ASCLME

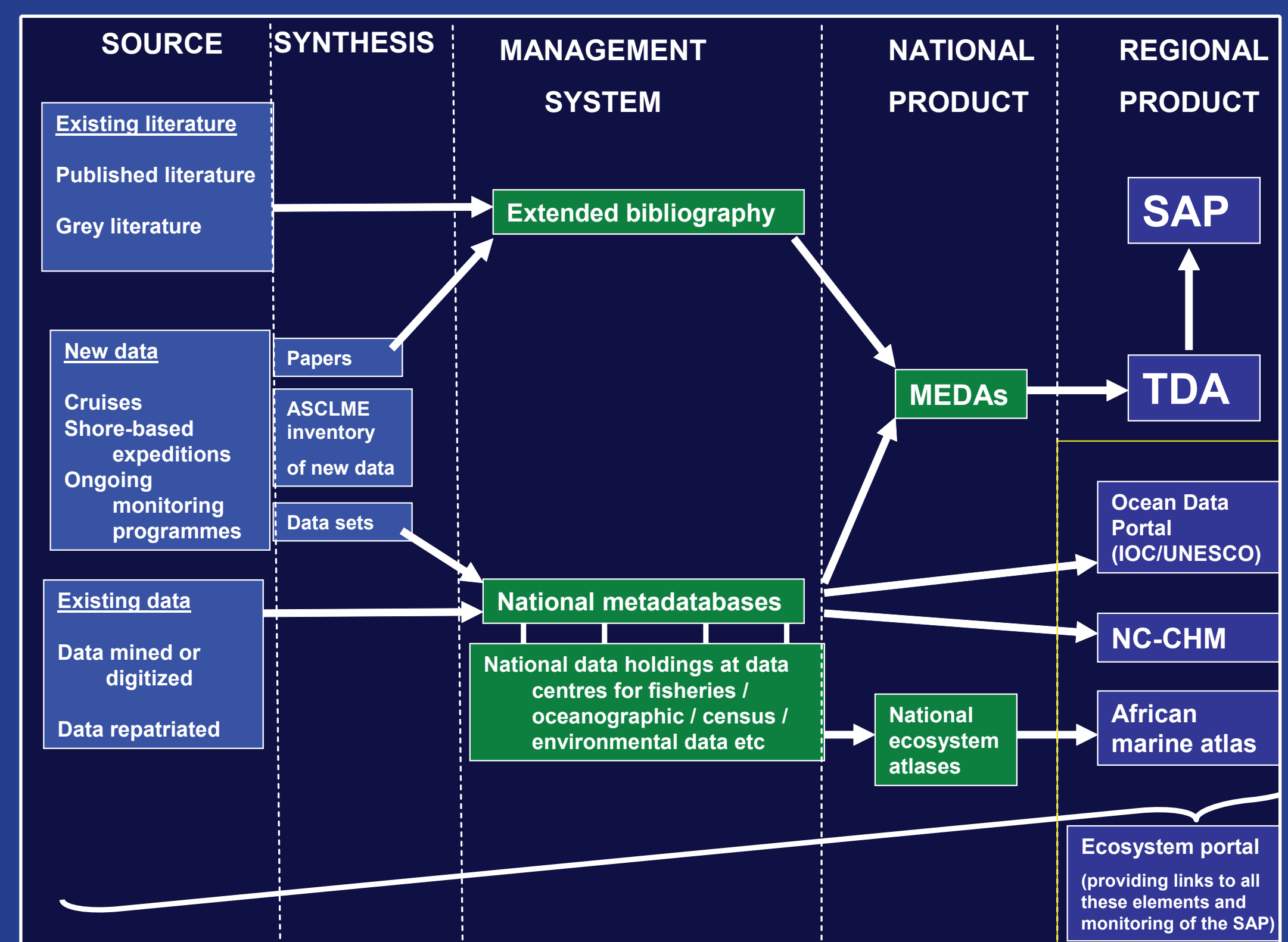**Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems Project**

The Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analysis and Data and Information Management for the ASCLME Project

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In the process of supporting participating countries working together to develop Transboundary Diagnostic Analyses (TDAs) and Strategic Action Programmes (SAPs), the ASCLME Project is starting with a national activity for each of the countries to develop a comprehensive Marine Ecosystem Diagnostic Analysis (MEDA). This will be an integrated resource combining up-to-date, comprehensive state-of-the-environment information together with a causal chain analysis, diagnostic of coastal livelihoods, cost-benefit analysis of possible interventions and a monitoring and indicator assessment programme.

Management of Data and Information by Countries as part of the ASCLME Project

Once complete, the MEDAs will form the factual basis of each country's contribution to the regional TDAs. MEDAs will capture essential information related to the dynamic biophysical processes that define the LMEs, and identify areas of concern that will feed into the TDAs, and the SAPs. As such they are fundamentally important to the success of the ASCLME Project. The parallel UNEP (WIO-LaB) and World Bank (SWIOFP) Projects, as well as other partner projects (eg the EAF-Nansen Project) and institutions (eg the IRD and COI) will also feed pertinent information into the process, and assist in identifying policy, legal and institutional interventions and investments required to address transboundary priorities.

Whilst the TDA/SAP process is very effective at the regional level, each MEDA will result in a nationally relevant publication and information resource for management of the marine ecosystem by each country. It will add a new dimension to the management of LMEs by better understanding the overall state of the environment within each country.

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Somali Current
South Equatorial Current
East Madagascar Current
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Agulhas Ring
Retroflection
Agulhas Return Current
Subtropical Convergence

1- Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystems (ASCLME) Project, 2- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and the Environment (Comoros), 3- Ministry of Environment, Natural Resources and Transport (Seychelles), 4- South African Environmental Observation Network (South Africa), 5- Institute of Marine Sciences, University of Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), 6- INAHINA (Mozambique), 7- Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (Kenya), 8- Ministry of Environment (Madagascar), 9- Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (Somalia), 10- Meteorological Services (Mauritius).

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