

# BlueInvest Africa

- ▶ With the aim of promoting Africa's blue economy, the Republic of Seychelles, in partnership with the European Union, held "BlueInvest Africa" on September 7 and 8, 2022, the first BlueInvest event outside of Europe.
  - ▶ The event reflects the EU and Africa's commitment to develop the blue economy, viewed by both as a critical area to advance socio-economic objectives and achieve UN Agenda 2030 sustainable development goals, specifically, SDG 14 related to life below water.
  - ▶ The blue economy indeed holds considerable potential for all its sectors, both maritime (fishing, transport, energy production) and terrestrial (ports, coastal tourism). The sustainable development of these activities will drive innovation and create economic opportunities, which will support the post-Covid recovery, while protecting natural resources.
  - ▶ In this sense, "BlueInvest Africa" was an opportunity for exchange between European and African investors on one hand, and African start-ups, and small and medium-sized enterprises that already operate or seek to enter African countries with innovative ideas, and create sustainable business opportunities across the blue economy's many sub-sectors.
- ▶ The event also sought to showcase African potential, stimulate entrepreneurship as well as private and public sector participation in Africa's booming blue economy and promote innovative and sustainable solutions by highlighting three local success stories, namely:
    - ❖ the development of artificial reefs for traditional octopus fishing in Senegal.
    - ❖ the deployment of traditional fishermen from coastal areas to the open sea in Mauritius.
    - ❖ the connection and sensitization of young Africans to maritime professions, through the "Global Maritime Youth" association in South Africa.

## References

- BlueInvest Africa, 2022. *BlueInvest Africa* [[online](#)].
- European Union, 2021. *BlueInvest Africa* [[online](#)].