

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

**PERSGA**



**Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP)  
for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden**



**Annual Progress Report (2001)**



The Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden is funded jointly through the member countries of PERSGA, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Islamic Development Bank.

The GEF implementing agencies include the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and the World Bank.

PERSGA is the executing agency for the Strategic Action Programme.

### **SAP Development Objective**

To conserve the coastal and marine environments in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region and ensure the sustainable use of their resources.

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## ***List of Abbreviations and Acronyms***

CEDARE	Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe, Cairo
EPC	Environment Protection Council (Yemen) now Environment Protection Authority
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMS	Financial Management System
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GIS	Geographical Information System
HBC	Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation
ICED	International Centre for Environment and Development
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IsDB	Islamic Development Bank
IMO	International Maritime Organization of the United Nations
LMR	Living Marine Resources
LS	Lead Specialist
MEMAC	Marine Emergency Mutual Aid Centre
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSRRC	Marine Science Research and Resources Centre (Aden, Yemen)
NCWCD	National Commission for Wildlife Conservation & Development (Saudi Arabia)
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NPC	National Programme Co-ordinator
NRMP	Navigation Risk and Marine Pollution
PAP	Public Awareness and Participation
PC	Programme Co-ordinator
PERSGA	Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
RAP	Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of Coral Reefs in the Arabian Seas Region
ROPME	Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment
ROWA	Regional Office for West Asia (UNEP)
RSGA	Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
SAP	Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
SCUBA	Self-contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
SSM	Standard Survey Methodology
TOR	Terms of Reference
TSC	Train-Sea-Coast
UKHO	United Kingdom Hydrographic Office
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
WG	Working Group

## Executive Summary

This is a summary of the third Joint Annual Progress Report for the project RAB/97/G33 – GE-63717 *Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden*.

### Reduction of Navigation Risks and Marine Pollution

The SAP aims to reduce the risk of maritime accidents and hence minimise pollution in the region. Preparatory research for the SAP identified the need for new and extensive traffic separation schemes at the southern end of the Red Sea to control traffic operating between Bab el Mandab and the restricted passages lying east and west of the Hanish Islands. The essential hydrographic surveys were carried out in 2001, extending over a total distance of some 150 nautical miles and covering an area of 750 km<sup>2</sup>. The Avocet Rock, lying only 6 miles east of one of the main shipping routes, was fully surveyed for the first time revealing an important navigational hazard in the form of a rocky plateau 6 m below sea level and extending 400 m by 400 m. Reported shallow patches south of the Hanish islands and south of Bab el Mandab were disproved. Early in 2002 the new re-schemed charts will be on sale to international shipping through chart agents and in July the routing measures will be considered by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Subcommittee on the Safety of Navigation. It is anticipated that the new routing measures will enter into force for all international shipping in 2003.

This region is now one of the few in the world where no regional agreement or Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (PSC) is in force. Ships continue to sink or run aground because they are not seaworthy, or are incompetently manned. Meetings were held with the IMO staff concerned with PSC and it was proposed that PERSGA should ask not only the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden countries but also the Gulf States to join the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMoU) on Port State Control. An important Workshop on this topic is being prepared for early 2002.

Regional oil spill contingency planning was discussed by the Navigation Working Group (NWG) in Djibouti. Following this Workshop, IMO agreed to fund a consultancy to prepare an 'Action Plan' and 'Project Document for Contingency Planning for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden'. Draft documents are due in February 2002. A study on the Hurgada MEMAC and the Stockpile Centre at Djibouti was completed and an examination made of the costs involved in refurbishing, re-equipping and operating the Djibouti Centre. The results were presented to the PERSGA Council in October.

### Sustainable Use and Management of Living Marine Resources

One of the pre-requisites for the development of sustainable fisheries management plans is the acquisition of the essential information on stock levels. This issue has been addressed by preparing standard formats for data collection and analysis, and by training fisheries enumerators to assemble the data and forward it to PERSGA where national statistics will be inserted into a regional database. In the year 2000 twenty scientists were trained on shark identification and the data collection methods for stock assessment. In 2001 training was carried out for a further 55 enumerators. An *Identification Guide to the Sharks and Batoids of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region* has been prepared and is available to all interested parties in the region via the PERSGA website. A new Arabic *Field Guide to Sharks* has been prepared and is currently being evaluated prior to printing and distribution.

An elasmobranch fieldwork survey was conducted at a number of sites in Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Yemen, and Egypt where measurements were taken for stock assessment purposes, and catch/effort data were collected. Various specimens were preserved to be used as reference materials at the main landing sites.

Two subregional centres are being established for future fisheries research and training. The Fisheries Manpower Training Institute (FTI) and Marine Science Research and Resources Centre (MSRRC) in Aden was chosen to become one centre and the Marine Science Department of the King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah was chosen as the other. Equipment has been provided to upgrade the sites to enable them to fulfil their research and teaching objectives.

Following discussions with FAO and ICLARM, preparations have been made for a regional workshop on '*Environmentally Friendly Aquaculture and Fisheries Practices*'. A consultant will conduct a training course on the identification of ornamental fish species and an assessment of their stocks in early 2002.

The report on the "*Status of Living Marine Resources in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region and their Management*" has been completed, approved by the Member States, and translated into Arabic.

### **Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation**

In order to evaluate the current status of marine habitats and biodiversity, surveys must be undertaken that are regionally comparable. The HBC Component has therefore focussed on the development of standard survey methods (SSM). Regionally appropriate survey methods have been prepared for each of the relevant habitats and species groups: coral reefs, sub-tidal, seagrass beds, inter-tidal, mangroves, the marine mammals, marine turtles and seabirds.

The second step has been to conduct a series of regional training courses to ensure that there are a sufficient number of qualified practitioners to collect reliable data and prepare management plans. Training on the SSM for coral reefs, seagrass, and seaweed habitats was given to 16 regional specialists at the Marine Science Station in Aqaba.

The *Regional Action Plan (RAP) for the Conservation of Coral Reefs in the Arabian Seas Region*, prepared in cooperation with NCWCD, ROPME and ROWA, was presented to the international coral reef conservation community at the ICRI-CPC meeting in Cebu, Philippines where numerous favourable comments were received. The final draft should be ready for printing in April 2002.

A mission was carried out to northern Somalia to assess the status of coral reefs, reef associated communities and seabirds, to assess local training and capacity building needs, and to discuss the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme with key stakeholders. A three-day, boat-based survey of the coastline east of Bosaso revealed that coral reefs in this area are in a healthy condition. A visit to Mait Island, revealed the largest breeding colonies of bridled terns and common noddy anywhere in the Gulf of Aden.

### **Establishment of a Regional Network of Marine Protected Areas**

Twelve areas of regional or global significance have been identified that should form the basis of a regional network of marine protected areas. The network includes representatives of all major

biogeographical sub-units, prime examples of all types of coastal and marine habitats and species communities. The first step has been to develop a *Regional Master Plan* that agrees with current international guidelines and incorporates regional environmental and socio-economic conditions. The plan is a long-term policy document that will be used as the basis for the development of Site-Specific Management Plans for each of the MPAs in the network.

A 'rapid-assessment-survey' was carried out at the proposed MPA sites at Aibat and Saad ad-Din (Somalia) in order to provide baseline data on biodiversity and to provide information for the initial management strategies. Site specific survey designs have been prepared for the proposed MPAs in Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. The first surveys will take place in January 2002 in Sudan under the title: *Establishment of Dungonab Bay and Mukkawar Island Marine Protected Area*. The necessary survey equipment has been provided and forwarded to Port Sudan.

A series of training courses for MPA managers, scientists and rangers from the region has been initiated. A training course on MPA management was conducted in November 2000 at Ras Mohammed. In June 2001 a SCUBA-dive training course was held for future MPA rangers from Djibouti, NE and NW Somalia. A complete training course for 'Managers of Marine Protected Areas' was created through the UN Train-Sea-Coast programme. The teaching materials were completed in December and the first training course and accreditation (validation) organised for January 2002.

### **Support for Integrated Coastal Zone Management**

During the preparation phase of the SAP the need to strengthen integration of environmental and natural resource issues into the planning and management of the coastal zone was identified as a key area of concern. Through the SAP, support will be provided for the preparation and implementation of model ICZM plans at selected sites in four of the southern countries of the region, Djibouti, Sudan, the northern coast of Somalia and Yemen.

Yemen was chosen as the first country for ICZM activities. Following a Pre-assessment Survey in Aden, a national ICZM workshop was held in September, officially opened by H.E. the Minister of Tourism and Environment, the Deputy Governor of Aden and the Deputy of the Environment Protection Agency. From the meeting a draft Coastal Zone Management Plan for Aden was prepared that will be submitted to the Aden Local Council for approval and implementation.

This component is also supporting the development and improvement of regional Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities. The Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) has been contracted to assist PERSGA in this regard.

### **Public Awareness and Participation**

In 2001 the first truly regional marine conservation awareness campaign took place. Events were staged in all of the PERSGA member countries often opened or led by leading government officials and always reported in local newspapers, on radio and television. Events included inter-school general knowledge competitions, drama productions, poetry and literary presentations, sponsored soccer games, beach and subtidal (diving) clean-up events.

A number of public Environmental Information Centres are being established throughout the region. Equipment has been provided for centres in Djibouti, NE and NW Somalia, Yemen and Sudan and is used regularly by the PAP Board and Working Group members.

Public awareness educational activities are being promoted through the local school systems. Non-formal environmental education teacher training activities have now taken place in Djibouti, NE and NW Somalia, to supplement those that occurred in Sudan and Yemen in 2000. The teachers have used their new skills to set up environmental clubs in schools that now run relevant activities.

A Social Marketing survey was conducted in the region from July to September. The aim of this study was to determine people's attitudes and their level of understanding of particular issues such as marine conservation, and to recommend strategies appropriate to alter behaviour patterns. Based on guidance provided by the GEF Small Grants Programme and the results received from the Social Marketing study, a detailed Micro-Grants Program (MGP) manual was prepared which describes the relevant activities that can be supported, the necessary criteria, and the financial and management systems.

Two issues of the bilingual PERSGA newsletter *Al Sanbouk* have been prepared and distributed. Issue 13 took *Living Marine Resources* as its main theme and issue 14 concentrated on developments in the field of *Marine Protected Areas*. During the year the PERSGA/SAP brochure was prepared and printed in French. PERSGA received copies of the SAP document in French, the Project Implementation Plan (English and French versions), and the SAP Country Reports from the World Bank. The Bank also assisted with the preparation of French and Arabic versions of the SAP Red Sea poster.

A new PERSGA specific website is under development and the domain name [www.persga.org](http://www.persga.org) can be used. It currently provides a link to the PERSGA site established last year by UNEP at the address <http://www.unep.ch/seas/main/persga/red.html>. Several of the publications prepared during the project can be downloaded from this site in PDF format.

The first candidate selected for training through the PERSGA Scholarship programme is a graduate from Djibouti who has been awarded a grant to assist his studies for a Masters degree in 'Management, Development and Environment' at the University of Orleans in France. His thesis title is '*Marine Protected Areas - The Strategy for Conservation*'.

## **Institutional Strengthening to Facilitate Regional Co-operation**

### ***Institutional Capacity of the PERSGA Secretariat***

There are now 24 persons working in the PERSGA offices - management, Lead Specialists, NPCs, technical and administrative support staff. Their professional expertise continues to grow through experience and training. All Lead Specialists attended a Basic GIS Training Course which was held at CEDARE in February. The PERSGA/SAP financial staff attended courses on the 'Fundamentals of Internal Control', 'Budgeting and Cost Control' and 'UNDP Procurement'.

A new project manager was appointed in April to take over the managerial and administrative responsibilities. Two new secretaries were hired to assist with administration. During the year the Procurement and Finance Specialist and the Procurement Assistant left the Programme.

Continued government commitment was assured by member countries at the annual Task Force (TF) meeting which was held this year in Jeddah. The TF discussed the results of a Special Review Mission conducted by Professor Dr. Mostafa Tolba of the International Centre for Environment and Development (Egypt).

The NPC offices in each country of the region are now fully equipped and operational. The component specific Working Groups that have been established continue to meet twice a year to advise and to guide SAP activities at the national level. This mechanism has greatly improved networking and communication between experts within the region. The organisation of cross-component meetings for national WG members from each component has assisted the integration of the SAP activities at the national level.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation of Programme Impacts**

The objective of this component is to allow continuous and structured monitoring and evaluation of programme impacts. During 2000 a set of project targets were defined together with benchmarks and indicators to measure these impacts. During the year baseline data has been collected through the Social Marketing survey and plans have been prepared for the collection of the specific biological data for monitoring the impacts of the other components.

## Résumé analytique

Le présent document est un résumé du troisième Rapport d'avancement annuel conjoint du projet RAB/97/G33 – GE-63717 *Mise en œuvre du Programme d'Action Stratégique (PAS) pour la Mer Rouge et le Golfe d'Aden*.

### Réduction des risques pour la navigation et de la pollution marine

Le PAS vise à réduire les risques d'accidents maritimes et à minimiser ainsi la pollution dans la région. Les recherches menées dans le cadre de la préparation du PAS ont mis en évidence le besoin en nouveaux dispositifs de séparation du trafic maritime de grande envergure dans le sud de la mer Rouge pour gérer la navigation entre le Bab-el-Mandab et les passes situées à l'est et à l'ouest des îles Hanish. Les relevés hydrographiques essentiels, sur une distance totale d'environ 150 milles marins et couvrant une superficie de 750 km<sup>2</sup>, ont été effectués en 2001. Le rocher de l'Avocet, situé seulement à 6 milles à l'est de l'une des principales voies de navigation, a été intégralement repéré pour la première fois, ce qui a révélé l'existence d'un grave danger pour la navigation consistant en un plateau rocheux situé à 6 mètres au-dessous du niveau de la mer et d'une surface de 400 mètres sur 400 mètres. La présence des hauts fonds signalés au sud des îles Hanish et au sud du Bab-el-Mandab a été réfutée. Les nouvelles cartes redessinées seront mises en vente au début 2002 par les distributeurs de cartes marines à l'intention des transporteurs internationaux et, en juillet, les mesures relatives aux aménagements seront examinées par le sous-comité à la sécurité de la navigation de l'Organisation maritime internationale (OMI). Les nouvelles mesures d'organisation du trafic international devraient entrer en vigueur en 2003.

La Mer Rouge et le Golfe d'Aden sont aujourd'hui l'une des rares régions du monde où ne sont pas en vigueur un accord régional ou un mémorandum d'accord sur le contrôle des navires par l'État du port. Les naufrages et les échouages continuent de survenir en raison de l'innavigabilité des navires ou de l'incompétence des équipages. Des réunions ont eu lieu avec le personnel de l'OMI chargé du contrôle par l'État du port et il a été proposé que PERSGA demande non seulement aux pays de la mer Rouge et du golfe d'Aden mais aussi aux États du Golfe à adhérer au Mémorandum d'accord du contrôle par l'État du port dans l'océan Indien. Un important atelier qui sera consacré à la question au début 2002 est en cours de préparation.

La planification des mesures d'urgence régionales en cas de déversement d'hydrocarbures a fait l'objet de débats au sein du Groupe de travail sur la navigation à Djibouti. À la suite de ces débats, l'OMI a convenu de financer une étude pour l'élaboration d'un Plan d'action et d'un Document de projet pour la planification d'urgence pour la mer Rouge et le golfe d'Aden. Les versions préliminaires de ces documents sont attendues pour février 2002. Une étude du centre sous-régional d'aide mutuelle de Hurgada et du Centre de lutte contre la pollution par les hydrocarbures de Djibouti a été menée à bien et il a été procédé à l'examen des coûts de la réactivation, et de l'exploitation du Centre de Djibouti. Les résultats ont été présentés au Conseil de PERSGA en octobre.

### Gestion et utilisation durable des ressources biologiques marines

L'un des préliminaires à la formulation de plans de gestion durable des pêcheries est l'obtention d'informations essentielles sur les stocks de poissons. À cette fin, des procédures standard de recueil et d'analyse des données ont été établies et une formation a été dispensée à des énumérateurs qui ont été chargés de rassembler les données et de les transmettre au PERSGA où les statistiques nationales seront intégrées dans une base de données régionale. En 2000, vingt scientifiques ont été formés à l'identification des requins et aux méthodes de recueil des données

pour l'évaluation des stocks; en 2001, 55 autres énumérateurs ont bénéficié de cours de préparation. Un *Guide d'identification des requins et batoïdes de la Mer Rouge et du Golfe d'Aden*, en langue anglaise, a été préparé et mis à la disposition des personnes intéressées de la région sur le site web de PERSGA. Un nouveau *Guide pratique des requins*, en langue arabe, a également été élaboré; il est en cours d'évaluation avant d'être imprimé et diffusé.

Des études sur les élasmobranches ont été menées en divers lieux d'Arabie saoudite, à Djibouti, au Yémen et en Égypte, où des mesures ont été effectuées aux fins d'évaluation des stocks. De plus des données relatives aux prises ont été recueillies. Divers spécimens des principaux sites de débarquement du poisson ont été conservés à titre de référence.

Deux centres sous-régionaux pour la recherche et la formation en matière de pêche sont en cours d'établissement. Le *Fisheries Manpower Training Institute* (FTI) et le *Marine Science Research and Resources Centre* (MSRRC) d'Aden ont été choisis pour constituer l'un de ces centres, l'autre devant être implanté au Département des sciences marines de l'Université du Roi Abdul Aziz à Djeddah. Du matériel a été fourni pour renforcer l'équipement des centres afin de leur permettre de s'acquitter de leur mission de recherche et d'enseignement.

Après des entretiens avec la FAO et l'ICLARM, des préparatifs ont été lancés en vue de la tenue d'un atelier régional consacré aux « *Pratiques respectueuses de l'environnement en matière d'aquaculture et de pêcheries* ». Un consultant dispensera un cours de formation à l'identification des espèces de poissons ornementaux et sur l'évaluation de leurs stocks au début de l'année 2002.

Le rapport sur l'état des ressources biologiques marines de la Mer Rouge et du Golfe d'Aden et leur gestion a été achevé, approuvé par les États membres et traduit en langue arabe.

### **Conservation des habitats et de la biodiversité**

Pour évaluer l'état actuel des habitats et de la biodiversité marines, il faut nécessairement procéder à des études et inventaires qui soient comparables au niveau régional. La composante consacrée à la conservation des habitats et de la biodiversité s'est donc attachée en premier lieu à formuler des méthodes d'études scientifiques standard. Des méthodes appropriées pour la région ont ainsi été préparées pour chacun des habitats et groupes d'espèces pertinents : récifs coralliens, zone subtidale, zone intertidale, herbiers marins, mangroves, mammifères marins, tortues marines, et oiseaux marins.

La deuxième phase a consisté en une série de cours de formation régionaux pour s'assurer de la disponibilité d'un nombre suffisant de praticiens qualifiés pour recueillir des données fiables et élaborer des plans de gestion. Une formation aux méthodes d'études scientifiques standard pour les récifs coralliens, les herbiers marins et les algues marines a été dispensée à 16 spécialistes régionaux à la Marine Science Station d'Aqaba.

Le *Plan d'Action Régional (PAR) pour la conservation des récifs coralliens dans la région de la Mer d'Arabie*, élaboré en coopération avec la ROPME et le ROWA, a été présenté à la communauté internationale intéressée par la conservation des récifs coralliens à la réunion du CPC de l'ICRI à Cebu (Philippines), où il a fait l'objet de nombreux commentaires favorables. La version finale du plan devrait être prête à imprimer en avril 2002.

Une mission a été envoyée en Somalie septentrionale pour évaluer l'état des récifs coralliens, des communautés récifales et des oiseaux de mer, pour déterminer les besoins locaux de formation

et de renforcement des capacités, et pour discuter de la mise en œuvre du Programme d'Action Stratégique avec les principales parties prenantes dans ce projet. Une enquête de trois jours réalisée sur un navire dans le littoral somalien à l'est de Bosaso a permis de constater que les récifs de cette région sont en bonne santé. Une visite à l'île de Maït a révélé la présence de la plus grande colonie de nidification de sternes bridées et de noddis bruns de tout le Golfe d'Aden.

### **Établissement d'un réseau régional d'aires marines protégées**

Douze zones présentant une importance régionale ou mondiale ont été identifiées et devraient former la base d'un réseau régional d'Aires Marines Protégées (AMP). Ce réseau comprendra des représentants de toutes les grandes sous-unités biogéographiques et des exemples de tous les types de communautés d'espèces et d'habitats côtiers et marins. La première étape a consisté à élaborer un *Plan Directeur Régional* conforme aux directives internationales en la matière et tenant compte de la situation environnementale et socio-économique de la région. Ce plan est un document de politique à long terme qui servira à la formulation de plans de gestion spécifiques aux divers sites pour chacune des AMP du réseau.

Une étude d'évaluation rapide a été menée sur les sites proposés pour devenir des AMP à Aïbat et à Saad ad-Din (Somalie) afin de recueillir des données de référence sur la biodiversité et de fournir des informations aux fins d'élaboration des stratégies de gestion initiales. Des études spécifiques aux sites ont été préparées pour les AMP proposées à Djibouti, en Somalie, au Soudan et au Yémen. Les premières études détaillées auront lieu en janvier 2002 au Soudan dans le cadre d'un projet intitulé *Établissement de l'Aire Marine Protégée de la baie de Dungonab et de l'île de Mukkawar*. L'équipement nécessaire aux études a été fourni et expédié à Port Soudan.

Une série de cours de formation pour les gestionnaires, chercheurs et gardes des AMP a été lancée. Un cours de formation à la gestion des AMP a été dispensé à Ras Mohammed en Novembre 2000. En juin 2001, un cours de plongée sous-marine a eu lieu pour les futurs gardes des AMP de Djibouti et du Nord-Est et du Nord-Ouest de la Somalie. Un cours de formation complet pour les gestionnaires des AMP a été formulé par le programme Train-Sea-Coast des Nations Unies. La préparation des matériels pédagogiques s'est achevée en décembre et le premier cours de formation et d'accréditation a été organisé au mois de janvier 2002.

### **Appui à la gestion intégrée des zones côtières**

Au cours de la phase préparatoire du PAS, il a été noté que le renforcement de l'intégration des questions relatives à l'environnement et aux ressources naturelles dans la planification et la gestion des zones côtières devait faire l'objet d'une attention particulière. Le PAS a prévu de fournir un appui à l'élaboration et à la mise en œuvre de plans modèles de GIZC sur divers sites des quatre pays du sud de la région : Djibouti, le Soudan, la côte nord de la Somalie et le Yémen.

Le Yémen a été le premier pays choisi pour les activités concernant la GIZC. À la suite d'une enquête de pré-évaluation effectuée à Aden, un atelier national sur la GIZC a eu lieu en septembre; il a été ouvert officiellement par le ministre du Tourisme et de l'Environnement, le gouverneur adjoint d'Aden et le directeur adjoint de l'Agence de protection de l'environnement. Sur la base des travaux de l'atelier, il a été élaboré un plan préliminaire de gestion des zones côtières d'Aden qui sera présenté au Conseil local d'Aden pour approbation et mise en œuvre.

Cette composante appuie également l'établissement et le renforcement de capacités régionales en matière de systèmes d'information géographique (SIG). Un accord a été conclu avec le Centre

pour l'environnement et le développement de la Région arabe et de l'Europe (CEDARE) aux fins de fournir une assistance au PERSGA dans ce domaine.

### **Sensibilisation et participation du public**

La première campagne de sensibilisation à la conservation des ressources marines d'un niveau véritablement régional a eu lieu en 2001. Des activités ont été organisées dans tous les pays membres du PERSGA, souvent inaugurés ou dirigés par des représentants des pouvoirs publics de haut niveau. Ces activités ont toujours fait l'objet d'articles dans la presse et les médias locaux. Parmi les activités qui ont eu lieu au cours de l'année ont figuré des concours de connaissances générales entre établissements scolaires, des productions théâtrales, des présentations de poésie et d'œuvres littéraires, des matchs de football parrainés et des activités de nettoyage des plages et des zones intertidales et des plongées sous-marines pour nettoyer les fonds marins.

Divers centres publics d'information environnementale sont en cours d'établissement dans toute la région. Du matériel a été fourni pour les centres de Djibouti, de la Somalie du Nord-Est et du Nord-Ouest, du Yémen et du Soudan, et il est utilisé régulièrement par les membres du Conseil et du groupe de travail pour la sensibilisation et la participation du public (PAP).

L'éducation et la sensibilisation du public font l'objet d'une promotion par l'entremise du système d'enseignement local. Des cours de formation des enseignants pour les activités d'éducation environnementale informelle ont été dispensés à Djibouti et en Somalie du Nord-Est et du Nord-Ouest, pour compléter ceux qui avaient eu lieu au Soudan et au Yémen en 2000. Les enseignants ont tiré parti de leurs connaissances nouvellement acquises pour fonder dans les écoles des clubs environnementaux qui organisent maintenant diverses activités relatives à la protection de l'environnement.

Une étude de marketing social a été effectuée dans la région de juillet à septembre. Elle avait pour but de déterminer les attitudes des gens et leur niveau de compréhension de questions spécifiques, telles que la conservation du milieu marin, et de recommander des stratégies appropriées pour modifier les comportements. Sur la base des conseils fournis par le Programme de micro-financements du PNUD et des résultats de l'étude de marketing social, il a été rédigé un manuel détaillé de Programme de microfinancement qui décrit les activités pouvant être financées, les critères d'admissibilité et les systèmes de financement et de gestion.

Deux numéros du bulletin d'information bilingue (arabe, anglais) du PERSGA *Al Sanbouk* ont été réalisés et diffusés. Le numéro 13 avait pour thème principal les ressources biologiques marines et le numéro 14 les développements dans le domaine des aires marines protégées. Au cours de l'année, la brochure PERSGA/PAS a été réalisée et imprimée en langue française. Le PERSGA a reçu de la Banque mondiale des exemplaires du document du PAS en français, du Plan de mise en œuvre du projet (versions anglaise et française) et des rapports de pays sur le PAS. La Banque a également aidé à la préparation des versions en langues arabe et française de l'affiche du PAS de la Mer Rouge.

Un nouveau site web spécifique au PERSGA est en cours de développement et le nom de domaine [www.persga.org](http://www.persga.org) peut à présent être utilisé; il donne actuellement accès au site du PERSGA établi l'an dernier par le PNUE à <http://www.unep.ch/seas/main/persga/red.html>. Plusieurs des publications réalisées dans le cadre du projet sont affichées sur ce site et sont téléchargeables en format PDF.

Le premier candidat sélectionné dans le cadre du programme de bourses d'études du PERSGA est un étudiant djiboutien qui a reçu une subvention pour l'aider dans ses études en vue de l'obtention d'une maîtrise en « Gestion, développement et environnement » à l'Université d'Orléans. Il écrit une thèse intitulée « *Les aires marines protégées – stratégie de conservation* ».

## **Renforcement institutionnel pour faciliter la coopération régionale**

### ***Capacité institutionnelle du secrétariat de PERSGA***

Le secrétariat du PERSGA a actuellement un effectif de 24 personnes, comprenant des administrateurs, des spécialistes principaux, et du personnel d'appui technique et administratif. Leur expertise professionnelle s'accroît constamment grâce à l'acquisition d'expérience et à divers programmes de formation. Tous les spécialistes principaux ont assisté à un cours d'initiation aux SIG qui a eu lieu au CEDARE en février. Le personnel financier de PERSGA/PAS a suivi des cours sur les principes fondamentaux des contrôles internes, la budgétisation et la maîtrise des coûts et les procédures de passation de marchés du PNUD.

Un nouveau gestionnaire du projet, qui a pris ses fonctions en avril, est chargé des responsabilités en matière de gestion et d'administration. Deux nouvelles secrétaires ont été engagées pour renforcer l'appui administratif. Au cours de l'année, le spécialiste des achats et des finances et l'assistant aux achats ont quitté le programme.

Les représentants des gouvernements des pays membres ont assuré l'organisation du maintien de leur participation lors de la réunion annuelle du Comité de supervision qui a eu lieu cette année à Djeddah. Le Comité de supervision a également discuté des résultats d'une mission d'évaluation spéciale dirigée par le professeur Mostafa Tolba du Centre international pour l'environnement et le développement (Égypte).

Les bureaux des coordonnateurs nationaux de chaque pays de la région sont à présent équipés et pleinement opérationnels. Les divers Groupes de travail qui ont été établis pour chacune des composantes du programme continuent de se réunir deux fois par an pour fournir des conseils et des orientations concernant les activités du PAS au niveau national. Ce mécanisme a considérablement amélioré les communications entre experts au sein de la région. L'organisation de réunions inter-composantes rassemblant les membres des groupes de travail nationaux de chaque composante a contribué à l'intégration des activités du PAS au niveau national.

## **Suivi et évaluation des impacts du programme**

Cette composante a pour objet d'assurer un suivi et l'évaluation continu et structuré des impacts du programme. Au cours de l'année 2000, un ensemble de cibles du projet a été défini, ainsi que des indicateurs qui servent à mesurer les impacts. Durant l'année, des données de référence ont été recueillies au moyen d'une étude de marketing social et des plans ont été élaborés en vue du recueil de données biologiques spécifiques aux fins du suivi des impacts des autres composantes.

## Strategic Action Programme - Annual Report 2001

### Background

This is the third Joint Annual Progress Report for the project RAB/97/G33 – GE-63717 *Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden*. The SAP is being executed by the “Regional Organization for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden” (PERSGA) and contributes to the goals and objectives of this organisation. These goals include the conservation of the environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, and the sustainable use of the region’s coastal and marine resources. The SAP was developed over a period of three years by PERSGA and the three Global Environment Facility (GEF) implementing agencies, namely the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the World Bank (WB). The SAP was set in motion in December 1998 following a signing ceremony held in Jeddah. The implementing agencies, together with The Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), have provided the necessary financial and technical support to PERSGA for the execution of the programme.

The SAP is an interdisciplinary project with eight primary components:

- Institutional Strengthening to Facilitate Regional Co-operation
- Reduction of Navigation Risks and Marine Pollution (NMRP)
- Sustainable Use and Management of Living Marine Resources (LMR)
- Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation (HBC)
- Development of a Regional Network of Marine Protected Areas (MPA)
- Support for Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM)
- Public Awareness and Participation (PAP)
- Monitoring and Evaluation of Programme Impacts (M&E)

### Introduction

This report provides an overview of the major achievements of the Strategic Action Programme during the year 2001. It was a year full of activities and set in motion a number of operations that will bear fruit in 2002, 2003 and beyond. The Programme has tried hard not to focus on short-term activities that have few lasting benefits but instead to work methodically on the foundations needed to underpin long-term sustainable conservation. These foundations are not always the most visible or ‘tangible’ but nonetheless should prove, over time, to have been the most appropriate to engage in.

Key accomplishments include the completion of hydrographic surveying in the southern Red Sea, a pre-requisite for the establishment of a new vessel traffic separation scheme, training of specialist enumerators to collect data on the elasmobranch fishery, training and establishment of a regional coral reef monitoring team, a regional MPA Master Plan and preliminary MPA surveys in Somalia and Djibouti, and the execution of a truly regional public awareness campaign.

## **Reduction of Navigation Risks and Marine Pollution**

Through the Strategic Action Programme, Component 2 aims to reduce the risk of maritime accidents and hence minimise marine pollution in the region. This is being achieved through the execution of a number of associated activities. A fundamental requirement for navigation safety in the region is the accuracy of the navigational charts. For large areas of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden surveys were last carried out over a hundred years ago; some hazards have not been located accurately and depths have changed, increasing the threat to shipping. A key goal is the introduction of traffic separation schemes for vessels sailing through the Bab el Mandab and for this to be executed hydrographic surveys of the proposed routes have to made to the highest international standards.

Full execution of all elements of Component 2 of the SAP will also help member states to exercise greater control over ships in the region, to monitor traffic through the Red Sea, to be better prepared for emergencies, to establish improved Port Rules, and to enhance rescue and other services to shipping.

### **Hydrographic Surveys, Navigation Aids and Routeing Measures**

In 1998, preparatory research for the SAP identified the need for new and extensive traffic separation schemes at the southern end of the Red Sea to control traffic operating between Bab el Mandab and the restricted passages lying east and west of the Hanish Islands. These measures were designed to extend over a total distance of some 150 nautical miles, covering an area of 750 km<sup>2</sup>. In 2000 contract terms were agreed between PERSGA and the UK Hydrographic Office (UKHO) and with Gardline Surveys, for the essential hydrographic surveys required by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for routeing measures. The survey vessel was mobilised and the programme initiated.

The Avocet Rock, lying only 6 miles east of one of the main shipping routes, was fully surveyed for the first time revealing an important navigational hazard in the form of a rocky plateau 6 m below sea level and extending 400 m by 400 m. Reported shallow patches south of the Hanish islands and south of Bab el Mandab were disproved.

Because of the importance, complexity and size of the area covered by this survey, the UKHO, the largest charting organization in the world, was forced to review its survey validation processes and develop new computer methods. PERSGA is therefore affecting processes that were not predicted when the SAP was first planned.

The survey was completed by June 2001 in spite of unusually adverse weather conditions in the area. In July the survey results were presented to the NWG in Djibouti for comments and in August the data was submitted by Gardline to UKHO for validation. On December 15<sup>th</sup> the surveys were fully accepted by UKHO.

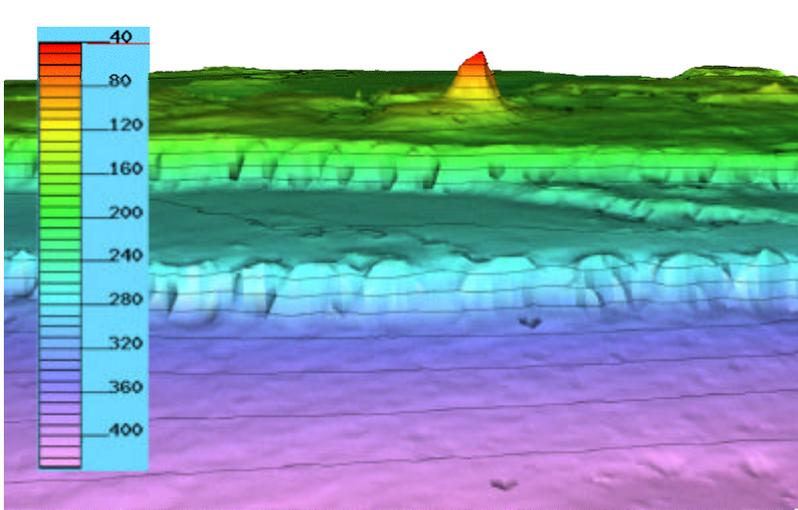
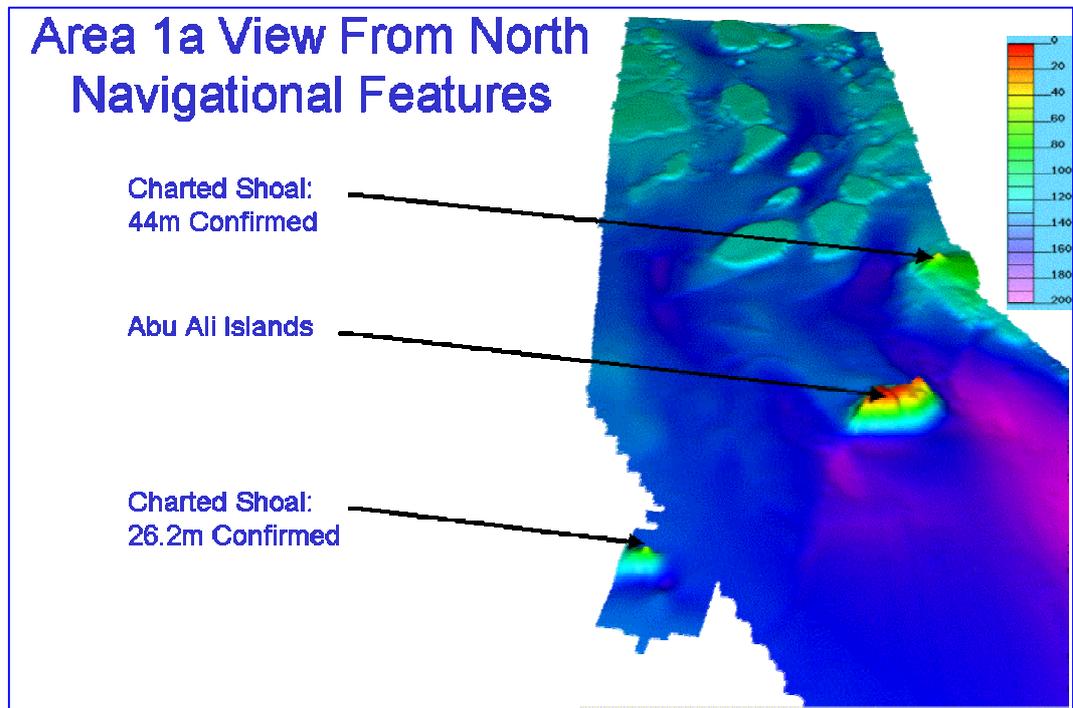
Early in 2002 the new re-schemed charts will be on sale to international shipping through chart agents and in July the routeing measures will be considered by the IMO Subcommittee on the Safety of Navigation. It is anticipated that the new routeing measures will enter into force for all international shipping in 2003.

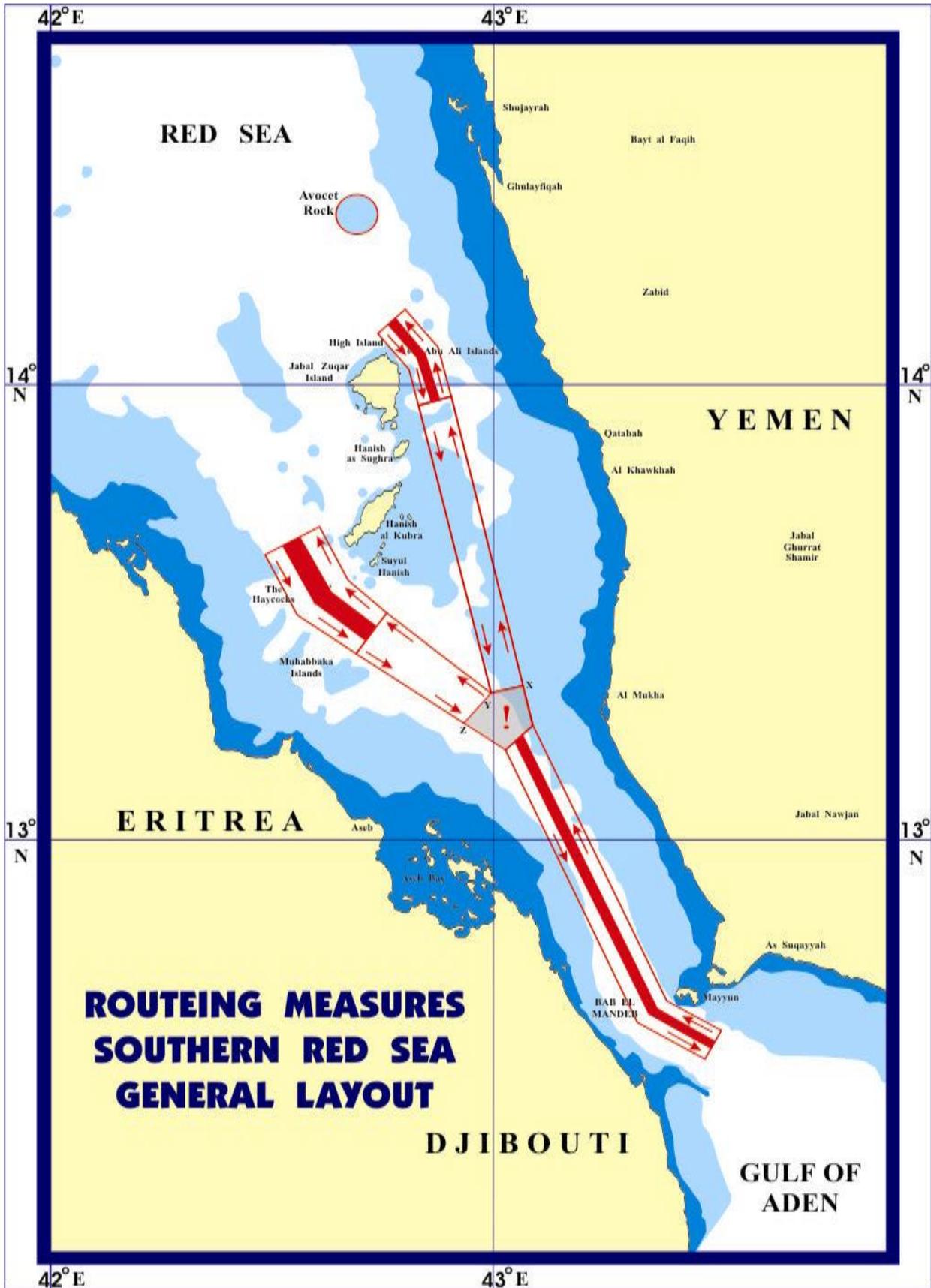


Top: *Ocean Seeker* the hydrographic survey vessel.

Centre: an example of the underwater topography showing the depth of the water and position of potential hazards. Area 1a lies east of Jabal Zuqar Island.

Bottom: Avocet Rock shown clearly as an isolated projection rising up from a flat plateau to be within metres of the surface.





## **Navigation Working Group (NWG)**

The NWG meetings and Workshops are used to provide training to participants, while at the same time ensuring that concrete decisions are taken. Regional personnel involved in the subjects being considered, in addition to NWG Members, attend these events so that as many persons as possible from the region can benefit from the presentations given. A NWG meeting and Workshop was held in July in Djibouti on 'Contingency Planning/Ratification of IMO Conventions'.

## **Implementation of Conventions**

The seven PERSGA states show wide variation in the number of IMO Conventions each has ratified. The SAP has encouraged ratification by stressing the importance of Conventions relating to Pollution Control and Port State Control. Since the initiation of the SAP an additional 14 IMO Conventions have been ratified by States in the region.

## **Port State Control**

Port State Control (PSC) is an important system under which trained inspectors visit vessels in their ports to determine if these are 'safe' in terms of their construction, equipment, manning and documentation. This region is now one of the few in the world where no regional agreement or Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control is in force. Ships continue to sink or run aground in this region because they are un-seaworthy, are badly manned or because an old vessel may be worth more to its owners as an insurance loss.

Meetings were held with the IMO staff concerned with PSC in London in March 2001 and it was proposed that PERSGA should ask not only the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden countries but also the Gulf States to join the Indian Ocean Memorandum of Understanding (IOMoU) on Port State Control, which covers the whole of the Indian Ocean. During the period September to November further meetings with IMO experts and staff were held and the Lead Specialist wrote to key maritime experts in Saudi Arabia and the UAE to urge them to promote the concept of joining the IOMoU. An important Workshop on this topic is being prepared for early 2002.

## **Contingency Plans**

Contingency Planning, the Pollution Combating Centre at Djibouti and the planned MEMAC in Hurghada (Egypt), were discussed by the NWG in Djibouti. Following this Workshop, IMO agreed to fund a consultancy to prepare an 'Action Plan' and 'Project Document' for contingency planning in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. Further meetings were held with IMO in September and November 2001 and the IMO Consultant started work at the end of December, to produce the draft documents by February 2002. These will provide a comprehensive programme for the implementation of training at various levels, e.g. for 'On-Scene Commanders', and other activities designed to lead to the preparation or updating of National Contingency Plans for all countries of the region. National Contingency Plans are in place in Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia, and Plans are under review in Sudan and Djibouti. No sub-regional or regional plans are currently available.

## **Pollution Response Centres**

Following the PERSGA SAP Task Force Meeting in Khartoum in October 2000, Component 2 was requested to undertake a study on the Hurghada MEMAC and the Stockpile Centre at Djibouti. This was completed in May-June 2001 by an international and a regional consultant and the results presented at the NWG Meeting in Djibouti in July. In September 2001 a further

examination was made of the costs involved in refurbishing, re-equipping and operating the Djibouti Centre and a separate paper was presented to the PERSGA Council in October.

### Overall Conclusions

Although there have been incidents recently, the PERSGA region has for many years been fortunate to escape the consequences of heavy pollution from any major oil spill or marine accident similar to those that have affected many other parts of the world. Port State Control, routing measures, contingency plans, pollution combating centres, and enhanced maritime competency are all being addressed by this component.

In summary, the key achievements in 2001 include:

- ?? Completion of an extensive hydrographic survey: June 2001
- ?? Preparation of new navigation charts for publication early 2002
- ?? Completion of a report on the MEMAC and Pollution Combating Centre: June 2001
- ?? Preparation of Action Plan and Project Document for Contingency Planning: due February 2002



**Shark market**

## Sustainable Use and Management of Living Marine Resources

As discussed in previous reports, one of the pre-requisites for the development of sustainable fisheries management plans is the acquisition of the essential information on stock levels. As this basic information is lacking from most countries the LMR component has addressed the problem by preparing standard formats for data collection and analysis, and by training fisheries enumerators to assemble the data and forward it to PERSGA. National statistics will be inserted into a regional LMR database at headquarters.

### Elasmobranchs

As regional shark stocks are believed to be particularly over-exploited and data collection methods insufficient to allow a management strategy to be prepared, considerable focus has initially been laid on this group of resources. An *Identification Guide to the Sharks and Batoids of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region* has been prepared and is available to all scientists and interested parties in the region via the PERSGA website. A new *Arabic Field Guide to Sharks* has been prepared and is currently being evaluated prior to printing and distribution.

In the year 2000 twenty scientists were trained on shark identification and the data collection methods for stock assessment. In 2001 courses were held at the LMR sub-regional training centre in Aden for a further 55 trainee-enumerators.

Numbers of trainees from each of the PERSGA Member Countries at the Living Marine Resources Training Course:							
Country	Egypt	Sudan	Somalia	Djibouti	Yemen	Saudi Arabia	Jordan
Number of trainees	7	6	11	4	15	10	2

An elasmobranch fieldwork survey was conducted at a number of sites in Saudi Arabia, Djibouti, Yemen, and Egypt where measurements were taken for stock assessment purposes, and catch/effort data were collected. Further information was collected about the characteristics of fishing boats and the type of fishing gear used. Twenty seven species of sharks and 13 species of rays were recorded from the region during the survey. Various specimens were preserved to be used as reference materials at the main landing sites.

### Shrimp Stock Assessment

The LMR Lead Specialist, together with six colleagues from the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Agriculture and Water (Fisheries Department), joined a fishing vessel working along the coastline of Gizan. While onboard they conducted a bottom-trawl survey to collect data on shrimp for stock assessment purposes and to assess the variety and numbers of fish species caught in the by-catch. Shrimp and fish species were sampled, identified, photographed and specimens taken for measurement in the laboratory. The trip established valuable contacts and agreements for cooperation in data transfer, stock assessment and fisheries management.

### Database

The necessary preparations for PERSGA's regional fisheries database (based on FAO software) are underway with contacts established at the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (Suez branch, Egypt), the Marine Fisheries Department, Ministry of Agriculture and Water (Saudi Arabia), the Ministry of Fish Wealth and the Marine Science and Resources



**Shrimp trawlers in  
Gizan**

Research Centre (Yemen). Data collected by the PERSGA trained enumerators and Working Group members will be collated centrally, a first step towards effective regional data analysis and interpretation.

### **Research and Training Centres**

Two subregional centres are being established for future fisheries research and training. Following a survey in the region the Fisheries Manpower Training Institute (FTI) and Marine Science Research and Resources Centre (MSRRC) in Aden was chosen to become one centre and the Marine Science Department of the King Abdul Aziz University in Jeddah was chosen as the other. Microscopes, diving gear, fieldwork tools (including salinity, conductivity and oxygen meters) and audio-visual equipment have been provided to upgrade the sites to enable them to fulfil their research and teaching objectives. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between PERSGA, the Ministry of Tourism & Environment (MTE) and the Ministry of Fish Wealth (MFW) regarding the capacity building that SAP will provide to the centre in Aden. A similar agreement with the centre in Jeddah is being prepared.

### **Working Group Meetings**

The Third LMR Working Group meeting was held in Hurghada (Egypt) from 30 June - 4 July and included a Workshop on the Sustainable Management of Living Marine Resources in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region. The laboratory and field facilities of the National Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries (NIOF) in Suez were visited. Areas identified for co-operation included the assessment of shared fisheries stocks and their sustainable management. The LMR Working Group also met in Aqaba, Jordan from 12-14 November 2001. Achievements realised and plans for 2002 were discussed. The role of regional institutions in the implementation of the Workplan was considered.

## **Pilot Programmes for Sustainable Fisheries**

A programme was initiated to replace the nets used by artisanal fishermen in Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia with less destructive, locally made lobster traps. Designs were prepared and sample lobster traps, fixed and foldable, were constructed and sent to PERSGA HQ from two potential vendors. However, following further research it was discovered that many of the target group of fishermen already use traps rather than nets. This project, now suitably modified, will be run in collaboration with the PAP community participation programs (Micro-grant program).

## **Ornamental (Aquarium) Fisheries**

A consultant has been identified to conduct a training course on the identification of ornamental fish species and an assessment of their stocks. This will prepare the ground for an analysis of the impact of the aquarium-fish trade on the main commercial species. The training will take place in April 2002.

## **Environmentally Friendly Aquaculture**

Following discussions with FAO and ICLARM in Cairo, preparations have been made for a regional workshop on '*Environmentally Friendly Aquaculture and Fisheries Practices*'. It will lead to the preparation of recommendations for the planning and management of aquaculture enterprises in each country, and a set of Workshop Proceedings. The Workshop will include sessions on coastal zone management, the various types of species used in aquaculture, environmental regulations, and the FAO Code of Conduct. Regional Working Groups on 'Coastal Fisheries' and 'Inland and Marine Aquaculture' will be formed.

## **Living Marine Resources Report**

The long-awaited report on the "*Status of Living Marine Resources in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden Region and their Management*" has been completed, approved by the Member States, and translated into Arabic by UNEP. The English version has been printed by the World Bank and the Arabic version will go to press immediately after proof-reading.

## **Project Proposals**

Two project identification documents "*Stock Assessment Studies of Transboundary Fish and Shellfish*" and "*Monitoring Control and Surveillance of Fisheries in the PERSGA Region*", were prepared in 2000 and discussed at the Third Task Force Meeting in 2001. Modifications were requested at the meeting and submission was delayed until 2002.

## Habitat and Biodiversity Conservation

### Standard Survey Methods and Training

In order to evaluate the current status of marine habitats and biodiversity within the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden, surveys must be undertaken that are regionally comparable. The HBC Component has therefore focussed on the development of standard survey methods (SSM) that will allow comparison of data across the region. The first steps have been accomplished. Current methods have been reviewed by a team of regional and international experts and regionally appropriate survey methods prepared for each of the relevant habitats and species groups: coral reefs, sub-tidal, seagrass beds, inter-tidal, mangroves, the marine mammals, marine turtles and seabirds. A set of 'rapid-assessment' survey techniques have also been prepared.

The second step has been to conduct a series of regional training courses to ensure that there are a sufficient number of qualified practitioners within the region to collect reliable data and contribute effectively to the preparation and implementation of species and habitat management plans. Training on the SSM for coral reefs, seagrass, and seaweed habitats was given to 16 regional specialists between 24 June and 5 July at the Marine Science Station in Aqaba, Jordan.



**Coral reef underwater survey techniques training course**

The training course and survey demonstrated that the methods chosen are locally appropriate. A regional team of coral reef surveyors has been set up and plans for a regional Reef Check survey have been prepared for 2002. The survey team will be led by regional experts and make use, in each country, of the personnel previously trained through the Strategic Action Programme.

Coordination with FAO has been established to integrate conservation and management efforts for mangroves. The regional training course on '*Standard Survey Methods for Mangrove Habitats*' will take place from 21-28 March 2002. Sets of equipment for turtle survey work have been prepared and distributed to each country. These will be used by the monitoring teams when survey work is carried from May to July 2002.

### Regional Action Plan for Coral Reef Conservation

The *Regional Action Plan (RAP) for the Conservation of Coral Reefs in the Arabian Seas Region* prepared in cooperation with NCWCD, ROPME and ROWA was presented to the international coral reef conservation community at the ICRI-CPC meeting in Cebu, Philippines in April where numerous favourable comments were received. The draft was then reviewed by representatives from Egypt, Jordan, Sudan, and Yemen at a meeting in Jeddah held in June. Recommendations for amendments were prepared and presented at a meeting in Riyadh, along

with comments from the ROPME member countries. The incorporation of all amendments and suggestions will be complete by the end of March 2002.

### Assessing the Status of Key Habitats in Somalia

The Lead Specialist and the Chief Technical Advisor visited northern Somalia between 26 April and 10 May to assess the status of coral reefs, reef associated communities and seabirds along the Gulf of Aden coast, to assess local training and capacity building needs, and to discuss the implementation of the Strategic Action Programme with key stakeholders.

The first leg of the mission started in Bosaso, NE Somalia. A three-day, boat-based survey of the coastline east of Bosaso revealed that coral reefs in this area are in a healthy condition without any signs of die-off following the 1997/98 worldwide coral bleaching event. Reefs in the Shimbiro area were particularly diverse with a very high coverage of live coral. Over 60 reef-associated fish species were counted in a small area at depths between 1 and 6 m.

A highlight of the trip in NW Somalia was a visit to Mait, a rocky island about 15 km off the coast, which is known as a regionally important breeding area for seabirds. This island has the largest breeding colonies of bridled terns and common noddy anywhere in the Gulf of Aden. Coral and reef fish assemblages in the vicinity of the Island are particularly rich.

### Working Group Meetings

Two Working Group Meetings were held during the year to promote the exchange of ideas and to develop a regional consensus on SAP implementation. The first meeting was held in Khartoum from 18-19 March along with a two-day seminar on the “Principles of Biodiversity”. This was attended by the Working Group members and seven national specialists from different environmental organisations in Sudan. The second Working Group meeting was held in Jeddah from 22-23 September.



Turtle equipment provided to the countries

## Establishment of a Regional Network of Marine Protected Areas

During the development of the SAP twelve areas of regional or global significance were identified that should form the basis of a regional network of marine protected areas. Some are already declared as MPAs, others are still at the 'proposed' stage. The network includes representatives of all major biogeographical sub-units, prime examples of all types of coastal and marine habitats and species communities. This regional network consists of the following areas:

- Djibouti (Iles des Sept Frères and Ras Siyan)
- Egypt (Ras Mohammed National Park, Giftun Islands and Straits of Gubal)
- Jordan (Aqaba Marine Park)
- Saudi Arabia (Straits of Tiran; Wejh Bank, Farasan Islands)
- Somalia (Aibat and Saad ad-Din Islands)
- Sudan (Sanganeb Marine National Park, Mukkawar Island and Dunganab Bay)
- Yemen (Socotra Islands Group, Belhaf - Bir Ali).



The SAP is not in a position to establish these marine protected areas. It does however provide a crucial catalytic role assisting the national governments to prepare the necessary plans, to carry out the required surveys, and to build the essential local capacity to manage the areas once officially designated.

### Regional Master Plan

The first step has been to develop a *Regional Master Plan* that agrees with current international guidelines and incorporates regional environmental and socio-economic conditions. The plan is a long-term policy document that will be used as the basis for the development of site-specific Management Plans for each of the MPAs in the network. The site-specific Management Plans are short-term, practical documents that describe the specific management actions required to tackle both regional and local objectives.

### Marine Protected Area Surveys

Preliminary surveys are required within each of the proposed MPAs in order to provide baseline data on biodiversity and to provide information for the initial management strategies for zoning different areas for appropriate uses. A 'rapid-assessment-survey' was carried out in March of the proposed MPA sites at Aibat and Saad ad-Din in Somalia. Data obtained was used to prepare the survey designs for these areas. Site specific survey designs have also been prepared for the proposed MPAs in Djibouti, Sudan and Yemen. The first surveys will take place in January 2002 in Sudan under the title: *Establishment of Dunganab Bay and Mukkawar Island Marine*

*Protected Area.* The Wildlife Conservation General Administration (WCGA) will take the lead responsibility for the execution of the project. Through the SAP, the necessary survey equipment (diving kits, air compressor, generator and camping materials) has been provided and forwarded to Port Sudan. A Geographic Information System (Remote Sensing) expert has been contracted to conduct preparatory work for the littoral and sublittoral ground-truthing using satellite imagery.



**A turtle killed for its meat and left rotting on the shoreline. Protected areas will help ensure the survival of these endangered species.**

### **Training**

A potential constraint to the development and future sustainable use of MPAs in the region is the limited technical capacity and experience that currently exists. In some cases individual countries lack the necessary experts to provide the knowledge, training and skills required for MPA management. This issue has been addressed directly by initiating a series of training courses for MPA managers, scientists and rangers from the region. A training course on MPA management was conducted in November 2000 at Ras Mohammed. In June 2001 a SCUBA-dive training course was held for future MPA rangers from Djibouti, NE and NW Somalia. Two further training events were conducted alongside the Working Group meetings and, more significantly, a complete training course for ‘Managers of Marine Protected Areas’ was created through the UN Train-Sea-Coast programme. A course development unit was established at Port Sudan and technical and pedagogic support was provided through the SAP. The teaching materials were finally completed in December and the first training course and accreditation (validation) organised for January 2002.

### **Working Group Meetings**

The third MPA Working Group meeting was held in Djibouti, 28-30 April, in conjunction with a seminar on the “Fully Protected Marine Reserves” prepared by WWF. The fourth MPA Working Group meeting was held in Aqaba, 4-7 November. Dr. Salah Hakim from the Socotra Island Group National Protected Area conducted a workshop on “Public Awareness and Community Participation in MPA Planning and Management”.

## Support for Integrated Coastal Zone Management

During the preparation phase of the SAP the need to strengthen integration of environmental and natural resource issues into the planning and management of the coastal zone was identified as a key area of concern. The first activity has been the creation of a co-ordinated network of regional specialists, the ICZM Working Group, to exchange experiences and promote cooperation between countries.

Through the SAP, support will be provided for the preparation and implementation of model ICZM plans at selected sites in four of the southern countries of the region, Djibouti, Sudan, the northern coast of Somalia and Yemen. The initial country chosen for ICZM activities is Yemen. The site originally selected for the Model Activity was determined to be unsuitable and a new one identified that covers the full coastline of the Aden Governorate. Following a Pre-assessment Survey a national ICZM workshop was held in September, officially opened by H.E. the Minister of Tourism and Environment, the Deputy Governor of Aden and the Deputy of the Environment Protection Agency. Forty participants attended the meetings, representing all the key stakeholders. From the meeting a draft Coastal Zone Management Plan for Aden, with mechanisms and procedures, was prepared that will be submitted to the Aden Local Council for approval and implementation.

This component of the SAP is also supporting the development and improvement of regional Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities. The Centre for Environment and Development in the Arab Region and Europe (CEDARE) has been contracted to assist PERSGA in this regard. Initially CEDARE will establish a regional team of GIS specialists composed of one GIS expert from each PERSGA member country. This GIS Technical Team will receive advanced GIS training.

CEDARE will conduct a regional assessment of GIS capacities and needs in coordination with the Team members. Visits will be made to the member countries to assess the present use of GIS in coastal and marine environmental management, the need for further capacity building, and requirements to harmonise GIS systems.

The initial stages of a regional GIS database for PERSGA have been prepared. The database will cover all countries in the PERSGA region and include data related to coastal and marine environmental issues. When complete it will include a Sustainable Development Indicator Information System, an Experts and Human Resources database, an Institutions Profile database as well as an Institutions Activities database.

The above-mentioned database will be linked to the digitised hardcopy maps and transformed into a Geographic Information System. Up to 150 digital maps will be produced at various scales according to the countries and applications' needs.

In the future a GIS website will be developed allowing access to the PERSGA GIS database and maps hosted on a dedicated server at PERSGA.

## Public Awareness and Participation

The regional PAP Working Group, the National Programme Coordinators and the PAP Board Members in each country continue to play a pivotal role in raising the public's awareness of PERSGA, the SAP and local marine environmental concerns. In 2001 the first truly regional marine conservation awareness campaign took place. Events were staged in all of the PERSGA member countries often opened or led by leading government officials and always reported in local newspapers, on radio and television. Events included inter-school general knowledge competitions, drama productions, poetry and literary presentations, sponsored soccer games, beach and subtidal (diving) clean-up events. A more complete account was given in the Semi-annual progress report.

In order to provide opportunities to continue to raise awareness in the future, a number of public Environmental Information Centres are being established throughout the region. Equipment has been provided for centres in Djibouti, NE and NW Somalia, Yemen and Sudan and is used regularly by the PAP Board and Working Group members.

Country	Location of Public Information Centre	Equipment provided
Djibouti	Direction d'Environnement, Djibouti	Overhead projector, slide projector, screen, flip chart, stationery for presentations
Sudan	Ministry of Environment, Khartoum	
NE Somalia	NPC office, Bosaso	
NW Somalia	NPC office, Hargeisa	
Yemen	Environment Protection Authority, Aden	

In order to reach a younger audience, public awareness educational activities are being promoted through the local school systems. Non-formal environmental education teacher training activities have now taken place in Djibouti, NE and NW Somalia, to supplement those that occurred in Sudan and Yemen in 2000. The teachers have used their new skills to set up 'green' or environmental clubs in schools that now run relevant activities. Through this structure many hundreds of children are routinely exposed to conservation messages. Some of the school clubs prepare newsletters to advertise and report on their activities. A manual outlining the steps to be taken to set up similar groups has been written and clubs will be set up in Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia in 2002.

Country	No. of teachers trained	No. of school clubs	Year
Djibouti	12	12	2001
NE Somalia	12	12	2001
NW Somalia	12	12	2001
Sudan	33	30	2000
Yemen	50	35	2000

A Social Marketing survey was conducted in the region from July to September. The aim of this study was to determine people's attitudes and their level of understanding of particular issues such as marine conservation, and to recommend strategies appropriate to alter behaviour patterns. The results were presented at a workshop in Jeddah in October and included a presentation on the



**PAP public awareness activities in Somalia; beach cleaning events in operation**

perceived environmental problems, basic country statistics, recommendations, and proposed projects for public awareness.

Based on guidance provided by the GEF Small Grants Programme and the results received from the Social Marketing study, a detailed Micro-Grants Program (MGP) manual was prepared which describes the types of activities that can be supported, the criteria for approval, financial management systems, reporting requirements and the mechanisms for submission and handling of proposals. These activities are now termed Community Participation Projects (CPPs). Information concerning the MGP has been disseminated to the countries via the NPCs and meetings have been held with local NGOs to explain the concepts and request proposals for CPPs to be considered.

The CPPs support the needs of other SAP components. For example a number of focussed public awareness activities are being planned in coordination with the Lead Specialists of the other components. A project to increase the use of non destructive fishing equipment, principally lobster traps, will take place in Djibouti, Yemen, NE & NW Somalia. These traps allow the young and gravid females to be released unharmed and thus help to maintain stock levels. Through the MGP,



**Rock lobster**

finance is being made available to NGOs to purchase the raw materials for trap construction. Traps will then be marketed at cost-price, the money being used to purchase new raw materials. An awareness campaign will be run simultaneously to promote the advantages of trap use over nets.

Two issues of the bilingual PERSGA newsletter *Al Sanbouk* have been prepared and distributed. Issue 13 took *Living Marine Resources* as its main theme and issue 14 concentrated on developments in the field of *Marine Protected Areas*. Copies of each issue are distributed throughout the region and internationally to libraries,

institutions and concerned individuals. Issue 15 was prepared in December and reported in detail on the hydrographic survey work carried out in the southern Red Sea. It will be ready in advance of the PERSGA Workshop on Port State Control being held in Jeddah during March 2002.

During the year the PERSGA/SAP brochure was prepared and printed in French and distributed primarily to Djibouti but also to a number of francophone organisations. PERSGA received copies of the SAP document in French, the Project Implementation Plan (English and French versions), and the SAP Country Reports from the World Bank. These documents were sent out, in bulk, to each of the focal points for distribution in each country.

The World Bank also assisted with the preparation of French and Arabic versions of the SAP Red Sea poster, and supported another print-run with English text. English and French text versions were distributed throughout the region. The Arabic version is expected in early 2002.

A new PERSGA specific website is under development by a specialised Public Relations and Advertising Agency. The domain name *www.persga.org* can be used and it currently provides a link to the PERSGA site established last year by UNEP at the address *http://www.unep.ch/seas/main/persga/red.html*. Several of the publications prepared during the project can be downloaded from this site in PDF format. These include copies of the SAP document, PERSGA/SAP brochure (Arabic/English), early issues of *Al Sanbouk*, and the *Field Identification Guide to the Sharks and Rays of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden*.

The PERSGA Scholarship programme has begun. The first candidate selected for training is a graduate from Djibouti who has been awarded a grant to assist his studies for a Masters degree in 'Management, Development and Environment' at the University of Orleans in France. His thesis title is '*Marine Protected Areas - The Strategy for Conservation*'. The course started in November and should be completed within one calendar year.

The fourth Public Awareness and Participation (PAP) Working Group meeting was held in Jeddah, 1-10 October. Members were trained on how to conduct local social marketing studies and how to identify, prepare and submit Micro-Grant proposals for relevant projects.

## **Institutional Strengthening to Facilitate Regional Co-operation**

### **Institutional Capacity of the PERSGA Secretariat**

There are now 24 persons working in the PERSGA offices - management, Lead Specialists, NPCs, technical and administrative support staff. Their professional expertise continues to grow through experience and training. All Lead Specialists attended a Basic GIS Training Course which was held at CEDARE in February. The team were given a hands-on introduction to ArcView and the opportunity to enter and manipulate data. Modelling, statistical analysis, GIS on the Internet, and the use of satellite data were all introduced. The PAP Lead Specialist was invited to Washington DC for a two-week training course organised by the World Bank Institute on environmental economics. Thirty persons from all over the world attended and discussed issues related to sustainable financing, economic assessments of environmental values and fund raising procedures. The PERSGA/SAP financial staff attended courses on the 'Fundamentals of Internal Control' and 'Budgeting and Cost Control' given by Meric Training and Consultancy Co. in Dubai from 16-25 May and a five day course on 'UNDP Procurement' in Addis Ababa during November.

A new project manager was appointed in April to take over the managerial and administrative responsibilities and allow the Chief Technical Advisor to focus more closely on project implementation strategies and to provide greater scientific and technical guidance. Two new secretaries were hired to assist with administration. During the year the Procurement and Finance Specialist was promoted to a new position in UNDP Thailand, and the Procurement Assistant was promoted to a position with UNEP/ROWA in Bahrain. The procedures for advertising and filling these vacancies were initiated during the year through UNOPS and the Focal Points.

The PERSGA Financial Management Information System is now fully operational and used daily for planning, budgeting, and financial reporting. This programme has required a higher level of bug-fixing and maintenance than originally anticipated but now functions effectively.

The comprehensive administrative and procurement guidelines prepared in 2000 have been updated and revised to meet current circumstances.

The HBC Lead Specialist attended the ICRI Conferences in Cebu (Philippines), 5-6 April, with the CTA where the *Regional Action Plan for the Conservation of the Environment of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden* was presented to an international forum. The feedback obtained was universally positive and provided the essential international recognition required to proceed with the final preparations for publication. Further information on the PERSGA presentation is given on the ICRI site at [http://www.icriforum.org/secretariat/Cebu\\_CPC\\_5.html](http://www.icriforum.org/secretariat/Cebu_CPC_5.html). The CTA also attended the ICRI meeting in November held in Maputo, Mozambique.

### **Regional Support and Cooperation**

Continued government commitment was assured by member countries at the annual Task Force (TF) meeting which was held this year in Jeddah. The TF discussed the results of a Special Review Mission conducted by Professor Dr. Mostafa Tolba of the International Centre for Environment and Development (Egypt). The Terms of Reference of the TF were amended to reflect some of the points discussed.

The component specific Working Groups that have been established continue to meet twice a year to advise and to guide SAP activities at the national level. This mechanism has greatly improved networking and communication between experts within the region, and the introduction of national cross-component meetings organised by the National Programme Coordinators has achieved a level of involvement between experts from different institutions that had not previously existed.

The NPC offices in each country of the region are now fully equipped and operational. The NPCs facilitate travel for WG members, brief Focal Points on SAP progress, and expedite the logistical preparations for workshops and surveys held in their country. The organisation of cross-component meetings for national WG members from each component has assisted the integration of the SAP activities at the national level. The NPCs also act as an important link to existing projects and programmes within the region such as the GEF ICZM Belhaf-Bir Ali project.

A legal consultant has been hired to collect copies of environmental laws from each country and to determine the harmony and the gaps in existing national legislation.

The PERSGA secretariat continues to act a focus for the dissemination and exchange of information. SAP reports are prepared on a monthly, semi annual and annual basis. One thousand copies of the PERSGA publication *Al Sanbouk* are prepared and distributed on each print-run.

The development of a regional marine environmental science library has progressed steadily. Staff have been trained on the operational procedures for the library including international systems of classification, loans and exchanges, security and document maintenance.

## Monitoring and Evaluation of Programme Impacts

The objective of this component is to allow continuous and structured monitoring and evaluation of programme impacts. During 2000 a set of project targets were defined together with benchmarks and indicators to measure these impacts. During the year baseline data has been collected through the Social Marketing survey and plans have been prepared for the collection of the specific biological data for monitoring the impacts of the other components.



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# *Annex 1*

## *Task Force Meeting 2001*

### **Abbreviated Report**

The Third Task Force meeting for the Strategic Action Programme for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden was held from 16-17 September 2001 in the Conference Room of the Meteorology and Environmental Protection Administration, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## List of Participants

### Task Force Core Members

Dr. N. Tawfiq	PERSGA Secretary General	
Mr. Mohamed Ali Moumen	TF Representative Djibouti	
Dr. Mahmoud Khamis El-Sayed	TF Representative Egypt	
Dr. Bilal Bashir	TF Representative Jordan	
Mr. Osama Qurban	TF Representative Saudi Arabia	
Dr. Nadir Awad	TF Representative Sudan	
Mr. Mahmoud M. Shidiwah	TF Representative Yemen	
Mr. Andrew Hudson	United Nations Development Programme	by phone
Mr. Halifa Drammeh	United Nations Environment Programme	
Dr. Steven Lintner	World Bank	by phone
Mr. Ghassan Al-Marzouqi	Islamic Development Bank	

### Task Force Associate Members

Dr. Mohamed Fawzi	PERSGA Deputy Secretary General	
Dr. Saiyed Al-Khouli	PERSGA SAP Project Manager	
Dr. Dirar Nasr	PERSGA SAP Coordinator	
Dr. Fareed Krupp	SAP Chief Technical Advisor	
Dr. Abdul Majeid Haddad	UNDP Programme Coordinator	
Captain Saeed Yafai	Lead Specialist NRMP	by phone
Dr. Mohamed Abdallah	Lead Specialist LMR	
Mr. Abdullah Alsuhaibany	Lead Specialist HBC	
Mr. Mohammed Younis	Lead Specialist MPA	
Ms. Khulood Tubaishat	Lead Specialist PAP	

### Observers and Guests

Mr. John Bryant Collier	World Bank	by phone
Dr. Eng. Ibrahim Abdul-Galil	Focal Point Egypt	
Mr. Amanuel Ghebretensae	Representative Govt. of Eritrea	
Professor Dr. Mustafa Tolba	Consultant Special Review Team Leader	
Mr. Mohamed Satti	PERSGA accountant	
Mr. Nagmeldin Awad	PERSGA administrative assistant	
Ms. Reem Al Qawas	PERSGA procurement assistant	
Ms. Noha El-Maraghi	PERSGA executive secretary	
Ms. Maissa'a Zahran	PERSGA secretary	
Mr. Roderick Fleming	PERSGA editor	

The Task Force meeting was attended by representatives from the PERSGA Member Countries, UNDP Riyadh and UNEP as representatives of the GEF Implementing Agencies, the Islamic Development Bank, and invited guests including a representative from the Government of Eritrea. Representatives from the World Bank (Washington) and UNDP (New York) were linked to the meeting via telephone conference.

Dr. Nizar Tawfiq (NT), Secretary General, welcomed the participants to the Meeting. Opening Statements were given by the representatives of the Member Countries and Implementing Agencies. They expressed their pleasure at being able to attend the meeting and to participate in this valuable regional programme. Both UNDP and UNEP stressed their continuing support for future activities. UNDP in particular pledged support for future project development proposals at the regional or national level.

Dr. Saiyed Al Khouli (SAP Project Manager) gave a PowerPoint presentation in Arabic and English on the current state of SAP execution and the achievements made since the last Task Force Meeting.

Professor Mustafa Tolba (Special Review Team Leader) gave a presentation on the Special Review Report which was extensively discussed by the Task Force members.

1. Dr. Mohamed Abdallah (LMR-LS) presented two funding proposals for projects to support Component 3, *Sustainable Management of Living Marine Resources*. These were:

(i) *Data collection, stock assessment and management of transboundary fish and shellfish stocks in the PERSGA Region* and (ii) *Improved monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries in the PERSGA Region*.

The Task Force were reminded that the establishment of a MEMAC was stipulated in the Protocol to the Jeddah Convention of 1985. At the 1989 Ministerial Council meeting in Alexandria the Council accepted the offer made by the Government of Egypt to host the MEMAC at a site in Hurghada. The building is currently under construction. The role of the MEMAC centre, as stated in the Protocol, will be for information co-ordination and capacity building, the establishment of training programmes, and manpower development in the Member Countries. It will not have an oil spill combating function.

The need for a network of subregional centres for combating oil spills was recognised. PERSGA could assist in their establishment (identify sources of funding, support for operational training) but not take responsibility for operations, maintenance, or the conduct of oil spill clean-up activities.

The Task Force were reminded of the recent decisions of the Ministerial Council that:

- ?? The Task Force should meet twice a year
- ?? The Task Force should approve the SAP Workplans and budget
- ?? The Task Force should receive quarterly technical and financial reports

In light of the decisions of the Council of Ministers, it was agreed that the TOR of the Task Force should be reviewed and minor changes made as deemed necessary in light of the discussions held. Recommended changes or additions would then be submitted to the next meeting of the Council of Ministers due to be held on 27<sup>th</sup> October.

## **Recommendations from the Third Task Force Meeting**

- ?? Lead Specialists should ensure that all major documents have an Executive Summary that will be translated into French.
- ?? The LMR Lead Specialist will modify the two funding proposals and forward them to the representatives of the Member Countries for their final review.
- ?? The NRMP Lead Specialist will review the budgets for the maintenance of the Djibouti stockpile and the establishment of the MEMAC centre and submit them prior to the Council Meeting.
- ?? The Task Force Terms of Reference will be reviewed in light of the discussions held and a revised version submitted to the Council for their approval.
- ?? PERSGA is advised to consider an exit strategy for the period following the Strategic Action Programme.

# Terms of Reference

## OF THE

### **Task Force for the Implementation of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden**

#### **A. Introduction**

1. During the preparation phase of the SAP, a Task Force (TF) consisting of representatives from PERSGA countries and GEF implementing agencies was established to oversee the development of the Strategic Action Programme. Through a series of consultative meetings, supported by regional workshops, the TF reached a consensus in the identification of major regional marine environmental issues and agreed on a series of priority measures that should be taken on the short, medium and long terms to overcome these problems. This phase has been concluded with the adoption and publication of the Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the Red Sea and Gulf Aden, and its subsequent financial support from the GEF.
2. From past experience, a TF has proved to be a highly effective instrument for:
  - i. creating awareness of regional environmental issues at higher government levels,
  - ii. facilitating the implementation of a number of preliminary programme activities on the ground and,
  - iii. sharing information on national development priorities, which have overall resulted in stronger governmental commitment to regional environmental issues.
3. The continuation of the Task Force, with a new mandate, is required to take the SAP from its preparation phase into the implementation phase. An adapted Terms of Reference to accommodate the new role of the TF is suggested herewith. During the preparation phase, the overriding objective was to initiate dialogue among concerned parties to develop and agree on the SAP. This new phase will be characterized by support for the implementation of the SAP-GEF project, ultimately achieving its objectives, at the policy level in national and regional issues. It will also be characterized by expanding partnerships between PERSGA, its member countries, and interested donors to ensure long term financial sustainability for more strengthened regional cooperation.

#### **B. Membership and Attendance**

The TF will consist of Core and Associate Members. Additionally, meetings are usually attended by observers.

## **Definitions**

The Core Members of the TF represent the decision making body. In all cases agreement should be reached by consensus. The Core Members may resort to the use of a voting system in the event that a consensus cannot be attained. (The voting system shall be one vote per Core Member. In the event of a tie, the Chair may cast a second vote to decide the issue.)

Associate Members of the TF are permanent TF members. They provide advice and recommendations at TF meetings.

### **Core Members of the TF are:**

The Secretary General of PERSGA – The Chair

One Government Representative from each of the Member Governments

One Representative from each of the three GEF Implementing Organisations

One Representative from major Donor Organisations as they sign in

### **Associate Members of the TF are:**

The Deputy Secretary General of PERSGA (who will act on behalf of the Secretary General in his absence)

The SAP Project Manager - (Task Force Rapporteur)

The SAP Senior Technical Advisor

The PERSGA-SAP Co-ordinator

The UNDP Programme Co-ordinator (who will become a core member, if he/she is the sole UNDP Representative at a meeting)

SAP Lead Specialists

### **Observers are:**

The National Programme Co-ordinators

Other Representatives of PERSGA and/or the Implementing Organisations

In addition to the above, the Secretary General may invite, on a permanent or an *ad hoc* basis, interested bilateral and multi-lateral donors and other parties/organizations or individuals considered important for the PERSGA programme, to attend. However Observers are not automatically eligible for reimbursement of travel or accommodation expenses by PERSGA or SAP should they attend a TF meeting.

## **C. Tasks for Core Members**

The new mandate of the TF can be expressed in two, inter-linked, types of tasks. There are those for the TF as one group - collective tasks, and those for the responsibility of each TF member arising from his/her position as a Government/institution representative - member tasks.

**1. Collective tasks.** In accordance with the objectives of the SAP and the agreed GEF-supported project, the TF shall:

- i. Serve as an advisory body to the implementation of the SAP, providing substantive guidance and advice on operational, technical and political issues related to the SAP.
- ii. Adopt the annual SAP operational workplans and their corresponding budgets, (major amendments to require Task Force approval).
- iii. Monitor and review programme implementation progress through review of quarterly technical and financial reports; assess achievements and give advice for the improvement of programme implementation.
- iv. Advise on ways and means of integrating SAP into PERSGA's long term programme and recommend to the PERSGA Council & Secretariat actions to be taken to achieve this objective.
- v. Facilitate sharing of information and experience among TF members with the aim of better understanding the management of marine environmental resources in the region.
- vi. Recommend, where necessary, and pursue the adoption of new legal and policy frameworks, protocols, agreements, conventions, etc., as needs may arise, for the management of the region's marine environment.
- vii. Assist in the identification and mobilization of additional financial resources to enhance SAP implementation at regional and national levels and to sustain national and regional commitments to the SAP beyond the GEF project period.
- viii. Attempt to resolve differences and problems, when they arise, at the operational and technical levels between various participating parties.

**2. Member tasks.** Individually, each TF member shall:

- i. Actively participate in the TF meetings, as scheduled by the PERSGA Secretariat. The TF member is expected to interact with the group, sharing his/her ideas and visions, bringing up issues of concern to the government/institution he/she represents.
- ii. Participate in the guidance and monitoring of the project's progress, providing practical recommendations with a view to improving performance and efficiency in achieving programme objectives.
- iii. The TF member may be expected to provide his/her own comments and views, written as appropriate, on all relevant issues including key regional policy and legal documents.
- iv. Facilitate and support operationally, technically and politically, programme implementation at the country level.

- v. Provide guidance to the project-recruited National Programme Co-ordinator, where applicable, for the joint and effective implementation of project activities. This may entail joint review of operational workplans, comments on progress reports prepared by the NPC, etc.
- vi. In collaboration with lead specialists of the Project Coordination Unit (PCU), provide guidance to the national specialists of the project team, hold regular meetings with the group to receive updates on programme activities and brief the group on substantive issues of relevance to the SAP from the national perspective.
- vii. Advocate SAP and GEF project objectives at the national level, with a view towards incorporating regional concerns into the overall national development objectives.
- viii. Participate or send representative(s) to workshops/meetings carried out, within the project context, in his/her own country.
- ix. Upon PERSGA's request, nominate qualified person(s) to participate/attend various training programmes, workshops and meetings offered by the GEF project.

#### **D. Reporting**

Individually, each TF member will report to the institution that he/she represents. Collectively, at the onset of each TF meeting, a rapporteur will be selected to take the minutes of the meetings. The Secretary General should seek the agreement of the TF to these minutes, preferably before the conclusion of the meeting. If this is not feasible, the draft minutes should be circulated to TF members and commented upon before finalization. The final version of the minutes will be distributed to all parties concerned. Under the guidance of the Secretary General, the Programme Coordination Unit will be responsible to coordinate the follow up actions resulting from such meetings.

#### **E. Frequency & Costs**

The TF should meet twice a year and hold electronic or telephone meetings once during each other quarter. The Secretary General may call for additional meetings, as required. The GEF project will bear the cost of travel of government representatives to such meetings, in accordance with the project document and budget.

#### **F. Requirements**

PERSGA Member Governments are encouraged to appoint one representative each, who is familiar with PERSGA's work and has the basic technical background that will enable him/her to interact actively with the TF. The TF member should have a good knowledge of the coastal and marine environment and conservation issues in the country he/she is representing. He/she should be in a position to take operational and technical decisions that will support SAP activities in the field, and hence association to the PERSGA focal point is recommended. He/she should be a high-ranking official who can effectively support and advocate the objectives of the SAP at high-level national development fora.

*Annex II*  
*Training Courses Conducted Through*  
*the SAP*

### Training courses conducted through the SAP - 2001

Type of Course	Target Group & Course Content	From	To	Country of trainees	No.	Outcomes
Seminar (given by experts in biological diversity)	Regional WG members and national specialists: a) biodiversity and its importance, b) the Convention on Biological Diversity & basic steps in biodiversity planning, c) contents of regional and national biodiversity strategies and action plans	20 Mar.	21 Mar.	HBC Regional WG members and specialists from Sudan	8	The participants gained significant knowledge on the subjects presented
Regional Training Course	Regional specialists: Standard Survey Methodology (SSM) for Coral Reefs	24 Jun.	30 Jun.	All member countries except Somalia	16	A group of regional specialists able to conduct coral reef surveys
Regional Training Course	Regional specialists: Standard Survey Methodology (SSM) for Seagrasses & Seaweeds	1 Jul.	5 Jul.	All member countries except Somalia	16	A group of regional specialists able to conduct seagrass & seaweeds surveys
Regional Training Course	Fisheries enumerators: Shark (elasmobranch) identification and data collection methods	28 Apr.	1 May	All member countries	55	Personnel trained to collect the data necessary to prepare shark management plans
Regional Workshop	MPA managers: Use of fully protected marine reserves in MPA management	28 Apr.	28 Apr.	All member countries	10	Benefits of fully protected areas in MPA management made clear to regional managers
SCUBA Diving Course	Future MPA rangers: SCUBA diving skills and safety measures	15 May	3 Jun.	Djibouti, NE Somalia, NW Somalia	10	Ten divers now PADI certified
Regional Workshop	Regional specialists from MPA, HBC and PAP components: community involvement and participation in MPAs	5 Nov.	6 Nov.	All member countries	12	MPA WG and Jordanian PAP and HBC members gained experience in community participation and are now trained as trainers in this subject
Regional Workshop	Regional PAP board members: conduct of social marketing studies and how to submit micro-grant proposals	1 Oct.	10 Oct.	All member countries	18	A group of regional specialists able to conduct social marketing studies and prepare micro-grant projects
National Workshop	National ICZM committee in Aden: different ICZM concepts and methods for the preparation of ICZM guidelines	9 Sept.	12 Sept.	Yemen	30	Positive recommendations for preparation of national ICZM Guidelines for Yemen

*Annex III*  
*Goods Disbursed to PERSGA Member*  
*Countries Through the SAP in 2001*

## Equipment Purchased and Distributed to Countries in 2001

Item Description	Location	Price USD	Purchase date 2001
Office equipment, projector/screen	Public Awareness Training Centre - Djibouti	390	March
Office equipment, projector/screen, flip chart, white board	Public Awareness Training Centre - Bosaso	2,950	March
Office equipment, projector/screen, flip chart, white board	Public Awareness Training Centre - Hargeisa	1,200	April
Office furniture	Public Awareness Training Centre - Khartoum	2,900	August
Office equipment, projectors/screen	Public Awareness Training Centre - Khartoum	805	October
Office equipment, projectors/screen, flip chart	Public Awareness Training Centre - Aden	2,766	March
Camping equipment	Sudan - Dungonab survey (NPC office)	1,247	December
Survey equipment for MPAs	Sudan - Dungonab survey (NPC office)	2,006	December
Diving equipment for MPA surveys	Sudan - Dungonab survey (NPC office)	8,023	December
Air compressor	Sudan - Dungonab survey (NPC office)	6,178	November
Laboratory equipment: salinometer, dissolved oxygen meter, replacement membrane kit (2), replacement probe, slow response membrane kit	LMR training centre Aden	2825	February
Global Positioning System (3)	LMR training centre Aden	600	January
HP LaserJet printer	LMR training centre Aden	707	February
LCD video/data projector	LMR training centre Aden	5070	February
Digital balances (2)	LMR training centre Aden	2,521	February
Desktop computers (10)	LMR training centre Aden	13,160	February
Digital camera, Nikon Coolpix 990	LMR training centre Aden	1,455	February
Toyota Hilux Double Cabin	Bosaso, NE Somalia	18,778	July
Turtle Monitoring Equipment	Each PERSGA country	9,511	May
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$83,092</b>	

*Annex IV*  
*Financial Disbursements 2001*

## Summary of Financial Disbursements 2001

Description	Amount USD
Country based personnel	95,000
Equipment	178,000
Miscellaneous	280,000
Consultancies: Hydrographic survey	2,100,000
Others	478,000
Project Overheads	774,000
Training	434,000
Travel in the region	108,000
Total	4,447,000

Implementing Agency	Amount in USD
UNDP	1,456,500
UNEP	411,000
World Bank	2,530,000
IsDB	49,500
Total	4,447,000

### Total Project Disbursements from 1999 in U.S. Dollars

1999	2000	2001
\$684,000	\$2,023,000	\$4,447,000

### Number of Requests for Services and Requests for Goods processed during 2000/2001

	2000	2001
Services contracts issued	88	82
Purchase Orders issued	95	76