

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden - PERSGA

PERSGA Training Programme 2010

PERSGA "The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden" is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to the conservation of the coastal and marine environments in the Region.

PERSGA's legal basis stems from Article XVI of the Regional Convention for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, known as the Jeddah Convention, signed in 1982: "A Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Environment, the permanent headquarters of which shall be located in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, is hereby established". It was not until September 1995, however, with the signing of the Cairo Declaration during the First Council Meeting in Egypt, that PERSGA's creation was formally announced. Falling under the umbrella of the Arab League, PERSGA has since become recognized as one of the leading marine conservation organizations operating in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region.

The PERSGA member states are Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen.

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PERSGA Training Programme 2010

1. Programme objectives-Investing in human capital

Management of marine and coastal environments is a multidisciplinary task that requires technical, communication and consultation skills as well as strategic planning, risk management and information management capabilities. Therefore, capacity building of human resources is fundamental for a successful management of coastal and marine environments. Jeddah Convention 1982 and its Action Plan calls for the need to develop an integrated management approach to the use of the marine environment and the coastal areas and the development of principles and guidelines for coastal area development and management through workshops and seminars.

The implementation of PERSGA's training activities is aligned with the Jeddah Convention (1982), Article XIX (1-g)

- "1- the General Secretariat shall have the duties and powers necessary to achieve the purposes of this Convention and its protocols the action plan , decisions of the Council. and in particular .
 - g- To organize and co-ordinate training programmes in areas related to the implementation of this Convention, its protocols and the action plan."

, as well as the 1982 Action Plan, Part II, Article 19

"19 - As part of the activities and programmes for regional Cooperation mentioned in paragraphs 17and 18, an extensive training programme should be developed for personnel from the Region. Such programme may be executed through training at existing national, regional or international institutions ready to offer their facilities."

Chief Among its activities, capacity building is a cross cutting function of PERSGA. Capacity building activities of PERSGA programmes are geared towards improving the performance of all stakeholders in the region, particularly PERSGA Focal Points, aiming at reaching the optimum goals as laid down in the Jeddah Convention (1982) in addition to its attached and subsequent Regional Action Plans and Regional Protocols.

2. Training courses and schedule

Broad-spectrum Training

PERSGA will offer a number of multidisciplinary training workshops that intersects with all PERSGA programmes and activities in the year of 2010 (see also detailed fact sheets for workshops to be held in 2010 shown in this manual) as per the following schedule:

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#	Title of training	Duration	Deadline for Applicati on	Location	Fees (US\$)
1.	Application of DIVA and CVI in assessment of coastal vulnerability to Climate Change impacts	Jan 25-27	Dec 24	PERSGA HQ Jeddah-KSA	250
2.	Collection and preservation of samples for analysis of Persistent Organic Pollutants in marine environment	March 27-31	Feb 15	Cairo, Egypt	400
3.	Communication and awareness in environmental issues (for journalists)	April 26-27	March 15	PERSGA HQ Jeddah-KSA	250
4.	Climatology and climatic variability of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden	Jan 10-12 2011	Nov 30	PERSGA HQ Jeddah-KSA	250
5.	Ecosystem based management	June 1-3	April 30	Hurghada Egypt	250
6.	Vulnerability and resilience of coral reef to climate changes	June 13-17	May 5	Hurghada Egypt	400
7.	Management of Marine Protected Areas (IUCN)	June 28-30	May 15	PERSGA HQ Jeddah-KSA	250
8.	Sustainable Development Indicators for the Marine and Coastal Ecosystems	Oct 2-4	Aug 25	PERSGA HQ Jeddah-KSA	250
9.	Identification and assessment of shark species (IUCN)	Dec 12-15	Nov 5	Mukalla, Yemen	300
10.	Risk Mapping of Climate Change Impacts on the Coasts of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden	Jan 24-26 2011	Dec 20	PERSGA HQ Jeddah-KSA	

Training on Maritime Pollution at PERSGA-EMARSGA

The Red Sea and Gulf of Aden carry a significant ratio of the global seaborne trade and crude/ refined oil cargoes. The Region is thus, constantly under threats of pollution by oil spills and maritime accidents. PERSGA has designed its Navigation and Maritime Pollution Combating Programme to increase the safety of shipping in the RSGA Region and to introduce measures to reduce risks and impacts of marine pollution. The Regional Action Plan for Contingency Planning provides the framework through which states agreed to cooperate with each other in the event of a major oil spill or other pollution events that require regional response. PERSGA has established EMRSGA (Emergency Mutual Aid Centre for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden) at Hurghada-Egypt, which is aligned with the implementation of the Regional Contingency Plan through coordinating

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pollution prevention and control mechanisms among PERSGA Member States, fostering collaboration, and assisting States in strengthening national capacities.

The Action Plan proposes a comprehensive programme for training to build and promote capacities involved in its implementation in the region. In 2010, PERSGA will offer a number of specialized training workshops related to navigation and maritime pollution at the EMARSGA as per the following schedule:

#	Title of training	Duration	Deadline for Application	Location	Fees (US\$)
1.	Port State Control in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden	July 26-28	June, 30	EMARSGA Hurghada-Egypt	250
2.	Guidelines for Response to Oil and Hazardous Chemicals Pollution Spills	Oct 25-27	Sep, 20	EMARSGA Hurghada-Egypt	250
3.	National Contingency Training IMO 2, in Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen	Fact sheets and dates will be delivered at a later stage		In each respective country	250

3. Application process

Who Can Participate?

This training programme is specially designed and organized for applicants from PERSGA member countries with special qualifications for each training course.

Those from outside PERSGA region may also apply to participate based on their own funding sources.

How to participate:

Please note the deadline for application of each course in the schedule above; applications submitted after closing date will not be considered

a. Participants from PERSGA Countries (Red Sea and Gulf of Aden)

Interested applicants must:

- Complete the application form (attached) in typewritten format and duly signed. The application form can be downloaded from the PERSGA website at www.persga.org/training; by writing to PERSGA at (information@persga.org); and or by contacting the PERSGA national Focal point;
- Submit the application form, together with updated CV and recent passport copy, to PERSGA (fax: 00966 2 6521901 or scan and email to: <u>information@persga.org</u>) at or before the deadline of submission for each training programme. Applications received after the deadline will not be considered;
- PERSGA will evaluate the applicant's qualifications and credentials and send an official acceptance to those who are qualified to

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participate in the training courses. PERSGA will also inform the Focal points of the list of accepted applicants at their respective countries. The selection will be based on a special criteria designed for each course.

b. Participants from non- PERSGA countries should:

Interested applicants must:

- Write to the PERSGA Secretary General and indicate which training courses the participant would like to attend.
- Indicate the sponsoring agency or funding sources which will support the applicant's participation in the training course(s).
- PERSGA will evaluate the applicant's qualifications and credentials and send an official acceptance to those qualified to participate in the training course(s).

4. Logistics

PERSGA will send a logistic note to each participant prior to the workshop. However, in general PERSGA will assist the applicants in the following:

Visa

PERSGA will assist the applicants in acquiring the appropriate visa required for his/her stay.

Travel

For participants funded by PERSGA, economy class travel ticket through the most direct route to the venue of the training will be provided.

Accommodation

PERSGA will assist in providing hotel reservations. However, participants should be responsible to pay their own hotel bills.

Insurance

PERSGA will **not** provide any insurance coverage. Participants in this training are expected to arrange their own insurance without any related commitment by PERSGA.

5. Cost of participation

The cost of each training is divided between participation fee (as per the above schedule), accommodation cost and regional/international travel costs to and from the training location. The participation fee covers all training cost such as lectures, training materials, field visits and certain social activities as well as accommodation costs include board and lodging. Personal expenses are not included.

Funding Support

a. PERSGA may provide funding to support qualified applicants from the region (1 or two form each PERSGA Member States) who were **officially nominated** by the PERSGA Focal Points. Funding will cover fees, hotel accommodation, round trip airfare and meals.

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Per Diem Allowance:

According to the authorized direct route, participants funded by PERSGA will be paid a lump sum allowance in accordance to PERSGA's Financial Rules and Regulations. This allowance is intended to cover accommodation costs, meals, gratuities and any other incidental expenses during the period of the training. No expenses other than this allowance are reimbursable.

- b. For other accepted applicants from the region PERSGA will cover course fees only; they have to fund their travel and accommodation costs.
- c. Applicants from countries outside the PERSGA region can also participate in the program provided they have their own funding support.

6. For more information:

Please visit our website (<u>www.persqa.orq</u>) regularly for updated information.

Alternatively, you can kindly contact us at the following address:

PERSGA

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Training Programme 2010 The Application Form

Title of training	
Personal details	
Mr. Ms. Name	
Passport no.	Validity
Organization	
Country	City
Position	
Address	
Telephone	Mobile
Fax	E-mail
Educational Qualifications	
Years of Experience (since the last of	degree obtained)
Relevance of the training to your	
current work	
Similar Training attended	
Funding Source (if not supported by	/ PERSGA)
Name & Signature of Focal Point	
Applicant Signature	Date of submission

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Fact sheet – Application of CVI and DIVA in Assessing Coastal Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts

Title of the course

Application of Dynamic Interactive Vulnerability Assessment (DIVA) and Coastal Vulnerability index (CVI) in Assessing Coastal Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

Rationale

PERSGA has developed a regional strategy and program for adaptations to the CC impacts, and initiated its implementation since 2008. The strategy focuses on capacity building, conduct vulnerability assessments, public awareness, strengthening the climate change observation system, and implementing on-the-ground activities of ecosystem-based adaptations.

Within the framework of the capacity building component, an inception training workshop on "Assessment of Coastal Vulnerability to Climate Change Impacts" was organized in November 2008 in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The workshop focused on theoretical background, understanding drivers and likely impacts of climate change on coastal and marine environment, and introducing the participants to several methods and models used in coastal vulnerability assessment. The workshop recommended further training on application of Dynamic Interactive Vulnerability Assessment model (DIVA) and the Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI), in order to facilitate data collection and analysis in applying the two tools in the regional assessment. The current workshop will be organized to fulfill this objective.

Application of CVI and DIVA will allow for developing detailed site-specific risk maps, identifying areas under potential risks, estimating the damage and adaptation costs and suggesting suitable and cost-effective adaptation measures under various climate change scenarios. Such information is essential for planning and decision making in coastal areas development and management.

Objectives

The workshop is designed to assist the participants acquiring the methodologies and facilitate application of DIVA and CVI in the region through providing:

- Background to Coastal Vulnerability Assessment (theoretical basis).
- Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI): concept, key variables and data requirements, data analysis and interpretation.
- DIVA: concept including an update on DIVA development, data requirement, usage and interpretation of the DIVA results, and advanced modeling and analysis.
- Hands on training including both tools based on case studies.
- A platform for discussing approaches to data collection and application of DIVA and CVI in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

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Participants

Participants in this workshop will be the officials and specialists in charge of national assessment, planning and program related to climate change impact assessment and adaptations in coastal areas.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days and will be conducted during **January 25-27**, **2010**.

Location

PERSGA HQ, Jeddah - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden – PERSGA.

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an assisting medium where needed.

Training Materials/References

To be provided later.

Training Sessions (Schedule)

The training will be based on a series of presentations and practical training sessions covering theoretical background and application of CVI and DIVA. This will also demonstrate how to develop a database for a detailed-scale assessment of coastal vulnerability, relevant data that must be gathered from local, national, regional, international agencies, and academic institutions, as well as field surveys that might be also required to fill the gaps in information collected through reviews. The compilation of this data set is integral to accurately mapping potential coastal changes due to sea-level rise and other CC impacts.

The participants will present national presentations that review the existing data, variables, data and information required for undertaking coastal vulnerability assessment using CVI and DIVA. The presentations and discussions will make out existing and available data providing short reviews, identify information gaps and provide short plans for achieving the information required and compiling the national database, including assistance and time needed.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

- 1- Dr. M. Mokrech, University of Southampton, UK.
- 2- Dr. A. S. Khalil, PERSGA HQ, Jeddah, KSA.

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Fact sheet – Collection and Preservation of Samples for Analysis of Persistent Organic Pollutants in Marine Environment

Title of the course

Regional Training Workshop on Collection and Preservation of Samples for Analysis of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) in Marine Environment

Rationale

This training workshop is carried out in the course of executing the project entitled "Promotion of strategies to reduce unintentional production of POPs in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden", which is implemented through a partnership between PERSGA and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). PERSGA countries are giving considerable attention to reduction or elimination of POPs in their national priorities, including those who have signed the Stockholm Convention and who have not yet. Particular attention here is given to taking appropriate actions towards the reduction of the releases of unintentionally produced persistent organic pollutants (UP-POPs; Annex C POPs).

Due to the trans-boundary movement of POPs and the special nature of the coastal zone of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, it is of importance to take preventive measures to reduce the negative impact of industrial activities and human settlements on the environment of the coastal zone. These preventive measures can be more effective if they are undertaken in a coordinated manner at the regional level. It can be further improved if the regular collection and interpretation of environment-related scientific data are also undertaken at the regional level, together with the development of harmonized legislations and interventions.

National Annex C POPs inventories need to be updated and refined for the coastal zones in PERSGA region. Solid baseline data is required for selecting demo locations to implement Best Available Techniques (BAT) and Best Environmental Practices (BEP), as intended by the project. This training workshop is thought-out to assist preparing national capacities, who will be involved in collection and preservation of samples for analysis of Annex C POPs, particularly dioxins and furans. Samples will be required from certain locations to establish the baseline contamination or releases of POPs, and to monitor the effectiveness of the management interventions aiming at reduction of POPs release later on.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are to upgrade skills and capacities of qualified national specialists for collection of samples from different environmental matrices for dioxin and furan analysis. This chiefly includes:

- Background to POPS and Stockholm Convention;
- Sampling techniques/ equipment, and measuring ambient conditions and point source concentrations;
- Practical exercises on collection and persevering samples for analysis.

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Participants

Participants of this workshop will be selected based on their qualifications and career: The following qualifications are essential for participation in the workshop:

- Graduate degree in chemistry or equivalent;
- Experience in field assessments and monitoring of industrial emissions;
- Background knowledge on Annex C POPs;
- Background knowledge on chromatography and laboratory practice concerning Annex C POPs analysis;
- Sufficient English proficiency and reporting skills.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 15 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is five working days and will be conducted during March 27-31, 2010.

Location

Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt.

The training will be based on Laboratories of Food and Pesticides Residual Analysis of the Ministry of Agriculture.

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where needed.

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Training Sessions (Schedule)

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet – Communication and Awareness in Environmental Issues

Title of the course

Training on Communication and Awareness in Environmental Issues in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region "for journalists"

Rationale

The Consolidated Jeddah Convention (1982)

<u>Protocol Concerning the Conservation of Biological Diversity and</u> <u>the Establishment of Network of Marine Protected Areas in the Red</u> Sea and Gulf of Aden - 2005

"Article 22.1- Contracting Parties shall endeavor to inform the public of the value and vulnerability of protected areas and species. Such information may be included in education programs. Contracting Parties shall also endeavor to promote the participation of their public and their conservation organizations in measures that are necessary for the protection of the areas and species concerned.

"Article 25.2- The organization shall provide training of national specialists, particularly for implementation of this protocol"

Raising public awareness is indispensable for protection of the environment and natural resources in the coastal areas. There are additional benefits, such as participation of local communities in conservation management and programs. Despite the costs, many countries including the developed ones run public awareness programs, which proved to be valuable and effective in removing threats to marine/coastal environment, and enhance people participation in sustaining environmental conservation management. Most of the environmental problems manifest because of the lack of sufficient awareness among people, stakeholders, and government officials. Media have a prime role in raising public awareness and environmental perception, implementing environmental awareness programs,

The PERSGA Framework and Operational Program calls for mainstreaming the environment, into major socio economic sectors. Its overall approach targets strengthening capacities of PERSGA countries to deal with urgent issues related to

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conservation of coastal and marine environment, including strengthening the capacity for environmental awareness and education.

Recognizing the prime role of journalist and media in disseminating environmental awareness and education, the Environmental Education and Awareness Program at PERSGA undertakes a range of activities addressing capacity building and regional networking among journalists and concerned government agencies. This workshop comes in this framework and it will contribute to building media set of connections in the region that would efficiently disseminate information to decision makers and the public, with the aim of promoting their interaction with PERSGA programs and activities and facilitate implementation of the Regional Convention and Protocols.

Objectives

The workshop aims at training journalists at newspapers and broadcasting media, as well as staff working at awareness programs of government agencies on handling environmental issues in media, with emphasis on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden environment. The workshop also aims at enhancing networking, cooperation and exchange of knowledge and experience among journalists and government environmental agencies in the region.

Participants

Participants of this workshop will be selected based on their qualifications and career; they shall be journalists in either newspapers or broadcasting media, officials working at awareness program or spokespersons at government agencies concerned with environment protection, management or conservation.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days and it will be conducted during **April 26-28**, **2010**.

Location

PERSGA HQ, Jeddah - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden – PERSGA

Language

The training language is Arabic. English will be used as an auxiliary medium where appropriate

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet – Climatology and Climatic Variability of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Title of the course

Training workshop on Climatology and Climatic Variability of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Rationale

Integrated assessment of marine environment in the region shall be based on a wide of range of data and information. This requires promotion of regional capacities, strengthening of networking and exchange of experience, which will harmonize the process of data collection, monitoring, analysis and regional synthesis.

Recognizing this, the PERSGA annual training program regularly incorporates training workshops aiming at promoting capacities and networking in the region on various themes related to integrated assessment of marine environment.

Climatic data, and climate characteristics and variability of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are essential elements in the sustainable process of integrated assessment of marine environment. Understanding and prediction of climate variability requires skilled capacities and capabilities for collecting solid observational data, and carry out data analysis and modeling. Regional synthesis assist understanding medium and long term trends through providing broader and deeper view over a wider geographical area. Therefore, it is necessary to establish and promote both capacities and regional networking among government agencies in charge of meteorology and enhance exchange of experience, information, undertaking joined research and assessments.

The current workshop is intended to support promote capacities and networking among PERSGA countries in this field, with emphasis on climatic characteristics and variability in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

Objectives

The workshop is designed to assist enhancing knowledge on climate of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and promotion of regional capacities and cooperation in approaches for collecting, analysis and modeling climatic data through providing:

- Review of climatic characteristics, phenomena and climate variability in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region;
- Review approaches to collecting observational/climatic data, synthesis, building archives and database of climate data and information;
- A platform for discussing approaches to regional networking among PERSGA countries; enhancing regional cooperation in climate observation, joined assessments and research, exchange of data, climate analysis, variability and modeling; Seasonal predictions, Medium-range weather forecasts and experience.

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Participants

Participants of this workshop will be selected based on their qualifications and career; they shall include specialists working at government agencies responsible for meteorology, climate observation, prediction and modelling, and related environmental agencies.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days and it will be conducted during **January 10-12**, **2011**.

Location

PERSGA HQ, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA).

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where appropriate.

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet - Ecosystem Based Management

Title of the course

Training workshop on Ecosystem based management.

Rationale

The ecosystem approach has emerged as the anticipated perfect mechanism for managing natural resources and the environment. Traditionally, management efforts have been focused around particular uses such as agriculture or tourism, resulting in separate governance regimes for each use. Over time it has become apparent that such a sectoral approach results in conflicts among users and is inadequate in meeting the need for environmental protection. Today, considerable efforts are being done to formulate strategies and guidelines to make the ecosystem based management operational (such as those developed by FAO and UNEP), which generally explain, beside the principles of the approach, the stepwise processes to shift from traditional types of management to the ecosystem based management.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg 2002) encouraged States to adopt the ecosystem approach by 2010. However, progress towards reaching this target has been slow. One of the main constraints has been a lack of understanding of what the ecosystem approach is and how it differs from other approaches to environmental resources management.

Coinciding with its mission and in light of a number of international instruments, agreements and initiatives (e.g. WSSD 2002, Regional Seas' Jeddah Declaration and Strategic Directions 2007), PERSGA is striving to implement the ecosystem based management in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. An essential requirement for this is building capacities to ensure that the bodies responsible for management are able to shift to and successfully implement ecosystem approach in the region.

PERSGA has organized a workshop on ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF), and established initiative in the region since 2009. The previous workshop was based on guidelines developed by FAO to assist implementing the ecosystem approach in fisheries management practices. The workshop has achieved the objective of introducing the concept and establishing a regional forum and program for EAF implementation in the region, coordinated by PERSGA LMR.

PERSGA organizes the current workshop in collaboration with UNEP. The workshop is based on guidelines developed by UNEP to provide a set of indicators that assist in evaluating progress in ecosystem based management programmes, and it will thus contribute to enhancing and monitoring implementation of ecosystem approach in the region.

Objectives

The workshop is designed to train participants on ecosystem based management, with emphasis on methods and indicators for evaluating progress in implementing the approach in coastal and marine environment.

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The workshop also intended to provide a platform for discussing issues approaching the enhancement of implementing ecosystem approach in management of coastal and marine resources in the region.

Participants

Participants of this workshop will be selected based on their qualifications and career; they shall be specialists working at national agencies responsible for management of coastal and marine resources, and related disciplines of environmental and natural resources management

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days and it will be conducted during **June 1-3**, **2010**.

Location

PERSGA regional center for Emergency Mutual Aids in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (EMARSGA) in Hurghada, Arab Republic of Egypt

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where appropriate

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet – Vulnerability and Resilience of Coral Reefs

Title of the course

Training on assessment of coral reef vulnerability to human and climate change impacts

Rationale

Worldwide, coral reefs are suffering from various impacts due to a range of causes and sources. Several international initiatives, e.g. Reef Check and GCRMN, have established and created standardized protocols for underwater assessment of reef damage and impacts. Such standardized, community-based and volunteer protocols facilitate the evaluation of the detected reef damage and impact in a wide-reaching comparable approach.

PERSGA has established since 2002 the Standard Survey Methods (SSMs) for key habitats and species in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Some of the international survey protocols were adopted by these SSMs and modified to cope with the specific nature and habitats of the region. The PERSGA SSMs include rapid and detailed assessment methods for intertidal habitats, mangroves, corals and coral communities, seagrass and seaweeds, subtidal habitats, reef fishes, marine turtles, seabirds, and marine mammals. The development regional SSMs has facilitated the acquisition of comparable data and monitoring. PERSGA has also conducted training for the national and regional specialist teams to enable them carry out survey assessments using the SSMs.

However, the international initiatives have developed as well, such as Bleach Watch which established in 2002 by the Great Barrier Reef Authority to monitor/detect coral bleaching, as an effect of seawater temperature rise related to climate change; and Coral-Reef Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) which was designed in 2006 by ICRAN to detect/evaluate the different anthropogenic impacts on reefs.

As one of the long-term objectives, PERSGA considers updating and promoting skills of the national teams of experts as on-going activities, and usually undertakes such activities through the annual training programme.

Objectives

The objective of the workshop is to introduce specialists from the region to new international protocols of impact assessment and their applications worldwide. Theoretical and field training are necessary in this workshop to ensure the consistency of the training approach and assist participants to acquire both theoretical background and field procedures needed to apply these methods by them in the future.

Participants

Participants of this workshop will be nominated by PERSGA focal points in their respective countries. They should be selected from the authorities/departments responsible for the impact assessment for compensation procedures (e.g. marine

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park directors and rangers). Each participant should be a skilled diver and holding a valid diving certificate (minimum 2 stars/advanced diver) as the workshop includes underwater training on the impact assessment methods.

The total expected number for this workshop is not to exceed 15 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is five working days and it will be conducted during **June 13-17**, **2010**.

Location

PERSGA Regional Center for Emergency Mutual Aids in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (EMARSGA) in Hurghada, Egypt.

Organizers

PERSGA and ISESCO, in collaboration ICRAN.

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where appropriate.

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet - Management of Marine Protected Areas

Title of the course

Training workshop on Management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

Rationale

PERSGA has established the Regional Protocol Concerning "the Conservation of Biological Diversity and the Establishment of Network of Protected Areas in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden". The member states of PERSGA signed the protocol in December 2005 and the concerned national authorities are now following up the ratification procedures through their respective legal bodies.

Following the signing of the protocol, PERSGA started to assess the concerned national agencies in the planning process to indicate areas with valuable marine resources to be proposed and declared as Marine Protected Areas. Site selection and site specific detailed surveys were carried, and management plans were developed for each MPA in the Regional Network.

Evaluation of the current MPAs status is being followed by PERSGA staff and gaps/constraints are being monitored to be tackled through the on-going regional activities and programme. A regional Meeting with the MPAs national experts was held at PERSGA HQ during January 2009 for updating information, promote regional networking and propose activities for the operational program run by PERSGA; also to provide a core for preparing regional MPAs status report-2010. The meeting recommended undertaking regular capacity building and technical workshops to promote and update capacities and enhance networking. The current workshop is organized in accordance with the meeting recommendations.

Objectives

The workshop will focus on the evaluation of the current status of the network of MPAs in the region, to find ways of promotion and enhancement of implementing the Regional Protocol. Several new issues and initiatives in the field of effective management and monitoring of MPAs will be introduced to the participants during the workshop sessions.

Furthermore, the workshop aims at building capacities through sharing knowledge and experiences between the participant MPAs managers, and providing a platform for discussing approaches to implement the regional program.

Participants

Participants of this workshop will be selected based on their qualifications and career; they should be the managers of the declared and proposed Marine Protected Areas in each country.

Each participant should deliver a detailed status report of his MPA includes existing constraints and recommendations for future development.

The total expected number for this workshop is not to exceed 15 participants.

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Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days and it will be conducted during **June 28-30**, **2010**.

Location

PERSGA HQ in Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where appropriate

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet – Port State Control in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Title of the course

Training workshop on Port State Control in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden: Towards a regional MOU

Rationale

Port State Control (PSC) is the means established by IMO by which ports are authorized to inspect foreign (and national) ships to ensure that they meet required safety, construction, equipment and manning standards, and if necessary to detain the ships that fail to meet required standards.

Effective PSC requires close coordination between different parts at the regional level. In recent years, a few shipping disasters, causing alarming damage to the environment triggered the concern of several countries about protection of their coastal resources. Such concern initiated the first Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control between the European Countries, known as Paris MoU. Subsequently, several other Memoranda of Understanding on Port State Control have been concluded.

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) is playing a major role in formulation of such MoUs. These include: Latin American MoU (Latin American region), Asia-Pacific MoU (Asia-Pacific region), Caribbean MoU (Caribbean region), Mediterranean MoU (Mediterranean region), Indian Ocean MoU (Indian Ocean region), West and Central African MoU (West and Central African region), Black Sea MoU (Black Sea region) and the Arab States of the Gulf Region MoU. US Coast Guards, though not a signatory to any of the MoUs, carries out port State control for compliance with the US Code of Federal Regulations and other International Maritime Conventions.

Six of PERSGA member states are parties to different MoUs: Djibouti, Sudan and Yemen are parties to the Indian Ocean MoU, Egypt and Jordan are parties to the Mediterranean MoU, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is a party to the Arab States of the Gulf Region MoU. In 2002 a Workshop was convened by PERSGA in Jeddah, attended by PERSGA member states, Eritrea, representatives of ROPME member states and the IMO. At the Workshop the advantages of membership of one MoU on PSC for the region were stated. It has been recognized that while the states within the RSGA are members of three different MoUs on PSC and that two of these states are not members of any MoU, harmonizing their systems of ship inspections is not sufficient, which may not assist with the control of sub-standard shipping at a regional level.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are to:

Review the status of Port State Control in PERSGA member States

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- Discuss approaches to adopt a regional MoU between PERSGA member States
- Develop a framework document and the draft regional MOU on Port State Control

Participants

Participants in this workshop shall include national officials responsible for Port Sate Control in the countries and other representatives of the line ministries and government agencies

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 20 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop will be three working days, and it will be conducted during **July 26-28, 2010**.

Location

PERSGA regional center for Emergency Mutual Aids in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (EMARSGA) in Hurghada, Egypt

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA); Proposed to be included in the PERSGA TC program with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for 2010-2011.

Language

The training language will be Arabic. English will be used an auxiliary medium where needed

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet – Sustainable Development Indicators for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region

Title of the course

Training workshop on Sustainable Development Indicators for Marine and Coastal Ecosystems of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

Rationale

The Consolidated Jeddah Convention (1982)

The Action Plan For the Conservation of the Marine Environment and Coastal Areas in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden - 1982

"Article 17- Continuous socio-economic development can be achieved on a sustainable basis if environmental considerations are taken into account. To assist the Governments of the Region in the development of the appropriate policies and strategies for conservation of the marine environment of the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, the Action plan should aim to carry out the following preparatory activities:

17-2- Assessment of present and future development activities and their major environmental impact in order to evaluate the degree of their influence on the environment and to find appropriate measures to either eliminate or reduce any damaging effects which they may have. "

The PERSGA Framework and Operational Programme calls for mainstreaming environment into sustainable approaches to coastal/marine management and development in the RSGA Region. Sustainable management and use of marine and coastal ecosystems will be reflected in reduced threats to the environment, improved livelihoods of participating coastal communities and improved institutional, legal and financial arrangements.

PERSGA aims to help create a situation where environmental stewardship becomes embedded in both practice and policy within the RSGA Region. To do so successfully, PERSGA must address the overlapping issues affecting the environment, including the human-environment interaction, and accordingly develop mechanisms to monitor the Region's performance and extent of sustainability in these regards.

Sustainable use of coastal and ocean areas and their resources must involve the consideration of governance, ecological (including environmental) and socioeconomic dimensions, as well as the interaction between them. Therefore, monitoring and evaluation of sustainable management rely on the use of indicators classified as governance, ecological and socioeconomic indicators, reflecting the three dimensions of ICZM.

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Objectives

The workshop will train participants on how to develop a set of Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region's specific Sustainable Development Indicators. As a starting point, participants will review existing models of environmental and sustainable development assessment, primarily those outlined in the 2005 Environmental Sustainability Index (Yale Centre for Environmental Law and Policy) and A Handbook for Measuring the Progress and Outcomes of Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (of the UNESCO International Oceanographic Commission IOC). Based on this, participants will then identify and consolidate a Regionally-responsive list of indicators that can be used to design indices for the marine/coastal Ecosystems of the PERSGA Region.

Establishing Regional Indicators is critical to assessing the sustainable development and environmental stewardship of the PERSGA Member States, to allow for monitoring and evaluation of effectiveness and progress, and to identify priority actions and options in the sustainable management and environmental protection strategies and plans.

Participants

Participants of this meeting will be selected based on their qualifications. The Participants should be representatives from local authorities and agencies in the Region who work in the field of coastal and marine resources management as well as in the private sector.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the training will be three working days, and it will be conducted during **October 2-4, 2010**.

Location

PERSGA HQ, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

PERSGA and ISESCO, in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (IOC-UNESCO)

Language

The training language will be English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where needed

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

- 1) Stefano Belfiore, ICG/NEAMTWS, IOC-UNESCO
- 2) Julian Barbière, ICG/NEAMTWS, IOC-UNESCO
- 3) Ahmed Khalil (PERSGA)

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Fact sheet – Guidelines for Response to Spills of Oil and Hazardous Chemicals

Title of the course

Training workshop on response to spills of oil and hazardous chemicals.

Rationale

The Consolidated Jeddah Convention (1982)

The Contracting Parties shall:

- "...[formulate] national contingency plans for combating oil pollution....[and] shall co-ordinate their national plans for combating pollution in the marine environment by oil and other harmful substances in a manner that facilitates full co-operation in dealing with pollution emergencies..." (Jeddah Convention, Article IX "Co-operation in Dealing with Pollution Emergencies", Point 1 and 3)
- "...cooperate in taking the necessary and effective measures to protect the coastline related interests of one or more of the Parties from the threat and effects of polludue to the presence of oil or other harmful substances in the marine environr resulting from marine emergencies..." (Oil Protocol, Article II):
- "...individually or jointly, take all necessary measures, including those to ensure that adequate equipment and qualified personnel are readily available, to deal with pollution emergencies in the Sea Area, whatever the cause of such emergencies, and to reduce or eliminate damage resulting therefrom..." (Action Plan, Part II "Environmental management", Point 18.6)

The revised PERSGA/IMO "Action Plan for the Development of National Systems and Regional Mechanisms for Preparedness and Response to Major Marine Oil Spills in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden" June 2005, provides structured program of interventions to develop national plans and systems in countries, and to establish a regional mechanism for achieving a coordinated response to any major spills. PERSGA through its Annual Training program, and its Technical Cooperation Program with IMO, is working continuously on improving national and regional contingency planning in the region. PERSGA has established PERSGA-EMARSGA to enhance regional cooperation and coordination in pollution spill preparedness and response.

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Based on the Action Plan, PERSGA pursues supporting member states to strengthen their capacities for marine pollution preparedness and response. Development of regional procedural guidelines is important to assist in implementing contingency plans. Such guidelines will also harmonize approach and procedures of response practices among countries, which facilitates coordination, cooperation and exchange of expertise, equipment and materials. Furthermore, this will support implementation of the Regional Protocol on Movement of Equipment and Personnel, recently signed by PERSGA countries in 2009.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are to:

- Review current procedures and practices taken by the different PERSGA Member States in response to an oil or chemical spill
- Discuss approaches to develop regional guidelines for standard response procedure and practices.
- Develop the framework of the regional guidelines.

Participants

Participants of this workshop will be selected based on their qualifications and career; they should include national officials responsible for response to oil spills and managing hazardous chemicals in at government authorities and the private sectors.

The total expected number for this workshop is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days and it will be conducted during **October 25-27**, **2010**.

Location

PERSGA regional center for Emergency Mutual Aids in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (EMARSGA) in Hurghada, Egypt

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA); Proposed to be included in the PERSGA TC program with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for 2010-2011.

Language

The training language is English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where appropriate

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage

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Fact sheet – Identification and Assessment of Shark Species in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Title of the course

Training workshop on Identification and assessment of Shark Species in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Rationale

The biological and ecological profile of elasmobranches makes them highly vulnerable to over-fishing. Most sharks are long lived, with comparatively slow growth and late age of first sexual maturity (ranging between 3 and 35 years in different species). This, together with their low fecundity confers sharks with very low reproductive potential compared to other marine fauna. Consequently, the resilience of elasmobranch stocks is comparatively very low. At the ecosystem level, the top predator niche occupied by sharks renders them a crucial role as regulators of other species densities and custodians of marine ecosystem balance. Evidently, over-fishing of sharks causes severe impacts on marine ecosystem. Some findings indicate the cascading effects of the loss of apex predatory sharks, which include some serious consequential impacts such as decline of shellfish and coral bleaching.

The world shark fishing has been steadily increasing since 1950s. In the past two decades, however, the pressure on shark resources has rapidly magnified with the concomitant increase in the shark-fin trade. The Red Sea shark stocks are exposed to over-fishing as indicated by the reported declines in captures and the disproportionate abundance of smaller sized individuals in the catches.

PERSGA has undertaken several steps addressing conservation of elasmobranches through SAP (1998-2003), including preparation of a regional shark identification guide, organizing training workshops on shark taxonomy and stock assessment, and drawing up recommendations for management and monitoring. Such actins were in concurrence with the international efforts (particularly the IPOA-sharks developed by FAO). More recently PERSGA LMR has initiated the Regional Shark Assessment Program (RSAP) since 2009, the major aim of which is to launch and sustain a regular periodic assessment of the status of sharks and their management in the region, in order to assist effective management policy and identify cost effective strategies; ensuring sustainability and strengthening regional cooperation.

Major activities accomplished by the RSAP in 2009 has included, development and distribution of Shark Assessment Questionnaire, collection of data and information on current shark status in the countries, and holding a Regional Meeting that has come with several recommendations regarding shark management in the region, and the RSAP work-plan. Based on this meeting the RSAP activities for 2010 were planned, which includes development of the regional status report and action plan, organizing a training workshop on shark species identification and assessment, and conducting a study on reduction of incidental and by-catch capture of shark, and undertaking assessment of shark critical habitats in the region.

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Objectives

The main objective of the workshop is to train specialist in the region on the identification and assessment of shark species in the region, with the aim of improving the quality of data collection and monitoring, considering species compositions and weights in the catches

The workshop also aims at enhancing regional cooperation, sharing knowledge and experiences in assessment and management of sharks in the region

Participants

Participants in this workshop shall include national officials responsible for marine fisheries statistics and management.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 25 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop will be four working days, and it will be conducted during **December 12-15**, **2010**.

Location

Mukalaa, Republic of Yemen

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Language

The training language will be English. Arabic will be used as an auxiliary medium where needed

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Fareed Krupp, Marine fish taxonomist and Head Ichthyology Department at Senckenberg Institute and Museum, Frankfurt, Germany

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