

PERSGA

*The Regional Organization for the Conservation
of the Environment of the Red Sea & Gulf of Aden*



**INTEGRATED
COASTAL ZONE
MANAGEMENT**



AL-SANBOUK

A Quarterly Newsletter of PERSGA

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In this issue of AL-SANBOUK

Editorial
PERSGA Activities
PERSGA Training
Integrated Coastal Zone
Management (ICZM)
PERSGA News
Participation at WSSD
Future Activities



The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden - PERSGA - is an intergovernmental organisation dedicated to the conservation of the coastal and marine environments in the region. Its legal basis stems from the Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment known as the Jeddah Convention and signed in 1982. The PERSGA member countries include Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, and Yemen. The headquarters are based in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

PERSGA is currently executing the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. This project is funded by UNDP, UNEP, The World Bank and The Islamic Development Bank. The SAP is being carried out through seven complementary components: institutional strengthening, reduction of navigation risks and marine pollution, sustainable use of living marine resources, conservation of habitats and biodiversity, the establishment of a network of marine protected areas, support for integrated coastal zone management, and the enhancement of public awareness and participation.

The aim of the newsletter is to provide information on conservation and development activities taking place in the region together with articles on marine issues of general interest. The contents of the newsletter do not necessarily represent the position or views of PERSGA or the editorial board, nor do they imply the expression of any opinion on the part of PERSGA concerning the legal status of any country, territory, frontier or border. All non-copyright material may be freely reproduced. Al-Sanbouk cordially requests that due reference is made to the source if any news/articles/pictures are reprinted in other publications.

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Dear Reader,

Welcome to Al-Sanbouk, issue number 16. In addition to our regular material that reports on PERSGA'S recent activities, this edition focuses on the topic of Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM). We sincerely hope that the concepts underlying this philosophy will be implemented in the region, leading ultimately to a decrease in decisions that do not allow for long-term sustainable development. Effective ICZM would permit short and long-term sustainable use of coastal and marine areas and the natural resources they supply.

Through the ICZM component of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, which is executed by PERSGA, the Governorate of Aden was selected for an ICZM Model Activity, and for the preparation of a study on the state of the coastal area. Under the supervision of the Lead Specialists and in accordance with the existing legislation, national consultants and the ICZM Working Group members formulated a proposed plan for ICZM. Taking into account the aspirations of all the relevant participating parties, and to ensure their commitment, the plan was presented to the members of the Local Council and to the relevant agencies in the Aden Governorate. All parties, especially the Governorate authorities and the managers of the Free Zone, have accepted the plan. It is hoped that these plans will be complemented by similar proposals from the Belhaf-Bir Ali project. This will allow the Environment Protection Authority to develop a national plan for ICZM on the coast of Yemen. It is also hoped that other countries that have not yet developed plans for ICZM will be able to make use of the experience gained by Yemen in this field.

Dear Reader, the formulation and implementation of such plans and programmes will preserve a healthy environment that will permit sustainable use of natural resources, conservation of the coastal and marine environment, and a reduction in pollutants from coastal development.

Dr. Mohammed S. Al-Mashjery
President Environment Protection Authority



*Al-Sanbouk is the name given to wooden vessels
powered by sail and engine that have taken
goods to and from most ports in the
Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
for hundreds of years.*



Strategic Action Programme - Mid Term Evaluation

The Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (SAP) was designed to run for a period of five years. The Project documents were signed in December 1998 and implementation began officially in January 1999, though full staffing was not reached until early 2000. In accordance with the Project documents, a Mid Term Evaluation was carried out in April by an independent team of experts. The team, led by Dr. Mostafa Tolba from ICED in Egypt, consisted of highly qualified regional and international experts from the field of marine conservation and GEF International Waters projects.

On behalf of Dr. Mostafa Tolba, Dr. David Vousden presented the preliminary findings of the Mid Term Evaluation team at the Fourth SAP Task Force meeting. The report highlighted the current achievements of the SAP and the challenges that lie ahead. The report also noted that there is a mismatch between some country expectations and the planned Programme activities, and that many of the comments made were not actually relevant to the implementation of the Programme as laid down in the original Project Implementation Plan. Therefore it was recommended that a new definition of the final expected outcomes or 'final project landscape' be prepared.

New Routes for Shipping

Following the extensive hydrographic surveys carried out last year, the United Kingdom Hydrographic Office officially accepted the results of the survey on 15 December 2001. New charts of the southern Red Sea have been prepared with known hazards now correctly positioned and several shallow patches (shoals) removed. The proposals for new routing measures, based on these new charts were presented to the IMO Sub-committee on Safety of Navigation in July.

Port State Control Initiatives

A Navigation Working Group Meeting and Workshop on Port State Control was held in Jeddah from 18-20 March. Participants included representatives from port authorities in the PERSGA region, from ROPME, Eritrea, and invited guests including a representative from the World Bank. Presentations were given by a spokesman from the International Maritime Organization.

It was recommended that the PERSGA States should increase the effectiveness of their Port State Control measures by joining the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or other appropriate MoU on Port State Control as soon as they are in a position to do so.

Living Marine Resources (LMR)

A meeting was held from 24-25 June in Jeddah to discuss the establishment of a Regional Commission for Fisheries (RECOFI). Relevant decision makers were invited to attend. The LMR Working Group meeting was held from 24-27 June in conjunction with the RECOFI meeting.



Subregional Fisheries Research and Training Centres

Two subregional fisheries research and training centres have now been established in the region; one in Aden and the other in Jeddah. The centre in Jeddah has been provided with computers, printer, projectors, microscope, digital camera, freezer unit and basic audio equipment for the conference facilities.

The SAP Living Marine Resources Working Group met in Aqaba, Jordan from 12-14 November 2001. Achievements realised and plans for 2002 were discussed. The role of regional institutions in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme was considered.



Biodiversity Surveys

The fifth regional Habitat and Biodiversity Working Group meeting took place in Djibouti 18-20 March followed immediately by a regional training course on Standard Survey Methods for Inter-tidal and Mangrove Habitats.

A regional coral reef survey started in the last week of April and continued throughout the region during May. Surveys started in Egypt, and took place in Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Somalia and Sudan.



Marine Protected Area Surveys

The first MPA surveys took place in Dungenab Bay, Sudan in January 2002. The work was overseen by a Steering Committee made up of the primary government MPA stakeholders and was conducted through the national Wildlife Conservation General Administration who took lead responsibility. The necessary equipment for underwater surveying including diving kits, air compressor, generator and camping materials was purchased in advance. A GIS consultant was contracted to conduct the preparatory work for the littoral and sublittoral ground-truthing using satellite imagery. Surveys commenced on 19 January and were completed by 19 February.

Surveys took place in April 2002 for the preparation of site-specific management plans for the Belhaf - Bir Ali Marine Protected Area in Yemen. This project was carried out in conjunction with the Environment Protection Authority and the Protected Areas Management & Coastal Zones Management (PAM-CZM) project officials.

PERSGA later conducted a mission to Djibouti (21-28 April) to initiate plans for the 'Establishment of the Isles des Sept Frères and Ras Siyyan Marine Protected Area'. Survey work was carried out in June 2002 in cooperation with the Ministry of Housing, Urbanism, Environment and Land Use Planning. This will lead to the preparation of site-specific management plans for the MPA. An agreement was signed between PERSGA and the Ministry of the Environment.



Coastal Zone Management Developments in Aden

Draft guidelines for ICZM in Aden have been prepared. The draft has been discussed with the EPA Chairman, and a one-day workshop held for the Local Council of Aden Governorate. The draft has been finalised and forwarded to a legal specialist for editing.

Preliminary plans have been made to launch ICZM Model Activities in Sudan and in Djibouti. Sudan's national ICZM team has been selected.

Community Participation Projects

Visits have been made to Yemen, Jordan, and Sudan to promote the Community Participation Projects that can be funded through the Micro-Grants. National steering committees have been established to organise the preparation of projects.

Four Community Participation Projects have been approved and grants awarded as follows:

1. Management of Lobster Stocks in Mukallah, Yemen
2. Assessment of Fishing Community, Jordan
3. Marine Park Visitor Centre, Jordan
4. Bird Watching Unit, Aden, Yemen

A trip was made to the proposed MPA at Dungonab (Sudan) to meet the local community and to discuss opportunities for raising public awareness and participation in the MPA. A MoU was signed with the NGO 'Accord' for co-operation with the Strategic Action Programme's Public Awareness programmes in the Dungonab area.

School visits to the coast

Fifty students from school clubs in Hargeisa (NW Somalia) were taken to Berbera in April. They visited the fishing centre, the port of Berbera and the Batalaale beach. For most of the students it was the first time they had seen the coast and the sea. Students were given a tour by the Regional Fisheries Coordinator, Fishing Cooperative Chairman, Deputy Harbour Master and Pilot, Hussein Hassan.

Fourth Task Force Meeting

The Fourth Task Force meeting for the Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (SAP) was held from 6-7 May 2002 in Jeddah. The meeting was attended by representatives from the PERSGA Member Countries, UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank (on behalf of the GEF Implementing Agencies), the Islamic Development Bank, a representative from the SAP Mid Term Evaluation team, and invited guests.

After opening statements from the member countries and implementing agencies the SAP Lead Specialists gave presentations on the current status of each component and their future plans. On the second day the Task Force discussed the preliminary results of the SAP mid term evaluation and considered strategies for the future sustainability of the Programme and its achievements.

The following are the primary recommendations made by the meeting:

- ▶ The SAP management should review the current Work Plans in light of the timescale and budget to ensure that the projected achievements are attainable. Amendments should be considered that include on-the-ground demonstration projects if feasible.
- ▶ The Task Force and PERSGA management should review the draft Sustainability Strategy.



- 📌 A letter should be prepared for IMO requesting assistance with the modalities for approaching the private sector to gain further funding for SAP component 2, Reduction of Navigation Risk and Marine Pollution.
- 📌 The value of the GEF ICZM distance learning initiative to the implementation of component 6 (ICZM) should be investigated.
- 📌 A summary of the SAP Financial Statement for the year should be attached to the Annual Report.
- 📌 Lead Specialists should ensure that all major documents have an Executive Summary that can be translated into French.
- 📌 Lead Specialists should ensure that consultancies in Djibouti are of sufficient duration to achieve quality results.

Fifth Task Force Meeting

The Fifth Task Force meeting for the Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden was held from 18-19 September 2002 in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The meeting was attended by representatives from all the PERSGA Member Countries (with the exception of Jordan); UNDP, UNEP, and the World Bank (on behalf of the GEF Implementing Agencies); the Islamic Development Bank; a representative from UNEP/GIWA and invited guests.

Dr. Nizar Tawfiq, Secretary General welcomed the participants and thanked the representatives of the Member States for their support and involvement in the Programme. He emphasized his hope that, in addition to the scientific and moral commitments being made, the financial commitment of the Member Countries would be equally forthcoming.

Following the introductory statements from the Implementing Agencies and the Member Countries, Mr. Salif Diop (UNEP) introduced and discussed the Global International Waters Assessment Programme. The Lead Specialists gave presentations on the current status of their components and plans for the future (to December 2003). Dr. Abdul Majeid Haddad introduced the revised SAP workplan to the Task Force members. A variety of possible Demonstration Activities that could be implemented from 2003 were discussed.

Dr. Tawfiq laid out some ideas for the future of the Regional Organization. The World Bank are assisting with the procedures to establish the Red Sea Environment Fund and a future donor conference. The International Maritime Organization is assisting PERSGA in workshops and with fund raising for regional contingency planning. Several recommendations were raised; they included:

- The urgent need for the countries to fulfil their financial commitments to PERSGA.
- PERSGA will coordinate with the Mediterranean Action Programme with regard to cooperation in a regional monitoring programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and to locate suitable francophone marine conservation specialists to assist with programme activities in Djibouti.
- PERSGA will focus on the identification of indicators for SAP Monitoring and Evaluation. PERSGA will prepare a brief summary of the changes made from the original PIP and operational workplans to the revised SAP Work Plan.
- PERSGA will convene a workshop to discuss the institutional structure of the proposed RECOFI once the initial procedures and approval for the establishment of such a body have been agreed upon.

Non-formal environmental education

A training workshop on 'Environmental Education Techniques and Establishing Environmental Clubs in Schools' was held in Djibouti during the period 29 December 2001 – 5 January 2002. The main objective of this workshop was to train teachers from several coastal districts of Djibouti on the methods and techniques needed to establish environmental clubs in their respective schools. Twenty teachers and supervisors were selected by the Ministry of Education from schools in Djibouti, Tadjourah and Obock to participate in this training workshop.

PERSGA/TSC Joint Marine Protected Areas Management Course

The first Marine Protected Areas Management Course was held in Port Sudan from 6-13 January 2002. Twenty-three participants from the PERSGA member countries and a representative from Eritrea attended the course. The main objective of this course was to provide current and future MPA managers in the Red Sea region with an array of knowledge, skills and attitudes for MPA planning and management.

The course was prepared by the Red Sea Train-Sea-Coast Course Development Unit in Port Sudan with assistance from PERSGA within the framework of the Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. This was a job-oriented course tailored to the specific roles and tasks of current and future MPA managers.

The TRAIN-SEA-COAST (TSC) Programme is a cooperative and sharing training network. It was established in 1995 by the Division for Ocean Affairs (UN/DOALOS) with the financial assistance of UNDP. The main objective of the TSC Programme is to build capacity at the local level for the production and delivery of high quality training courses in the field of coastal and ocean management.

Regional Workshop on Conservation of the Northern Red Sea

A Regional Workshop on Conservation of the Northern Red Sea was held jointly by the National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Riyadh during the period 28-30 January 2002. PERSGA was represented in the workshop by the PERSGA/SAP Coordinator and the MPA Lead Specialist. The workshop reviewed the Management Plans for Ra's Suwayhil, Ra's Al-Qasbah, and Al Wajh Bank and the Master Plan for the three proposed marine protected areas in the northern Red Sea. The workshop also discussed the application of the inventory study data to management of marine protected areas and other management issues.

Standard Survey Methods for Inter-tidal and Mangrove Habitats

A regional training course on Standard Survey Methods for Inter-tidal and Mangrove Habitats took place in Djibouti in March 2002 in cooperation with the Scientific Research Institute and the Ministry of Habitat, Urbanization and Environment. The course, which was attended by 18 regional specialists, included lectures and field trips. The main objective of the training course was to train regional specialists in the Standard Survey Methods for habitat assessment prepared by PERSGA. The course provided the necessary theoretical background and specific training on sample storing, identification methods, data analysis, and interpretation of survey results.



Social Marketing Workshop

A two-day Social Marketing Workshop was held in NE Somalia on 26-27 March 2002 for 12 trainees representing government institutions, local NGOs and community based organizations.

The Status and Potential for Ornamental Fisheries

A participatory training workshop in Methodologies for Assessing the Status and Potential for Ornamental Fisheries and their Environmental Impacts was organized and conducted at the sub-regional LMR Research and Training Centre in Jeddah from 9–15 April, 2002. The course had the following objectives:

- 1) To collect data from exporting companies in the Jeddah area of Saudi Arabia on ornamental fish collection practices, holding facilities and export practices.
- 2) To train local participants in:
 - a) Identification of marine aquarium fish species from the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden with special consideration of the biological factors which make species vulnerable to over-collection, or that contribute to poor survivorship in captivity,
 - b) Methodologies for the collection and analysis of export data on aquarium fish,
 - c) Sampling methodologies for collection, analysis and reporting of field data for monitoring the impacts of the aquarium fish trade.

The ultimate goal of the training course was to promote sustainable use of marine aquarium organisms. Twenty-three participants from the PERSGA member states attended the workshop.

Methodologies for Stock Assessment and Fisheries Management of Elasmobranchs

A six-day participatory training workshop in Methodologies for Stock Assessment and Fisheries Management of Elasmobranchs was organized and conducted at the sub-regional Fisheries Research and Training Centre in Aden from April 27 to May 3, 2002. The course had following objective:

To introduce regional fisheries scientists to the theory and practice of stock assessment methods for sharks and rays as a means of increasing the technical capacity of regional staff - a starting point for the proper long-term management of the resources.

The course included a general introduction to the objectives and practice of stock assessment and management, and the inter-relationships between them. The course included theory as well as practical work. The training was offered to 20 participants from the region.

PERSGA/ALECSO Joint Workshop on Preparing a Training Kit on Environmental Public Awareness and Communication

The Workshop on 'Preparing a Training Kit on Environmental Public Awareness and Communication (EPAC)' was held jointly by PERSGA and ALECSO in cooperation with the National Commission for Wildlife Conservation and Development (NCWCD). The workshop took place in Jeddah during the period 18 – 22 May 2002. It consisted of formal presentations, group discussions, lectures and practical applications on course materials. The main objective of the workshop was to build the capacity of participants in training methodologies and preparation of training methods.

The participants worked together in preparing public awareness programmes, generating communication skills and formulating



an environmental public awareness kit. The workshop was attended by 13 trainees from Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, NE and NW Somalia, Sudan and Yemen, in addition to three instructors from the region.

PERSGA/ALECSO Regional Training Course on Waste Management in Coastal Areas

In the framework of the joint activities between PERSGA and ALECSO a regional training course on 'Waste Management in Coastal Areas' was held in Cairo during the period 1-5 June 2002 hosted by CEDARE. Ten participants from the region attended the course in addition to three lecturers from Egypt. Among the objectives of the course was building the capacity of participants in sound planning for waste management, experience transference to others, implementation of planning projects, and developing team spirit with their local communities in their respective countries.

The training course concentrated on important issues such as industrial and municipal solid wastes, hazardous wastes in coastal areas, sewage treatment systems, criteria for reuse of treated wastewater and EIA for waste management projects in addition to the health aspects of waste management systems.

The Training Course was addressed by HE Dr. Mamdouh Riyadh, the State Minister for Environment in Egypt.

Standard Survey Methods for Nesting Seabirds

A regional training course on 'Standard Survey Methods for Nesting Seabirds in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region' was held in the Farasan Islands (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) during the period 1-10 June 2002. The course was held in the framework of the cooperation between PERSGA and the Training Centre for the Conservation of Natural Resources of NCWCD. Eight trainees from the region participated in this course. The lectures provided by the two trainers on Standard Survey Methods were applied during the field surveys in the islands where seabirds concentrate. Information was analysed by the participants and reports were drafted.

Number of trainees from each of PERSGA's member countries who received training, through PERSGA/SAP activities, during the months January - June 2002

Training Workshop/Course	Number of trainees from the PERSGA member countries							
	Djibouti	Egypt	Jordan	Saudi Ar.	Somalia		Sudan	Yemen
MPA Management (Joint PERSGA/TSC)	3	2	2	1	3	2	6	3
SSM for intertidal and mangrove habitat	5	2	-	2	2	2	2	2
Status & potential for ornamental fisheries	1	1	2	8	1	1	1	2
Stock assessment & fisheries management of elasmobranchs	2	-	2	4	2	2	2	9
Preparing a training kit on environmental public awareness & communic.	1	1	1	4	2	1	2	1
Waste management in coastal areas	1	4	1	1	1	-	1	1
Standard Survey Methods for nesting seabirds	1	1	1	3	-	1	1	1
Total number of trainees	14	11	9	23	11	9	15	19

Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region

Introduction

Coastal zones are important areas characterized by rich natural resources of economic value and biological diversity and therefore they are regarded as sources of income to a wide range of inhabitants. Natural habitats in these areas, which could be wetlands, mangroves, seagrass, coral reefs etc., serve as reservoirs for various fishes, crustaceans and molluscs, which contribute significant food resources. In addition these habitats have other benefits some protect the shores from erosion, others act as filters for pollutants.

However, several factors such as industrial development and urbanization exert continuous pressure on these natural resources leading to the break down of the ecological functions of the coastal habitats. Pollutants in coastal areas have similar adverse effects on natural resources especially the sedentary ones such as corals and bivalves. Pollutants may also threaten various industries especially those depending on seawater such as desalination plants.



Integrated Coastal Zone Management

ICZM is a management framework, which has proven to be effective at enhancing the sustainable development of coastal resources and the marine environment at the local government level. It provides local government units with coordination mechanisms and processes to resolve conflicts in land use harmonizing both the economic development and environmental management of marine and coastal resources.

ICZM in most countries in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region is adversely affected by weak coordination between ministries, overlapping jurisdictions, conflicting objectives, and weak execution of land use plans. The effective use of ICZM is especially important in supporting the co-operating countries to meet challenges related to long-term development of coastal settlements and development zones, further expansion of international and domestic tourism, and maintenance of the rich biodiversity and cultural heritage of the coastal zone.

PERSGA's support to ICZM

PERSGA is supporting the preparation and assisting in the implementation of ICZM model activities at selected sites in four countries in need of assistance - Djibouti, Sudan, the northern coast of Somalia and Yemen. The development of ICZM in these countries is less advanced compared to Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Measures need to be taken to transfer knowledge from these countries, and improve their knowledge of the ICZM planning and management process in order to achieve regional goals for conservation of the coastal and marine environment.

Objectives

The overall aim of the ICZM Model Activity is to prepare and test draft ICZM Guidelines for Coastal Area Planning by applying the process and evaluating its strengths and weaknesses, its difficulties, its appropriateness, etc, and proposing improvements to the process and revision of the Guidelines.

The general objectives of the model activities are:

- ▶ To protect and rationally utilize the coastal resources over a relatively long period of time;
- ▶ To determine and recommend management measures with a view to resolving the existing environmental conflicts and setting up the optimum paths for future dynamic development;
- ▶ To propose a development concept for the selected coastal area of the model activity, harmonized with the receptive capacity of the environment.

Strategy

The strategy of the model activities is based on the principles of sustainable development and integrated management of coastal resources, the basic elements of which are:

- ▶ Increase and concentration of population;
- ▶ Development of economic activities which respect the natural resources of the area;
- ▶ Cessation/halting of degradation of natural systems;
- ▶ Prevention of negative environmental processes in the future.

For the successful implementation of a pilot activity an active involvement of the national and local authorities is probably the most important factor. Additionally, knowledge of the local conditions and the precise distribution of environmental problems in the area can only be determined by the relevant national and local institutions. All activities should lead to the preparation of environmental management plans integrating knowledge gained from all sectors.

Institutional framework

The following actors participate in the development of an ICZM model activity:

- ▶ **PERSGA:**
PERSGA participates through the headquarters in Jeddah; PERSGA regional focal points; SAP components and the national programme coordinators.
- ▶ Government authorities and organizations;
- ▶ National institutions;
- ▶ Private sector and NGO's.

The PERSGA national focal point acts as a general national co-ordinator for the pilot activity.

A national ICZM working group representing all stakeholders is established.

A multidisciplinary team of experts lead by an ICZM expert also established. The team leader, jointly with the SAP-NPC, ensures full exchange of information between various activities and working group members of other SAP components.



Scope of Work

The work is divided into four stages:

Stage 1 - Preparatory

Establishment of the national experts team

A team of national ICZM experts has to be established following PERSGA's procurement process.

Selected coastal site

In each country the selected site is identified and the area determined. The length and depth of coastline will vary from site to site according to the topographic and coastal characteristics of the selected area.

Coastal Profile

In initiating the development of the ICZM model activity, it is essential to have a clear profile of socio-economic, cultural, political and ecological characteristics of the site. The national experts team prepares the national coastal profile, which is used for the development of guidelines, procedures and recommendations and in the implementation of Pilot Projects to test the draft guidelines.

Establishment of the national ICZM working group

A national ICZM working group representing all relevant stakeholders is established. The working group participates in the formulation, preparation and implementation of the integrated management plans as well as agreeing on the detailed work plan, reviewing progress and considering future plans.

Stage 2 - Prospective Analysis

This stage, which can be identified as the initiation stage, elaborates frameworks that show interactive relationships between development and environment.

Development of environmental scenarios through which the impact on the environment of development options are analysed. The coastal profile will be used in determining the types and level of policy and management interventions. Through environmental profiling and consultation with stakeholders, it is possible to prioritise the environmental concerns requiring immediate attention.

The possible implications of expected climate change on the coastal area are assessed through an examination of the possible effects of sea level changes on coastal ecosystems and an examination of the possible effects of temperature elevations on marine ecosystems, including the possible effects on economically important species.

Stage 3 - Integrated planning and management programme

The Integrated plan and management programme (IPMP) provides a general framework and long-term action programme within which more detailed issue-specific and area-specific action plans can be developed.



Development of Integrated Planning and Management Study

The objective of this activity is to establish the basis for the process of integrated planning and management of the resources of the coastal area of the model activity, and to develop an outlook for the area based on the capacity of the environment to sustain the proposed development.

The Integrated Planning and Management Study should cover the following aspects:

- 📌 Organizational and legal arrangements;
- 📌 Building local capacity to plan and manage coastal and marine areas;
- 📌 A strategic environment plan for sustainable development of the coastal and marine resources;
- 📌 Short-term action plans covering critical environmental management issues, such as waste management and eco-tourism;
- 📌 Environmental investments by both the public and private sectors;
- 📌 An environmental monitoring programme;
- 📌 Training of local people from the public and private sector to manage and implement ICZM programmes and related supporting activities; and
- 📌 Techniques of establishing partnerships, building awareness and capabilities within the full range of stakeholders including relevant Government agencies, academic institutions, community leaders, private sector interests and nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) so that they can participate fully in ICZM.

Adopting

The ADOPTING phase of the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) cycle comes after the necessary elements of the DEVELOPING stage have been completed. Getting the Strategic Environmental Management Plan and other action plans adopted by the local government authority is a crucial exercise at this stage. To facilitate this, the general public should be informed of the environmental problems, the risks related to public health, ecosystem health, and the well being of the society, especially in terms of food and employment security.

Adoption by the local government brings the developed plans and organizational mechanisms to a heightened level of legitimacy. The higher degree of political will from the stakeholders strengthens the sustainability of the CZM initiative.

Implementing

Programme implementation begins by setting up an inter-agency and or multi-sectoral coordinating mechanism including the operating office. The project management arrangements at this stage can be transformed and become an essential part of the local governments' institutional structure through appropriate legislative procedures. External financing resources should be used to operationalize the Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) programme.



ICZM in the Countries of the Region

The level of ICZM planning in the PERSGA countries varies from one country to the other; for instance, the Egyptian Government, in coordination with the World Bank, tries to improve the policies of the private sector regarding tourism supporting their infrastructure in the Hurghada and Safaga areas. The Jordanian Government, in coordination with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), has prepared plans for the management of the Jordanian beaches in the Gulf of Aqaba. The Saudi Arabian Government is heading towards the implementation of a proposed plan for planning and management of coastal areas through a national committee responsible for organizing development activities in coastal areas. PERSGA, in coordination with the Yemeni Environment Protection Authority, is currently implementing a model activity for ICZM in Aden Province in cooperation with relevant governmental and non-governmental agencies. Necessary data are being collected in Sudan through PERSGA for developing national ICZM plans. A similar activity will take place in Djibouti to help the government in developing their national ICZM. Hence, PERSGA is working towards the implementation of the general objectives of ICZM on a regional level for the conservation of the region's coastal resources.





The PERSGA Secretary General, Dr. Nizar Tawfiq, visited Yemen in March and met in Sana'a with HE the Prime Minister and Their Excellencies the Ministers of Tourism and Environment, Fish Wealth, and Transport and Maritime Affairs. He also met with the Chairman of the Environment Protection Authority and his Deputy. In Aden Dr. Tawfiq met with the Governor of Aden Province where he was informed of the progress in the current activities in the field of ICZM, Public Awareness and Participation, and Living Marine Resources. The Marine Science Research Centre and the Fisheries Training Centre were also included in this visit which received wide publicity in the Yemeni media.

Following his visit, the PERSGA Secretary General praised the following activities which took place in Yemen as a result of the cooperation between Yemen and PERSGA:

- Removal of random constructions on the coast;
- Request for an EIA regarding all projects taking place in coastal areas;
- Introduction of environmental awareness issues and PERSGA activities in the national education book for the ninth grade;
- Support for MPA activities in Yemen;
- Increase in biodiversity conservation activities;
- General recognition, at all levels, of PERSGA activities including SAP Components.

Fourth Session of CSD10 Preparation for the World Summit

A PERSGA delegation headed by the Secretary General, Dr. Nizar Tawfiq, participated in the Fourth Session of CSD10 acting as Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on Sustainable Development. The meeting took place in Bali, Indonesia, during the period 27 May - 7 June 2002. As a side activity of the Fourth Session, the Secretary General held a meeting with the participating members of the PERSGA Council where a working paper titled: "The PERSGA Agenda (for the new millennium): Sustainable Development in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden" was presented. This working paper was approved by the PERSGA Council members and was regarded as an official document to be presented at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September, 2002.

The Egyptian State Minister for Environment visits PERSGA

HE Dr. Mamdouh Riyadh Tadrus, the Egyptian State Minister for Environment, visited PERSGA Headquarters in Jeddah on Wednesday 12 June and met with the PERSGA Secretary General and his Deputy. HE briefly visited various sections of PERSGA and met with the staff expressing his satisfaction with the PERSGA activities in the conservation of marine and coastal areas in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.



THE PERSGA AGENDA (for the new millennium) SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN THE RED SEA AND GULF OF ADEN

Foreword

This document reviews the activities of PERSGA – "The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden" since its establishment in 1995 in relation to the priorities for action identified by the 1992 Earth Summit in Agenda 21. It looks at PERSGA's future role in the region, especially in regard to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals identified at the 2000 Millennium Summit. It is hoped that this document will promote a better understanding of how states have met their Agenda 21 obligations at the regional level, and the benefits of regional cooperation for the sustainable development of some of the world's most valuable waters.

Summary

Since 1995, PERSGA activities have gone a long way to establish a regional movement for the sustainable management of the resources of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden with appreciable support from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and other donor agencies. PERSGA's activities have contributed substantially to the implementation of Agenda 21 in the Region and therefore have played a role in helping member countries to achieve the commitments they made at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.

PERSGA has fostered a spirit of international cooperation and exchange of knowledge among governments, research institutions and civil society in the Region. The capacity of regional institutions has been enhanced and mechanisms are now in place for the collection and integration of regional data. Regional conservation plans have been developed and regional action plans will soon be available.

With groundwork for regional cooperation in place, activities must now be taken to a new level; the governments of the region intensifying their collaboration to implement the strategies and plans that have been developed. PERSGA is preparing for this critical phase of development in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region. This phase will place renewed emphasis on the regional objectives for sustainable development, one of which is poverty alleviation.

PERSGA depends on the countries of the Region, and the regional and international donor agencies, to achieve regional cooperation for sustainable development. PERSGA also depends on the support of the Region's governments in their review of the Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea of Aden following the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and the efforts they make to fund future activities.



Participation at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg August/September 2002)

PERSGA participated in the World Summit preparatory meeting which was held in Bali Indonesia (27 May- 5 June 2002). Within the context of Agenda 21, and as an integral part of PERSGA's sustainability strategy a document was prepared titled "Sustainable Development in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden". This was presented to their Excellencies the Ministers responsible for the Environment in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region at a meeting held on the margin of the conference. Representatives of international and regional organizations such as the World Bank and UNEP participated in this meeting. It should be mentioned that PERSGA was the only organization at the meeting which took the initiative to prepare and present such a document linking activities and programmes with sustainable development.

In light of PERSGA's successful efforts to be recognised by the United Nations as a regional organization to participate at the World Summit, the Secretary General formed a high level delegation under his chairmanship to participate in the Summit. This delegation was composed of Dr. Mohamed Fawzi (Deputy Secretary General), Dr. Saiyed Al-Khouli (SAP Project Manager), Dr. Mohamed Abdallah (LMR Lead Specialist), Ms. Khulood Tubaishat (PAP Lead Specialist) and Mr. Osama Qurban (ICZM Lead Specialist). It was also agreed with the Summit organizing agency to establish a display on the margin of the meeting in Ponto-village in Johannesburg where other similar displays were presented.

The PERSGA delegation contributed effectively in all the activities as follows:

- Participation and representation of PERSGA as one of the key regional organizations working in the field of marine environmental conservation.
- Establishment of a PERSGA display which attracted the local and international media on account of its unique qualities. These included:
 - Construction and design of high quality including a floor display that contained a lighted panorama of living marine organisms from the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.
 - Continuous film display about the Organization and its activities in the field of environmental protection.
 - The high quality of documents about PERSGA and the SAP, including CDs and maps.
 - A video tape presentation of the activities of the Organization in the Member States.
 - At least one member of the team continuously present at the exhibition to welcome visitors, and to offer detailed explanations or answer questions.
- As the Secretary General had promised, the exhibition also hosted some publications from the Arab League. This included the display and distribution of documents, reports and CDs from the Arab League, Palestine, and Yemen.
- It was noticed that PERSGA was the only organization that had produced an exhibition of such high quality. The stand was honoured to receive visits from representatives from other international delegations, Ministers and a number of Arab delegations from the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden countries.

- During their activities at the Summit the team members took care to establish and maintain contacts with representatives from other regions.



- ▶ Using a well thought-out division of labour the team succeeded in attending all the meetings and activities taking place during the whole period of the Summit. In particular, considerable interest was shown in private meetings that concerned the marine environment organized by specialised international organizations.
- ▶ In addition the Organization prepared a side-meeting in the margins of the meetings concerning the Regional Seas Programme. At the meeting the various activities being carried out by the Organization and its determination to carry out future projects to meet the region's needs were stressed.
- ▶ The Deputy Secretary General chaired the meetings which were attended by all the team members and many professionals, specialists and representatives of international organizations working in the same field. An agreement was reached defining the Organization as an active member that should be asked to participate in future activities.

GEF Second Biennial International Waters Conference

Dr. Saiyed Al-Khouli (SAP, Project Manager) Dr. Dirar Nasr (PERSGA/SAP Coordinator) and Dr. Abdul Majeid Haddad (UNDP SAP Coordinator) attended the GEF Second Biennial International Waters Conference in Dalian, China, 25-29 September 2002.

The primary objectives of the Conference were (i) to encourage knowledge sharing and collaboration between GEF International Waters (IW) project managers, GEF agencies, participating governments and (ii) to identify and disseminate best practices for International Waters management.

At a meeting on the first day, hosted by IW: LEARN, new Internet and CD ROM-based knowledge products produced by GEF IW projects were demonstrated. Dr. Al-Khouli gave a brief description of the major achievements of the Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. The conference was composed of three Plenary Sessions, which alternated with Four Thematic Working Groups.

- 1: Working Together: Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA)
- 2: Large Marine Ecosystems (LME) and Coasts: Experiences and Lessons Learned.
- 3: Freshwater Basin Management: Experiences and Lessons Learned.
- 4: Building Sustainability: Partnerships and Finance.

Dr. Al-Khouli joined Working Group 4, Dr. Nasr - Group 1, while Dr. Haddad attended Group 2. These sessions allowed for an exchange of knowledge and experience between different GEF IW projects. Though similar difficulties and achievements were noted it soon became clear that PERSGA has made substantially more progress than some other IW projects in the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme.

Plenary (1) gave an opportunity for all the participants to learn from the experiences of four experts associated with GEF IW projects. Plenary (2) reviewed the East Asian and Chinese experiences in implementing their GEF IW Projects. Plenary (3) concentrated on GEF Monitoring and Evaluation.

Meetings were held on the margin of the conference with the Director and Project Coordinator of IW: LEARN, and the Coordinator of the UN TRAIN-SEA-COAST programme.



Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation (HBC)

- Regional surveys in selected mangrove areas were conducted during the months of June and July. With regard to marine turtles, preparations are being made to carry out surveys in Djibouti, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen.
- A regional survey in selected seabird breeding areas was conducted during the months of July and August. A Regional Workshop on the 'Development of a Conservation Strategy for Seabirds in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden' will be carried out during the month of December. The strategy will be developed in coordination with BirdLife International.



FUTURE Activities

General activities

- A meeting of the Governors from the administrative areas bordering the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden will be held in late 2002.
- The PERSGA Council Meeting will be held on 24 October, 2002.
- CEDARE will deliver the LMR Database and conduct training during August, September and October. Data will be added to the PERSGA IMS/GIS during October and November.
- A pilot Community Participation Project will be implemented to replace gill-nets with longlines. This activity will take place during the months of September through to December.
- Pilot studies will be conducted in four countries (Djibouti, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen), which will cover stock assessment and population dynamics of invertebrates, with a special focus on shrimps.

Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

The management plans for Dugonab Bay, Mukalla Islands, Belhalf - Bir Ali, and Iles des Sept Frères MPAs will be prepared during the second half of 2002.