



PERSGA

**PERSGA Roundtable
“Partnership for
Sustainable Development in
the Red Sea Coast of
Sudan”**

**26- 27 of March 2006
Port Sudan, Sudan**

**pdfMachine - is a pdf writer that produces quality PDF files with ease!
Get yours now!**

“Thank you very much! I can use Acrobat Distiller or the Acrobat PDFWriter but I consider your product a lot easier to use and much preferable to Adobe's” A.Sarras - USA

This Report

This report seeks to capture the main points raised during the Roundtable that was conducted in Port Sudan in March 26-27, 2006 about “Partnership for Sustainable Development in the Red Sea Coast of Sudan”.

List of abbreviations

ACORD	Agency For Co-Operation In Research And Development
AP	African Parks
CDD	Community Driven Development
CSC	Consortium Steering Committee
EU	European Union
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GRSS	Government Of The Red Sea States
HCENR	Higher Council For Environment And Natural Resources
ICRAN	International Coral Reef Action Network
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IGO	Inter Governmental Organization
IMR-RSU	Institute of Marine Research-Red Sea University
IRC	International Rescue Committee
JAM	Join Assessment Mission
LBA	Land Based Activities
LEAP	Learning for Empowerment Against Poverty
LGA	Local Government Administration
MB	Mooring Buoys
MEPA	Marine Environmental Protection Administration
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
NIP	National Implementation Plans
NGOs	Non Governmental Organizations
PASED	Port Sudan Association For Small Enterprise Development
PERSGA	The Regional Organization For The Conservation Of The Red Sea And Gulf Of Aden Environment
PMU	Project Management Unit
PSDCS	Partnership For Sustainable Development In The Red Sea Coast Of Sudan
RSS	Red Sea States
RSGA	Red Sea And Gulf Of Aden
RPA	Regional Programme of Action
SD	Sustainable Development
SAP	Strategic Action Programme
SECS-RSB	Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society-Red Sea Branch
TCS	Cousteau Society
TOR	Terms Of Reference
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
WLA	Wild Life Administration
WMHP	World Marine Heritage Programme

Table of content

	Page
Objective	5
Profiles of participants	5
Location	5
Structure and working methodology	5
<i><u>First day: Marsh 26th</u></i>	
Session 1 – Opening Session	6
Session 2 – Presentations	7
<i><u>Second day: March 27th</u></i>	
Session 1 – Partnership	8
Session 2 – after 20 years from now	8
Session 3 – Sustainable Development	9
Session 4 – Follow up actions	13

Objective

The objective of the Roundtable is to discuss the following:

- The urgent actions required for the implementation of the ICZM Plan;
- An operational five year programme for the implementation of the ICZM Plan as a tool for sustainable development; and
- Potential partnerships and resources mobilization.

Profiles of participants

The roundtable included a wide-ranging representation of local, regional and international participants, organizations and agencies. As the focus was on conservation in Sudan, the vast majority of participants were local and came from important sectors necessary for sustainable development and marine protection efforts, including: Port Sudan State, The Wildlife Administration, the Red Sea University (Faculty of Marine Science and fisheries, Institute of Marine Research), Marine Environmental Protection Administration (MEPA), ACORD Society Sudan (an organization working for sustainable development and the promotion of alternative incomes), SECS-RSB Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society-Red Sea Branch, Socioeconomic Initiative, as well as spokespeople for various environmentally-related projects being conducted in Sudan, such as the Mangrove Rehabilitation Project, ICZM Study Project, and Oil Spill Response Plan.

International and regional organizations included: PERSGA, African Parks, the Cousteau Society, Dive Sudan (a newly established dive centre committed to sustainable practices, the conservation of the Sudanese marine environment, and currently working towards creating a dive operator NGO that can best ensure this) and UNESCO World Heritage Marine Programme (WMHP).

Detailed list of participants is in *Annex 1*

Location

The Roundtable was conducted at the Red Sea University in Port Sudan (Sudan), during March 26-27, 2006.

Structure and working methodology

The Roundtable was conducted in an interactive way to ensure full participation of all participants. It was divided into the following sessions:

- Presentations
- Discussions.

Detailed schedule is in *Annex - 2*. However, below is a summary of the main issues and discussions generated during the Roundtable:

First day: Marsh 26th

Session 1- Opening Session

Remarks by Dr. Mohamed Elamin Hamza, Vice Chancellor of the Red Sea University,
Dr. Mohamed Elamin started the opening session as follows: I welcome you all, delegation from PERSGA, African Parks, TCS, WL...

The long standing cooperation between PERSGA and the Red Sea University ;is highly appreciated it is a perfect kind of cooperation. We want to thank PERSGA for their continuous support to the Faculty of Marine Science and Fisheries as we have a common objective of marine conservation. The Red Sea University is the only university which is situated on the coast, a unique university on the national level that has a faculty for a marine research. Once again we thank PERSGA and look for further cooperation on issues of mutual interest. I also welcome his Excellency the Deputy Governor of the Red Sea State and the Mu`tamad of the Red Sea Province, the NGOs and pregedaire Mohamed Younis. I wish all the success for our event and fruitful recommendations.

Remarks by Mohamed Younes, Wild life Administrator:

It is a pleasure to have you all here and special thanks to the deputy for nesting this event in his state. And thanks too to Med Amin for giving the venue. I welcome all of you on behalf of the GOS and COPS, those who come from local and international. The Sudanese coast is pristine. We need to work together to sustainably maintain the coast and conservation for habitat of the coastal and marine areas.

A very good approach of PERSGA to bring all together to discuss and develop the strategy which we all of us are responsible for it. We have all the ball in our part, it is the duty of all of us to do our best and I wish you all the best.

Remarks by H.E. Mr. Eisa Kabashi, Deputy of the Governor of the Red Sea State

The remarks were given in Arabic please see *Annex 3*

Session 2 – Presentations

The Roundtable then resume by a special remarks presented Mr. .Mohamed Taher Elamin, Almu`tamad of the Port Sudan Locality in the RSS. He stated the following:

- 1- We have a problem of the degradation of the environment especially in Port Sudan there is no waste containers and landfills.
- 2- The plastic bags issue;
- 3- Lack of human capacity, which is the core of any development project

To help resolve these problems we need to follow the interim constitution of the RSS. However, in order to do this we need to:

- 1- Issue special laws and regulations to protect the environment under the supervision of the Wilaya
- 2- Establish an ICZM Administration in the Wilaya;
- 3- Ensure involvement of local and indigenous communities in the management of the natural resources;

Hence, we will need coordination and collaborative efforts between all stakeholders: NGOs, the universities and with us as a governmental part.

There is also an urgent need to produce a Land Use Map of Port Sudan, particularly of the coastal areas;

Finally, I have a personal interest to establish an aquarium in the Red Sea Coast of Sudan, which I hope you can help us in resource mobilization;

Presentations

Subsequently, presentations (see attached schedule *Annex 2*) by both local and international organizations regarding their contribution to safeguarding specifically the marine environment and their actual or potential role in helping conservation efforts in Sudan. This included presentations by PERSGA, the Cousteau Society, African Parks and UNESCO World Heritage Marine Programme; presentations by the local initiatives listed above in the participants section; and presentations concerning locally-based conservation projects and activities, including the Sudan ICZM Plan, the ICZM Socioeconomic Initiative, Training for ICZM, Community Management for MPAs, The PERSGA Demonstration Project on Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation in Sudan, Surveys of MPAs in Sudan by the Parks Service.

Second day: March 27th

Discussions

After establishing potential scope for collaborative efforts amongst organizations concerned with marine conservation and its related economic and social components,

the second day of the meeting concentrated on transforming informal consensus into a concrete plan of action. As such, participants brainstormed priority areas for marine conservation, in which commitment to an ICZM Action Plan in particular reached unanimous agreement. In establishing such a Plan and ensuring implementation of conservation efforts, the group furnished a list of recommendations concerning nine key components of sustainable development and marine protection, which would form the basis of a coordinated partnership between participating NGOs and the government. The ultimate goal was to present these recommendations to the Governor of the Red Sea State so that he would agree to the establishment of an ICZM Secretariat body functioning under the auspices of the state.

Below is a detailed description of the main discussed issues:

Session 1 – Partnership

In this session participants were asked about the definition of “*partnership*” and how they perceive partnership process. The following was the feedback of the participants:

- Share objectives overlap
- Collective efforts
- Hand in hand
- Respect of the right of all partners
- Conflict resolution
- Coordination, collaboration, commitment
- Transparency
- Integrated efforts
- Common vision
- Focus + division of tasks
- Sharing
- Communication + information exchange
- Action plan
- Trust +respect
- Experience exchange
- Mutual benefit

Session 2 – after 20 years from now

During this session participants discussed the question “*how do you see the RSS after 20 years from now?*” Below is a summary of the main discussed points:

- Very crowded and full of industries and industrial areas and huge trade move
- Natural resources and petrol
- A tourism development in a enterprises way
- Famous of ecological diversity
- National network of MPA
- Remain stores of biodiversity in the MPA + empty sea

- To be oriented in the factory investments in its right place and a good development planning
- Conflicts have been solved between all stakeholders
- Produce production coast behind vast development
- Integrated public services that will reflect positively on the development activities
- People are in good health and more educated
- The whole coast is protected
- Free of pollutants
- Quality of people reserved and known all over the world
- Sustainable development + poverty + education
- All of Sudanese know about the sea

Session 3 – Sustainable Development

This session started by a brief introduction about the definition of sustainable development presented by Ms. Tubaishat.

Then participants discussed “how can we reach our vision about the RSS in a sustainable use of the marine and the coastal areas?”

During the discussion, ten key components of sustainable development were identified with the intention of solidifying a 5-year Action Plan (Operational Programme) for marine and coastal conservation in Sudan. The priorities and recommendations to be included in the Plan consist of the following:

1. Establishment of a Secretariat office under the Governor (Wali) of the RSS:
2. Capacity building for the RSS in coastal governance in terms of laws and regulations. Also it should:
 - Encourage public participation
 - Include a conflict resolution mechanism.
3. Prepare land-use plan (already in the process)
 - PERSGA can help accelerate this
4. Monitoring and Research (baseline data)
 - Priority areas should include rehabilitation, stock assessment, shark hunting, and mooring buoys.
 - Need to establish a Monitoring and Research Centre in Sudan. The Institute of Marine Science Research and the Faculty of Marine Science and Fisheries can help facilitate such a centre by: compiling existing data in a database (scientific/environmentally-related as well

as economic and social information); identifying what and how to monitor (environmental and marine indicators); help with capacity-building (human and equipment).

- Coordinate such activities with the June African Parks-Cousteau Expedition.
- Need to establish mechanisms to coordinate all research in this area of work—possibility to coordinate with Computer Man University should be pursued.
- PERSGA should help facilitate an added regional approach.

5. ICZM Plan

- Finalize the ICZM plan and endorse it by the RSS
- Prepare Risk Management focusing on public access and coastal development activities.
- Hire a consulting firm/s or other institutions to prepare the land use Map
- Approach UNDP to help identify public hazards
- Pursue training/capacity-building component
- Ensure a smooth and timely implementation process

6. Capacity-building

- Focus on each stakeholder so as to empower all involved and affected.
- Conduct a stakeholder analysis and needs assessment.
- Focus on public participation and empowerment (ensuring equal opportunities for the involvement of women and youth) and involvement and network amongst all relevant NGOs.
- Promote peace-building through environmentally-sound use of shared and valuable resources

7. Economic development and poverty alleviation

- Encourage and pursue development of economic opportunities in such fields as ecotourism, small enterprises, micro-finance and revolving funding, fair-trade and eco-labeling.
- The objective of all activities should be that they are eco-friendly and an organization capable of enforcing eco-friendly practices should be sought.
- Ensure all stakeholders and ministries are aware of activities and that all are consulted before the implementation of projects. The private sector and investors should also be involved.
- For projects related to alternative livelihoods and small enterprises, socioeconomic surveys should first be conducted. The Commission for Social Affairs should be contacted regarding this and activities

should be coordinated with African Parks, Park management, and ICZM Board.

- Assessment of what has already been done in each field is necessary to identify gaps.
- Focus on Millennium Development Goals.
- For ecotourism, “Quality not Quantity tourism” must be introduced, in which three phases of development and implementation should be considered:

PHASE 1

- Ecotourism Development Plan
- Creation of a land-use plan
- Identifying options and activities tourism should focus on (e.g. diving or other)
- Calculating the carrying-capacity for each place (e.g. the maximum number of visitors that can be achieved)

PHASE 2 - Application Phase

- Identify eco-friendly practices (e.g. eco-building, etc)
- Make contact with potential investors

PHASE 3—Monitoring and Evaluation

8. Education and awareness

- This can be guided by the establishment of a PERSGA regional education programme
- Establish an aquarium
- Strengthen the educational system regarding environmental issues and their related land, coast and social components (e.g. build the capacity of universities and schools and consolidate programmes).
- In encouraging education for sustainability, traditional knowledge should also be considered, and all concepts (traditional and non-traditional) should be integrated into the curriculum.
- Enhance and increase campaigns, public awareness programmes and seminars relating to the environment.
- Approach the Beija Youth Commission and Scouts

9. Regulations and legislation

- Existing laws must be enforced. Gaps were identified relating to the enforcement of and investigation into laws and violations.
- Training for all related stakeholders must be increased to enable appropriate understanding of and response to legal mechanisms and their violation.
- Authorities must be harmonized and responsible bodies must be identified for all laws.

- Seek better understanding of the “informal police” as well (e.g. know what are the informal arrangements/traditional mechanisms).
- Provide resources to enable long-term enforcement and capacity-building.
- Need to ensure transparency, accountability and that appropriate measures are taken to minimize corruption.
- Harmonize regional and international agreements.
- Enforce laws relating to endangered species specifically

10. MPAs and conservation activities

- Develop a comprehensive Environment Plan and Use Plan that covers the entire Sudanese coastline, including those areas that fall out of the jurisdiction of the Wildlife Service and African Parks.
- As mechanisms are already in place, responsibilities for conservation should be identified and allocated to all participating NGOs once the Land Use Map is finalized.
- Seek support for logistical plans, communication equipment, and capacity-building for the Wildlife Service.
- Ensure EIAs are conducted prior to all potential developments in MPAs (e.g. construction, tourism-related, water sports).
- Seek expansion of MPAs to include important areas other than Dungonab and Sanganeb.
- Conduct assessments of potential for future MPAs with the goal to establish a national network.
- Encourage, facilitate and mobilize support for World Heritage Nominations.
- Consider the creation of serial, transboundary and Peace MPAs.
- Develop rehabilitation projects.
- Conduct a carrying-capacity assessment covering all economic and commercial activities within MPAs (e.g. fishing, aquaculture, etc.) and pursue the potential and development of sustainable activities in this regard.
- Continue the Mangrove rehabilitation project.
- Learn from examples of Best Practice elsewhere and adapt to Sudanese context.

11. Funding

- Prepare proposals to be submitted to the Peace Fund and international donors (e.g. World Bank, EU, JAM, African Parks, World Heritage Centre regarding WH nomination, etc.). When donors are approached, proposals should be promoted under the umbrella of the vast vision of ICZM so as to encourage support.
- Endorsement by the RSS for proposals should be sought.
- Train local actors in fundraising.

- Link poverty reduction with ICZM management.
- A fundraising plan must be made that is supported by the Governor of the RSS;
- Need to establish an informal forum between NGOs so that activities can be coordinated, funds better mobilized, and joint-fundraising activities undertaken.
- A paper should be prepared for presentation at the April UNDP meeting.

Session 4 – Follow up actions

The participants then prioritized the issues and prepared detailed work plan as per the following:

- In terms of urgent actions that should be pursued immediately, the following were identified:
 - World Heritage Marine nomination and listing
 - The PERSGA-ICRAN Mooring Buoys Project
- Responsibilities and deadlines following the discussion have been delegated and agreed-to as follows:
 1. Workshop Report and Recommendations:
 - PERSGA will prepare and send by April 17th 2006.
 - A Participant list and contact info will be included, as well as a folder containing all Power Points displayed during the Roundtable.
 2. Five-Years Work Plan (Operational Programme):
 - To be compiled by PERSGA and Cousteau Society;
 - To be submitted by 17th April; allow one week for review;
 - Following corrections, the Plan will be submitted to the Governor by April 26.
 3. Presentation of the Paper at the April UNDP meeting
 4. Work with the Governor of the RSS to establish a Secretariat Office (including a Tourism Office component). Once approval is obtained, start fundraising activities.
 5. Capacity building Programme for the RSS in coastal governance along Land-use Plan

- Below is the detailed work plan of the above mentioned tasks

Due Date	Activity	Responsible
14/04	Prepare workshop report	PERSGA
14/04	Create e-group that includes all participants (look for a name of the group)	PERSGA
14/04	Prepare a project document on the proposed Operational Programme for SD in the coastal area of Sudan (5 years work plan)	TCS and PERSGA
21/04	Get final feedback by all participants	All participants
24/04	Prepare (UNDP meeting)	SECS-TCS-PERSGA
26/04	Compile the received comments and submit to the Governor	PERSGA and TCS
01/05	Obtain approval of the Governor and initiate fundraising	The Governor
As soon as possible	ICZM secretarial office	PERSGA,RSS
As soon as possible	Coastal governance programme and the land-use plan	PERSGA,RSS

Roundtable Report-Annexes

pdfMachine - is a pdf writer that produces quality PDF files with ease!
Get yours now!

"Thank you very much! I can use Acrobat Distiller or the Acrobat PDFWriter but I consider your product a lot easier to use and much preferable to Adobe's" A.Sarras - USA