife Conservation Society
	1997 Saad ed Din islands, Somaliland. IUCN
	1996 Galapagos Marine Survey #2.

1996 Galapagos Marine Survey #2.

Languages

English (fluent); French (working); Swahili, Spanish (basic)

Publications

Policy documents (high level)

- 1. Obura, D. et al. 2016. Reviving the Western Indian Ocean Economy: Implementing the SDGs to sustain a healthy ocean economy. WWF International, Gland, Switzerland.
- Obura DO, Burgener V, Ralison HO, Scheren P, Nuñes P, Samoilys M, Waruinge D, & John Tanzer J (2016) The Northern Mozambique Channel – a capitals approach to a Blue Economy future. IN: Handbook on the Economics and Management for Sustainable Oceans. Editors: Lisa Emelia Svansson, Paulo A.L.D. Nunes, Pushpam Kumar and Anil Markandya. Publisher: Edward Elgar Publishing (UK).
- 3. Freestone, D. et al. (2016) World Heritage in the High Seas: An Idea Whose Time Has Come. World Heritage Centre reports, #44, United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). ISBN 978-92-3-100159-8. 79 pp.
- Hoegh-Guidberg O. et al. (2013) Indispensable Ocean. Aligning ocean health and human well-being. Guidance from the Blue Ribbon Panel to the Global Partnership for Oceans
- Abdulla, A., Obura, D., Bertzky, B. and Shi, Y. (2013). Marine Natural Heritage and the World Heritage List: Interpretation of World Heritage criteria in marine systems, analysis of biogeographic representation of sites, and a roadmap for addressing gaps. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland
- Obura, D.O., Church, J.E. and Gabrié, C. (2012). Assessing Marine World Heritage from an Ecosystem Perspective: The Western Indian Ocean. World Heritage Centre, United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). 124 pp.

Peer reviewed

- Costello M.J., Basher Z., McLeod L., Asaad I., Claus S., Vandepitte L., Yasuhara M., Gislason H., Edwards M., Appeltans W., Enevoldsen H., Edgar G.J., Miloslavich P., De Monte S., Pinto I.S., Obura DO, & Bates A.E. (2016) Methods for the Study of Marine Biodiversity. The GEO Handbook on Biodiversity Observation Networks (ed. by M. Walters and R.J. Scholes), pp. 129–163. Springer International Publishing, Cham.
- Obura, D. O. (2016), An Indian Ocean centre of origin revisited: Palaeogene and Neogene influences defining a biogeographic realm. Journal of Biogeography. 43:229–242 doi: 10.1111/jbi.12656.
- Crochelet E, Roberts J, Lagabrielle E, Obura DO, Petit M (2016) A model-based assessment of reef larvae dispersal in the Western Indian Ocean reveals regional connectivity patterns – Potential implications for conservation policies. DOI: 10.1016/j.rsma.2016.06.007
- Smith JE, Brainard R, Carter A, Grillo S, Edwards C, Harris J, Lewis L, Obura DO, Rohwer F, Sala E, Vroom PS & Sandin S. (2016) Re-evaluating the health of coral reef communities: baselines and evidence for human impacts across the central Pacific. Proc. R. Soc. B 283: 20151985. http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2015.1985
- Macharia D, Grimsditch G, Abdulla A, and Obura D. (2016) Mapping Factors That Contribute to Coral Reef Resilience Using In situ and Satellite Data in East Africa. In: S. Diop et al. (eds.), Estuaries: A Lifeline of Ecosystem Services in the Western Indian Ocean, Estuaries of the World, DOI 10.1007/978-3-319-25370-1_16. Pp. 259-277
- 12. Snelgrove, Paul, & 28 others (incl. D. Obura) (2016) Global Patterns in Marine Biodiversity. In: The First Global Integrated Marine Assessment - World Ocean Assessment). Chapter 34. (Coordinators) Lorna Inniss and Alan Simcock The Group of Experts of the Regular Process. C. United Nations. http://www.un. org/Depts/los/global_reporting/WOA_Reg Process.htm
- Miloslavich, Patricia & 41 others (incl. D. Obura) (2016) Extent of Assessment of Marine Biological Diversity. In: The First Global Integrated Marine Assessment - World Ocean Assessment I). Chapter 35. (Coordinators) Lorna Inniss and Alan Simcock The

Group of Experts of the Regular Process. C. United Nations. http://www.un.org/Depts/los/global_reporting/WOA_RegProcess.ht

- Chabanet P., Bigot L., Nicet J.B., Durville P., Massé L., Mulochau T., Russo C., Tessier E., & Obura D.O. (2015) Coral reef monitoring in the lles Eparses, Mozambique Channel (2011-2013). Acta Oecologica, 1–10.
- 15. Obura DO, Burgener V, Ralison HO, Scheren P, Nuñes P, Samoilys M, Waruinge D, & John Tanzer J (in review) The Northern Mozambique Channel – a capitals approach to a Blue Economy future. IN: Handbook on the Economics and Management for Sustainable Oceans. Editors: Lisa Emelia Svansson, Paulo A.L.D. Nunes, Pushpam Kumar and Anil Markandya. Publisher: Edward Elgar Publishing (UK).
- Facon, M., Pinault, M., Obura, D., Pioch, S., Pothin, K., Bigot, L., Garnier, R., Quod, J.P. (2015). A comparative study of the accuracy and effectiveness of Line and Point Intercept Transect methods for coral reef monitoring in the southwestern Indian Ocean islands. Ecological Indicators.
- Curnick D.J., Head C.E.I., Huang D., Crabbe M.J.C., Gollock M., hoeksema B.W., Johnson K.G., Jones R., Koldewey H.J., Obura D.O., Rosen B.R., Smith D.J., Taylor M.L., Turner J.R., Wren S., & Redding D.W. (2015) Setting evolutionary-based conservation priorities for a phylogenetically data-poor taxonomic group (Scleractinia). Animal Conservation, doi:10.1111/acv.12185.
- Rotjan R, Jamieson R, Carr B, Kaufman L, Mangubhai S, Obura DO, et al. (2014) Establishment, Management, and Maintenance of the Phoenix Islands Protected Area. Advances in Marine Biology. Advances in Marine Biology. Elsevier, Vol. 69. pp. 289–324. doi:10.1016/B978-0-12-800214-8.00008-6.
- Abdulla A., Obura D.O., Brtsky B., & Shi Y. (2014) Marine World Heritage: creating a globally more balanced and representative list. Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems, 24, 59–74.
- Anthony, KRN, PA Marshall, A Abdullah, R Beeden, C Bergh, R Black, M Eakin, ET Game, M Gooch, NAJ Graham, A Green, S Heron, R van Hooidonk, C Knowland, S Mangubhai, N Marshall, JA Maynard, P McGinnity, E McLeod, PJ. Mumby, M Nyström, DO Obura, J Oliver, HP. Possingham, B Pressey, GP Rowlands, J Tamelander, D Wachenfeld, S Wear. (2014) Operationalizing resilience for adaptive coral reef management under global environmental change. Global Change Biology (2014), doi: 10.1111/gcb.12700
- Sale PF, Agardy T, Ainsworth CH, Feist BE, Bell JD, & 20 others. (2014) Transforming management of tropical coastal seas to cope with challenges of the 21st century. Marine Pollution Bulletin: 1–16. doi:10.1016/j.marpolbul.2014.06.005
- Gamoyo N, Reason C & Obura D (2014) Rainfall variability over the East African coast. Theor Appl Climatol. DOI 10.1007/s00704-014-1171-6
- Friedlander AM, Obura D, Aumeeruddy R, Ballesteros E, Church J, et al. (2014) Coexistence of Low Coral Cover and High Fish Biomass at Farquhar Atoll, Seychelles. PLoS ONE 9(1): e87359. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0087359
- Hatakka M, Ater S, Obura DO, Mibei B (2014) Capability outcomes from educational and ICT capability inputs – an analysis of ICT use in informal education in Kenya. EJISDC 61, 1, 1-17
- Mangubhai S, Strauch AM, Obura DO, Stone G, Rotjan RD (2013) Short-term changes of fish assemblages observed in the near-pristine reefs of the Phoenix Islands. Rev Fish Biol Fisheries. DOI 10.1007/s11160-013-9327-5
- Keshavmurthy S, Yang S-Y, Alamaru A, Chuang Y-Y, Pichon M, Obura DO, et al. (2013) DNA barcoding reveals the coral "laboratory-rat," Stylophora pistillata encompasses multiple identities. Sci Rep 3: 1520. doi:10.1038/srep01520.
- Pereira H.M., et al. (incl. D. Obura) (2013) Essential Biodiversity Variables. Science (339), 277-278. [DOI:10.1126/science.1229931]
- Obura D (2012) Coral reefs and society—finding a balance? ORX 46: 467–468. doi:10.1017/S0030605312001081.
- 29. Obura, DO (2012) The diversity and biogeography of Western Indian Ocean reef-building corals. PLOS ONE.
- http://dx.plos.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0045013.

- Obura, DO (2012) Evolutionary mechanisms and diversity in a western Indian Ocean center of diversity. Proceedings of the 12th International Coral Reef Symposium, Cairns, Australia, 9-13 July 2012. Session 3A Evolution, biogeography and taxonomy. 6 pp.
- 31. Sheppard CRC, Ateweberhan, B W Bowen, P Carr, C A Chen, C Clubbe, M T Craig, R Ebinghaus, J Eble, N Fitzsimmons, M R Gaither, C-H Gan, M Gollock, N Guzman, N A J Graham, A Harris, R Jones, S Keshavmurthy, H Koldewey, C G Lundin, J A Mortimer, D O Obura, M Pfeiffer, A R G Price, S Purkis, P Raines, J W Readman, Bernhard M Riegl, Alex D Rogers, M Schleyer, M R D Seaward, A L S Sheppard, J Tamelander, J R Turner, S Visram, C Vogler, S Vogt, H Wolschke, J M-C Yang, S-Y Yang, and C Yesson (2012) Reefs and islands of the Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean: why it is the world's largest no-take marine protected area. Aquatic Conserv: Mar Freshw Ecosyst: n/a–n/a. doi:10.1002/aqc.1248.
- 32. Sheppard, Charles R.C., Mebs Ateweberhan, Allen C. Chen, Al Harris, Rachel Jones, Shashank Keshavmurthy, Carl Lundin, David Obura, Sam Purkis, Peter Raines, Bernhard Riegl, Mike Schleyer, Anne L.S. Sheppard, Jerker Tamelander, John R. Turner, Shakil Visram, and Sung-Yin Yang (2012) Coral Reefs of the Chagos Archipelago, Indian Ocean. In: C. Sheppard (ed.), Coral Reefs of the United Kingdom Overseas Territories, Coral Reefs of the World 4, DOI 10.1007/978-94-007-5965-7_18, © Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2013.
- Yang S-Y, Keshavmurthy S, Obura D, Sheppard CRC, Visram S, Chen CA. (2012) Diversity and Distribution of Symbiodinium Associated with Seven Common Coral Species in the Chagos Archipelago, Central Indian Ocean. PLoS ONE 7(5): e35836. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0035836
- Obura, DÓ, Mangubhai S (2011) Coral mortality associated with thermal fluctuations in the Phoenix Islands, 2002–2005. Coral Reefs. DOI 10.1007/s00338-011-0741-7
- Obura, DO, Stone, G, Mangubhai, S, Bailey, S, Yoshinaga, A, Holloway, C, Barrel, R. (2011) Baseline marine biological surveys of the Phoenix Islands, July 2000. Atoll Research Bulletin 589:1-62.
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