



MARINE NEWS

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Save Our Seas: IUCN/Jerker Tamelander

E.On: IUCN

page 6: IUCN/Group J. Muntaner

page 7: IUCN/Group J. Muntaner

page 8: Gabriel Grimsditch

page 9:

Climate Change: Jerker Tamelander

Fisheries: Cheryl-Samantha Owen/ Save

Our Seas Foundation

page 10: Jerker Tamelander

page 11: François Simard

page 12:

Ocean and High Seas: Imene Meliane

MPA: Gabriel Grimsditch

page 14: IUCN/Group J. Muntaner

page 15: IUCN/Group J. Muntaner

page 16: Jerker Tamelander

page 17: Jerker Tamelander

page 18: courtesy of Sylvia Earle

page 19: Jerker Tamelander

page 20: David Weller

page 21: Jerker Tamelander

page 22: Jim Thorsell

page 23: Christian Laufenberg

page 24: Alhitak

page 25: Cheryl-Samantha Owen/ Save

Our Seas Foundation

page 26:

FEG: Despina Symons

Sharks International: Malcom Francis

page 27: Jerker Tamelander

In this Issue...

Editorial

Prescription for a blue economy
by Kristina Gjerde

New Publications and Reports - page 2

New Projects - page 4

GEF Seamounts
E.ON Blue Energy
BfN High Seas
Kuoni
Yemen LNG
Save Our Seas Shark Project

Congress Retrospective - page 6

Editorial by Sarah Gotheil
IUCN World Conservation Congress
Oceans and Climate Change
Fisheries
Oceans and High Sea Governance
Marine Protected Areas
Marine Policy at Members Assembly

Themes - page 16

Managing Marine Invasives
Marine Protected Areas
Coastal Livelihoods
Conserving Threatened Species
Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation

Regions - page 22

Lessons from the Great Barrier Reef
Project in the Red Sea
Conserving the Alboran Sea

Members & Commissions - page 25

TNC launches new toolkit for marine conservation agreements
New Fisheries Expert Group in Commission of Ecosystem Management
Sharks International
Oceans, Coasts and Coral Reefs Specialist Group Update

New staff and upcoming events - page 28

Editorial

Prescription for a blue economy



What do the global financial crisis and climate change have to tell us about the oceans? Both are complex systems that demonstrate the interconnectedness of 21st century life.

If we have learned any lessons from the global financial crisis, it is that disasters reach tipping points, and that they are hard to predict. Bailouts are extremely expensive. We also now know that transparency, accountability, and oversight of the banking sector are essential components of effective financial management. High-risk strategies, while delivering high returns for the few in the short term, will eventually end in tears.

Despite the early warning signs, the financial world spiralled out of control like an epidemic with devastating consequences on the global economy. The same circumstances apply to the oceans in terms of climate change.

Increasing levels of CO₂ are changing the basic chemistry of seawater. This rise in ocean acidification is threatening to dissolve the calcium-based protective shells of key species from phytoplankton to cold-water corals. Scientists studying the ocean now warn us that the triple threat of climate change, ocean acidification and poorly managed fisheries not only threaten the tuna, sea turtles and whales that circumnavigate vast ocean basins, but also the tiny plants that form the base of the oceanic food web. These tiny plants convert the sun's energy into oxygen and food for hungry humans and other animals.

The realities of the economic downturn and the impacts of climate change are that we must rethink our "business-as-usual" approach and find new ways to cooperate on a global scale. The Stern Report on the economics of climate change details that the cost of prevention is far less than repair. It is becoming common wisdom that in order to recover we need to invest in a new energy infrastructure. And while a greening of the economy is long overdue, the world's governments must recognize the potential role of the ocean in reducing our carbon emissions.

To secure a healthy blue economy, there are a number of steps that we must consider as part of the global climate change adaptation and mitigation strategy.

We need to avoid high-risk schemes like geoengineering and proceed cautiously with the management of ocean uses. Alternatively, as world leaders recognized in the Manado Ocean Declaration signed 14 May at the World Ocean Conference in Indonesia, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are a key investment in protecting marine biodiversity, supporting sustainable fisheries and enhancing resilience to climate change. Unlike efforts to manipulate complex systems that we do not fully understand, MPAs will ensure the best long-term value to help us weather the economic and environmental storms to come.

To scale up MPA networks, governments and scientists will need to identify and protect areas of significance to the wider marine economy. Important work to identify such areas is now underway at the Convention on Biological Diversity and within certain regional ocean organizations. Further work at the global level is needed to ensure that these areas can be properly protected, and to build regional capacity to manage such areas where it does not yet exist.

To support MPAs, we also need to develop tools for ecosystem-based management, including "stress tests" which will identify regions at risk, environmental assessments of unregulated and under-regulated activities, remote surveillance and monitoring of ecosystems and human activities. We also need to expand ocean research to improve our understanding of ecosystem connections and their cumulative impacts.

We must also develop a credible "stress test" for global and regional institutions charged with stewarding high seas resources and the environment, particularly regional fisheries management and shipping organizations, to analyse their ability to cope with the additional stress of climate impacts.

IUCN has developed a list of ten principles for High Seas Governance that could provide a useful guide for modernizing national and institutional performance. These principles have been applied to natural resource management by many states within their own territories, but have yet to be consistently applied to the high seas.

We have far to go if we are to avoid another global catastrophe. But if we act now, just a few steps could be enough to make a difference. There is hope - a blue revolution is on the horizon. All it needs is enough momentum to reach its tipping point.

Kristina Gjerde
High Seas Policy Advisor

New Publications and Reports

All the following publications can be downloaded from the publications page of the Global Marine Programme Website www.iucn.org/marine



Marine Menace: Alien invasive species in the marine environment

Our marine world is under threat and many factors are driving biodiversity loss. However, the most insidious threat, is that posed by marine invasive species. Marine habitats are populated by different species that have evolved in isolation. But humans have overcome the natural barriers with transportation. As a result, species are now moving far beyond their natural ranges into new areas. This report summarises the main threats and what can be done to counter them. Available in three languages.



Monitoring Functional Groups of Herbivorous Reef Fishes as Indicators of Coral Reef Resilience: A practical guide for coral reef managers in the Asia Pacific Region

Herbivores play a critical role in coral reef resilience by limiting the establishment and growth of algal communities that impede coral recruitment. This document provides practical advice to field practitioners based on an example from the Asia Pacific Region. Key functional groups of herbivores are identified, species are assigned to each functional group, and methods are provided for monitoring their abundance, biomass and size structure.



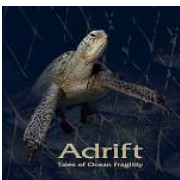
Resilience Assessment of Coral Reefs: Rapid assessment protocol for coral reefs, focusing on coral bleaching and thermal stress

The need for rapid methodologies for measuring coral reef resilience and their application in assessing the effectiveness of coral reef conservation management measures is becoming increasingly acute. This document outlines a protocol that defines some basic resilience indicators for rapid assessment methods.



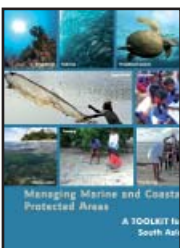
Sustainable Livelihoods Enhancement and Diversification (SLED) A Manual for Practitioners

The SLED approach has been developed through building on the lessons of past livelihoods research projects as well as in livelihood improvement and participatory development practice. It aims to provide a set of guidelines for development and conservation practitioners.



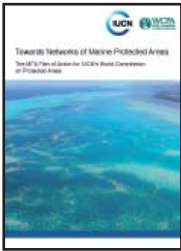
Adrift : tales of ocean fragility

The book features twelve stories of different ocean animals that highlight the latest issues in marine conservation. The tales in this exquisitely illustrated book are testament not only to the eccentricity of life in our oceans, but also the diversity of challenges and opportunities we face to conserve these marine marvels.



Managing Marine and Coastal Protected Areas: A Toolkit for South Asia

This South Asia Toolkit has been prepared to help MCPA managers in their daily tasks. Containing 81 theme sheets arranged in two parts: 1. The Management Process and 2. Conservation and Sustainable Use. The Toolkit provides up-to-date information and practical guidance on a wide range of issues related to management of MCPAs.



Towards Networks of Marine Protected Areas The MPA Plan of Action for IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas

This Plan of Action describes the added value that WCPA – Marine brings to the global community working on MPAs. It identifies the renewed need for urgent action to protect our oceans and seas, the main themes we work under and the global priorities that are needed to achieve this.



Establishing Resilient Marine Protected Area Networks - Making it Happen

This guide provides essential information to better understand the role of marine protected area networks to achieve marine conservation. It utilizes current scientific knowledge, institutional experience and global case studies to present the most relevant lessons in building resilient and functional networks.



High Seas Gems: Hidden Treasures of Our Blue Earth

The global community decided that key high seas ecosystems should be protected, and agreed on a common set of criteria. The ten sites described in this brochure illustrate just a few of the special places scientists suggested and that merit further conservation consideration.



Status of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean Sea

The survey presented here, is the first of its kind in the Mediterranean and is based on questionnaires sent to MPA managers. The conclusions reached are plain: the management effectiveness of Mediterranean MPAs must be improved. Furthermore, marine protected areas are threatened by substantial external pressures at local, regional and global levels.



Maritime traffic effects on biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea Volume 1 - Review of impacts, priority areas and mitigation measures

This review is the first attempt, to present and discuss these impacts scientifically, comprehensively and from a multi-disciplinary perspective in an effort to identify potential management and collective mitigation measures. We are optimistic that such a first and important step will initiate international and regional dialogue and pragmatic multi-lateral efforts towards addressing these serious issues in the Mediterranean.



Maritime traffic effects on biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea Volume 2 - Legal mechanisms to address maritime impacts on Mediterranean biodiversity

The Mediterranean Sea is a vital maritime highway, it is a sea of multiple seas, each with its own unique marine biodiversity and risks. To examine the impact of shipping on marine biodiversity in the Mediterranean Sea, a workshop was convened in Istanbul in September 2007. One outcome was the preparation of 4 background papers outlining the legal framework and the measures available within this framework; these papers have now been collected together in this volume.



Managing Seagrasses for Resilience to Climate Change

This report presents an overview of seagrasses, the impacts of climate change and other threats to seagrass habitats, as well as tools and strategies for managers to help support seagrass resilience.

New Projects

GEF Seamounts



The overall objective of the Seamounts Project is to develop ecosystem-based approaches to fisheries management for areas of significant biological and commercial importance (i.e. seamounts) located in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The project will address the three main barriers to sustainable fisheries management and marine biodiversity conservation in the high seas:

- Lack of scientific knowledge about seamount ecosystems and their relationship with fisheries resources
- Lack of comprehensive and effective governance frameworks for marine biodiversity in the high seas
- Difficulty of managing offshore fish stocks, including monitoring, control and surveillance

Two research expeditions of 40 days each will study five selected seamounts in the southern Indian Ocean. The first cruise will focus on the pelagic ecosystem, fishery resources and oceanography. Onboard the Norwegian vessel Dr Fridtjof Nansen, a team will investigate the seamounts, starting at Reunion Island, and ending in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

The second cruise, will focus on benthic ecosystems. The UK's Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) ISIS will be deployed on the seamounts to study their benthic communities. It is tentatively scheduled with the RSS James Cook, in November 2011.

Yemen LNG

IUCN GMP has signed an agreement with the Yemen LNG Company Ltd to convene an independent scientific panel and conduct an independent review of the company's Biodiversity Action Plan following the opening of a liquid natural gas plant on Yemen's southern coastline. Six prominent international experts covering six key thematic areas (fisheries, oil and gas impact, marine protected areas, impact assessments, coral reefs and ecological restoration) have been selected to serve on the panel. The panel will monitor the company's ongoing environmental restoration efforts and will provide guidance on how to improve their performance.



BfN High Seas

GMP has embarked on a two-year project with the German Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) to identify ecologically and biologically-significant marine areas in the high seas and to foster international support for their protection. IUCN will coordinate scientific work for the identification process based on the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) scientific criteria in areas beyond national jurisdiction. The adoption of these criteria in May 2008 provides an extraordinary opportunity to build international commitment for the protection of important high seas locations. It is hoped that a scientific CBD meeting late in 2009 will set the stage for strong commitments by States to protect sizeable areas of the high seas at the 10th CBD Conference of parties in 2010.



Kuoni

IUCN has joined forces with the international leisure travel company Kuoni to increase public awareness regarding climate change and marine resources and to empower local managers to address human threats within the context of climate change. The project will be centred on sites in the Red Sea and Indian Ocean: Marsa Alam in Egypt and the Maldives island archipelago. An environmental education and public awareness campaign will be conducted in Marsa Alam that includes an element on the importance of establishing well-managed marine protected areas (MPAs). On both sites, IUCN will train local managers to monitor coral reefs and to develop rapid response coral bleaching programmes for MPAs.



Save Our Seas Foundation Shark Project

IUCN GMP has teamed up the Save Our Seas Foundation to conduct surveys of shark and ray abundance off the Red Sea coast of Sudan. The two-year cooperation includes two boat-based surveys, land-based fieldwork and a workshop for local resource managers. The project will put a good deal of emphasis on public awareness and outreach whilst aiming to boost local capacity to deal with threats to large marine mammals and coral reefs. IUCN will engage in the monitoring of socioeconomic conditions of local communities and identify key biodiversity-rich areas for protection. The project will also serve to strengthen the Red Sea network of marine institutions, scientists and managers.



E.ON Blue Energy

Offshore and marine-based renewable energy is one of the new frontiers in the move towards a low-carbon world economy. According to estimates, over 7,000 offshore units are built or under development worldwide. Although research is still in its infancy, it is widely regarded that the potential impact on marine biodiversity – both above and below the waterline – is not negligible. IUCN has therefore embarked on a partnership with the multinational energy corporation E.ON to improve the environmental performance of offshore renewable energy projects covering offshore wind, wave and tidal energy.

Congress Special



Editorial

It is rewarding to see that, through the efforts of institutions, experts and passionate people around the world, the blue part of our planet is receiving well-deserved and growing attention. New extraordinary scientific discoveries have been promoted and conveyed through initiatives such as the Census of Marine Life and in global events like the International Marine Conservation Congress or the World Conference on Marine Biodiversity.

Furthermore, the new ocean layer on Google Earth and National Geographic's deployment of underwater camera systems, which bring coral reefs live to everyone via the internet, will irrevocably change the way we look at the marine environment, and by extension, how we understand it and manage it.

This unequalled interest for the marine world was also manifest during the World Conservation Congress,

which took place in Barcelona in October 2008. In addition to being the biggest Congress IUCN ever organised (in terms of the number of participants, events, and motions submitted by IUCN members), marine issues received unprecedented attention. Over 100 marine-related events were organized by members and partners of IUCN, including workshops, roundtable discussions, films, social events, training courses and publication launches. In all, over 20 marine-related resolutions were approved by IUCN membership.

Participants were drawn to the marine pavilion - the marine hub of the congress venue - by a lighthouse and a smiling shark, not to mention its friendly staff members. The pavilion provided the marine community with a unique opportunity to gather and network, but also to enjoy demonstrations by Google and National Geographic of the Google Earth marine protected areas layer

and the underwater "wildcam" technology respectively. With this issue of the GMP newsletter, we are pleased to show you IUCN's achievements at the Congress, and those of its members and partners.

*Sarah Gotheil
Programme Officer -
Global Marine Programme IUCN*



IUCN World Conservation Congress

The IUCN World Conservation Congress (WCC) is the world's largest and most important conservation event. Held every four years, the Congress aims to improve how we manage our natural environment for human, social and economic development.

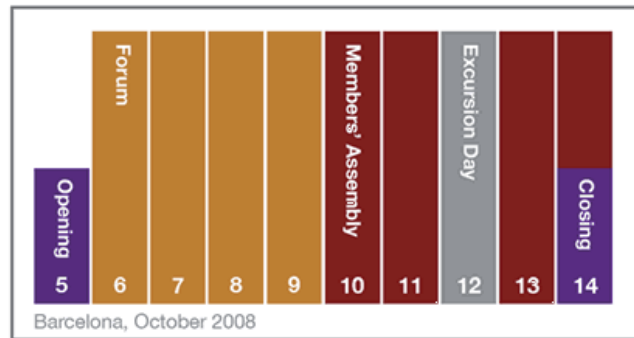
From 5 to 14 October, 2008, the World Conservation Congress was held in Barcelona, Spain. More than 7,500 from 183 different countries representing leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, business, UN agencies and social organizations discussed, debated and agreed on solutions for the world's most pressing environmental issues.

The Congress started with the four-day Forum run by IUCN members and partners discussing cutting edge ideas, thinking and practice. The Forum leads into the four-day IUCN Members' Assembly, a unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs.

In the past Congresses were held every two years and initially, the Congress only consisted of the Members' Assembly of all IUCN member organizations. However since 1996, the Congress has grown to include the Forum, open to all, to debate major issues, propose solutions and facilitate the sharing of information and experiences.

The Forum is a grand public gathering hosted by the world's conservation community, bringing together people from all over the world to discuss, share and learn. More than 800 events took place during the four days of the Forum. About 10% of them were organized by the IUCN Secretariat; the rest run by IUCN members, Commissions and partners. There were seven high-level roundtable discussions, numerous workshops, receptions and debates hosted in the nine thematic pavilions, and 160 exhibitions.

Additionally, there was an International Women Entrepreneurs' Fair, the inspirational 'Sailing to Barcelona' initiative, a conservation cinema, dozens of learning opportunities, and a book store.



All events aimed to share knowledge, to build understanding and consensus, and to form new alliances and partnerships.

During the Members' Assembly, 138 motions were deliberated and voted on. These will significantly influence international environmental policy in the short, medium and long-term. Also at the Members' Assembly a new president of IUCN council and governance body was voted on by the IUCN members. In addition to approving the 2009-2012 IUCN work programme.

The ideas that were generated at the Forum and the resolutions passed in the Assembly, will give the conservation movement the momentum needed to plan, inspire and build the diverse and sustainable world that IUCN is working to create. The following articles summarise the major marine issues that were discussed at length during congress.

For more information:
IUCN World Conservation Congress:
http://www.iucn.org/congress_08/



Oceans and Climate Change



As the world's climate changes at an unprecedented rate accelerated by anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, evidence of its impact on marine and coastal environments is growing on a daily basis. Effects such as warming oceans, increasing water acidity and rising sea levels are already being observed, and will have serious consequences on marine biodiversity and human societies. Improved understanding of climate change, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation, has thus become a major priority for the international community. The oceans play a central role in this debate, as they play a crucial role in regulating the world's climate, as well as providing food and income for billions of people across the globe.

The World Conservation Congress hosted some stimulating discussions to contribute to our improved understanding and management of oceans in the face of climate change. Diverse topics such as the effects of climate change on fisheries and the resilience of coral reefs to climate change, were addressed, giving examples of how pro-active and informed management of our marine resources can provide hope for com-

bating the negative and sometimes overwhelming effects of a changing climate. Discussions on the possibility of fertilizing the oceans to mitigate climate change highlighted the need for proactive regulations to monitor and ensure the environmental safety and effectiveness of proposed geo-engineering solutions, whose safety and effectiveness remain unproved.

Climate change and fisheries

The oceans and marine life that have become so important to human welfare are likely to undergo drastic changes. New findings on climate change-induced shifts in the distribution and abundance of fish and invertebrates of commercial interest were presented, together with their global impacts on marine biodiversity and fisheries. While such ecological changes may have positive impact in northern countries, they are predicted to reduce fishing catch potential in tropical nations. Tropical and polar oceans, as well as semi-enclosed seas, are predicted to be the most vulnerable to species invasion and shifts in species distribution. Due to their high dependence on fisheries for livelihoods and their limited capacity to adapt to climate change, poor nations in the tropics, particu-

larly in Africa, Asia and northwestern South America, will be most affected by climate change impacts on fisheries. Management responses are needed, but these need to be carefully considered to balance trade-offs between fisheries management, biodiversity conservation and management of other human activities at sea for the long-term benefit of all.

Coral reef resilience to climate change

Coral reefs are one of the most vulnerable ecosystems to climate change in the world, and are often dubbed the 'canaries in the coal-mine'. As much as a third of reef-building corals are threatened with extinction due to climate change and other anthropogenic stressors. In order to understand, manage and safeguard these complex and vitally important ecosystems, the concept of coral reef resilience has become an important framework for scientists, managers and policy-makers to base their decisions on. At the Congress, scientists, managers and policy-makers shared knowledge, experience, opportunities and constraints in relation to developments in resilience science, its incorporation into realistic and meaningful management strategies, and developments of policy response to address coral reef degradation. Opportunities to apply lessons learned to other vulnerable ecosystems have also been explored. As a direct result of these discussions, resolution 4.080 for "mobilizing action to build resilience and assist adaptation to climate change of coral reefs and marine ecosystems, and people that depend on them" was drafted and adopted by the Congress.

Ocean fertilization

As negative consequences of climate change become more and more inevitable, some are proposing new technologies that could dramatically alter marine ecosystems. Phytoplankton play a key role in making the oceans the world's largest sink of carbon dioxide, and proposals to "geo-engineer" the oceans and increase carbon absorption by stimulating algal blooms through the addition of iron and other nutrients are one of the proposed means to combat climate change. This controversial topic was debated by

an interdisciplinary panel of experts who discussed the climatic, ecological, ethical, economic and legal pros and cons of such extensive manipulation of the marine environment. While some studies show that ocean fertilization does stimulate plankton blooms, impacts of such activities on the marine environment and the global climate remain unknown and unpredictable. Before considering the sale of carbon offsets for fertilization projects, further research is needed to assess the risk to our oceans, and extreme caution with large-scale fertilization activities is required.

For more information:

- Climate change and marine ecosystems and fisheries: Alex Rogers, Zoological Society of London, Alex.Rogers@ioz.ac.uk; or Emily Pidgeon, Conservation International, e.pidgeon@conservation.org.
- Coral reef resilience: David Obura, CORDIO, dobura@cordioea.org or Stephanie Wear, TNC, swear@tnc.org or Jerker Tamelander, IUCN, Jerker.Tamelander@iucn.org
- Ocean fertilization: Kristina Gjerde, IUCN, kgjerde@iucn.org or Gabriel Grimsditch, UNEP, Gabriel.Grimsditch@unep.org



Fisheries



How long will we have the chance to enjoy a juicy tuna or salmon steak on our plate? How long will seafood be able to provide a living and a source of proteins, vital to many around the world, especially in developing countries? The worrying trend of fish stock depletion, together with destructive impact of fishing activities on other species and the marine environment, has again been restated by FAO in their latest State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) report, released in March 2009.

The root causes of what we have termed the fish crisis for a few decades now are numerous, as are the options and solutions for more effective management of the ocean's precious resources and the conservation of its unique dwellers. The Congress gave scientists and experts, government and NGO representatives, as well as professionals from the fishing and aquaculture industry an unparalleled opportunity to discuss many aspects of the regulation, conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.

Two workshops discussed the complex challenges of overfishing and

the failed attempts to date to address adequately the root causes of the fish crisis. Focusing on industrial fishing activities and the developing country context respectively, both workshops highlighted the importance of controlling access to fisheries, and coming to terms with open access regimes. While this trend represents a positive development, it raises particular concerns in some developing countries where the livelihoods of many depends on easy and equitable access to fishing grounds. Participants in the two events agreed that setting up a forum, able to discuss these issues together with all relevant stakeholders, would be a useful way forward. In order to build a bridge between the private sector and conservation, IUCN officially launched a partnership with the Spanish fishing industry, which will help identify common actions towards more sustainable fishing activities.

The ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF), recognized by some as the common vision and internationally accepted framework reconciling conservation and exploitation, was the focus of another workshop. It helped participants review what had

been done so far to implement the EAF, what was still needed to further promote the approach and what challenges remained and how to overcome them. It was noted that the EAF required a revision of conventional paradigms, not only of fisheries management, but also ecosystem protection. Questioning traditional concepts and credos was thus one of the recommendations of the workshop, which also suggested that countries develop national EAF plans and that better linkages with similar concepts (such as ecosystem-based management of fisheries, integrated coastal zone/area management, etc.) be created.

Fisheries subsidies, an important cause of over-capacity and over fishing, were also an important focus of the Congress. Negotiations on subsidies reforms at the World Trade Organisation (WTO) are thus viewed as one of the most promising actions to instate fairer international trade and more sustainable production patterns. Through the staging of negotiations on fisheries subsidies, workshop participants plunged into the complex world of World Trade Organisation (WTO) discussions. Their main recommendations were that negotiations at the WTO on fisheries subsidies continue; that subsidies reforms be promoted at the regional and national levels and that public financial flows to the fisheries sector be more transparent.

Sustainable aquaculture, including traceability of aquaculture feed such as fishmeal and fish oil, as well as fisheries certification were at the heart of several discussions during the World Conservation Forum. IUCN members presented guidelines that they developed, with the support of IUCN, to influence practices and encourage cooperation, as well as build bridges between the industry, conservation groups and consumers. Certification was recognised as a potentially powerful means for businesses to enter the debate of sustainability, and for empowering fishers, especially small-scale fishers, to better negotiate with the rest of the supply chain, in particular with retailers.

Charismatic species, in particular sharks and whales, received great attention during the Congress through several workshops. That whales do not represent a threat to

fisheries, anywhere in the world, was one of the strong statements that came out of a session, where scientific and technical evidence for this claim were reviewed and discussed. Building on this discussion, IUCN members approved resolution 4.027 urging states to improve fisheries management and encouraging them to study whales using non-lethal methods.

Cetaceans and other marine megafauna were at the centre of another workshop, which presented new information on fisheries bycatch of marine megafauna. Methods and ideas to better manage bycatch were under consideration, and the need to manage fisheries bycatch in an integrated and holistic fashion as well as scaling up bycatch management efforts came out as strong recommendations from the workshop.

Broad agreement was also reached with regards to protecting particularly vulnerable and/or depleted species of sharks and to control shark fishing mortality, in line with scientific advice and existing international and regional regulations. Several successful cases were presented and discussed, including the European Community Plan of Action (CPOA) for Sharks – considered to have the potential to drive substantial improvements in EU shark policy and inspire other fishing nations. Other concrete achievements reported the Spanish government's work on a shark and swordfish fishery management plan, and the pioneering "fins-attached

policy" developed in Costa Rica. This open, public and multi-stakeholder dialogue was also considered as an achievement in itself, and led to the successful adoption of resolution 4.112 by IUCN members, calling on the European Union to improve of their CPOA with several recommended measures.

For more information:

- The Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries: Despina Symons, (EBCD) despina.symons@ebcd.org; Sergi Tudela, (WWF) studela@atw-wwf.org.
- Fisheries subsidies: Anja von Moltke, (UNEP) anja.moltke@unep.ch.
- Fishmeal and fish oil; certification; and aquaculture: Despina Symons, EBCD despina.symons@ebcd.org.
- Bycatch: Josh Donlan, Advanced Conservation Strategies, cjd34@cornell.edu.
- Sustainable fisheries in developing countries: Gabriella Richardson-Temm, WWF, Gabriella.Richardson-Temm@wwfus.org.
- Sustainable industrial fisheries: François Simard, IUCN, francois.simard@iucn.org.
- EU shark regulation: Uta Bellion, Pew Charitable Trusts, ubellion@pewtrusts.org.
- Whales and fisheries: Monica Medina, Pew Environment Group, medina@pewtrusts.org.



Oceans and High Seas Governance

The world ocean needs to be considered as a whole – this notion certainly received a resounding and reinvigorated echo during the World Conservation Congress, as workshop participants discussed challenges, options and solutions to improved management and governance of the blue part of our planet. If all marine areas received attention, a special emphasis was given to areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction – commonly referred to as the high seas.

Building bridges between and bringing together the multiple users, managers, understanders, impacters and enjoyers of the ocean and ocean resources – while representing a significant challenge – is also the unavoidable path forward. Integrated management was indeed on everyone's lips, and the common thread that ran through all discussions. Current sectoral approaches are too often an obstacle to the sustainable use of the marine environment and its resources. Uncoordinated, sectorally-focused governance and management regimes are not suited to appropriately address the multiple threats to the marine environment, or to assess cumulative impact of activities or the impact of one activity on the other.

Experts, managers and other stakeholders presented promising tools and shared successful experiences for enhanced integrated approaches. On the regulatory front, the Integrated Coastal Zone Management Protocol adopted in January 2008 by Mediterranean countries, for instance, was presented as an interesting example that could inspire a world convention on integrated coastal zone management. A model of private management, tested in Spain, and including users, NGOs, the private sector and local governments, was featured as an innovative collective management mechanism more effective than traditional regulation by authorities. The BALANCE program, aiming at the conservation and sustainable development of the Baltic Sea, was another example of a promising model based on spatial planning, cross-sectoral and transnational cooperation.



In the same spirit of holistic approaches, the ecosystem approach was a major topic of discussion at the Congress. The benefits of ecosystem-based management (EBM), the barriers to its implementation and ways to overcome these obstacles received considerable attention. The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) was for example presented as a model for other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations with respect to implementing an ecosystem approach. Other strategies, including Large Marine Ecosystems, Regional Seas Programs, or Marine Ecoregions were portrayed as a diversity of efforts that strive to incorporate ecological, socio-economic and governance considerations to strengthen marine management. The organization of an international conference to develop a long-term roadmap for implementing ecosystem-based management was also suggested as a way forward.

To spur international reform, IUCN's then President, Valli Moosa, launched 10 Principles for modern high seas governance and challenged international experts to find

new ways to implement them. The 10 Principles reflect fundamental principles that nations have agreed to in various treaties and declarations but have largely failed to implement on the nearly 50% of the planet that lies beyond individual nation's jurisdiction. These principles are designed to stimulate progress by identifying common guidelines for action.

The Principles can be found at: http://cmsdata.iucn.org/downloads/10_principles_for_high_seas_governance___final.pdf

As a direct result of the discussions held during the first days of the Congress, IUCN members submitted a recommendation at the Congress on improving the governance of the Mediterranean Sea, which was adopted by the General Assembly. The recommendation calls on IUCN to set up an informal and permanent consultation process on the governance of the Mediterranean Sea. This mechanism will represent a unique Forum for Mediterranean countries to discuss collectively and in a cooperative spirit the enhancement of a rather complex and problematic jurisdictional landscape.

The recommendation can be accessed via:
http://cms.iucn.org/congress_08/assembly/policy/index.cfm

For more information:

- Ocean governance:
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Marine Protected Areas



As reiterated recently by the scientific community through a plea for the protection of marine biodiversity, the world's precious blue environments, so fundamental to human wellbeing, are in danger and need of urgent protection. Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) remain one of the most powerful and recognized tools able to achieve conservation goals, as well as increase human wellbeing. They were thus under the spotlight during the World Conservation Forum, where IUCN members and partners accomplished a resolute step forward to scaling up global efforts in marine conservation.

At the current pace, the globally agreed goal of protecting 10% of the world ocean by 2010 will not be met before 2060 – a time when many marine species, especially of high commercial value – might have already disappeared. A worldwide, massive effort is thus needed to speed up the process of protecting the marine environment and its dwellers. Deciders and managers, as well as the larger public, need to be well informed about and participate in this effort if we are to achieve our global commitments. The World Commission on Protected Area (WCPA) – Marine, together with its partners, launched

innovative tools to achieve precisely this: wide awareness raising of ocean protection through the launch of the MPA layer on Google Earth, accessible to hundreds of millions of users, as well as a user-friendly global MPA web portal found at www.protectplanetocan.org. The site is able to draw the interest of, and share information amongst: governments, conservationists, practitioners and the public alike. Alongside this, and in partnership with National Geographic and the United Nations Foundation, new live connectivity of oceans was launched in the form of the Wildcam: Belize Reef. The first long-term deployment of this type of camera system on the seabed, Wildcam can now bring coral reefs live to everyone via the internet. New information was also launched on the science of marine reserves, including animations of the effects of such sites on marine species. This is available on the Protect Planet Ocean (PPO) web site.

To catalyse efforts and energy, and strengthen the MPA community across the planet, WCPA-Marine also released a global Plan of Action towards networks of MPAs: <http://www.protectplanetocan.org/resources/resourcesearch.html>

Two workshops on regional experiences, respectively in the Mediterranean and West Africa, offered participants the chance to discuss opportunities and challenges in developing regional networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Participants emphasized the relevance of creating networks of MPAs in both regions, and stressed the importance for stakeholders to work corroboratively and cooperatively in order to build more effective synergies and activities and avoid duplication of efforts. While the under-representation of protection coverage in the eastern and southern Mediterranean was presented as a priority concern requiring further cooperation among riparian countries, several states from these areas restated their commitment to increase their MPA coverage and improve effectiveness of their existing protected areas. Similarly, the West African states attending the Congress used this opportunity to reaffirm their commitment to strengthen and scale up the network of MPAs in their sub-region. An important effort has been undertaken in the last few years to integrate MPAs with sectoral policies, and fisheries in particular. This work led to the adoption of an official Declaration of recognition of the MPA network, which was endorsed in Barcelona by the ministers present and will eventually be signed by the ministries of environment, fisheries and protected areas respectively of the seven west African member countries of the sub-regional fisheries commission.

Given the strong links between social and ecological systems, even more so in developing countries where livelihoods depend strongly on natural and marine resources, socio-economic impacts of MPAs also received great attention. Congress participants shared their experiences and discussed positive and negative impacts of MPAs on local communities and cultural heritage. Based on several global assessments of MPAs, they highlighted that well managed MPAs, grounded on in-depth knowledge of the local context, proved to be highly beneficial to local communities in addition to achieving conservation goals. Effective MPAs have been demonstrated to help increase and diversify economic opportunities, recognize traditional fishing rights and other user rights, empower local people and women, as well as resolve conflicts. The lack

of effective governance, resources and management not only fails to appropriately conserve marine biodiversity, but creates social inequalities, including uneven opportunities for economic benefits, loss of access to fishing grounds, or increased dependence on project assistance. Due to the inherent complexity of any conservation action with a high socio-economic impact, Congress participants highly valued the opportunity to share experiences and lessons learned.

Species experts and MPA practitioners also seized the opportunity of the Congress to discuss the process of identifying and designating Marine Protected Areas in order to achieve maximum species conservation effectiveness. They presented case studies that illustrate the significant potential of pulling together species information and habitat data for optimized MPA planning. They revealed exciting results based on the overlapping of standardized maps of critical habitats for the major predators in the Mediterranean. Findings of key habitats for threatened species, or important parts of their life history processes, traditionally not included in MPA planning, were also presented. The combination of species, habitat and Marine Protected Areas data, in addition to bringing together a range of experts not traditionally used to working together, proved to be an extremely valuable exercise toward refining and enhancing conservation priorities and outcomes. As a result, it was agreed to adapt the IUCN Red List habitat classification system according to the new findings. Members of the marine sub-committee of the Species Survival Commission also committed to facilitate access to species-specific information to MPA planners.

The MPA voyage across the Congress ended with a short assessment of global progress and a look towards the future. The international community is still far from having fulfilled its global commitments with respect to establishing Marine Protected Areas and networks of MPAs, and progress is generally slow and difficult. Setting global MPA goals has however succeeded in spurring political will and government support, in designing common goals and objectives, in generating interest in creating MPAs and recognising that MPAs are an important tool for the

management of the marine environment. The 2008 World Conservation Congress, through unveiling the unprecedented reach enabled by the Protect Planet Ocean (PPO) Initiative, and through the global vision offered by the MPA plan of action, provided the means to stimulate a determined step forward in the MPA agenda, in a cooperative and innovative spirit. The PPO initiative will also be used as a means of evaluating global progress towards designating MPAs. Some preliminary results were presented at the International Marine Conservation Congress in Washington DC, May 2009. Another important gathering for the marine community, the International Conference on Marine Mammal Protected Areas in Hawaii, March-April 2009, took some of the IUCN species and MPA initiatives further as it focuses on developing marine mammal MPA networks worldwide. Stay tuned!

For more information:

- Valencia Declaration, a plea for the protection of marine biodiversity: <http://www.marbef.org/worldconference/declaration.php>
- Protect PlanetOcean www.protectplanetoccean.org
- WCPA-Marine: Dan Laffoley, WCPA-Marine vice president, dan.laffoley@naturalengland.org.uk
- Louisa Wood, IUCN, lwood@iucn.org, and Caitlyn Toropova, IUCN, ctoropova@iucn.org.
- An MPA network in the Mediterranean: Catherine Piante, WWF France and MedPAN, cpiante@wwf.fr.
- An MPA network in West Africa: Charlotte Karibuhoye, Fondation Internationale du Banc D'Arguin (FIBA), karibuhoye@lafiba.org.
- Socio-economic impacts of MPAs: Leah Bunce Karrer,
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- Integrating species information for MPAs: Erich Hoyt, Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society & IUCN SSC, erich.hoyt@wdcs.org.
- MPA – lessons learned and the way forward: Sebastian Troeng, Conservation International, s.troeng@conservation.org.

Marine Policy at Members Assembly



IUCN/Group J. Muntaner

The World Conservation Congress has two parts: the Forum and the Members' Assembly. The Congress starts with the four-day Forum run by IUCN members and partners discussing cutting edge ideas, thinking and practice. The Forum leads into the four-day IUCN Members' Assembly, a unique global environmental parliament of governments and NGOs. Members submit motions to discuss and vote on at the assembly.

Motions, and the resulting Resolutions and Recommendations, are the mechanism by which members guide the policy of IUCN, and influence third parties. The 906 Resolutions and Recommendations that have been adopted at previous Congresses and General Assemblies are the basis of IUCN's general policy.

Motions, when adopted, may take the form of: 1. Resolutions if the Director General is called, on behalf of the Secretariat, to take an action; 2. Recommendations if exclusively third parties are called on to take action; or 3. Amendments to the Intersessional Programme or Commission mandates, if the motion has an impact on the Programme or a Commission mandate; they will be

reported as such in the Intersessional Programme when adopted.

Nearly a fifth of the 136 Resolutions and Recommendations adopted at the 4th WCC (World Conservation Congress) relate to marine and coastal ecosystems. This reinforces the increased interest of IUCN membership in marine issues. Seventeen resolutions and ten recommendations adopted at WCC4 cover a wide range of marine and coastal issues, from species conservation to integrated management.

The main policy themes advanced at the last congress are the following:

Governance and conservation of biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction:

The text of Resolution 4.31 addresses various aspects of high seas conservation and governance. It reiterates the call to set up networks of MPAs (Marine Protected Areas) in areas beyond national jurisdiction and specifically calls for the use of the recently adopted CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) criteria.

The resolution also calls for environmental impact assessments,

including cumulative impacts, of human activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Additionally, it urges Member States of the UNGA (United Nations General Assembly) to adopt a resolution to ensure that such activities are subject to prior authorization by States responsible for nationals and vessels engaged in them.

High seas governance

This resolution calls for the promotion of arrangements, processes and agreements that ensure the consistent, coordinated and coherent application of the best conservation and governance principles and approaches, including integrated ecosystem-based management and the precautionary approach.

The calls to examine the need for further agreements to implement UNCLOS (United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea) with respect to protection of the marine environment and conservation of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, reflects the divergence of views on an "implementation agreement" amongst IUCN membership.

Fisheries

Several resolutions and recommendations relate to improving fisheries management and governance both globally and regionally.

Resolution 4.030 calls for improving transparency and accountability and deterring corruption in fisheries managing systems.

Recommendation 4.116 titled "Fisheries management by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)" is a follow up to RES 3.066 from the 3rd WCC. The previous resolution called for the protection of seamounts, deep-sea corals and other vulnerable deep-sea habitats from destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawling, on the high seas. The new recommendation calls on immediate implementation of Articles 80–86 of UNGA Resolution 61/105, strengthening port and market measures, including suspension of trade of catches in contravention of conservation measures.

Recommendation 4.117 Flag State responsibility regarding Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing recognizes the failure of some Flag states to deliver on their obligation to control vessels under their flag. It calls for cooperation to define criteria for evaluating the degree to which Flag States meet their obligations. It also calls for the use of various measures to counter IUU, including trade measures such as trade bans. IUCN has been already working within the lines of this recommendation, but the adoption of this Recommendation provides a clear policy mandate and direction on market measures and trade bans, both still subject to some controversy in some RFMOs.

Marine Protected Areas

Resolution 4.045 Accelerating progress to establish marine protected areas and creating marine protected area networks. IUCN members urged governments to accelerate their efforts to create, by 2012, a global and effectively managed system of marine and coastal protected areas in accordance with the goals set by the WSSD (World Summit on Sustainable Development) and CBD due to the concern about the slow rate of establishing new marine protected areas and by the very low coverage of existing ones.

Antarctica and the Southern Ocean

Virtually every IUCN congress to date has adopted a resolution on the Antarctic environment and Barcelona was no exception. Members adopted one resolution and one recommendation related to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. Recommendation 4.118 reiterates and strengthens previous resolutions adopted in previous congresses. It addresses various aspects of Antarctic conservation, MPA, tourism, shipping, fishing, krill fisheries and bioprospecting industries.

Resolution 4.034 calls for reactivating IUCN's Antarctic Advisory Committee, updating the Antarctic conservation strategy and funding IUCN Antarctic work.

Shark conservation and management

Conservation and management of sharks is a subject where IUCN membership has had a growing interest. For the first time, at the previ-

ous congress in Bangkok, members adopted Resolution 3.116 against shark finning. The 4th WCC adopted four recommendations related to shark conservation.

Rec 4.111 calls for increased protection of hammerhead sharks in the in the Eastern Tropical Pacific.

Rec 4.112 calls for strengthening and implementing the European Union Plan of Action for Sharks.

Rec 4.113 calls for strengthening management measures for oceanic and migratory sharks both by RFMOs and CMS (Convention on Migratory Species), and

REC 4.114 revised the IUCN policy on shark finning to request the landing of sharks with fins attached. This new recommendation overrules the previous Recommendation 3.116 which recognized the use of fin to body weight ratio in the cases where it was not possible to land sharks with their fins attached.

Coral reefs and climate change

From the 162 of the so far adopted marine related resolutions, very few were related to reef conservation. The issue of climate change and coral reefs and its policy implications

was nevertheless on the mind of IUCN members in Barcelona.

Recommendation 4.080 calls for expanding resilience work on coral reefs and mangroves to other marine ecosystems. Coral reefs are one of the few examples where climate change ecosystem-based adaptation strategies have been tested and can provide for tangible experiences to build strong policy messages particularly for UNFCCC.

IUCN Programme 2009-2012

In addition to the members passing the marine resolutions, the members also passed the IUCN Programme 2009–2012 which provides the framework for planning, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating the conservation work undertaken by the Commissions and the Secretariat with and on behalf of members. It is a result-based, demand-driven plan of action that addresses global issues, incorporates national level priorities, and provides a structure for detailed work plans.

The IUCN GMP is looking forward to working with members, commissions and partners to implement the resolutions and the programme adopted at the Member's Assembly.



Themes



The goal of the GMP is to achieve significant improvement in the conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable use of natural resources in marine and coastal ecosystems, throughout the world.

The IUCN Global Marine Programme was founded over twenty years ago and has unique niche due to its worldwide position that is defined by its “Union” approach to conservation.

GMP’s work is carried out by a 25-strong team of marine professionals in 10 countries working at various levels. From local fishermen and decision-makers right up to the United Nations General Assembly, the GMP also works in partnership with a variety of corporations from the private sector on themes such as tourism, offshore renewable energy and minimising the environmental impacts from coastal oil and gas operations.

Additionally, the GMP works with several Commissions, including the World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) – Marine Division, the Species Survival Commissions (SSC) – Specialists Groups, the

Marine Conservation sub-committee, and the Commission on Environmental Law (CEL) – Oceans Law and Governance Specialists Group.

On top of this, the IUCN GMP works extensively with members and partners around the world. This expanding network of marine specialists within IUCN is dedicated to helping create an international framework for marine biodiversity protection.

While the challenges ahead of us are formidable, IUCN’s past experiences serve as a solid foundation for our future work. Over the past few years, we have focused on:

- Raising awareness of key issues e.g. high seas degradation, marine invasive species, ocean acidification
- Developing new tools and guidelines e.g. A Reef Manager’s Guide to Coral Bleaching, MPA Networks – Making it Happen, the IUCN Resilience Science Working series, and Marine Protected Areas Toolkits for the Indian Ocean
- Improving governance e.g. pursuing reform of Regional Fisher-

ies Management Organizations (RFMOs), closing the net on illegal fishing through the High Seas Task Force (HSTF), strengthening regulations on bottom-trawling

- Promoting species conservation e.g. Western Grey Whale Advisory Panel, Global Marine Species Assessment (GMSA), National Plans of Action on Sharks
- Supporting coastal livelihoods e.g. CORDIO activities in South Asia and the Andean Sea

Eight IUCN GMP Themes

The IUCN Global Marine Programme (GMP) has eight themes under which it conducts projects:

- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation,
- Conserving Threatened Species,
- Energy and Industry,
- Fisheries and Aquaculture,
- Managing Marine Invasive Species,
- Marine Protected Areas (MPAs),
- Ocean Governance, and
- Securing Coastal Livelihoods.

Managing Marine Invasives

The spread of non-indigenous marine species is of increasing concern due to a rapid increase in commercial shipping and recreational boating, activities that may introduce these species to non-native ecosystems. Marine invasive species are currently recognized as one of the most significant threats to global biodiversity. Preventing the spread of potentially invasive species and early detection are essential in controlling bio-invasions in the marine environment. A prerequisite for both is sound baseline knowledge.

However, such information is frequently insufficient or missing even in well-studied and accessible areas such as around major human settlements, and knowledge of the status of marine invasions in remoter areas is almost completely unknown. This includes some of the world's most important natural refuges, including the Chagos Archipelago and the Aldabra Group in the Indian Ocean.

It is recognized that such biogeographically isolated communities, particularly if stressed or degraded, can be vulnerable to invasions. Both

are known to have suffered extreme coral mortality in 1998, although impacts on marine ecosystems of the Indian Ocean tsunami 2004 were not noticeable here.

A research project was conducted over the past three years to address the above issue. Building on a Total Corporate Foundation supported project implemented by IUCN Global Marine Programme and national partners in the Seychelles granitic islands in 2004 and 2005, the aim was to conduct surveys on coral reef communities in the Chagos Archipelago (British Indian Ocean Territories) and Aldabra Group, Seychelles, in order to detect potential marine bio-invasions, establish a baseline of introductions, provide recommendations on preventive and remedial action as necessary to relevant stakeholder groups, and to contribute to the general knowledge of the ecosystems and biology of the areas.

In total 42 sites were sampled in the Chagos Archipelago, representing 19 sites from Diego Garcia; nine sites from the Great Chagos Bank; nine sites from Peros Banos and; five

sites from Salomon. Thirty five sites were surveyed in the Seychelles Outer Islands, 19 in the Amirantes group, around D'arros and Remiers Islands and St. Joseph Atoll, and 16 around Aldabra atoll.

A rapid assessment of materials was undertaken to identify recognized introduced and cryptogenic species. Of the samples analysed, no introduced or cryptogenic species were detected, excluding the analysis of dinoflagellate samples.

The surveys fortunately showed that no significant species incursion is underway in the target areas, and no readily identifiable invasive alien species are present. However, they do not conclusively prove that no introduced and/or cryptogenic species are in fact present at these locations. This is due to the fact that the examination of samples was limited to a rapid assessment of materials, and due to the comparatively low detection thresholds of the field survey implemented compared to standard port surveys.

Further targeted educational and awareness raising activities have been recommended, both in the target areas and beyond. Campaigns can be modelled on the activities carried out in the Seychelles with support from Total Corporate Foundation in 2006 (Abdulla 2007). Marine Protected Areas are advised to address marine invasive alien species in their educational activities and materials. Formal training in relation to implementation of the ballast water convention as well as the approaches for reducing the risk of biofouling are also required especially among individuals and institutions operating in and around ports, in the shipping industry, and importantly also navies operating in the Indian Ocean.

Lastly, there is potentially and increased risk of species spreading to and becoming successfully established in new areas as a result of the interactions of climate change with other factors such as broad-scale environmental degradation. These need to be studied further in order to determine whether existing preventive and management efforts are sufficient and relevant and to what extent further intervention is required.



Marine Protected Areas



Sylvia Earle: A wish big enough to change the world

IUCN's Global Marine Programme is delighted to announce that it has been appointed by Dr. Sylvia Earle to be technical advisor on her 2009 TED Prize wish - "to protect the blue heart of the planet."

TED started out as an annual conference in which people from Technology, Entertainment and Design industries came together to change attitudes, lives and ultimately, the world. Since its inception in 1984, the scope of TED has expanded to include global issues, science, business and the arts.

Each year, the TED Community uses its exceptional array of talent and resources to honour three extraordinary individuals with the TED Prize; previous winners include President Bill Clinton, Bono, E.O. Wilson, Dave Eggers and Larry Brilliant. No ordinary prize, not only does each winner receive \$100,000 from TED, they are also granted "One Wish to Change the World."

This year, the TED Prize went to the astronomer Jill Tarter, Maestro Jose Antonio Abreu and the illustrious oceanographer and deep-ocean explorer, Dr. Sylvia Earle.

"We've got to somehow stabilize our connection to nature so that in 50 years from now, 500 years, 5,000 years from now there will still be a wild system and respect for what it takes to sustain us," exclaimed an excited Earle during the TED ceremony earlier this year. "I wish you would use all means at your disposal: films! expeditions! the web! more! -- to ignite public support for a global network of marine protected areas, hope spots large enough to save and restore the ocean, the blue heart of the planet."

As we reach the mid-point of the year, Sylvia has a growing team of experts working to achieve her goal. Alongside Sylvia's foundation, Deep Search, IUCN and WCPA-Marine are working with key partners to ensure the strategic development and implementation of Sylvia's wish. IUCN member, National Geographic, and

New York-based marketing experts Razorfish are playing a big role.

So far, the first exciting development is a TED expedition to be launched in Spring 2010. A select group of marine scientists, ocean explorers, musicians, artists and activists will embark on a journey to the Galápagos Islands for a "TED Oceans" – a conference aboard the eco-friendly Lindblad National Geographic Endeavor Ship. Streaming live for the first time and translated into many different languages, speakers will aim to bring global attention to Sylvia's wish and discuss innovative and cutting edge approaches towards working together on ocean issues. TED Oceans is designed to be an unforgettable voyage that will: broaden public awareness of the many threats facing our oceans; inspire individuals to take action; celebrate leadership in ocean protection; and challenge world leaders to act decisively to ensure a rapid and substantial increase in both the number and extent of marine protected areas globally, as well as the resources available to ensure that they are managed effectively.

TED Oceans is just the first in a long line of exciting projects that will be revealed throughout the year so watch this space.

To help strengthen the goals of Sylvia's TED Prize, you can help the TED Prize team get a better understanding of the public's knowledge of the dangers facing the oceans today by completing this short survey. Help IUCN make Sylvia Earle's wish a reality!

<http://webeffective.keynote.com/v.asp?inv=02BC9E393B1A4ABCA1F7B BE4E81F4B7B>

For more information:
http://www.ted.com/speakers/sylvia_earle.html

Coastal Livelihoods

The tsunami of 26 December 2004 had a major impact on countries around the Indian Ocean. In many areas the devastation was extreme, but overall the effects on human settlements, infrastructure as well as ecosystems were patchy. In many ways it highlighted and exacerbated existing problems, such as coral reef degradation due to climate change-driven coral bleaching and over fishing, and associated loss of livelihoods. Evidence quickly emerged that indicated more severe impacts from the tsunami in areas that had seen extensive degradation of natural ecosystems and resources, as well as in societies under strain.

The project “Management of Climate Change Impacts on Coral Reefs and Coastal Ecosystems in Tsunami Affected Areas of the Andaman Sea and South Asia” was developed by IUCN’s Global Marine Programme and supported by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland through a grant to IUCN.

Taking a holistic approach to addressing tsunami impacts in the context of preexisting processes and trends, the project worked towards

three objectives: (i) to improve the management of coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs, mangroves and other key environments, specifically in relation to the impacts of climate change; (ii) to develop alternative livelihood projects for families in coastal areas that no longer can support themselves due to the deterioration of the coastal environment; and (iii) to improve the education and awareness of the impacts of human activities on coastal ecosystems and strengthen the capacity of local resource users and managers to mitigate those impacts.

Three of the most severely tsunami-affected countries were chosen as primary targets: Indonesia (Aceh), the Maldives and Sri Lanka, but several regional activities also involved other countries around the Bay of Bengal. The project ran over a three-year period between 2006 and 2009.

The project was successfully implemented through a partnership with over 30 organizations and directly involving over 100 individuals in activity development, implementation as well as capacity building. In particular the close association with

the International Coral Reef Action Network (ICRAN) and a regional EU-funded project on Marine and Coastal Protected Areas augmented the financial support available and greatly increased project reach and impact. It is estimated that several thousand individuals benefited directly or indirectly from engagement in the project, through livelihood enhancement and diversification, socioeconomic monitoring, ecological research, management advice, education and awareness and related training. The project has produced over 30 significant technical outputs.

Project outcomes were achieved as planned, in some cases through moderate reformulation of activities. Examples of major activities and results under each of the projects objectives are provided in the CORDIO Asia Final Report: Management of Climate Change Impacts on Coral Reefs and Coastal Ecosystems in Tsunami-affected Areas of the Andaman Sea and South Asia which can be downloaded from free from this web site:

http://www.iucn.org/about/work/programmes/marine/marine_resources/



Conserving Threatened Species

Panel strongly concerned about industry's negative impact on western gray whale population

Significant changes in the distribution and behaviour of whales was noted in the 2008 feeding season off Sakhalin Island. An independent panel of scientists has recommended a moratorium on all activities by oil and gas companies in eastern Russia that could adversely affect the western gray whale population.

The advice came after the report released recently by the Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel (WG-WAP), which was set up by IUCN in 2006, said the distribution of whales in 2008 varied considerably from that in previous years with monitoring.

Results from Sakhalin Energy Investment Company's whale monitoring programme show that the whales in 2008 were nearly totally absent in the most northern portion of the Sakhalin near-shore study area. The total number of whales occupying the near-shore area had decreased by nearly 40 percent in comparison to 2007, while the number of whales using the offshore feeding area more than doubled.

The Panel expressed concern that this could represent a response to disturbance from oil and gas activities on the shelf and could have negative implications for feeding success and ultimately breeding success for the western gray whale.

There are only an estimated 130 western gray whales left in the world, and just 25 to 30 reproductive females. The whales come to feed in the waters off Sakhalin Island in summer and autumn, in preparation for the breeding season. The western gray whale is listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

The new information has heightened, rather than diminished, the Panel's concern that whale distribution and behaviour may have been seriously affected by industrial activities – on land and offshore - in 2008.

The whales have a higher distribution in Piltun, near the shore, where

the most intense industrial activity is occurring. However in 2008, the number of whales identified in Piltun was substantially lower than in previous years, while the number identified in the Offshore feeding area, where there is less activity, has reached a maximum over the last two years.

The panel stated that the available information is too limited to draw firm conclusions and thus decided to apply the precautionary approach by acting on the assumption that the shift in distribution evident in 2008 was caused by anthropogenic disturbance, and that continued activity at the same level will have negative implications for feeding success and ultimately reproductive success of the western gray whales.

This precaution should remain in effect until more information is available to reduce the Panel's concerns. Because of this, the panel recommended that Sakhalin Energy Investment Company abstain from doing a

seismic survey of the area in 2009.

Sakhalin Energy Investment Company responded directly during the meeting in Geneva that the company would comply with the Panel's recommendation and postpone their planned Ashtok seismic survey to 2010.

In their report, the Panel requested that all other companies involved in the development of oil and gas resources on the northeastern Sakhalin Shelf join in this international effort and abide by the call for a moratorium on potentially harmful activities until the status of the whale population has been clarified. The Panel specifically urged the Russian Federation to assist in this process.

IUCN will continue to engage with the other oil and gas companies as well as with the government of the Russian Federation to promote the Panel's recommendation for a moratorium on potentially harmful activities on the Sakhalin Shelf.



Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation

Manage corals - Minimize climate change

Coral reefs and their associated sea-grass beds and mangrove habitats support the highest marine biodiversity in the world. More than 500 million people worldwide depend on them for food, storm protection, jobs, and recreation. Their resources and services are worth an estimated 375 billion dollars each year, yet they cover less than one percent of the Earth's surface.

Unfortunately, many of the world's coral reefs have been degraded, mainly due to human activities. According to the Status of Coral Reefs of the World: 2004, 70% of the world's coral reefs are threatened or destroyed, 20% of those are damaged beyond repair, and within the Caribbean alone, many coral reefs have lost 80% of coral species.

Climate change is now recognized as one of the greatest threats to coral reefs worldwide. While a changing climate brings many challenges to coral reefs, one of the most serious and immediate threats is from mass coral bleaching associated with unusually high sea temperatures.

The amount of damage depends on not only the rate and extent of climate change, but also on the ability of coral reefs to cope with change. Importantly, the natural resilience of reefs, that maintains them in a coral dominated state, is being undermined by stresses associated with human activities on the water and on the land.

Coral reefs are under pressure from a variety of human activities, including catchment uses that result in degraded water quality, unsustainable and destructive fishing, and coastal development. These local pressures act to reduce the resilience of the system, undermining its ability to cope with climate change, and lowering the threshold for the shift from coral-dominated phase to other phases.

Increasingly, policy-makers, conservationists, scientists and the broader community are calling for management actions to restore and maintain



the resilience of coral reefs to climate change, and thus avoid worst-case scenarios.

A better assessment of the threats to coral reefs along with improved management will give corals a much higher chance of survival in the face of warming oceans, says IUCN's report title: *Resilience Assessment of Coral Reefs — Rapid assessment protocol for coral reefs, focusing on coral bleaching and thermal stress*.

"Through better understanding and management of stresses on corals such as unsustainable and destructive fishing practices or unregulated coastal development, we can increase the chance of coral survival, even as climate change warms the oceans," says David Obura, Chair of the Climate Change and Coral Reefs Working Group (CCCR).

"Unmanaged, these stresses have the potential to act in synergy with climate change to functionally destroy many coral reefs," continues David Obura. "While science is providing important insights about climate change impacts on coral

reefs, strategies for managing them are only just emerging."

The need for quick results in measuring coral reef resilience is becoming increasingly acute, especially in the developing world. It is crucial to develop monitoring and assessment protocols to build an understanding of bleaching resistance and resilience indicators for application in management, and to determine how Marine Protected Area management actions can influence resilience and resistance.

"Research assessment for coral reefs builds our understanding of past management actions in maintaining the resilience of coral reefs, and helps managers combat the effects of climate change," says Carl Gustaf Lundin, Head of IUCN's Global Marine Programme. "Greater investment must be made in using research findings for adaptive management. The findings from coral reefs should be more efficiently incorporated into the United Nations' climate change negotiations in Copenhagen in December."

Regions



Lessons from the Great Barrier Reef

Lessons from the Great Barrier Reef could help protect some of the world's most precious corals

Coral reefs around the world will be the beneficiaries of a new partnership between the Great Barrier Reef and IUCN. The partnership aims to help the world's reefs cope with climate change by sharing information and experience across continents.

Dr Ameer Abdulla, is the Senior Specialist in IUCN's Global Marine Program and is a conduit between Australia's world-leading marine managers and their counterparts in developing countries. Having grown up having on the shores of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf and completed a PhD in coral reef ecology in Australia, Ameer is perfectly positioned to work across cultures and is well aware of what Australia has to offer the world's reef scientists and managers.

"As you would expect from a world leader in marine science and

management, Australia has already developed a range of strategies to tackle climate change," explains Ameer. "In this race against time, many countries are struggling to keep up with the growing threats to their coral reefs and best-practice tools from Australia could be instrumental in helping to protect the world's reefs."

The world has already lost 19 per cent of its reefs since 1950 and stands to lose another 35 per cent in the next 40 years. Most coral reefs occur in developing countries and these reefs face the most uncertain future.

"Australia's Great Barrier Reef, on the other hand, is the largest and healthiest reef in the world. We hope to use lessons learned on the Great Barrier Reef to develop strategies to manage the impacts of climate change where they are needed most." said Ameer.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Au-

thority (GBRMPA) Director of Climate Change, Dr Paul Marshall, believes that Australia is in a position to assist reef managers around the world and welcomes the partnership with IUCN.

"Over the last 36 years of managing the Great Barrier Reef, we've had wins and losses but overall we learned important lessons that now position us at the forefront of coral reef management.

"If we can transfer tools and expertise from Australia to other nations, we may be able to help the world's reefs avert the worst case scenarios predicted under climate change," Paul said.

For places like the Indian Ocean which lost 50-90 per cent of their reefs in 1998, time is of the essence.

In the Red Sea many countries rely on coral reefs to support multi-million dollar tourism industries where some reef sites can attract up to 300,000 visitors each year.

“These countries are dealing with some very serious pressures and at the same time are responsible for managing some of the world’s most unique coral reef systems.

“For example, the Red Sea is particularly unique because corals there have evolved to tolerate the highest temperatures known for coral survival in nature.

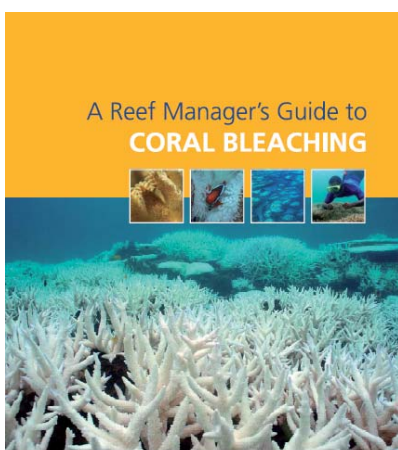
“If these corals can withstand climate impacts beyond what corals in other locations can handle and if climate change continues unchecked, the Red Sea may ultimately harbour the last of the world’s corals.

Ameer believes that many of the coral reef systems on which the IUCN GMP is focusing its efforts on are of international significance for conservation.

He intends to feature GBRMPA climate change initiatives like coral bleaching monitoring protocols, adaptation strategies, vulnerability assessments, volunteer observer programmes, sustainable tourism initiatives, and sea temperature monitoring systems as existing tools for developing countries to tackle climate impacts on reefs quickly.

Currently, climate change is known to decrease coral growth, increasing the frequency of coral bleaching, threaten seabirds and turtles, impact fish growth and distribution, increase the acidity of oceans, disrupt food web dynamics, and dissolving the anatomical skeletons of calcareous organisms such as corals and many planktonic species.

• To download full report go here:
<http://data.iucn.org/dbtw-wpd/edocs/2006-043.pdf>



Climate Change in the Red Sea



IUCN, Kuoni and the Hurghada Environmental Protection and Conservation Association (HEPCA) teamed up to provide a series of workshops that addressed climate change in the Red Sea.

The Red Sea hosts one of the most intricate and biologically diverse coral reef systems in the world. The elevated salinity levels and high seasonal temperature fluctuations that occur in the Red Sea means that the reefs have evolved under extreme conditions, and that they exist near the threshold of their physiological limits.

Coral bleaching occurs when the density of the photosynthetic algae in the coral (called zooxanthellae and give the host coral its vivid color) declines leaving the coral’s white calcium carbonate exoskeleton visible through the transparent flesh. The decline in zooxanthellae concentrations is caused by stress from a number of factors, including: temperature changes, increased exposure to solar radiation, changes in the chemical or biological composition of the water, sedimentation and subaerial exposure. The coral may recover in a matter of weeks depending on the

duration and intensity of the stress factor or may die leaving behind the stone-like skeleton.

IUCN and HEPCA organized two workshops to help address the potential impact of coral bleaching, sponsored by Kuoni’s corporate social responsibility (CSR) programme. The first workshop focused on the tourism industry of the Egyptian Red Sea coast and was aimed at understanding vulnerabilities of the tourism sector to climate change impacts and how best to adapt to potential future changes in the coral reef. The second training workshop focused on Coral Reef Managers and how to assist them in responding to climate change impacts. It was delivered to national park rangers from the Northern Red Sea Islands Protected Area, the Wadi El Gemal Protected Area, and the Elba Protected Area in addition to several members of the tourism and the diving industry.

The workshop was delivered by a team of experts that have conducted pioneering research and management on the impact of climate change on coral reefs and the associated tourism industry included Mr. Matthi-

Conserving the Alboran Sea

as Leisinger, Head of Kuoni's Corporate Responsibility; Dr. Paul Marshall, Director of the Climate Change Program of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority; Dr. Ameer Abdulla, Senior Specialist and Group Leader with the IUCN's Global Marine Program; Dr. Tony Roupheal, a Red Sea specialist and member of the IUCN's Commission on Protected Areas; Dr. Nadine Marshall, a social scientist with IUCN's Commission on Ecosystem Management and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, who specializes in enhancing community resilience to environmental and policy change and uncertainty; and Mr. Tony Charters, Chairman of Ecotourism Australia.

The interdisciplinary workshop tackled climate change, a global but often theoretical concept to many people, with an applied and hands-on approach. The workshop addressed the causes of coral bleaching and the political implications of — and social vulnerabilities to — climate change impacts and constraints to adaptation. It also provided an overview of management techniques and response plans. The workshop focused on practical measures that can be implemented to make both the reef and local communities more resilient to climate change. The workshop programme included a field trip to assess the resilience of two reefs, an exercise presenting methodology to train members of the tourism community and park managers to collect valuable data on a large scale, which would improve understanding of the resilience of Egyptian Red Sea reefs and enhance national and regional management strategies.

A valuable outcome of the event was a promising plan for collaboration between park rangers and members of the tourism industry in developing a response plan to mass coral bleaching events. Both parties recognized that synergizing efforts is vital for mitigating and managing the socio-ecological impacts of coral bleaching on both the reef and dependant communities. HEPCA, IUCN, and Kuoni look forward to implementing more activities to enhance reef stewardship with all stakeholders associated with Egyptian Reefs.

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Among the different marine areas of the Mediterranean Sea, the Alboran Sea represents a unique element given its ecological wealth, due to its blend of Atlantic and Mediterranean marine biodiversity, its socio-economic importance, and its geopolitical location between Europe and Africa. The adequate management of this space, and in particular the conservation of certain areas, is essential for the three bordering countries of the Alboran Sea: Algeria, Morocco, and Spain.

The Med-RAS initiative for the Identification of Priority Representative Areas and Species to be conserved in the Mediterranean Sea, developed by IUCN, aims to identify the most important habitats and species so as to adequately protect and manage them. Med-RAS considers the Alboran Sea to be a pilot area for creating a coherent network of MPAs in the Mediterranean, based on the identification of its most representative features, like habitats, species, underwater structures, and hydrological phenomena.

In July 2009, researchers, members of the civil service, and experts from the Mediterranean region took part in a workshop for the identification and planning of a network of marine protected areas in the Alboran Sea. The meeting was held at the Civic Centre in Malaga, Spain, and organised jointly by the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation and Malaga County Council. This workshop was a pilot experiment in the Mediterranean region to begin developing a

common methodology for identifying and effectively managing MPAs, as well to promote the development of a joint programme for adequately managing the region and making concerted decisions.

Workshop participants decided to:

- Develop cooperation between research and management organizations from the three countries, and where necessary, with support from external experts.
- Define common criteria for identifying important sites and species, criteria which could be applied to the whole Mediterranean.
- Carry out an analysis of existing information for each important theme, define the limits of the knowledge, and propose main lines of research to fill the gaps.
- On the basis of the above, to propose priority sites for conservation, concerning all important factors (habitats, species, geological structures and hydrodynamic features).

The results of this workshop, the criteria, and the thematic analyses will be discussed during a second workshop planned for October 2009, and should be distributed or presented at international fora, such as the Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Barcelona Convention, due to take place in Marrakech (Morocco) in November 2009.

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Members and Commissions



TNC Launches Marine Conservation Toolkit

The Nature Conservancy (TNC), an IUCN member, with the assistance of partners, has just launched the new Practitioner's Toolkit for Marine Conservation Agreements (MCA).

This Practitioner's Toolkit provides information for local, national, and international organizations regarding a promising strategy to protect ocean and coastal biodiversity from degradation and depletion.

It was developed to help conservation organizations determine:

- What MCAs are
- When MCAs can help abate threats to ocean and coastal species, habitats, and ecosystems
- How to plan and proceed with MCA projects

The new toolkit has expanded its

substantive and geographic scope. The major components of the toolkit are organized in a logical progression of ideas and phases:

- **Overview** provides the basic information about MCAs to help you get started, then dispels myths and provides definitions of important terms.

- **Field Guide** can be downloaded in its entirety or reviewed online section-by-section by practitioners wishing to evaluate and implement new MCA projects.

- **Field Projects** can be reviewed for lessons learned and used as illustrative examples with potential funders and authorizing entities.

- **Country Analyses and U.S. State Analyses** provide information on opportunities for MCAs and manage-

ment frameworks in specific geographical locations.

- **U.S. State Maps** is a comprehensive review of available spatial data and maps for U.S. ocean coast states—information that is necessary to determine ownership and use of ocean and coastal areas.

- **Resources** provides supplemental information useful to practitioners developing project proposals.

For more information, contact Jay Udelhoven, Senior Policy Advisor at The Nature Conservancy: judelhoven@tnc.org or 206-343-4345, ext. 339.

To download go to: www.mcatoolkit.org.

Establishment of Fisheries Expert Group in Commission

The newly established Fisheries Expert Group (FEG) of the IUCN Commission of Ecosystem Management (CEM) held its Kick-off meeting in Washington May 24-25 back to back with the International Marine Conservation Congress.

The meeting, attended by 9 of its members, had as main objective to review and adopt its TORs (terms of references) and to look into and agree on its future activities. FEG members reviewed and endorsed the TORs developed by the chair, co chair and coordinator in close collaboration with H.R.Skjoldal of CEM and the head of the GMP C.G. Lundin and other IUCN experts.

FEG discussed the type of activities FEG could undertake and the modalities of these activities focusing on the set of potential activities identified tentatively in the Annex I of its TORS. The following potential activities are identified for which project ideas will be drafted and funding will be sought. These include :

- Criteria for assessing the risk of Ecosystem Extinction
- Performance assessment for the EAF implementation
- Species selection and EAF Management Strategies
- MPAs
- The concepts of vulnerability and resilience of ecosystems
- Climate change and sustainable use

- Governance
- Biodiversity conservation, sustainable fisheries and food security
- Cooperation with the FAO-CBD process on the impact of fishing on biodiversity

FEG also discussed ways of operating such as web site, connection with CEM as well as interaction and collaboration with other IUCN commissions and programmes.

Harlan Cohen participated in the meeting as representative from the IUCN GMP.

Up coming events

FEG will be actively participating in the FAO CBD workshop on destructive fishing practices to be held in Rome 23-25 September, as part of the process on the impacts of fisheries to marine biodiversity.

FEG will be developing project proposals on the some of the above mentioned activities and plans to meet again end of this year beginning of next one.

FEG is chaired by Serge Garcia with Jake Rice as co chair And Despina Symons as coordinator

Or for more information contact Despina Symons
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FEG coordinator

Sharks International



In 2010 Cairns, Queensland, will be invaded by shark researchers. The city is the site of Sharks International, a meeting of the world's leading shark experts to discuss the most up to date scientific discoveries in shark and ray research. Given the growing global concern for populations of sharks and rays throughout the world this much needed meeting will provide an opportunity for researchers from around the globe to discuss what is happening in their regions and work toward international solutions to effective conservation, use and management of sharks and rays. The meeting will involve world leader's in shark research in addition to students, managers, conservation agencies and representatives from industries that utilise and rely on sharks such as fishermen and dive tourism operators.

The conference will provide a forum for sharing the most recent scientific breakthroughs in shark and ray research and provide opportunities for individuals from around the world to share results and build projects that span the globe. Through this meeting we aim to set a new standard in the shark research community by providing a broad based meeting with international participation. Preliminary information indicates over 150 interested participants from 21 countries, ensuring a global audience will be reached. The conference will take place 6-11 June 2010. For more event information please see: www.sharksinternational.org.



Oceans, Coasts and Coral Reefs Specialist Group Update

The Oceans, Coasts and Coral Reefs Specialist Group (Oceans SG) has had an active year, which included publication of its first Special Issue of the International Journal of Coastal and Marine Law (IJCML), participation at the IUCN World Congress held in Barcelona and working in close collaboration with the Environmental Law Centre (ELC) and the Global Marine Programme on a number of projects.

The Special Issue of the IJCML included contributions from members of the Oceans SG covering a wide range of important ocean issues such as the high seas, land-based pollution, oil transportation in the Black Sea, recent developments in the Mediterranean Sea, the Caribbean Sea, the Arctic and the Antarctic. The Special Issue was launched during the IUCN Congress in Barcelona.

The Oceans Specialist Group also convened a successful panel session as part of IUCN World Conservation Forum on the topic, "Ocean Governance in the 21st Century: Gauging the Law and Policy Tides". Summaries of the Special Issue papers were shared with a large audience of

participants, including many governmental and non-governmental representatives.

The Oceans SG has been actively involved in high seas governance issues. The High Seas sub-group chaired by Kristina Gjerde and Rosemary Rayfuse and Oceans SG co-chair David Vanderzwaag organized an important workshop on the high seas which is available on the IUCN web site. Philomene Verlaan has also launched a new initiative on promoting the 10 Principles of modern high seas governance, which is related to an initiative of the GMP.

The Oceans SG has also been working closely with the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation and Global Marine Programme in a series of workshops examining governance beyond national jurisdiction in the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean Centre also initiated a study examining biodiversity and shipping in the Mediterranean Sea. The Oceans SG co-organised a workshop in Istanbul with the Mediterranean Center and co-edited a publication entitled "Maritime traffic effects on biodiversity in the Mediterranean

Sea", available on the web site of the Mediterranean Centre.

The Oceans SG in collaboration with the ELC has partnered with the Center for Energy Marine Transport and Public Policy at Columbia University on a project on energy transportation in the Black Sea and Caspian. The first phase of the project was successfully completed and the second phase of the project is expected to proceed.

The next year looks to be equally busy for the Oceans SG which has been invited to co-organise the Fifth Global Conference on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands: Advancing Integrated Ocean Governance at National, Regional, and Global Levels, to be held at UNESCO, Paris, France, on May 3-7, 2010. The Conference will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity.

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Upcoming Events

2009

- **29 September – 2 October, Ottawa**, CBD Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Guidance on the use of Biogeographic Classification Systems and Identification of Marine Areas beyond national jurisdiction
- **7 – 9 October, Porquerolles, France** Symposium on Biodiversity and Marine Transport
- **6 – 8 October, Monaco**, Oceans in a high carbon world, IOC SCOR
- **26 October – 6 November, Hobart**, CCAMLR (Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources)
- **7 – 18 December, Copenhagen**, UNFCCC COP 15/ MOP 5
- **9 – 11 December, Wellington**, Workshop on Ship-borne Tourism in Antarctica
- **11 – 14 December, Geneva**, WGAP-7, 7th Western Gray Whale Advisory Panel Meeting

2010

- **25 – 29 January, NY**, UN General Assembly, Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction

- **25 – 29 January, Malmo, Sweden**, Ballast Water Emerging Management Systems
- **15 – 19 March, NY**, Informal Consultations UN Fish Stocks Agreement
- **22 - 26 March, Bern**, IPCC Earth's Cryosphere and Sea Level Change
- **6 – 9 April, Norway**, Climate Change and Antarctica
- **26 – 29 April, Japan**, GLOBEC and IOC Conference of Fisheries, Oceans and Climate Change
- **3 – 7 May, Paris**, Global Forum on Oceans Coasts and Islands
- **June, NY**, UNICPOLOS 11 United Nations Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and Law of the Sea
- **July 7, Visby, Sweden**, Climate Change and the Baltic Sea
- **28 September – 1 October, Rotterdam**, IPCC Impacts of sea level rise
- **18 – 29 October, Nagoya**, CBD COP 10



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