



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

PERSGA Training Program



2012

www.persga.org



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

PERSGA Training Program 2012

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.

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

Address:

PERSGA . P.O. Box 53662 Jeddah 21583, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Tel.: +966-2-6573224. Fax: +966-2-6521901. E-mail: information@persga.org

PERSGA Training Program 2012

1. Program Objectives: Investing in Human Resources

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 17 and 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 programs and activities in the year of 2012 (see also detailed fact sheets for workshops to be held in 2012 shown in this manual) as per the following schedule:

List of Proposed Training Workshops and Technical Meetings in 2012

#	Workshop Title	Application Deadline	Workshop Date	Workshop Duration	Workshop Location	Fees (US\$)
1	Management of MPAs: economical and financial analysis for the establishment of new MPAs and elaboration of business plan	3/1/2012	4/1/2012	2 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
2	Regional Meeting on status of Sharks in the RSGA Region	3/23/2012	4/23/2012	2 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	NA
3	Ecosystem- Based Adaptations to Climate Change Impacts	3/29/2012	4/29/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
4	Public Awareness Project Management	4/5/2012	5/6/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
5	Closing Meeting of the UP POPs in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) Coastal Zone	4/12/2012	5/13/2012	2 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
6	Sustainable management of Salt marsh vegetation	4/19/2012	5/20/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
7	Regional Meeting of Fisheries Mechanism: 1st RTF Meeting	5/11/2012	6/11/2012	2 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	NA
8	Environmental Inspection	5/17/2012	6/17/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
9	Red Sea and Gulf of Aden marine mammals: Status, Threats and Conservation	5/24/2012	6/24/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
10	Effective negotiations and communication	8/9/2012	9/9/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
11	Combating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fisheries (IUUF)	8/16/2012	9/16/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
12	Regional Indicators for Integrated Management of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden LMR	8/23/2012	9/23/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
13	Sustainable Sea Cucumber Fisheries in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden	10/11/2012	11/11/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
14	Monitoring Radioactivity	10/18/2012	11/18/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000
15	Regional Meeting of Fisheries Mechanism: 2 nd RTF Meeting	11/7/2012	12/8/2012	2 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	NA
16	Sample Processing and Preparation for Analysis of Hydrocarbons, with Emphasis on UP-POPs	11/16/2012	12/17/2012	3 days	Jeddah Saudi Arabia	2000

If the application deadline happens to come in a weekend or a holiday, it automatically becomes the first working day after the holiday. Fees apply only for additional participants willing to participate at their own cost. Fee waiver applications are possible through Focal Points.

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 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 2012, PERSGA will offer a number of specialized training workshops related to navigation and maritime pollution at the EMARSGA as per the following schedule:

#	Event Title	Application Deadline	Event Duration	Location	Fees (US\$)
1.	Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement in Port State Control	April 21 st	May 21 st – 22 nd	Hurghada Egypt	2000
2.	Environmental Damage and Compensation for Dumping or Spillage of Ship Cargo	July 27 th	August 27 th – 29 th	Hurghada Egypt	2000
3.	Technical Committee Meeting of Port State Control MoU in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden	September 8 th	October 8 th - 9 th	Hurghada Egypt	NA
4.	Regional Training Course on OPRC level 3	October 5 th	November 5 th – 7 th	Hurghada Egypt	2000
5.	Optimization and Integration of Pollution and Basic Seawater Monitoring Activities	November 5 th	December 24 th –26 th	Hurghada Egypt	2000
6.	Twinning Arrangement between LPCs and neighboring Countries	To be organized by the countries	To be coordinated with countries	Coastal cities in Djibouti and Sudan	1000
7.	National Contingency Training IMO 2, in Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen	To be organized by the countries	To be coordinated with countries	Coastal cities selected by countries	1000

If the application deadline happens to come in a weekend or a holiday, it automatically becomes the first working day after the holiday
Fees apply only for additional participants willing to participate at their own cost. Fee waiver applications are possible through Focal Points

3. Application process

This training programme is specially designed and organized for applicants from PERSGA member countries with special qualifications for each training course. Nominations are made by PERSGA Focal Points. PERSGA usually supports one or two participants per country in every workshop. Additional participants may apply through PERSGA Focal Points provided that they have adequate financial support to cover their participation.

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

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 send duly signed form by writing to PERSGA at (information@persga.org); and or by contacting the PERSGA National Focal point (application form can be downloaded from PERSGA website at: www.persga.org/training);

- Submit to PERSGA through PERSGA Focal Points an application form, together with updated CV and recent passport copy, by fax at: 00966 2 6521901 or e-mail to: information@persga.org by the submission deadline of each activity. 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 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 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 applicants in acquiring the appropriate visa required for his/her stay.

Travel

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

Accommodation

PERSGA may assist in hotel reservations. Participants however need to confirm their reservations with hotels of their choice directly. Some hotels may ask for credit card to confirm booking. Participants should also pay their own hotel bills directly.

Insurance

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

5. Participation Cost

A nominal cost training is indicated in the Table above as participation fees. The participation fee covers all training cost such as lectures, training materials, field visits and certain social activities if applicable. Personal expenses travel and accommodation are not included.

Funding Support

- a. PERSGA may provide funding to support qualified applicants from the region (1 or two from each PERSGA Member States) who are officially nominated by the PERSGA Focal Points. Funding will cover fees, hotel accommodation, round trip airfare and meals.
- b. For other accepted applicants from the region PERSGA may cover course fees only upon an application of fee waiver through PERSGA Focal Point; participants will still 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.

Per Diem Allowance:

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.

6. For more information:

Please visit our website (www.persga.org) regularly for updated information.

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

PERSGA

P.O. Box 53662

Jeddah 21583, Saudi Arabia

Tel: 00966 2 6573224

Fax: 00966 2 6521901

Email: information@persga.org ■



Training Program 2012 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 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

PERSGA Training Program 2012

Workshop Fact Sheet

Management of MPAs: Economical and financial analysis for the establishment of new MPAs and elaboration of business plan

Rationale

Sustainable use of coastal resources requires that some coastal areas be retained in their natural state or as near to natural as possible. Safeguarding critical habitats for fish production, preserving genetic resources, protecting scenic and coastal areas, and enjoying natural heritage all may require the protective management of natural areas. Marine protected areas (MPAs) require a specific planning process, which is best done prior to the management phase, whether they are discrete sites or sites within a larger management framework. Planning provides the basis for decisions on how resources are to be allocated and protected. Management addresses the strategies and operations needed to attain the objectives of the management plan.

Based on the UNEP Program of work output 4-3-4 addressing “Regional/sub-regional institutional arrangements facilitated to address common interests in shared natural resources and trans-boundary environmental issues in accordance with priorities and strategies identified by the relevant regional or sub-regional intergovernmental bodies and forums, or by the countries concerned, UNEP agrees to co-operate with PERSGA with respect to the project entitled Institutional arrangements for the governance of shared natural resources and trans-boundary environment issues. Project/Program objectives to which the small-scale funding contributes: to revive the work of PERSGA SAP that was developed with GEF funding in 2005, particularly in the field of protected areas/biodiversity and living marine resources to strengthen the governance of these resources by the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden riparian countries.

Objectives

The main objective of the training workshop is to introduce and provide training on use of the MPAs guideline produced throughout the project. Also, to help region countries participants establish systems management for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), as a key component of integrated management of their coastal and marine areas and as part of their sustainable development.

Participants

Participants in this training workshop will be the senior officials, specialties and MPAs managers in PERSGA members states.

The total expected numbers of this training course is about 20 participants

Date and Duration

The duration of the training course is two working days (April 1st-2nd 2012).

Location

PERSGA HQ, Jeddah-KSA

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden –PERSGA in collaboration with UNEP/ROWA

Language

The language is mix of Arabic and English

Training materials/References

To be identified later

Instructors/Keynote Speakers

Dr. Mahmoud H. Hanafy (Suez Canal University, Egypt)

PERSGA Annual Workshops Program 2012

Workshop Fact sheet

Second Regional Meeting on the Status of Elasmobranchs (Sharks and Rays) in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Rationale

The biological and ecological profile of elasmobranchs 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. Empirical evidences strongly suggest that over-fishing and depletion of sharks cause severe impacts on marine ecosystem. Recent findings have elucidated the cascading effects of the loss of apex predatory sharks from a coastal ocean, which include a variety of unexpected 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 elasmobranchs in the region during the implementation of its Strategic Action Program (1999-2003). These included 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 actions were in concurrence with the international efforts (particularly the IPOA-sharks developed by FAO).

Building on its previous reaching, PERSGA has established a long-term Regional Shark Assessment Program (RSAP). The major aim of PERSGA's RSAP is to conduct regular assessments of the status of sharks and their management in the region, in order to assist in enhancing their effective management. The first assessment within the PERSGA RSAP was conducted in 2009. This was followed by the 1st Regional Meeting to discuss the assessment outcomes and draw recommendations for the PERSGA-RSAP activities.

PERSGA is planning to organize the 2nd regular assessment and regional technical meeting on 23-24 April 2012. PERSGA is organizing this 2nd regional assessment of elasmobranchs and the associated "2nd Regional Meeting on their status in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden" in collaboration with IUCN.

PERSGA in collaboration with IUCN, has prepared a questionnaire to be used by fisheries authorities as a template for assessing the current status of elasmobranchs (sharks and rays) in their respective member states. The assessment feedbacks will be collated in a regional status report, and will constitute the basis of discussions in the 2nd PERSGA-RSAP regional meeting to be arranged afterward at PERSGA Headquarter in Jeddah.

Objectives

The meeting will discuss current status of elasmobranchs (sharks and rays) in the region and monitor progress made in implementing recommendations by the 1st Meeting held in 2009.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will include fisheries managers/officers nominated by PERSGA countries from national authorities responsible for marine fisheries management, in addition to the PERSGA LMR coordinator and the IUCN representative. IUCN will arrange for nomination of participants from Eritrea to attend the meeting.

The total expected number of the participants in this meeting is not to exceed 20 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the Meeting is two working days and will be conducted during 23-24 April 2012.

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, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Language

The medium of the Meeting will be Arabic. English will be used as an assisting medium where needed.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Will be provided later

Workshop materials/ agenda

Will be provided later

Reference/Contacts at PERSGA

- 1) Dr. Ahmed S. M. Khalil,
Coordinator, Regional Marine Resources Program
PERSGA, P.O. Box 53662, Jeddah 21583
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966 2 657 3224 ext. 203,
Fax: +966 2 652 1909,
Email: ahmed.khalil@persga.org,

PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact sheet
Regional Workshop on Ecosystem-Based Adaptation

Rationale

Healthy, well-functioning ecosystems enhance natural resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change and reduce the vulnerability of people. Ecosystem-based management offers a valuable yet under-utilized approach for climate change adaptation, complementing traditional actions such as infrastructure development. This approach, known as "Ecosystem-based Adaptation" (EbA), uses biodiversity and ecosystem services as part of an overall adaptation strategy to help people and communities adapt to the negative effects of climate change at local, national, regional and global levels.

In addition to protection from climate change impacts, EbA also provides many other benefits to communities, for example through the maintenance and enhancement of ecosystem services crucial for livelihoods and human well-being, such as clean water and food. Appropriately designed ecosystem management initiatives can also contribute to climate change mitigation by reducing emissions from ecosystem loss and degradation, and enhancing carbon sequestration.

PERSGA Region is endowed with rich yet fragile natural resources and ecosystems. The region is well known for its scarcity of water resources and aridity. At the same time, it stands unique with its diverse ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangrove, sea grass beds, coastal plains and river or wadi basins, etc. These ecosystems constitute the basis of life and livelihoods for thousands of years but are already under constant pressure from over-use, degradation and destructions due to rapid socio-economic development in the region. Recently issued studies and national communications on climate change from the region have indicated that these ecosystems are also vulnerable to climate change. There is limited appreciation of the true value of these ecosystems in the provisioning of environmental services, climate system regulations and enhancing resilience. The EbA, as the nature way of Adaptation, is rarely thought of when developing adaptation strategies and actions at the regional, national and local levels.

The Ecosystem-based Adaptation is one of the main five components of PERSGA "Regional Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change Impacts on Coastal and Marine Environments of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden". Globally, EBA is one of the UNEP flagship programmes. It is being implemented in diverse ecosystem setting including mountains, river basins, dry-lands and low-lying coasts and delivers on the three main components, including assessments and knowledge support, capacity building and demonstration, and Integration of EbA options into national development and adaptation plans.

With the support of United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP) and collaboration with the Islamic Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) PERSGA will organize the current regional workshop on Ecosystem Based Adaptation to Climate Change as first workshop addressing this issue in the region.

Objectives

As workshop of addressing Ecosystem-Based Adaptations (EBA) in the region, the workshop aims at introducing the concept of EBA, particularly to mid-level planners and decision-makers at relevant government ministries and agencies in the region. The workshop also aims to push adoption of EBA options, particularly in national adaptation programmes and

plans. The workshop will thus provide technical guidelines for mainstreaming the EBA in the national plans. The workshop program is designed to achieve the following objectives:

- Understand the concept and principles of EBA, their theoretical background and other scientific principles of relevance.
- Recognize EBA linkage to global and regional objectives, legislation and initiatives.
- Recognize requirements/prerequisite for application of EBA and how to develop EBA projects; considering of various aspects/ dimensions and sectors (strategies and policies, socioeconomic, managerial, technological etc.); constraints and risks.
- Familiarize the concept and application through demonstrating case studies, identifying options and hands on training.
- Promote inter-countries and inter-regional exchange of expertise and information
- Identify and discuss options for EBA programmes/projects in the region, and the way forward.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will include experts/ Climate Change focal points, planners, managers and practitioners of relevant government ministries and agencies responsible for management of priority ecosystems (marine, coastal, land, agriculture, etc.)

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 35 participants, nominated from PERSGA countries, UNEP-ROWA countries and regional organizations.

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days and will be conducted during 30 April - 02 May 2012.

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) in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme-Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP-ROWA) and the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

Language

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

Instructors/Keynote speakers

1. Dr. Abdul-Majeid Haddad, Coordinator, Climate Change (UNEP-ROWA).
2. Dr. Ahmed Khalil, Coordinator, Living Marine Resources/ Climate Change (PERSGA).
3. Consultant, and speakers from participating regional organizations and countries (will be identified later)

Workshop materials/ agenda

The following table provides an overview of the Training Workshop Programme

Session	DAY ONE	DAY TWO	DAY THREE
Morning	Adaptation within the UNFCCC Frameworks	Key Ecosystem and options for EBA in	Designing EbA adaptation projects

Afternoon	EbA Concept & Approaches	PERSGA region Case studies from countries	(case studies: coastal zones, water resources)
	National Adaptation Strategies and Plans Concepts & example from countries	Case studies from other regions	Regional EbA Programme (options, recommendations & next steps)

The detailed Workshop Agenda will be provided later

Reference/Contacts at PERSGA

- 2) Dr. Ahmed S. M. Khalil,
Coordinator, Regional Marine Resources Program
PERSGA, P.O. Box 53662, Jeddah 21583
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966 2 657 3224 ext. 203,
Fax: +966 2 652 1909,
Email: ahmed.khalil@persga.org,

- 3) Nagmeldin Awad
Procurement and Administration Specialist
PERSGA, P.O. Box 53662, Jeddah 21583
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966.2.6573224 Ext 222
Fax: +966.2.6521901
E-Mail: nagmeldin.awad@persga.org

**Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet
Public Awareness Projects Management**

Rationale

Raising public awareness is indispensable for the 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. Project management is a tremendous tool to achieve a successful conservation communication program.

A PERSGA new strategy in the public awareness area gives priority to capacity building for managers and coordinators of the communication program in the member countries.

Objectives of the meeting

The workshop aims at providing participants with basic insights and skills to manage effectively the conservation communication in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region. It aims also at setting up a new mechanism to undertake regional projects following the same procedures and steps in all programs.

Participants

The expected participants are actual or potential managers / coordinators of EE & C projects in the different pertinent ministries such as Environment, Education and Information / Communication. Practitioners / specialists in the awareness domain from the civil society as well as freelance journalists can attend as well.

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

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days (May 6th-8th 2012)

Location

PERSGA HQ, Jeddah – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Organizers

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

Language

The workshop language and discussion will be in Arabic.

Training Materials/References

To be provided later

Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be identified later.

PERSGA Training Program 2012

Workshop Fact Sheet

Closing Workshop; Sixth PMC Meeting of the Project Promotion of Strategies to Reduce Unintentional Production of POPs in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) Coastal Zone

Rationale

Industrialization induces the use of chemicals from as modest quantity for use as a catalyst in process industries, in order to increase efficiency or to add value, to a transformed product to enable market penetration and enhance competitiveness. These adverse impacts need to be examined and solutions to these problems need to be properly addressed. Multilateral environmental agreements have been the environment vehicle for the world, giving guidance and producing guidelines for the reduction and elimination of the harmful effects to health and the environment of these chemicals and their waste stockpiles. Sustainable management of the resources of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden called for a collective regional approach, which culminated in the Jeddah Convention (1982) establishing the *Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden* (PERSGA) in 1995. PERSGA has fostered a spirit of international cooperation and exchange of knowledge among governments, research institutions and civil societies 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 on the status of the environment. Regional action plans have been developed and integrated into the national sustainable development plans of the PERSGA member states. The proposed project will build on the existing cooperation and collaboration experiences of these countries (and their effort on sustainable coastal zone management) and integrate the Stockholm Convention (SC) requirements to the industrial sector of the coast to reduce and/or eliminate unintentionally produced POPs (UP-POPs).

Four PERSGA countries (Egypt, Jordan, Sudan and Yemen) have become Parties of the SC and during regular consultation meetings of PERSGA, they have also agreed that close cooperation is needed to collectively implement the Stockholm Convention's measures concerning introduction of best available techniques (BAT) and best environmental practices (BEP) for the coastal zone industries. The countries have further agreed that it could be possible that a larger impact on the environment and the coastal zone economy be attained if the cooperation is made at regional level rather than each country intervenes alone at the industries of its own coastal zone. Consequently, PERSGA has approached UNIDO for assistance through developing and implementing a Medium-Sized Project (MSP) to enable the introduction of BAT and BEP to the industrial sector of the coastal zone. It is important to note that Saudi Arabia is a self financed country, Somalia was not included due to Project's safeguarding considerations and Djibouti has expressed concerns of language and preferred not to join the four countries.

The project commenced in March 2009 and will continue till December 2011. Five PMC meetings will have been conducted before the sixth final meeting. National inventories of POPs sources have been prepared. A regional inventory has been prepared and sight specific assessments will be completed by the end of February 2011. Partnership agreements with industry have been signed. Joint activities according to the signed agreements will be completed by October 2011. The sixth PMC Meeting will discuss the overall achievements of the project. Outputs of the meeting will constitute the material to be included in the Project's Final Report

Objectives

The meeting main objectives are:

1. Discussion of the Project's achievements at the International, Regional and National levels
2. Discussion of the results of BAT / BEP introduction through partnership with industry
3. Discussion of a sustainability plan of the project and sustainable contacts established
4. Discussion of PERSGA UP POPs program and inter-regional collaboration
5. Discussion of other project opportunities developed jointly with UNIDO

Participants

Participants will be Members of the Program Management Committee (PMC) who are the representatives of PERSGA, UNIDO, and the national POPs focal points of Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and Yemen. Also a representative of every partnering industry will be invited.

Date and Duration

The duration of the meeting is two working days (May 13th-14th 2012)

Location

PERSGA Headquarters, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Organizers

Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Language

The language is mixed English and Arabic.

Training Materials/References

Regional UP POPs inventory, Site specific assessment reports, BAT BEP reports

Instructors/Keynote speakers

PMC Members, Partners from Industry, BAT BEP Consultants

PERSGA Training Program 2012

Workshop Fact Sheet

Management of Halophyte and Salt-marsh Ecosystem of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Rationale

Salt marsh ecosystems in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are a hallmark of the Region's coastal ecological and geological heritage and cover significant portions of the shore. Salt marshes in the region are highly productive areas found along the entire coastline at inlets and depressed areas. Their ecological functions are many, such as providing food and pasture for marine and terrestrial species, roosting habitat for several species of shorebirds, and valuable shelter for several other vertebrate and related faunal communities. This in addition to their role in soil fixation, salinity balance and enriching coastal food web by organic material and detritus.

Typically, salt marshes exist at elevations just a few centimeters above/below high tide, can extend up to seven kilometers in width and contain a variety of vegetation that is highly resistant to salinity (e.g., *Aeluropus lagopoides*, *Sporobolus spicata*, and *Cyperus glomerata*). Due to their sea-land interface location, the coastal salt marsh vegetation in the Region are vulnerable to multitude human impacts, from both sea-based and land-based pollution and habitat destruction in favor of coastal construction, urban development and investment projects. They are also vulnerable to climate change impacts such as sea level rise. The inundation of coastal salt marshes could create an extremely shallow sea along the coast. This, more shallow, body of water would be susceptible to strong heating and cooling and may exhibit associated density changes due to evaporation. Finally, as salt marshes are slightly above sea level, the lack of relief and altitude allows sea water to move inland during high tide, storm surges, and even more so with future sea-level increases. Any change sea level due to climate change will alter the evaporites that are at the core of ecosystem functioning.

Previous regional capacity building on coastal management has largely focused on coral reefs and mangroves, while salt marsh i.e. halophytes, remains not addressed. The apparent degradation in salt marsh ecosystem will have severe impacts on the overall coastal environment. Action plans should consider salt marsh ecosystem as a key habitat needs urgent intervention through sensible management plans, which requires that coastal managers/ planners soundly understand the salt marsh ecology, community structure, status and impacts/threats that lead to salt-marsh degradation, in addition to tools and methods for salt marsh protection, restoration and sustainable management.

Objectives

The current PERSGA-ISESCO joint training workshop focuses on management of RSGA salt marsh ecosystem. It renders particular significance as an initial workshop tackling such important topic, which was not addressed by the Regional Training Program before. The workshop targets coastal/marine midlevel managers and planners. The objectives of the workshop include providing participants with:

- Background knowledge on the ecology of salt marsh, including species composition, relative abundance, zonation, community structure, natural spatial and temporal distribution, etc;
- Knowledge of ecological functions, economic value/potential and uses of RSGA salt marsh and coastal halophytes
- Methods and tools for assessing impacts on and threats to salt marsh;
- Current available knowledge and information on the status of salt marsh, changes/consequences to the ecosystem function, species and community structure and

coastal ecology in general as a result of the human and natural impacts; vulnerability to climate change impacts

- Guidelines for conservation management and restoration plans / options for sustainable management of salt-marsh ecosystem in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region

Participants

The workshop will target participants involved in field assessment methods, management options and tools, etc. of salt marsh management. Officials involved in national frameworks such as integrated coastal management, or other related areas including development of Action Plans targeting specific key habitats may also benefit from the workshop.

Total number of participants is not to exceed 20 persons.

Date and Duration

The duration of the meeting is two working days (May 20th–22nd 2012)

Location

PERSGA Headquarters, 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 ISESCO

Language

The language is mixed English and Arabic.

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be identified later

PERSGA Workshops and Regional Meetings Program 2012

Workshop Fact sheet

1st Meeting of the Task Force on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Collaborative Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Arrangement

Rationale

PERSGA has convened "The Regional Intergovernmental Meeting to Initiate the Establishment of a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement" with the support of FAO by the end of November 2011. The Meeting, which discussed the status of fishery resource and management in the region and options for regional cooperation, reached consensus on the need to establish a regional fisheries mechanism that should have a management mandate, capable of adopting measures for the sustainable management of marine fisheries and the development of sustainable aquaculture in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

The meeting requested PERSGA to arrange for establishing a regional Task Force, to be coordinated by PERSGA, technically supported by PERSGA and FAO, and includes one delegated from each country that was invited to the meeting. According to the Meeting recommendations, the Task Force should develop a proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden collaborative fisheries and aquaculture arrangement, evaluate and propose on funding and resource mobilization options, suggest an appropriate name for the proposed arrangement, and prepare for another Regional Intergovernmental Meeting on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement. The schedule of the Task Force meetings was designed and agreed by the Meeting as follows:

Before 31 December 2011	Establishment of the Task Force
Before 30 June 2012	First meeting of the Task Force (formulation of an 18 month work plan)
July 2012	An informal meeting of the countries invited to the "Regional Intergovernmental Meeting to initiate the establishment of a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement" will be arranged at FAO headquarters in Rome, during the 2012 FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting. The purpose of this informal meeting is to follow-up on progress that has been made in the regional fishery mechanism.
Before 31 December 2012	Second meeting of the Task Force
Before 30 June 2013	Third meeting of the Task Force
Before 31 December 2013	Second intergovernmental meeting of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden fishery management arrangement

Accordingly, the 1st meeting of the regional Task Force on the Regional Mechanism for Cooperation in for Fisheries and Aquaculture Management will be held in June 2012

Objectives

The Meeting will discuss the draft arrangement MoU concerning regional cooperation in management of fisheries and aquaculture in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. The Meeting will also formulate a work plan for 2012-2013, and discuss other assignment identified in the Task Force mission above

Participants

Participants in this workshop will include members of the Task Force nominated by the countries, PERSGA coordinator and invited expert/ officer from the FAO.

The total expected number of the participants in this meeting is not to exceed 12 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the Meeting is two working days and will be conducted during 11-12 June 2012.

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

Language

The medium of the Meeting will be Arabic. English will be used as an assisting medium where needed.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Will be provided later

Workshop materials/ agenda

Will be provided later

Reference/Contacts at PERSGA

- 1) Dr. Ahmed S. M. Khalil,
Coordinator, Regional Marine Resources Program
PERSGA, P.O. Box 53662, Jeddah 21583
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966 2 657 3224 ext. 203,
Fax: +966 2 652 1909,
Email: ahmed.khalil@persga.org,

Workshop Fact Sheet

Environmental Inspection as a Management Tool for Protection of Coastal Environment

Rationale

Environmental inspections provide companies with an overall view of the environmental and energy conditions to which they are subject. It provides a good basis for assessing where the best opportunities for improvements lie. Improvements might take the form of energy savings or reduction of waste and contaminated emissions. Thus an environmental inspection involves a systematic charting of resource consumption, handling of materials and products, and waste and emissions generation stemming from sources within the company, establishing a basis for taking action where it is most effective.

The environmental inspector has the legal authority to enter a facility or private property to conduct an inspection to determine compliance according to local or national environmental laws, rules, and regulations. Inspections are usually not pre-arranged but generally occur during regular working hours. In the event of a spill or other emergency, however an after-hours inspection may be necessary. Facilities should have a well identified environmental coordinator or person in charge. Environmental inspector should identify their official title, and discuss the scope of the inspection activities.

Environmental inspections serve both the business and the regulatory authority and may be conducted for numerous reasons, including:

- Compliance for an agency-permitted activity or permit application filed for the facility
- Inspection of regulated activities to determine compliance with specific requirements
- Follow-up inspections to check on prior violations
- Response to a citizen or employee complaint
- Referral from another authority or local agency

Environmental inspectors have the legal authority to get access to and copy and review records included in the list below. The environmental inspector may focus on are only and thus review relevant records. For multi-media inspections, the inspector(s) may review all of the following records:

- Facility process information
- Material purchasing records
- Hazardous and nonhazardous waste manifests
- Analytical results for waste determinations
- Air emissions data, wastewater discharge data, and other monitoring data required by permits held by your facility
- Annual reports
- Self-monitoring records
- Operation records
- Training records
- Waste handling and disposal information
- Emergency response and spill control procedures and plans
- Engineering assessments

The draft PERSGA regional strategy for implementation of best environmental practices and or best available technology in cutting UP POPs emissions gives special emphasis to harmonizing inspection methodologies. Thus the data generated from field inspections would be easier to process and their conclusions would be available for informed decision making. Environmental inspection is better developed in some PERSGA countries than

others and joining participants from the different countries in one workshop would help in bringing inspectors and industry in the different countries to common understanding of the inspection process..

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are to:

- Address environmental inspection practices in different PERSGA countries
- Discuss joint benefits of the regulatory authorities and business from inspection
- Analyze the impacts of effective inspection on the coastal and marine environments
- Introduce standard environmental compliance inspection methods

Participants

The workshop will target government officials from regulatory authorities involved in compliances inspection; inspection coordinators or contact points from industry. Total number of participants is expected to exceed 20 persons from both categories.

Date, Duration and Location

The duration of the course is three working days (June 17th –19th 2012)
PERSGA HQ, Jeddah - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

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

Language

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

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be provided later.

PERSGA Training Program 2012

Workshop Fact Sheet

Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Marine Mammals: Status, Threats and Conservation

Rationale

Marine mammals of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden include a variety of cetaceans (whales and dolphins) and one sirenian (the Dugong).

Marine mammals face an uncertain fate in our rapidly changing world. Despite human fascination with these species and protective legislation in many countries, conservation efforts for marine mammals have achieved mixed results to date: some species have experienced a degree of recovery following centuries of exploitation, whereas others have perished or are on the brink of extinction. To avoid or at least to minimize further losses, human societies must be willing to assess and alter their values and activities that compete with, or otherwise contribute to, the demise of marine mammals and marine ecosystems.

The value of conservation must be elevated from an aesthetically pleasing concept championed when convenient to a fundamental construct of our lives and futures. This new paradigm will require a clear vision of future conservation goals and the roles of societies in achieving them, long-term planning and commitment of funding/resources, rigorous science to resolve critical uncertainties, precautionary protection of habitats and ecosystems in the face of such uncertainty, and an interdisciplinary, comprehensive approach to conservation that engages the social sciences and humanities to elevate the value of conservation over short-term economic gain and many other competing values. Without the social will to make such changes, the future for marine mammals looks bleak.

The status of marine mammals is often characterized using two principal measures: (1) abundance and (2) mortality from various causes. In a manner similar to the study of human health and medicine, marine mammal scientists are gradually expanding this limited construct to include the factors that influence or determine abundance and trends. Such factors include animal health, population demography, and current and future threats to the population. With so many populations and species vulnerable to the effects of human activities, the aim of including this additional information is to better characterize the risk of extinction, and thereby give better guidance to conservation efforts.

Objectives

- The specific objectives of the workshop is to:
- Identify the marine mammal species that have been reliably recorded in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden waters.
- collect the available information on the distribution, abundance, seasonal patterns of occurrence, and ecological requirements of each species in the region
- collect the available information on population size and historical and recent population trends for each species in the region, and in other parts of their distribution where appropriate.
- Identify the known and potential threatening processes that affect marine mammals in Red Sea and Gulf of Aden waters, and in other parts of their distribution where appropriate.
- Rank the species in terms of need for conservation effort
- Identify the species, subspecies or populations that warrant listing, changed listing or delisting under the IUCN Red List.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will be the officials, specialties in charge of national assessment, monitoring, research related to marine mammals.

The total expected numbers for this workshop not to exceed 20 participants

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is two working days (June 24th-25th 2012)

Location

PERSGA Headquarters, Jeddah Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Organizers

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

Language

The language is mix of English and Arabic

workshop materials/References

To be identified later

Instructors/Keynote Speakers

To be provide later

PERSGA Training Program 2012
Fact Sheet
Effective Environmental Negotiation and Communication

Rationale

Negotiation is the process of exchanging promises and commitments in an effort to resolve conflict and reach an agreement. Environmental negotiation can be uniquely challenging as it involves decisions regarding potential impacts on the environment.

Several governmental officials in the region take part in the main global environmental negotiation meetings. It is obvious that their skills and background need continuous enhancement in order to be able to play an influential role in the negotiation process. PERSGA proposes the course with the aim of taking leaders in the region to introduce the culture of negotiation in the environmental issues. The course aims at providing a range of approaches for governmental actors to participate and be heard at intergovernmental meetings as well as national and global actions that should be undertaken before the meetings. It provides a list of innovative approaches on how to be effective while attending and participating in meetings. It describes the roles of the different bodies and forums involved in the global environmental negotiation.

Objectives of the meeting

The main objectives of the course are to:

- analyze particular characteristics of environmental negotiations;
- address key issues and challenges of international environmental negotiation process
- introduce aspects of international environmental negotiation as a governance process
- examine the negotiation process of specific environmental issues such as governance of marine and coastal environments in the RSGA

Participants

Participants will be selected based on their qualifications and career; they shall be specialists working at national agencies which represent their countries at the regional and international environmental agreements meetings and responsible for communication at the national level.

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

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days (September 9th-11th, 2012)

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) in collaboration with the International Maritimes Organization (IMO)

Language

The language is mixed English and Arabic.

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be provided at a later stage.

**PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact sheet**

Regional Workshop on Combating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fisheries (IUUF)

Rationale

Since its establishment by the Strategic Action Program in 1999, the PERSGA Regional Living Marine Resources (LMR) program has been undertaking a multitude of program activities that support capacity building and regional cooperation for sustainable management of living marine resources and fisheries. These entail conducting regular training workshops on various aspects of fisheries management, implementing on-the-ground demo projects for sustainable and responsible fishery practices, improvement of fishery data collection and assessment systems, adoption of ecosystem based fisheries and environmentally friendly aquaculture approaches, etc. Coinciding with its mission and relevance to a number of international agreements and initiatives developed by FAO (e.g. Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries CCRF; Plan for Combating Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported Fisheries IUUF, Plans for protection of Sharks, Seabirds and Marine Turtles, etc.), PERSGA LMR is striving to facilitate implementing such initiatives in PERSGA region. This is achievable through the LMR program strategy and operational plan, as it allows addressing essential requirements in this concern, such as building capacities to ensure that the bodies responsible for management are able to implement such initiatives effectively; and facilitating regional cooperation to reinforce management actions, compliance and regulations in the regionally shared water body and for trans-boundary stocks. In this framework, PERSGA is organizing this workshop, which focuses on regional cooperation in combating IUUF in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Objectives

The workshop objective is to discuss mechanisms and tools for regional cooperation and coordination in combating IUUF in PERSGA region. The workshop will also provide a platform for establishing a network for exchange of information and expertise; and enhancement of regional legislation in this regard.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will be the senior officials from national fisheries administration and coastal marine resources management departments, or related authorities

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

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days (September 16th–18th 2012)

Location

PERSGA Headquarters, Jeddah Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

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

Language

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

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be provided later.

**PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet**

Regional Indicators for Integrated Management of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden LMR

Rationale

Establishing Regional Indicators is critical to assessing progress and outcomes of integrated coastal marine ecosystem management. Regional Indicators will 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.

Through a partnership with IOC-UNESCO, PERSGA has launched a process to develop a set of Regional Indicators since last year. This involves training of experts from the region on the concept and methodology for developing effective indicators, preparation of a preliminary list of indicators; confirm a set of agreeable indicators, and finally application of the Regional Indicators pilot assessments in PERSGA countries, a process which is planned to be guided by national team leaders.

An inception training workshop was conducted in October 2010. The workshop was attended by specialists from the region, who received training and participate in the preparation of a draft set of regional indicators. This draft set is currently being screened through consultation with regional experts to develop the final set of Regional Indicators that are directly linked to PERSGA Regional Action Plan and operational program.

It has been proposed that a training of trainers' workshop is required to be arranged for national specialists who will lead pilot assessments in the countries. In this workshop participants will exercise application of the Regional Indicators. This will facilitate harmonization of the regional assessment and ensure that national specialists comprehend the approach. Therefore, PERSGA is organizing this workshop to facilitate application PERSGA Regional Indicators in the upcoming assessments measuring progress in implementing Regional Action Plan and its overall objective of integrated management of coastal marine ecosystem in the region.

Objectives

The workshop training program is designed to assist the participants acquiring the background conceptual approaches and methodologies for applying a set of Regional Indicators for measuring outcomes and progress of the Regional Action Plan and integrated coastal an marine ecosystem management of in the region.

The workshop will also provide a platform for discussing communication mechanism for data and information exchange among national team while conducting the assessments; as well as the process of developing national reports and compiling the regional assessment report.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will be officials and specialists in charge of national assessment, planning and program related to coastal/marine environment. The participants will lead/ be involved in national teams who will undertake assessment studies in their respective countries.

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

Date, Duration and Location

The duration of the course is three working days (September 23rd – 25th 2012)
PERSGA HQ, Jeddah - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

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

Language

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

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be provided later.

**PERSGA Training Program 2012
Training Workshop Fact sheet
Sustainable Sea Cucumber Fisheries**

Rationale

Most sea cucumbers are exported for the bêche-de-mer market and few species for the live trade (aquarium) market, which is currently underreported. There is also an emerging market for the use of sea cucumbers in the pharmaceutical, nutritional and cosmetic industries. The type of fishery varies by region and the species under exploitation. According to a recent FAO report, sea cucumber stocks are under intense fishing pressure throughout the world. Most high value commercial species have been depleted. In a majority of countries reviewed and in the African and Indian Ocean regions, stocks are overfished. Likewise in the Asian Pacific region the most sought-after species are largely depleted.

Several additional threats have been identified for sea cucumber populations worldwide, including global warming, habitat destruction, unsustainable fishing practices (e.g. blasting), the development of fisheries with little or no information the species, and lack of natural recovery after overexploitation. Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fisheries are widespread in all regions, representing an indirect threat as it fuels unsustainable practices and socio-economic demand. The critical status of sea cucumber fisheries worldwide is compounded by different factors including i) the lack of financial and technical capacity to gather basic scientific information to support management plans, ii) weak surveillance and enforcement capacity, and iii) lack of political will and socio-economic pressure exerted by the communities that rely on this fishery as an important source of incomes.

Likewise, populations of sea cucumbers in the PERSGA region are likely under assault due to overexploitation. These organism are mainly fished to export to Asian countries for market purposes. Lack of information and IUU are factors affecting their populations. Another main factor contributing to the depletion of sea cucumbers is lack of national capacities on sea cucumber management in most PERSGA member countries. This workshop will contribute to conservation of marine biodiversity, thus responding to global initiatives for sea cucumbers conservation and in parallel to the PERSGA Protocol Concerning Conservation of Marine Biodiversity and Establishment of Marine Protected Areas Network (2005).

Objectives

The workshop aims at building capacity of national specialists from the region on sustainable management of sea cucumbers fisheries with the following main objectives:

- provide background information on biology and ecology of sea cucumbers.
- raise awareness on effects of unsustainable fisheries of commercial sea cucumbers on the coastal and marine ecosystem.
- share information on the sea cucumbers fisheries among member countries, and
- understand sea cucumber fisheries management and conservation management options and practices for sea cucumber fisheries.
- support national programs in general and implementing the Jeddah Convention, and the concerned Regional Protocol in particular.

Participants

Participants attending this training workshop should have degrees in marine biology, marine science, environmental or in equivalent degrees with background on fisheries management.

They should be affiliated to coastal municipalities, coastal and marine institutes and/or local authorities and agencies working in the field of fisheries management. The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 20 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days (November 11th-13th, 2012).

Location

PERSGA Headquarters. Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

Organizers

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

Language

Mainly English. However, summary translation into Arabic could be available.

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

Details to be provided at a later stage.

PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet
Monitoring Radioactivity in the Coastal and Marine Environment

Rationale

Radioactive pollution can persist in the marine and coastal environment for long periods especially in enclosed seas where the exchange of water with the open ocean is limited such as the case of the Red Sea. Information on radioactive material concentrations in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden is almost completely absent. PERSGA is encouraging the countries to establish a network of online monitoring systems. Online monitoring of radioactivity in seawater is possible and has advanced significantly in the last ten years. Radioactivity sensors may be built in online monitoring systems to be distributed in several parts in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

However such a step of monitoring radioactivity needs better understanding of its concepts and consensus of coastal management authorities on the benefits and use of monitoring results in their management approach.

Objectives

The main objective of the workshop is to introduce participants to available techniques of measuring concentrations of artificial radionuclides in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden in order to assess any possible risks. No endeavor will be taken to identify the radioactive species but rather to monitor collective radioactivity building capacity in the region for production of risk assessment reports of radioactivity in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden for management purposes.

Specific objectives of the workshop will include:

1. Discussing feasibility of installation of online monitoring systems in a number of sites around the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden that include monitoring radioactivity versus just installing monitoring radioactivity systems
2. Discussing collection of data on discharges and environmental levels of radioactivity in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden and encouraging member states to establish inventories on possible source of radioactive discharges
3. Enhancing regional capabilities for preparation of thematic reports covering issues of naturally occurring radionuclides in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, releases of man-made radionuclides from non-nuclear activities (e.g. hospitals) and assessing effects on man and coastal and marine environment

Participants

Most suitable participants for the workshop are two participants from every country; one of them involved in actual laboratory work and monitoring activities and the other should be of scientific background involved in decision making concerning coastal activities and human discharges in the coastal and marine environment

Date, Duration and Location

The duration of the course is three working days (November 25th–27th 2012)
PERSGA HQ, Jeddah - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Organizers

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

Language

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

Training Materials/References, Instructors/Keynote speakers

To be provided later.

PERSGA Workshops and Regional Meetings Program 2012

Workshop Fact sheet

Second Meeting of the Task Force on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Collaborative Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Arrangement

Rationale

PERSGA has convened "The Regional Intergovernmental Meeting to Initiate the Establishment of a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement" with the support of FAO by the end of November 2011. The Meeting, which discussed the status of fishery resource and management in the region and options for regional cooperation, reached consensus on the need to establish a regional fisheries mechanism that should have a management mandate, capable of adopting measures for the sustainable management of marine fisheries and the development of sustainable aquaculture in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

The meeting requested PERSGA to arrange for establishing a regional Task Force, to be coordinated by PERSGA, technically supported by PERSGA and FAO, and includes one delegated from each country that was invited to the meeting. According to the Meeting recommendations, the Task Force should develop a proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden collaborative fisheries and aquaculture arrangement, evaluate and propose on funding and resource mobilization options, suggest an appropriate name for the proposed arrangement, and prepare for another Regional Intergovernmental Meeting on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement. The schedule of the Task Force meetings was designed and agreed by the Meeting as follows:

Before 31 December 2011	Establishment of the Task Force
Before 30 June 2012	First meeting of the Task Force (formulation of an 18 month work plan)
July 2012	An informal meeting of the countries invited to the "Regional Intergovernmental Meeting to initiate the establishment of a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement" will be arranged at FAO headquarters in Rome, during the 2012 FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting. The purpose of this informal meeting is to follow-up on progress that has been made in the regional fishery mechanism.
Before 31 December 2012	Second meeting of the Task Force
Before 30 June 2013	Third meeting of the Task Force
Before 31 December 2013	Second intergovernmental meeting of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden fishery management arrangement

Accordingly, the 2nd meeting of the regional Task Force on the Regional Mechanism for Cooperation in for Fisheries and Aquaculture Management will be held in December 2012

Objectives

The Meeting will discuss Final draft of arrangement MoU concerning regional cooperation in management of fisheries and aquaculture in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, after being revised by the countries. The Meeting will also formulate a work plan for submission of the

final draft and, the Regional Plenipotentiary Meeting to sign the Regional MoU by the countries.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will include members of the Task Force nominated by the countries, PERSGA coordinator and invited expert/ officer from the FAO.

The total expected number of the participants in this meeting is not to exceed 12 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the Meeting is two working days and will be conducted during 8-9 December 2012.

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

Language

The medium of the Meeting will be Arabic. English will be used as an assisting medium where needed.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Will be provided later

Workshop materials/ agenda

Will be provided later

Reference/Contacts at PERSGA

- 1) Dr. Ahmed S. M. Khalil,
Coordinator, Regional Marine Resources Program
PERSGA, P.O. Box 53662, Jeddah 21583
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966 2 657 3224 ext. 203,
Fax: +966 2 652 1909,
Email: ahmed.khalil@persga.org,

PERSGA Training Program 2012

Workshop Fact Sheet Sample Processing and Preparation for Analysis of Hydrocarbons, with Emphasis on UP-POPs

Rationale

This training activity is carried out under the project entitled “Promotion of strategies to reduce unintentional production of POPs in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden implemented in collaboration 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, both 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. Intention is to have solid baseline data for selected demonstration locations for BAT/BEP implementation. A training program aiming at creating capacity at the national level for taking samples for Annex C POPs analysis, specifically for dioxins and furans was carried out in 2010. This training program will go a step further and enhance national capacities in processing samples in the laboratory. The Project will enhance capacity at Ben Hayyan Laboratories Aqaba Jordan in processing and analysis of samples for dioxins and furans. The training program will benefit from this as it could be carried out at Ben Hayyan Laboratories.

Objectives of the meeting

The main objectives of the workshop are to upgrade skills and capacities of qualified national specialists for processing of samples from different environmental matrices for hydrocarbons analysis in general, dioxin and furan in particular. This includes:

- General introduction to contamination of hydrocarbons, POPS and Stockholm Convention
- Introduction to sample processing and preparation for analysis including preparing ready samples for analysis in other laboratories
- Undertake a practical exercise of processing and persevering samples for analysis and getting results for the same sample processed by different groups

Participants

The most suitable participants in this workshop will be national specialists from specialised laboratories. It is essential that they have the following qualifications as minimum:

- Graduate degree in chemistry or equivalent ;
- Extensive experience in field assessments and industrial emission monitoring ;
- Good knowledge on contamination with hydrocarbons and Annex C POPs;
- Good knowledge of chromatography and laboratory practice concerning hydrocarbons and Annex C POPs
- Proficiency in English language and good reporting skills.

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

Date and Duration

The duration of the workshop is three working days (December 17th–19th 2012)

Location

Ben Hayyan Aqaba International Laboratories, Aqaba Jordan

Organizers

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

Language

The language is mixed English and Arabic.

Training Materials/References

To be provided later

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran, PERSGA, A Consultant to be selected in coordination with UNIDO

8. Workshops At the Centre for Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (EMARSGA), Hurghada, Arab Republic of Egypt

PERSGA / EMARSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet
Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement in Port State Control

Rationale

Partner countries of the Regional Organization for Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are concerned about the degradation of the marine and coastal environment and emphasize the need to restore and maintain this environment. Of particular concern to governments and civil society is the growing use of coastal and oceanic marine resources which if not properly managed could undermine the very basis of social and economic development.

Over the past two decades ballast water has been increasingly recognized as one of the major vectors for the introduction of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens into aquatic environment – and these alien invasive species as one of the four biggest threats to the marine environment. As a result, a large number of countries, agencies, international and non-governmental organizations, and individuals have initiated a variety of activities around the world, including research and development of improved management and treatment systems.

At the forefront of these initiatives has been the International Maritime Organization (IMO). IMO's activities have included the development of a regulatory regime – culminating in the adoption of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ship's Ballast Water and Sediments in February 2004 – and the GloBallast Program, a joint initiative with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) aimed at assisting developing countries to:

- Reduce the transfer of harmful aquatic organisms and pathogens in ships' ballast water;
- Build capacity to address the ballast water issues;
- Undertake legal, policy and institutional reforms; and
- Implement the Ballast Water Management Convention.

Provisions of the Convention together with relevant IMO Guidelines provide the basis for the Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement training course, while GEF-UNDP-IMO GloBallast Partnerships is the vehicle for the development and delivery of the training course. The training course will be delivered in several regions. This training package will be a key tool used by the GloBallast Program in taking forward preparations for implementation of the Convention

Objective

The course is an introductory one for personnel having different skills, knowledge and experience in ballast water related issues. The objective of the course is to provide a common set of knowledge and skills to all participants to enable them to take appropriate action in their various capacities with a view towards promoting uniform implementation of compliance monitoring and enforcement of the BWM Convention and national regulations derived accordingly.

Participants

Most suitable participants are Ports State / Flag State officers responsible for ballast water management and other related environmental issues in Ports and Maritime Authorities in their countries. Basic knowledge of Port State inspection is important.

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

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days. Suggested in May 21st-22nd 2012

Location

Centre for Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, Hurghada Egypt

Organizers

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

Language

The language is a mix of English and Arabic.

Training Materials/References

Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement Training Material Prepared by IMO

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran from PERSGA, Mr. Fredric Haag from IMO, Arabic speaking Consultant from the Region

PERSGA / EMARSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet
Liability for Environmental Damage and Compensation due to
Dumping or Spillage of Ship / Tanker Cargo or Bunker Oil

Rationale

Incidents of dumping or spillage of ship cargo or ship bunker oil are usually associated with environmental damage. Impacts of such damage need to be assessed in order to evaluate:

- Significance of the impact on the environment and damage extent;
- Restoration activities to be implemented to help recovery of the affected sites.

Damage assessment studies may vary in size and duration. However, they should remain reasonable in their approach and target specific environmental components, specific sites or specific species and have clear objectives. Most studies will require the identification of relevant biological or chemical parameters to be studied, the establishment of a sampling plan and the identification of reference sites or background data for comparison. These studies should be designed in partnership between government agencies and representatives from the ship owner or insurer to ensure pooling of resources and identification of common goals.

Victims of ship incidents might be eligible to receive compensation for their losses or response costs easier if the country has ratified relevant conventions such as the Civil Liability Convention 1992 (CLC 92) and the Fund Convention 1992 (Fund 92). However, depending on specific National regulations and laws there might be national mechanisms for compensation following an oil or HNS spill.

There are rules that need to be followed to facilitate costs recovery and compensation. The workshop will focus on training practitioners in relevant government authorities how to follow effective procedures in order to get fair compensations for incident damages.

Specific Objectives of the workshop will be:

- Introduction to types of incidents, resulting damage and claim of compensation
- Discussion of responses that may lead to effective compensations and opposite responses
- Introduction of international conventions on compensations in maritime incidents
- Need of national regulations for effective compensation claim and recovery

Participants

Most suitable participants are officers responsible for assessment of compensation of damage and related environmental issues in Ports and Maritime Authorities in their countries. Basic knowledge of international conventions relating to compensation is important.

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

Date and Duration

The duration of the course is three working days (August 27th – 29th 2012)

Location

Centre Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, Hurghada Egypt

Organizers

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

Language

The language is a mix of English and Arabic.

Training Materials/References

IMO/UNEP Guidance Manual on the Assessment and Restoration of Environmental Damage following Marine Oil Spills, IOPC Fund Claims Manual

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran from PERSGA, Consultant to be identified in coordination with IMO

PERSGA Training Program 2012

Workshop Fact Sheet

Technical Committee Meeting of Port State Control MoU in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden

Rationale

Sovereign States have the right to control any activities within their own borders, including those of the visiting ships. Control of Port States, over the foreign flag ships in their ports, for verifying compliance with the national regulations and requirements of the international maritime conventions, is called Port State Control (PSC). It is to be emphasized however that ship owners, ship managers, classification societies and flag State administrations have the prime responsibility concerning their ships. PSC is an additional instrument effective when such bodies fail to comply with the obligations required from their ships. Port States are entitled to control foreign ships visiting their ports to ensure that any deficiency, including that concerning living condition, safety of the coastal environment and safety of ship staff, found are rectified before they are allowed to sail. Port State control is to be regarded as complementary measures to the Flag State Control rather conflicting with them.

Effective PSC requires close coordination between different regional ports. 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, popularly 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 PSC 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. Realizing the importance of establishing an MoU for PERSGA countries to cover the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, several steps have been taken in this direction. This started with the Ministerial Decree of PERSGA Board of Ministers number “2010/3/10 13/9 - م هـ”. two preparation workshops have been organized at the Centre of Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden – EMARSGA – in July 2010; and at PERSGA Headquarters, Jeddah in April 2011. The workshops were attended by specialists from Maritime Authorities and other relevant agencies in PERSGA countries. PSC MoU for PERSGA states has been prepared and signed by three countries: Egypt, Jordan and Sudan. Jordan has gone a step further and got the MoU ratified through their national legislative protocol. The MoU enters into effect once ratified by three countries. The third meeting will mark the First Technical Committee Meeting of PERSGA PSC MoU. By the time of the meeting countries will have nominated their national representatives for the MoU and the meeting will identify members of the Secretariat and Information Centre.

Objectives

The main objectives of the meeting will be

- Official Inauguration of PERSGA PSC MoU
- Finalization of the executive annexes of the PERSGA PSC MoU.

- Identifying the Secretariat and Information Centre members and making relevant recommendations to PERSGA Secretary General.

Participants

Participants will be national representatives of PERSGA countries maritime authorities for the PERSGA PSC MoU.

The total expected number for this course is not to exceed 10 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the meeting is two working days (October 8th – 9th 2012)

Location

Centre for Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden ” Hurghada Egypt.

Organizers

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

Language

The language is mix of English and Arabic

Training Materials/References

The Signed PERSGA PSC MoU and executive annexes.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran PERSGA, Consultant from a neighbouring PSC MoU

PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet
Regional Training Course on IMO OPRC Level 3

Rationale

The OPRC 1990 Convention requires governments to develop emergency plans, establish systems for preparedness and response, promote co-operation and establish a programs of exercise and training for their relevant response bodies. It also calls for IMO to develop a comprehensive training program in cooperation with interested organizations, governments and industry.

PERSGA is highly interested in maintaining and continuously upgrading regional capabilities in preparedness and response to oil spills and other hazardous chemicals. This stems from the regional protocol that has been signed along with Jeddah Convention in 1982 for protection of the marine and coastal environment from pollution of oil and other hazardous chemicals. PERSGA has taken several steps in this direction with a land mark of establishing the Centre for Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden in 2004. Currently PERSGA is executing a series of national training workshops on IMO OPRC Level 2 with the purpose of providing training for the largest possible number of national specialists and reviewing and upgrading national contingency plans.

IMO and PERSGA have sustainable partnership in the IMO Technical Cooperation Program. The IMO OPRC Level 3 regional training program come in the framework of this partnership. The workshop aims at training the trainer targeting high level national specialists who may take the role of trainers in their countries and help in continuously upgrading their national contingency plans once successfully completed the OPRC level 3 training program. Participants in the workshop are also expected to take an active role in developing a regional contingency plan for preparedness and response to spills of oil and other hazardous chemicals.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are to

- familiarize the participants with current best practices in oil spill response techniques
- review the regional status of the main oil and chemical spills preparedness conventions.
- discuss regional planning and continuing preparedness and response training emphasizing various stakeholders involvement and close coordination at the national and regional levels

Participants

The most suitable participants in the workshop are national specialists with sufficient basic knowledge on preparedness and response to oil and hazardous chemical spills and high level officials of authorities responsible for preparedness and response in the case of oil hazardous chemical spill emergency.

Date and Duration

The duration of the meeting is three working days (November 5th – 7th 2012)

Location

Centre for Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden ” Hurghada Egypt.

Organizers

Regional Organization for the Conservation of Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization

Language

The language is mix of English and Arabic

Training Materials/References

Basically IMO level 3 Training Program and other material to be identified later

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran PERSGA, Consultant to be identified in coordination with IMO

PERSGA Workshops and Regional Meetings Program 2012

Workshop Fact sheet

Second Meeting of the Task Force on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Collaborative Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Arrangement

Rationale

PERSGA has convened "The Regional Intergovernmental Meeting to Initiate the Establishment of a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement" with the support of FAO by the end of November 2011. The Meeting, which discussed the status of fishery resource and management in the region and options for regional cooperation, reached consensus on the need to establish a regional fisheries mechanism that should have a management mandate, capable of adopting measures for the sustainable management of marine fisheries and the development of sustainable aquaculture in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

The meeting requested PERSGA to arrange for establishing a regional Task Force, to be coordinated by PERSGA, technically supported by PERSGA and FAO, and includes one delegated from each country that was invited to the meeting. According to the Meeting recommendations, the Task Force should develop a proposal for a Memorandum of Understanding for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden collaborative fisheries and aquaculture arrangement, evaluate and propose on funding and resource mobilization options, suggest an appropriate name for the proposed arrangement, and prepare for another Regional Intergovernmental Meeting on the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement. The schedule of the Task Force meetings was designed and agreed by the Meeting as follows:

Before 31 December 2011	Establishment of the Task Force
Before 30 June 2012	First meeting of the Task Force (formulation of an 18 month work plan)
July 2012	An informal meeting of the countries invited to the "Regional Intergovernmental Meeting to initiate the establishment of a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Fishery Management Arrangement" will be arranged at FAO headquarters in Rome, during the 2012 FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI) meeting. The purpose of this informal meeting is to follow-up on progress that has been made in the regional fishery mechanism.
Before 31 December 2012	Second meeting of the Task Force
Before 30 June 2013	Third meeting of the Task Force
Before 31 December 2013	Second intergovernmental meeting of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden fishery management arrangement

Accordingly, the 2nd meeting of the regional Task Force on the Regional Mechanism for Cooperation in for Fisheries and Aquaculture Management will be held in December 2012

Objectives

The Meeting will discuss Final draft of arrangement MoU concerning regional cooperation in management of fisheries and aquaculture in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, after being revised by the countries. The Meeting will also formulate a work plan for submission of the

final draft and, the Regional Plenipotentiary Meeting to sign the Regional MoU by the countries.

Participants

Participants in this workshop will include members of the Task Force nominated by the countries, PERSGA coordinator and invited expert/ officer from the FAO.

The total expected number of the participants in this meeting is not to exceed 12 participants.

Date and Duration

The duration of the Meeting is two working days and will be conducted during 8-9 December 2012.

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

Language

The medium of the Meeting will be Arabic. English will be used as an assisting medium where needed.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Will be provided later

Workshop materials/ agenda

Will be provided later

Reference/Contacts at PERSGA

- 1) Dr. Ahmed S. M. Khalil,
Coordinator, Regional Marine Resources Program
PERSGA, P.O. Box 53662, Jeddah 21583
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966 2 657 3224 ext. 203,
Fax: +966 2 652 1909,
Email: ahmed.khalil@persga.org,

PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact Sheet
Optimization and Integration of Pollution and Basic Seawater Monitoring
with Emphasis on Oil Pollution and Source Identification

Rationale

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden “PERSGA” is joining efforts with the World Bank to develop a Regional Project on Strategic Management of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. This is based on the Project Identification Document “PIF” cleared by PERSGA Focal Points in a workshop organized by PERSGA in August 2008 and approved by GEF in March 2010. In its approval of the PIF GEF has emphasized that the real weight of the project should be in actual on ground activities and enhancing capacity by involvement in actual life exercises.

To this effect the Project Development Objective “PDO” has been set as supporting transition from Traditional Management to Ecosystem Based Management by demonstrating added value through administrative reforms and on-ground activities in the in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden.

Optimizing and integrating monitoring activities in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden will be one of the basic components of the project. Activities that will be conducted under the monitoring component include:

- Collection of available data for enriching a regional database of environmental variables;
- Strengthen monitoring and assessment concerning land-based and marine based activities and their impacts on coastal ecosystems.
- Setup special environmental monitoring programs for the sites that will be developed as demonstration activities in the project.
- Enhance monitoring concerning global phenomena such as climate change impacts and studying the water column thermohaline structure at selected areas, such as the Gulf of Aqaba, as an indicator of climate change.
- Link with impact assessment studies and monitoring impacts of pollutants resulting from marine and land sources of human activities

The workshop will focus on optimizing and integration of monitoring of pollutants and basic seawater characteristics, serving the purpose of preparation for the Strategic Management Project. Oil spills from ships and from land can be severely harmful to the marine and coastal ecosystems. Effective control and identification of source are essential for identifying liability and retrieving damage compensation. The workshop will give this area special attention and introduce techniques that support relating a pollution incident to its source

Main objectives of the workshop will be:

1. discussing institutional arrangements for implementing of national monitoring programs of the coastal and marine environment
2. discussing ongoing monitoring activities focusing on:
 - i. institutes carrying out monitoring activities
 - ii. variables recorded and temporal resolution
 - iii. geographic coverage and special resolution
 - iv. beneficiaries of the monitoring and usage of the monitoring results
 - v. limitations, weaknesses and areas need intervention for improvement

3. discussing effective manners of collecting and tabulating data of regular and scattered monitoring activities and archiving baseline characteristics
4. introduce techniques suitable for measuring levels of pollutants, mainly oil above baseline levels and relating pollutants concentrations to sources.

Participants

The most suitable participants for the workshop are national specialists responsible for national monitoring programs and practicing technicians who are doing the actual monitoring of pollutants and seawater quality in the countries

Date and Duration

The duration of the meeting is three working days (December 26th – 28th 2012)

Location

Centre for Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden ” Hurghada Egypt.

Organizers

Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) in collaboration with the World Bank

Language

The language is mix of English and Arabic

Training Materials/References

To be identified later

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran PERSGA, Consultant who will be doing the assessment of the monitoring component

PERSGA Training Program 2012
Workshop Fact sheet
National Contingency Training IMO OPRC Level 2 in
Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen

Rationale

After having the Centre of Emergency Mutual Aid in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden “EMARSGA” well established and fully operational, PERSGA is currently helping its member states to establish, rehabilitate or upgrade their own oil response centers. This is happening now in Djibouti, Sudan and Yemen. The Centre in Djibouti, in particular that has been founded in 1990 by a direct initiative of IMO has been recently assessed by PERSGA and all major equipment has been found adequately operational. Work is underway now to establish a proper workshop in which the equipment could be stored and regularly maintained and to provide technical assistance to Djibouti in putting adequate human resources and legal tools in place. A national contingency planning workshop IMO standards was carried out in Djibouti during February 2010. This will establish the National Contingency Plan in Djibouti. Another national workshop was carried out in Sudan. Work with other member states that already have their contingency plans will involve response training and updating of the National Contingency Plans.

It is proposed that PERSGA in collaboration with IMO through the TC program would organize five more national contingency training workshops following the one in Djibouti in Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Yemen, with the objectives of updating national contingency plans, practical training on response in the case of emergency and evaluating the existing response facilities. The national workshops will take place at a rate of two workshops per year

Objectives of the meetings

The main objectives of the workshops are to:

- review and update the current national contingency plans in the region
- provide IMO OPRC level 2 training to nationals at different levels of responsibility from the different agencies involved in response to oil and hazardous chemical spills
- establish the practical basis for a regional contingency plan

Participants

The most suitable participants for this workshop will be government officials from different ministries responsible for conservation of the environment and human health in ports as well as other officers from the oil, chemicals and shipping industry and NGOs responsible for safe shipping and clean environment.

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

Date, Duration and Location

Duration of the courses is three working days each and will be conducted in the first half of 2012. Workshops will be carried out at National Contingency Response Centers in the respective countries or other national facilities decided by the country

Organizers

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

Language

The training language is mixed Arabic, French and English depending on the country.

Training Materials/References

Details to be provided at a later stage.

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran from PERSGA, Consultant to be identified later.

Workshop Fact Sheet

Twinning Arrangements in Ballast Water Management Between LPCs and Neighboring PCs

Rationale

PERSGA is regional partner with IMO on the GloBallast Partnerships Project. The project joins six regional seas with fourteen countries as lead partner countries (LPCs) and thirty countries as partner countries (PCs). LPCs in the PERSGA Region are Jordan, Egypt and Yemen. PCs are Djibouti, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Sudan. Project activities in PERSGA Region has so far included preparatory activities carried out by PERSGA for the development of the Project and its implementation at regional level. As well as several training and outreach workshops and new legislative development taking place in Jordan and Yemen. There are several other areas of collaboration between PERSGA and IMO that support the implementation of the project. Preparations for establishing a Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Port State Control MoU, that PERSGA is working on, would add a significant vector in implementation of GloBallast activities and support sustainability of such activities after the project ends.

The Project in 2012 focuses on sharing achievements realized at LPCs with PCs. To this effect PERSGA will provide a Regional consultant from an LPC to work with a PC. The scope of consultancy will be conducting a two days national workshop at the PC facilitated by the Regional consultant in collaboration with a national consultant from the PC. After the workshop the Regional consultant remains three more days with the national consultant to help him / her conduct a ballast water management national status assessment.

Objectives

The broad objective of the ballast water management twinning activities is to upgrade the level of GloBallast Partnerships Project achievements at the PCs to a level similar or close to that at LPCs. The specific objectives of the twinning are to:

- organize national training and outreach workshops in PERSGA PCs focusing on introduction of ballast water management issues and discussing national interests in the field
- help national consultants to prepare comprehensive ballast water management national status assessment

Participants

The most suitable participants for the national workshops are national specialists involved in Port State Control and managing shipping at the PCs national levels. Government officers, private sector in the shipping industry, academics and NGOs may benefit from the workshops.

Date, Duration and Location

Duration of the twinning activities will consist of a two days national workshop and three additional days of a Regional consultant working with a National consultant to train him / her on preparing ballast water management national status assessment. The National consultant will then work ten more days to prepare the national status assessment report.

Organizers

The Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden PERSGA/EMARSGA in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization IMO

Language

The main language is Arabic

Training Materials/References

Guidelines provided by IMO

Instructors/Keynote speakers

Dr. Mohammad Badran PERSGA, Regional Consultants





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