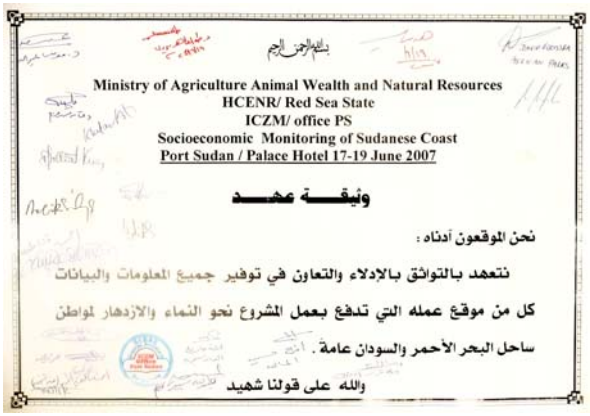
RED SEA STATE

Expert Meeting:

"Designing a Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme for ICZM in Sudan"

17- 19 of June 2007
Port Sudan - Sudan



بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Ministry of Agriculture Animal Wealth and Natural Resources
HCENR/ Red Sea State
ICZM/ office PS
Socioeconomic Monitoring of Sudanese Coast
Port Sudan / Palace Hotel 17-19 June 2007

وثيقـــة عهـــد

نحن الموقعون أدناه :

نتعهد بالتواثق بالإدلاء والتعاون في توفير جميع المعلومات والبيانات

كل من موقع عمله التي تدفع بعمل المشروع نحو النماء والازدهار لمواطن

ساحل البحر الأحمر والسودان عامة .

والله على قولنا شهيد

The Cousteau Society

This Report

This report will outline the main discussions and outcomes of the Expert Meeting "Designing a Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme for ICZM in Sudan" that took place in Port Sudan, June 17-19, 2007. The report includes the participant expectations for the workshop discussions and outcomes; overviews of the presentations given on ICZM and socioeconomic monitoring and assessment; as well as summaries of the discussions that positioned socioeconomic monitoring into the Sudanese context, provided insights into existing literature and data available for socioeconomics in the Red Sea State, and proposed recommendations on how the current ICZM socioeconomic monitoring initiative should take shape.

List of Abbreviations

ACORD	Agency for Cooperation in Research and Development
AP	African Parks
CORDIO	Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean
CPP	Community Participation Project
EC	European Community
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
HCENR	Higher Council for the Environment and Natural Resources
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
MAC	Marine Aquarium Council
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
PASED	Port Sudan Association for Entrepreneur Development
PERSGA	The Regional Organisation for the Conservation of the Environment in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
RSGA	The Red Sea and Gulf of Aden
RSS	Red Sea State
RSU	Red Sea University
SAP	PERSGA Strategic Action Plan
SECS	Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SOCMON	Socioeconomic Monitoring
The Law	The Red Sea State Environmental Law (2006)
The Meeting	The Expert Meeting: 'Designing a Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme for ICZM in Sudan'
The Office	The ICZM Office
The Project	The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project for the Red Sea State, Sudan
The Survey	'Survey for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Red Sea Coast of Sudan'
WFP	World Food Programme
WIO	Western Indian Ocean

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Annexes:

Background

The Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project for the Red Sea State (RSS) of Sudan received its impetus following the 2006 PERSGA Roundtable held in Port Sudan, entitled "Partnership for the Sustainable Development of the Red Sea Coast of Sudan". The Roundtable directly led to the establishment of an official ICZM Office to oversee ICZM-related activities in the State, as well as the creation of an ICZM Work-plan and Project Document for the Sudanese Red Sea Coast. Through invitation from RSS Government, and with European Community (EC) funding support, a consortium of partners has been created to take initial responsibility for implementation of ICZM planning activities along the Sudanese coast. The April 2007 workshop "Survey for the Integrated Coastal Zone Management of the Red Sea Coast of Sudan" launched Phase One of the Project, which prioritises survey-work in order to lay the foundation for on-the-ground activities and projects in the coming years.

Coastal and marine ecosystems support complex social, cultural and economic human systems. Fisheries are as much about people as they are about fish; the same is true for all other uses of the marine environment. The health of ecosystems, therefore, directly affects the health of economies and societies. Thus, the ICZM process must take into account the socioeconomic importance of coastal and marine areas. While it may seem obvious, it is nonetheless worth reinforcing that these socioeconomic considerations must focus on the interaction between marine and terrestrial environments. It is this interaction between terrestrial and marine that distinguishes ICZM from other management and governance processes; ICZM indicators must capture information on this interaction. Human activities have both direct and indirect impacts on the health and productivity of coastal and marine ecosystems, which in turn affect the quality of life and economies of users of coastal and marine areas.

Effective management of pressures affecting the coastal zone should result in improved environmental quality and reduction of adverse impacts. This, in turn, should yield socioeconomic benefits in the longer term. The design of a socioeconomic monitoring programme should therefore cover the economic, environmental, social, and public health and safety dimensions required for the successful implementation of ICZM in the Red Sea State.

With this in mind, the June 2007 Expert Meeting (the Meeting), "Designing a Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme for the ICZM in Sudan", focussed specifically on the survey-work needed to fulfil the Socioeconomic component of the ICZM Office.

The PERSGA Socioeconomic Scope of Work is provided in Annex 1.

Objective

The Expert Meeting was organised to fulfil the following principle objectives:

- Bring national, regional and international experts together in order to: assess who is doing what in RSS, review what the capacity is and identify the level of involvement for each partner/actor
- Solidification of a way-forward for the Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme for RSS, including the collection of socioeconomic data and the development of a social baseline for RSS (this baseline will in turn facilitate continued monitoring and will inform the development of socioeconomic activities related to ICZM in RSS);
- Development of a framework to guide the gathering of relevant data and literature previously furnished for RSS, including less well-known resources such as relevant Masters Theses contained in the Red Sea University library, for example.

Profiles of Participants

Effective ICZM planning must balance all related and cross-cutting issues related to sustainable development and marine conservation, and should welcome input from a variety of different sectors and stakeholders. As such, participants represented a wide-range of RSS Government bodies, organisations and agencies. The following Red Sea State Government Ministries and Departments were represented: Ministry of Animal Resources, Higher Council of the Environment and Natural Resources, The Fisheries Administration, Ministry of the Environment, The Census Bureau, and the Ministry of Finance (including the Department of Planning and the Department of Industry).

Other national participants included: The Red Sea University (Faculty of Marine Science and fisheries, Institute for Marine Research, Faculty of Economics and Social Science), Agency for Cooperation in Research and Development (ACORD), Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Sudanese Environmental Conservation Society-Red Sea Branch (SECS-RSS), Port Sudan Association for Entrepreneur Development (PASED), as well as local experts and professors on fisheries, coastal conservation and marine biology.

International organizations and consultants included: PERSGA, African Parks Foundation, a Socioeconomic Impact Assessment expert, a SOCMON expert and a fisheries expert.

A detailed participant and contact list can be found in Annex 2.

Location

Meetings were held in the Palace Hotel Conference Room in Port Sudan, Sudan.

Structure and Working Methodology

The three-day Meeting was divided into presentations, discussions and information-sharing, as well as a pledge of partnership dedication to asssist the programme to move-forward successfully. The Meeting was designed to be interactive and to encourage in-depth discussions. (*The Meeting Factsheet can be found in Annex – 3).*

A detailed summary of the main issues and discussions generated during the Meeting is provided below.

(All Presentations given during the Meeting are included in Annex 5).

Day One – June 17th, 2007:

Opening Session: Introductions

During the Opening Session every participant introduced themselves, the organisations they were representing, and discussed the expectations they hoped would emerge from the Expert Meeting.

A list of participant expectations can be found in Annex 4.

Working Session 1 – Background Presentations

Presentation on PERSGA (Khulood Tubaishat):

Khulood Tubaishat gave an overview of the Regional Organisation for the Conservation of the Environment in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (PERSGA) outlining its scope, history and priorities. She began by giving insight into regional need for the Organisation, based on the importance of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden (RSGA) environment, the increasing threats facing the RSGA region (primarily from maritime, shipping and oil transport), as well as the economic potential for uplifting coastal communities and economies (mainly through tourism, fisheries, offshore non-petroleum mineral deposits, and a growing aquaculture industry).

Tubaishat then discussed how the development of PERSGA stemmed from an ALESCO initiative and the signing of the 1982 Jeddah Convention. The Organisation was officially launched as an operational body in 1995, receiving initial guidance from its Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 1999-2005.

PERSGA's programmes centre on: navigation and maritime issues, sustainable living marine resource management (shark fisheries, conventional fisheries and ornamental fish trade), habitats and biodiversity (survey-work, conservation action plans), the development of an MPA Network for RSGA (Regional Action Plan and National Action Plans), education and training, and with capacity-building, governance and public participation as key cross-cutting issues. PERSGA's education programme has established environmental school clubs, an environmental library, an environmental learning supplement ("Because I Care"), and education training toolkits for teachers and students.

Tubaishat emphasised how PERSGA's second and current phase of operation draws on lessons-learnt by prioritising on-the-ground actions that yield sustainable, positive results, and that are based on solid understanding of causal/contributing factors to coastal and marine problems. In this way, PERSGA favours taking preventative action, instead of exhausting its energies only on trying to remedy consequences after they have taken shape. PERSGA thus recognises the need to address the human element necessary for sustainable coastal/marine management and conservation, including the need to understand underlying assumptions, values, emotions, interests, power and beliefs regarding marine issues that negatively impact the marine environment. .

Based on the importance PERSGA attributes to the human factor in project management and leadership, the Organisation has conducted significant community participation programmes (CPPs) addressing key issues in each of its member states. A good example was PERSGA's CPP in Yemen that aimed to counteract destructive lobster fishery practices. PERSGA provided small grants to a local NGO that used drama (using local fishermen as actors) and interactive activities to spread awareness amongst fishermen and the wider community about the importance of sustainable fisheries. PERSGA helped establish a revolving fund to support the development and continuation of sustainable projects. This fund and its associated projects are still operating five years later.

Presentation on ICZM (Khulood Tubaishat):

During this presentation, Tubaishat gave an overview of what ICZM comprises and the role of the newly established ICZM Office as the mechanism to coordinate coastal issues and management in the Red Sea State. Decisions made regarding ICZM must reflect long-term sustainable use and development, sound management and resource protection. Tubaishat highlighted ICZM as a continuous, interactive, adaptive, participatory and consensus-building process.

The ICZM implementation process requires engagement with local realities and aspirations—ICZM by definition encourages participation, as coastal communities have rights and responsibilities regarding coastal resource use. ICZM also prioritises utilising local capacity and empowering locals by considering traditional knowledge and practices (such as in fisheries, aquaculture, agriculture, forestry, manufacturing, industry, waste disposal, etc.). ICZM should recognise diversity, seek agreement for a

shared vision, understand existing motivations, and demonstrate tangible success in order to gain popularity in the communities it affects.

ICZM activities are issue-led, people centred, locally-specific, and are based on realism, common sense and matter-of-factness. For successful implementation, ICZM needs good-governance, a solid scientific base, and efficient use of information that nurtures knowledge and builds wisdom, so that (with time) sustainable practices become engendered as a way of life.

Discussions:

A key issue raised during the discussion was the need to utilise existing local expertise instead of relying solely on international consultants. This issue was then placed in the larger context of how weak governance and vague legal frameworks do not encourage linkages and networking. It was also discussed how motivation is often lacking, both from the international side to seek out local expertise, as well as from the local side to take the first initiative to make their expertise widely known. It was raised that a database of all experts in the Red Sea State should be established and potentially made accessible through the ICZM Office website. A public awareness campaign to spread the news of the Project was seen as a valuable tool to help attract local experts and provide a base for an expert "networking forum". The ICZM Office aims to help address this issue, by offering an open-door policy inviting the assistance of all interested experts.

It was also discussed how the question of responsibility is improving as a result of the new peace agreement and the subsequent increase of authority on the state level. In recognition of the need to better incorporate RSS into the management of the Sudanese Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), African Parks is currently in dialogue with RSS to create a new agreement.

The discussion then further elaborated on legal questions and governance and how the disaccord between federal and state governments complicates conservation in RSS. It is, therefore, important to learn about governance issues, local legal realities, and to address the specific grey areas in existing laws and legal frameworks. The RSS Environmental Law (2006) contains clauses specifically addressing marine and coastal environments, MPAS, and the integration of sustainable development and socioeconomic initiatives with sound resource use. The Law outlines protection needs for coastal and marine resources, promotes consideration of International Agreements, and includes provisions for penalties to address violations and the Law.

The question now relating to effective environmental governance is how to translate the Law text into enforceable laws and by-laws. This will require a comprehensive stakeholder consultation process.

The Environmental Context: Sudanese Marine Protected Areas and the Role of African Parks (David Kooistra, African Parks)

Kooistra began by explaining African Park's (AP) role in the conservation of the two Sudanese National Parks (Sanganeb and Dungonab), and how AP was invited by the Sudanese Government to take primary responsibility for the Parks' management. The AP concept is based on a financially-stable conservation model that recognises the need to establish private partnerships, including the leasing out of land to organisations, so that revenue can be cycled back into management and community needs.

Kooistra described the location of Sanganeb and Dungonab, what their value is— both scientifically in terms of biodiversity and resistance to coral bleaching, as well as economically, such as through tourism—and the importance of understanding the communities that reside within them. A focus for AP is addressing the fishing practices of communities in Dungonab and assessing the sustainability of current

practice. African Parks has also signed an agreement with IUCN to conduct a coastal impact assessment that will particularly assess the potential of fisheries in the area to uplift community livelihoods.

Kooistra also discussed the importance of the Parks from a regional stand-point, as their central location in the Red Sea establishes a link between the North and South Red Sea areas and makes them form a core component in a RSGA regional network of MPAs.

In terms of its activities to strengthen management for the Parks, AP focuses on capcity-building, as it sees investment in people as the key element to ensure sustainable management for the long-term. AP also sees participation and awareness as key contributors to promoting interest amongst Park users to respect the environment, and aims to show the benefits and returns that Parks can provide for communities. For this reason, AP began from the beginning to try to show communities the benefits of maintaining the integrity of the Parks and environmental conservation generally.

AP discussed its interest to establish links with the Red Sea State University (RSU), especially with the Research and Monitoring faculty. Kooistra suggested that AP could provide logistical support for students to gain practical experience in Park management and conservation activities.

AP aims to establish a self-sustaining income-generating scheme for the Parks, largely by exploring the potential of the tourism industry. Revenue from entrance fees, donations, commercial activities, etc. can then be cycled back into Park management and conservation needs. Kooistra also discussed how community livelihoods need to be uplifted and that it is AP's goal to promote this in a sustainable way that avoids over-exploitation of resources and destructive practices.

Kooistra also discussed how AP is currently working to create a new long-term Agreement with the Sudanese central and RSS Governments that increases the role of the Red Sea State, as the Parks ultimately lie within RSS territory. This Agreement needs to be finalised by the end of 2007 for AP to continue its work in Sudan.

Working Session 2 – Socioeconomic Monitoring Presentations

Socioeconomic Impact Assessments (Magnus Macfarlane, International SIA Expert):

Dr. Magnus Macfarlane provided an overview of what socioeconomic impact assessments (SIAs) are, the reason they are conducted and what the general process is.

MacFarlane defined SIA as "the process of identifying in advance the positive and negative social and economical consequences of public and private projects, policy and programme developments". Advance identification is key so as to anticipate impacts, enhance the positive impacts and to inform the planning process accordingly. As the environment and socioeconomics are intrinsically linked, an increasing movement is developing towards the integration of both aspects in assessments. Linking the two dimensions ultimately provides the best strategic approach for long-term sustainability. By understanding the interaction between these two dimensions, the consequences each causes for the other, it is then easier to clarify cause and effect and to identify a solution that better mitigates potential impacts.

The process of SIA normally follows several steps, as summarised below:

1. *Baseline data collection:* Provides an understanding of what the socioeconomic environment is. This step should address dimensions such as demographics, ethnicity and culture, authority and crime, social infrastructure, health and wellbeing, economics and resources use, employment and

income. Within each dimension, key indicators need to be identified that can be monitored and tracked over time.

2. *Impact scoping:* Identification of impacts at a broad level. Most impacts are identified through secondary sources during this stage, such as through existing literature or expert opinion. It's important that at the early stages, impact scoping is not resource heavy, and the focus needs to be on broad impacts. (The precise nature of impacts is further determined by the unique locations and contexts that will be reviewed at a later stage in the SIA process).

   General impacts that can be identified are: potential community conflicts/tensions; effects on tourism and aesthetic beauty; noise; pollution; indirect impacts on people dependent on resources; health impacts; increased density of traffic and associated issues (such as car accidents, etc.).

   It is important to keep in mind that not all impacts are negative and that negative impacts need to be balanced against the positive. SIA is all about assessing costs and benefits and to propose alternatives where negatives out-way positives. Examples of positive impacts can be increased employment potential due to development, including both direct and indirect (spin-off) employment. On average, for every one person directly contracted with a development project, ten people are indirectly employed.

3. *Alternatives*: Once potential impacts are identified, the process of looking for alternatives can begin. This usually includes a study of economic valuation, which counter-ways the effects of a negative economic investment with another less destructive industry (such as oil industry development compared with tourism investments).

4. *Projection and prediction*: Identification of trends and changes over time, which should be considered in the decision-making and planning process.

5. *Mitigation and enhancement:* After a clear understanding of impacts is established, the management and identification of mechanisms to mitigate probable impacts can take place.

6. *Monitoring:* An on-going process that continually assesses indicators based on the acquired baseline data.

7. *Audit:* Ideally undertaken on an annual basis after the completion of all the above steps. During this process, predictions are compared with actual impacts to gain an understanding of what the existing gaps are between the two.

Stakeholder in-put is important to help inform the SIA process and resulting recommendations, as it reveals the response people may have to an impact, and whether the impact to individuals is direct, indirect or cumulated. Local context must be adequately addressed to shape the broader understanding of impacts according to the precise circumstances on the ground. Demographics, culture, authority, social infrastructure, health, economy, employment all shed light on impacts on a more individual level and help define the nature of the impact (whether it is transient, permanent, individual or cumulative).

Perception can alter the effects of impacts. A variety of factors can shape the lens through which an impact is perceived, and therefore shape the impact experience itself. This lends a philosophical aspect to SIA and introduces the "perception is reality" principle. Scientific findings must therefore be balanced with local beliefs, because even if science determines an impact to be positive, the ultimate impact will most likely be negative if locals see it as negative. The question of "whose reality really counts?" is a

common source of conflict in the SIA process, and solidifies the fact that a single model of assessment and recommendation cannot be used universally in all cases, but must be adapted to local contexts.

Stakeholders are identified according to the extent they affect or are affected by development. A stakeholder map should be drawn that addresses developments, working communities, local communities affected by development, remote communities and the national community in the broader sense. This helps clarify the importance of stakeholder groups to determine the level of engagement that should be undertaken with each group. As it is impossible to speak with all stakeholders, different groups must be prioritised. Usually stakeholder groups are prioritised as follows (from most to least importance):

a) Stakeholders with veto power
b) Stakeholders with rights to participation/influence over decision-making, but who do not define decisions
c) Stakeholders with a right to consultation—the right to be informed and vocalise their opinions
d) Stakeholders with the right to be informed

Transparency in the SIA process is also important, as the more transparent the process is, the more its resulting recommendations will be accepted. For this reason, it is also important to engage with stakeholders as soon as possible in the process, to help build trust and gain widespread support, as this will facilitate planning in the long-run.

A dam project in India provides an example of how poor stakeholder involvement affects development. In this case, the government began development without consulting with local communities beforehand. This resulted in deep civil discontent and rioting. In response to the unrest, the government then decided to begin dialogue with the communities to try to gain solidarity. However, because this realisation came so late in the process, the government could only marginally increase community support.

Stakeholder involvement, dialogue and monitoring needs to be continuous throughout the project cycle. The SIA process and stakeholder participation can be seen as a cycle that begins with provisional planning, encourages engagement with communities, factors in feedback into decision-making and planning, which then results in a second level of engagement about proposed plans, further feedback, and then the development of a more finalised plan.

Impacts must be managed after identification, which should be conducted according to a code of practice. The key is to develop a management model that avoids negative impacts, or at least minimises them as much as possible. If negative impacts are unavoidable, the very last resort is payment of compensation.

After survey-work is complete, the next part of the SIA process is to apply the assessments.

Discussion:

The discussion began by applying the principles raised in Macfarlane's presentation to cases in Sudan, which revolved around the development of a large dam and an oil refinery in RSS. The discussion then stressed the importance of on-going monitoring to identify emerging impacts that were not originally considered or present. A challenge is being certain that the right aspects are being monitored, for if an impact is not anticipated its emergence may not necessarily be recognised. Interactions between impacts are also important to address, as they may cause consequences not previously considered. Because of this, social variables should not be too narrow so as to limit the recognition of emerging issues.

The issue that international experts should be linked with nationals counterparts in the undertaking of impact assessments was then stressed. It was also discussed how the current SIA is coming at the right

time, as the RSS faces many potential threats and possible 'boom development' that will place huge pressure on natural resources. The RSS is keen to put mechanisms in place from the beginning that will mitigate against such impacts. However, while the use of environmental impact assessments (EIAs) is increasing in RSS, SIAs are less-well developed. An example of where an SIA would have been useful regards the development of communication towers in RSS. Communities resented the proposal as they viewed the electro-magnetic waves coming from the towers as posing potential health threats. Participants agreed that SIA training would be useful to advise how such projects can be done correctly.

Public awareness that raises general recognition of the importance of impact assessments in all development projects in Sudan was seen as essential, as most people do not know much about this field.

Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme (Khulood Tubaishat):

Tubaishat discussed the ICZM Office in practice, emphasising its importance as the coordinating entity for the socioeconomic monitoring programme for RSS. She discussed possible indicators that need to be considered, such as coastal and marine resources, demographics and attitudes. Tubaishat also discussed the importance of socioeconomic assessments for strengthening ICZM, as it promotes:

- Identification of alternative livelihood projects
- Shaping social development projects to benefit conservation and sustainable resource use
- Economic and cultural valuations of marine goods and services (for example the potential of tourism and fisheries, etc.).
- Socioeconomic impact assessments prior to proposed coastal management strategies.

It is important to identify all interests and standpoints so as to increase the sustainability of proposed projects and management planning. In this vein, Tubaishat raised the importance that participants identify how they can contribute to socioeconomic projects and to fit their plans into ICZM priorities. The organisations present in the Meeting comprise the 'arms' to help with the gathering of information for the socioeconomic monitoring programme. Based on this and the survey findings, all can then help design and inform the programme.

Day Two – June 18th, 2007:

Working Session 1 – Socioeconomic Monitoring Presentations (continued)

Socioeconomic Monitoring in the Western Indian Ocean (Delphine Malleret-King):

Delphine Malleret-King began by providing background on the Regional SOCMON initiative in the Western Indian Ocean (SOCMON-WIO), explaining how SOCMON-WIO establishes a set of guidelines to harmonise socioeconomic monitoring in the context of coastal management. The programme aimed to establish a network of sites and link professionals with expertise in monitoring. Malleret defined monitoring as a "systematic and continuous collection of data, regular analysis, with the idea to provide sufficient information to enable the decision-making process". Monitoring is ultimately a *means* to achieve better management, and is not an end in its self, as the process is equally important.

Most monitoring programmes proceed with similar steps and consider similar requirements, as follows:

1. Define objectives to determine the reasons why monitoring is needed
2. Establish a baseline
3. Identify indicators—the points that will reveal the important information about change
4. Identify methods to measure
5. Consider frequency of measurement

6. Conduct ongoing reflection of the methodology, indicators, etc.
7. Undertake analysis of data to help decide next steps
8. Integrate feedback on information into management, decision-making, planning, etc.

Monitoring is needed to change/impact resource-users' attitude and behaviour, and hopefully engender more sustainable practices as a result. It functions on the recognition of the importance of socioeconomic information for management, as monitoring helps managers achieve adaptive management and plan for/anticipate what and how things are occurring and changing.

Malleret then presented on her experiences in Eastern Africa. Two objectives of the WIO programme were to 1) establish SOCMON at representative sites under a single framework, and 2) standardise the monitoring approach. These objectives would ultimately help coordinate activities and facilitate comparison of information, as information provided would follow a similar format and process. Using standardised methods also facilitates feedback and helps managers to use information emaningfully, to understand its degree of importance, and to integrate it into decision-making.

SOCMON-WIO was developed according to the principles of being site-based, participatory, and simple and demand-driven—sites need to first see a need for monitoring in order for it to yield successful results. In 2001, a socioeconomic monitoring programme was initiated after the Kenyan Fisheries Department expressed interest in governance issues relating to fisheries. The Kenya pilot project developed the idea of the need to understand the interaction between people and the marine environment. The Kenya sites focussed on three variables: resource-use patterns, resource-based conflict and dependence (the extent that marine resources contribute to income generation, etc.).

In 2005, a partnership workshop was conducted to pull together the experiences of the sites in order to identify a sustainable structure to extend monitoring and to merge with the initiatives with the global NOAA-SOCMON Programme. In addition to establishing a structure for socioeconomic monitoring adapted to WIO, the workshop developed guidelines that outline priority variables needed for management in the region.

SOCMON-WIO received funding from NOAA to set up monitoring in new sites, and trained local people to implement activities and raise awareness. SOCMON-WIO then established a start-up fund to facilitate the continued functioning of monitoring in the sites.

As of 2001, significant progress in socioeconomic monitoring in WIO has taken place. SOCMON has since been established in 13 sites in the Region, all of which are in the first or second cycle of monitoring. SOCMON-WIO has also developed a series of materials (in four languages), including Guidelines, a database and a webpage (SOCMON news). The Guidelines were designed to be adaptive and include: a list of important variables, assistance in helping managers chose relevant variables for their areas, interview guides and an analysis sheet.

In terms of organisation, SOCMON-WIO has trained resource people (a trainer per country) to routinely refresh the skills of existing teams in each country. Each site has a site coordinator that falls under the SOCMON-WIO national focal point (where multiple sites exist in one country). The focal point works closely with site teams and facilitates communication between the site-level and the SOCMON-WIO technical experts. The SOCMON-WIO training team—trained by Coral Reef Degradation in the Indian Ocean (CORDIO)—provides easy training for countries through-out all cycles of monitoring and on a needs basis. The SOCMON coordinator continuously reports to the Technical Advisors and CORDIO who then share the information at regional and international levels. An Advisory Committee of experts in various fields relating to coastal management provides advice as needed on relevant issues. A Working

Group comprises a network of regional socioeconomic professionals who are available for technical guidance. The reporting process underlying SOCMON-WIO is designed to be as transparent as possible.

Malleret then discussed some lessons-learnt from the SOCMON-WIO Programme:

1. Need for a leading agency at site-level that takes responsibility for conducting activities and that can collect and store the available data in electronic format. The agency must be neutral (not in conflict with any stakeholders so it can work effectively with all needed parties and people and indiscriminately juggle conflicting interests).
2. Site must be independent in terms of conducting monitoring and also analysis. Experience has shown that it can be problematic when those doing the monitoring handover the analysis to other organisations/entities. This often causes data collectors to lose their sense of empowerment and involvement in the process, and therefore their commitment often suffers as a result. The establishment of a database is a good way to help counteract this problem.
3. Monitoring takes time. Developing a socioeconomic monitoring programme is as much about the process as the results. For this reason monitoring shouldn't be rushed and a lot of trial and error is inevitable. Stakeholders should be involved throughout the process, so that they feel confident about expressing their opinions. A key consideration that should be taken from the beginning is making people feel empowered to participate in the entire process. The resulting sense of involvement and ownership usually leads to greater interest for communities to better manage their coastal resources.
4. Feedback is essential and needs to be fed-back into decision-making. Monitoring is only useful if fed-back to the right people, including communities and decision-makers. This process needs to be well-defined and should be approached at both the local and regional level. At the local-level, oral presentations and village meetings are useful as results can be presented in a visual and participatory way. This creates a forum for discussion amongst all people with a stake at the site-level. In terms of the regional level, CORDIO takes the information from sites and distributes it widely, so as to transfer results and lessons to a great audience.

In the feedback and reporting stage, information must be chosen carefully and according to the recipient needs. Information is a tool, and SOCMON teams need to identify who should be informed of results and to understand the best way to communicate results—considerations that will change according to the target group. Information must be explained in terms of its implications for work and decision-making, and should be used to help inform next-steps (i.e. EIA or SIA needs). To make information useful, a database needs to be established to integrate results from the beginning.

Examples of decisions made in WIO coastal areas based on monitoring are as follows:

1. Madagascar: An MPA was established to protect the octopus fishery, and was based on a rotational MPA model to sustain the resource. This resulted in seasonally-closed areas for fisheries to allow for recovery.
2. Kenya: As resource-based conflict is a common issue in Kenya, the Fisheries Department was able to better mitigate conflict, by identifying causes and proposing solutions based on the monitoring information. The information allowed for the identification of an entry-point for conservation/management activities, including recognition of livelihood constraints. This helped design management plans that respond to and adapt to constraints.
3. Tanzania: The monitoring addressed the issue of widespread mosquito-net and sheet fishing undertaken by women, which results in high catches of juvenile fish. While the first temptation was to prevent the fishery altogether, the monitoring revealed how this approach would not be sustainable. The monitoring addressed the larger context that compelled women to undertake such practices, revealing that the fishery was the only source of income for women and that

banning the practice would have a huge impact on the livelihoods of communities. Because of this, it would have been highly unlikely for communities to accept out-right banning. The monitoring therefore addressed the full scope of the problem, identified who was involved and why, so that well-informed and viable solutions could be proposed. The process stressed the importance of involving the demand-side of the fishery in the management process, as demand ultimately determines the rate of supply.

Discussion:

The discussion began with clarification on how decision-making is affected by information on variables. While the overall process is slow, the baseline gives an immediate direction for decision-making. Continuous monitoring enables recognition of emerging changes and trends, as well as facilitates the development of an appropriate response for management to adapt accordingly. Because of the specific circumstances in Sudanese coastal areas, especially low population density, the response may be faster than would be the case in more complicated and populated cases.

Malleret was asked to further elaborate on the contents of the SOCMON Guidelines. She explained how they contain:

- A template for analysis (to help standardise data synthesis),
- Example questions for each variable (a total of 50 variables are included in the document)
- An interview guide for surveys
- An analysis sheet explaining what can be done with the data, how to break down data, and how to convert information into percentages

Malleret reiterated that monitoring is a tool to show change, and that the next step is to find out what factors cause the change and how to address these factors (for SOCMON-WIO this help comes from the technical advisor). Monitoring should aim to allow people from the site to collect data. Normally collection stops when there is consensus that additional data is not providing any new information. Communities need to be involved throughout the process and monitoring can be used as a forum for discussion in order to explore solutions to issues.

It was then discussed how Sudan generally lacks capacity to present information in a smart way, as restricted technical capacity is a widespread problem. The importance of having efficient and meaningful communication was then stressed, as the choice of variables must be based on their impact and importance to major stakeholders. Gathering information is the first step towards raising community interest to follow more sustainable practices, and towards developing alternative livelihood opportunities.

Malleret restated the need to approach buyers (where real power to affect change lies), as their approaches and priorities will ultimately influence community attitudes and behaviours (the supply-side). Sudan is currently in a pivotal position to promote a sustainable development approach, as big industry has not yet taken root. However, with the fast approaching and increasing threat of an 'industrial boom' in RSS, a sustainable framework for development must be implemented as soon as possible.

The question was then posed of how SOCMON methods can be adapted to urban-based communities in RSS, especially where no single dominating economic activity exists. Key-informants from all user-groups must be approached to address this. After the identification of stakeholders and users of natural resources, a general list of common questions must then be adapted to each party (such as questions pertaining to welfare, perceptions, etc., but posed in a way that specifically addresses the unique situation of each user/stakeholder).

Malleret then presented a demonstration of the SOCMON-WIO database, so as to clarify how it is organised, which categories it includes, and what the technical dimensions are. It is important to provide information on the stakeholder groups, such as who they are, what they do, wealth status, number of households surveyed, etc. Each main category (such as Demographics) should then include information on a series of questions relevant to this category (such as age, gender, ethnicity, education, etc). A category of Marine Activities, for example, will include information for each target group, such as what resources are exploited (i.e. by fishermen), during which season, and who is the target market. Behind each database category, an excel table should be constructed to show changes over time. To quantify perceptions, questions should ask for ranges (i.e. how do you perceive X on a scale of 1-5). Making information available in percentages ultimately helps standardise the data and facilitates comparison.

Several issues specific to the Red Sea State were then discussed:

1. How to solve the issue of the fact that no link exists between communities and the sea? It was agreed that this issue should be addressed before indicators are developed.
2. How to obtain a picture of the existing socioeconomic situation in the RSS? This resulted in the proposal for all participants to bring whatever studies/reports/data to which they had access, so that the available resources could be discussed during the third day of the workshop. This emphasised the need to identify and gather as much existing material as possible, so that efforts would not be unnecessarily duplicated. This also directly contributed to the literature review, which constitutes the first requirement of socioeconomic monitoring.

It was then raised that the land-use map should be integrated with the socioeconomic monitoring project, as the map's development relied on the collection of socioeconomic information.

Working Session 2 – Red Sea State Socioeconomic Experiences and Insights

This session aimed to share the experiences of local experts in the field of socioeconomics in the Red Sea State. Each expert shared his/her experiences in this field, identified challenges and/or opportunities, or proposed possibilities for further exploration in relation to socioeconomic projects.

The discussion was guided by a list of questions that can be found in Annex 6.

Abdall Shigri-Ohaj (Manager of RSS Agriculture Branch):

Shigri focused his discussion on fisheries, saying that several related surveys have taken place in RSS, including assessments of fishermen needs, the number of practicing fishermen, the type of gear used and the focus sites for fisheries. The studies revealed that fishermen face many challenges, which means their living conditions do not show significant improvement as a result of undertaking fishing. Fishermen usually spend long periods away from their families and lack basic needs. In response to these challenges, Shigri discussed how a plan was developed to establish fishermen villages that would make basic needs available to fishermen, such as water resources and basic infrastructure to allow easier access to the sea. The overall aim of the project was to motivate people to take up fishing to uplift their livelihoods. The project was not very successful, however, because fisheries in general do not bring enough profit to fishers to make it worthwhile. After a cost-benefit analysis was conducted, it was revealed that transport costs and middle-men fees mean fishers profit very little from the market price of fish. Because of this—in addition to the weak relationship between Sudanese and the sea—promoting the fishing industry amongst most communities has proven to be significantly difficult.

A UNDP programme for Good Governance also conducted an assessment of fisher unions and initiated a development programme to supply basic needs to fishers to help their industry (such as boats and out-

board motors) so as to help reactivate the cooperatives. The programme was similarly unsuccessful, as it encountered problems maintaining sustainable finances, again largely because of the high cost of middlemen. An additional problem rests in marketing; emphasis should therefore be placed on expanding both the export and internal markets. Furthermore, studies should assess fishing grounds, as high fishing stress is being experienced in select sites, whereas other areas are largely unexploited.

This case points out how data needs to be collected on living needs to help achieve an assessment and understanding of why younger generations are not attracted to the fishing profession. Living condition constraints must be combined with the assessment of coastal management. Shidri further recommended that clear specification of leadership is needed for the assessment—to identify who has the role to collect data and take responsibility for it.

Afrah Hussein (Ministry of Finance, Planning Administration):

Hussein discussed how a five-year plan was presently being constructed fro the Red Sea State, as part of a 20-year strategy for Sudan. The preparation of the plan has relied on an encyclopaedia of information, which includes a section on animal and natural resources specifically. Natural resources served as an important influence for the Plan's design, but know-how on how to approach the issue of sustainable resource-use was generally lacking. Hussein suggested that the Socioeconomic programme could help evaluate the efficiency of the five-year plan and fill in the missing gaps relating to the natural environment and conservation issues.

Hussein then discussed other sources that were used for the Plan's development, including a World Food Programme (WFP) annual assessment of the socioeconomic status in the RSS, an OXFAM-WFP Food For Work programme report, and the OXFAM Work Programme.

Hussein also clarified the make-up of the Ministry of Finance as comprising the Administrations and Departments for Economics, Planning, Development, International Cooperation and Industry. All administrations are required to work through the Ministry of Finance.

Sayed Daballoub (FAO-RSS Representative):

FAO discussed how monitoring programmes in RSS face many challenges, including:

- Problems with the techniques of data collection
- Lack of relationship between people and the sea
- Limited information on the importance of marine resources as a viable income-generating activity (most information focuses on water harvesting and agriculture)
- Lack of practical examples of the benefits that can be gained from the sea—any development project needs to show positive socioeconomic benefits in order to gain a positive community response
- Lack of awareness among local communities, meaning they are not actively involved in decision-making and do not contribute to problem-solving

FAO suggested a good starting-point would be the development of a pilot scheme that shows clear benefits to communities of the need to sustainably utilise their marine resources. FAO prioritises Community involvement throughout the whole process of project development, from the very idea formulation stage, through the project design stage, and in the implementation phases. FAO also stressed that the approach to sustainable use of marine resources should be complimentary and well integrated with the approach to inland resources, as land and sea issues are ultimately connected and inseparable.

Dr. Mussa (RSU Department of Economics and Social Sciences):

Mussa reiterated that the problem in RSS is the lack of interaction between communities and marine resources. He suggested that an example where a positive relationship does exist should be chosen to show-case for other communities how marine-coastal resources can be better utilised. He also shared that few studies have focussed on the coast and that the question of land-ownership can cause conflicts and pose problems to projects. He discussed how the land-use map should be used strategically to promote sound coastal and marine resource management and development.

Dr. Salah Ali (Port Sudan Association for Entrepreneur Development Director):

Dr. Salah discussed how PASED takes a microfinance and women empowerment approach to increase community livelihood in the Red Sea State. The organisation has undertaken socioeconomic impact assessments to address poverty issues and can therefore contribute to this current monitoring programme. The NGO was previously involved in a regional study on food security and a study on alternative livelihoods for people.

Ahmed Ali Abenai (Planning Committee):

Abenai restated the need to establish linkages between coastal and inland communities, and that Mohammed Qol and Suakin can be taken as case studies. He also reiterated the importance of establishing a comprehensive database to store collected information.

Omer Ibrahim Omer (Census Bureau-Red Sea State, Statistics Department):

Omer clarified that a national census will take place between November 2007 and April 2008, and that extensive training is being conducted in preparation. The Census Bureau has computers and a digitalised database to record information for the census.

Ahmed .M. Taher (Ministry of Finance-General Department of Industry):

Taher shared how a survey was conducted for the industrial sector between 2005 and 2006 and that a limited EIA component was included. He stressed how ICZM is important to bring all sectors together and forge linkages, and that the ICZM Office plays a crucial role in coordinating all aspects of coastal management and conservation. He discussed the importance of establishing close working relations with the Planning Committee (which ultimately makes the decisions regarding resource use) and the Ministry of Tourism. Taher reiterated how the transformation of the fishery sector in RSS faces problems given the lack of positive examples to follow. He also discussed how new technology used in RSS ports is threatening employment, as it squeezes out the skilled labour worked force. Because most port workers have very specialised skills, they encounter difficulties finding work elsewhere.

Dr. Nayla Gusman (Ministry of Animal Resources):

Gusman discussed the need to raise the livelihoods of fishermen and to promote the construction of institutions for industrial-level fishing. Gusman feels this is the only way to make fisheries a viable income-generating activity on the national level. Communities should be shown the wealth of resources that exists in the coastal zone, how to market their products, and how to follow practices of international standard. Gusman especially emphasised this for the under-exploited ornamental fish trade, which should be developed according to MAC standards and certification. Also, Gusman stressed the need to train fishermen on even basic skills, such as swimming.

Abdalla Hamid Salih (Marine Fisheries Administration):

Salih discussed how the coastal zone is divided into three fishery areas: north, middle and south. Fishery rangers collect information on fisheries and activities in their respective areas. However, the information needs to be digitalised and analysed—so far status reports are produced, but analysis reports are lacking. He also discussed how people have been trained on stock assessment, but are generally not following-through with the activity. As of 1983 all fishermen have been required to obtain a fishing permit to fish, which has revealed that 900 fishers exist in the middle area and 650 in the southern area. Another license is also needed for boats—the type of license is determined by the type of boat. A separate license is required for international vessels fishing in Sudanese waters.

Almotayeb (ACORD):

Almotayeb said that two types of assessments (rapid/participatory and conventional/research-based) should be considered for the programme, and discussed Halaib as a good pilot area to study the marketing of fish and the possibilities for developing fishery facilities to aid and encourage the industry. Considering context is important, as is working with all relevant actors working with community structures, including fisheries unions, African Parks, OXFAM, IRC, ACORD, Government bodies, and other NGOs. It is important to make sure effective exchange of information exists between partners and Almotayeb recommended that a mechanism to facilitate this exchange should be established.

Abdel Aziz (RSU):

Aziz discussed how the teaching methods at RSU in relation to socioeconomics focus on both research and classroom components. RSU has multiple faculties that relate to socioeconomic monitoring in the coastal zone, including the Faculty of Marine Science, Earth Science, Applied Science, Social Studies, among others. The RSU's research component has 300 students at diploma level. The Student and professor documents, theses and reports that are available in the RSU library can play a useful role in the literature review stage of the ICZM socioeconomic monitoring programme. Students have conducted surveys in the past, including multiple coastal vegetation surveys (the next one to be conducted in June). The University has also conducted Rapid Ecological Assessments along the whole coast, provides GIS capacity-building, and is finalising a bibliography that contains references to all available literature collected since 1936. This bibliography is also available in English.

RSU has also helped build capacity through establishing centres of excellence (such as marine research centres). RSU also contributed to the Master Plan by providing information on fisheries and mineral resources available in the Red Sea State.

Aziz stated how Sudanese culture is often more talk than action and that it is time to implement activities and show tangible results. He also reiterated that data is patchy and should be consolidated and 'stitched' together to give a complete picture of natural resources and socioeconomics in RSS, and to help identify what the gaps are regarding information needs. As reliability of data is also an issue, Aziz supported the need to create a more standardised collection and analysis methodology.

Dr. Osman Farah (Marine Biologist and Oceanographic Expert):

Dr. Osman discussed the commercial potential of mariculture and oyster family farms as simple, inexpensive and providing part-time jobs for communities. He mentioned how pearl farming could gain increasing commercial potential and that selling dried fish to Saudi Arabia could be an activity to further explore, as dried fish demands a high price in Saudi. Dr. Osman particularly focused on the ornamental

fish trade, discussing how it has been banned in Sudan after the country signed a regional PERSGA strategy that discourages destructive ornamental fishing practice. Dr. Osman stressed the need to refresh the process and to encourage careful development of the industry according to MAC standards.

Dr. Osman discussed how stock assessments should be conducted for sea cucumbers, and that a regional strategy should be developed to sustainably manage the resource, as Sudan cannot viably enforce sustainable use on its own, especially when confronted with the growing threat of Chinese/foreign exploitation. Dr Osman also discussed how Sudan should re-open trawling procedures for fisheries, but in a structured way. Trawling has been previously forbidden, which has resulted in recorded regrowth of fishery species in depleted areas. He suggested that fishers should be trained to trawl in environmentally-friendly ways and that fishermen quotas should be established for this activity. Surveys have found that only one viable area in the South could be used for trawling.

Dr. Osman also stressed the importance of on-the job training and the need for stronger enforcement mechanisms to prevent foreign exploitation that transfers little benefit back to the Sudanese.

Discussion:

The discussion that followed centred on the fact that information on local knowledge regarding marine/coastal resource use and management is lacking. Previous surveys have failed to shed light on the extent of local capacity available. This is partly why it is important to consider collaboration with RSU and research centres alongside conservation organisations.

In regards to the socioeconomic survey itself, it was discussed that the population that will be surveyed needs defining. All existing data must be collected before a new study is initiated, to avoid repetition of effort. Impacts from coastal roads, water dams and coastal industry should be assessed and considered.

Day Three: June 19th, 2007

Working Session 1 – Presentation of Available Socioeconomic-related Literature and Resources:

During this session, participants were encouraged to share their knowledge regarding existing socioeconomic literature and resources that exist for RSS and that should be included in the monitoring programme's preliminary literature review.

1. *Some Development Plans of the Red Sea Provinces*, Sudanese Red Crescent Society, 1994. (Presented by Abdall Shidri-Ohaj).

   The Red Sea Rehabilitation and Development Corporation reported on fisheries potential, mining, tourism, and the commercial sector. The document also provides information on education, agriculture, health, infrastructure, social welfare, women development, and the nature of an investment project worth 2.9 million Sudanese pounds.

2. *An Assessment of El-Shark Company and Proposals for a Work Plan*, 2003. (Presented by Abdall Shidri-Ohaj).

   The report assesses the Oshaf Fishing Company and its replacement El-Shark. The report covers the environment of the north (where the company functioned), providing statistical data on fish catches between 1999 and 2001, and the export trade to Saudi Arabia. The report analyses the income and expenditure of Oshaf, as well as the assets of the El-Shark replacement company. It further proposes

an organisation chart for the new company and its departments, and provides recommendations for the development of the fishing sector in the North RSS, including the rehabilitation of an ice plant to enable fish transportation to Port Sudan.

Shidri went on to discuss how the El-Shark company has since been dissolved, and is presently considering a new strategy of working with fishing cooperatives.

3. *Five-Year National Work-Plan*. (Presented by Afrah Hussein, Ministry of Finance).

   The Work-plan provides a chapter for each sector relevant to socioeconomics, including development, economics, environment, etc. The plan was prepared according to a comprehensive database of information, termed the 'Encyclopaedia', which is available through Access. The Plan also relied on information supplied by the OXFAM Work Plan and the World Food Programme Annual Assessment of Programmes document. All operational programmes in the state were required to submit their Work Plans to Afrah Hussein (Ministry of Finance) to help with the development of the five-year strategy.

4. *Fisheries Department resources*. (Presented by Abdalla Hamid Salih, Marine Fisheries Administration).

   The resources available in the Fisheries Department provide information on the status of fish catch, number of boats, types of boats, and trawling tools.

5. *RESAP (1991-1992).* (Presented by Abdel Aziz, RSU).

   The Report provides a comprehensive research project between Khartoum University and a Norwegian agency that provides information on natural resources (such as ecology, etc.) and assessment of broader issues impacting the environment.

6. *Dr. Nayla Gusman's Masters Thesis.* (Presented by Dr. Gusman).

   Dr. Gusman's thesis includes a chapter on the socioeconomic aspects of the ornamental fish trade, including proposals for related economic activities that could be further developed.

7. *EIA review of electricity generation from communication towers (July 2005).* (Presented by Dr. Taha Bedawi, ICZM Office Director).

   The EIA review includes a chapter on socioeconomic impacts. (the report can be requested from Dr. Taha at the ICZM Office).

8. *EIA for a Shell oil refinery near Port Sudan.* (Dr. Osman Farah, marine expert).

   This EIA was conducted by RSS, but the report has not been distributed.

(Please see Annex 7 for available literature).

Working Session 2 – The Way Forward: Steps, Strategy and Structure:

Tubaishat began by presenting the needed steps for the development of the socioeconomic monitoring programme for RSS, which were identified based on the Meeting's previous discussions:

1. Literature review (July-August)
2. Review and analysis (September-October)
3. Training (November-December). This phase will also include a model survey component, either in an urban site or fisheries site, or both.

Fisheries Component of the Socioeconomic Survey (Melita Samoilys):

Melita Samoilys provided recommendations on how the survey should be conducted, suggesting an initial literature review followed by a scoping exercise. Scoping should use key informants, and should involve several layers to stratify information to help inform where the scoping should be conducted:

1. Geographic (north, middle and southern fishing areas, and whether geographic considerations are based on natural factors or land-use/development planning areas)
2. Population centres
3. Fishing grounds
4. Landing sites
5. User-groups/stakeholders

The five key questions to consider in a scoping exercise are:

1. Who is fishing?
2. What is being caught?
3. Where does the catch go?
4. What are the cultural beliefs, taboos and attitudes towards fishing?
5. Are there potential new fisheries that could be or are likely to be developed? [The areas in which they may be developed and the parties initiating the development (government or private industry) should also be considered].

Samoilys then linked the socioeconomic fisheries survey-work with the biodiversity survey-work simultaneously being conducted for the ICZM Project. The Biodiversity survey will assess the abundance and species richness present in the Sudanese Red Sea, including: finfish, molluscs, and echinoderms. The socioeconomic survey, on the-other-hand, will assess the situation from land, focusing more on the human dimensions influencing the effects on species abundance. Both surveys will then be integrated to provide a larger picture of the fisheries situation in RSS.

In terms of recommendations for ICZM, scoping information can help identify the following:

- Priority fisheries management plans
- Fisheries development potential
- Coastal protection needs for sustainable fisheries
- Monitoring for adaptive management (scoping gives an idea of what indicators should be used to provide the base for long-term assessments and to facilitate an adaptive management cycle).

(Please see Annex 8 for the full text).

Working Session 3 – The Role of the ICZM Office as Coordinator of RSS Socioeconomic Activities (Khulood Tubaishat):

Tubaishat gave another presentation on the ICZM Office, clarifying its role as coordinating body for the Socioeconomic and ICZM programme, and its status as a partnership arrangement between the Red Sea State and PERSGA. The mission of the Office is to enhance environmental quality of marine resources while achieving sustainable development in the Red Sea State. It operates in compliance with the RSS Environmental law (2006) and the Jeddah Convention.

The ICZM strategy will provide a framework for operation for the next decade (2008-2017), including the Office's goals, expected outcomes and activities, and the proposed role for partnerships. The Office's audience consists of decision-makers, coastal lawmakers, coastal managers, academic communities, industries, and all other organisations and bodies with a stake in the coastal zone. While the Office has no direct regulatory or policy-making mandate, its goals are harmonious with the RSS priorities.

The Office prioritises advocacy, coastal governance, partnerships and public participation, which constitute the cross-cutting activities for all ICZM Programmes. As the RSS Environmental Law (2006) has a special clause specifying the need for public participation in all activities, the Office will particularly focus on establishing a framework and Work-Plan to develop this programme more. It will also work to fulfil the needs relating to the following priority areas of action: By-laws, EIA review, conservation, training, research, and compliance.

Discussion:

It was discussed that the socioeconomic literature review that will take place for the monitoring programme must also consider future plans, not only the studies that have been previously completed. The review should strive to be bi-lingual as much as possible. Where documents are only available in Arabic, a summary should be translated and provided in English.

Monitoring should particularly address the areas of development that are likely to take place in the near future, including (but not limited to) oil exploration, aquaculture and desalination plants. For all these activities, careful planning is required to avoid negative impacts, and EIA and feasibility studies should be conducted to provide clear guidance. Foreign interest in each of these activities presently exists, and the RSS government is gearing towards giving concessions to interested investors. Desalination facilities are currently proposed for Suakin and Mohammed Qol, for example. Regarding the legal basis for EIA, laws are mostly scattered and unclear, which poses serious problems for the enforcement of environmental assessments of proposed new industries.

Signing of the Pledge/Charter:

The workshop was concluded by the signing of a Socioeconomic Charter/Pledge. The Charter solidified participant commitment to help in all ways possible to enable the socioeconomic monitoring programme to move forward in the Red Sea State. The Pledge falls under the direct auspices of the ICZM Office-Port Sudan, with endorsement from the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Welfare and Natural Resources.

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Ministry of Agriculture Animal Wealth and Natural Resources
HCENR/ Red Sea State
ICZM/ office PS
Socioeconomic Monitoring of Sudanese Coast
Port Sudan / Palace Hotel 17-19 June 2007

وثيقـــــة عهـــــد

نحن الموقعون آدناه :

نتعهد بالتواثق بالإدلاء والتعاون في توفير جميع المعلومات والبيانات

كل من موقع عمله التي تدفع بعمل المشروع نحو النماء والازدهار لمواطن

ساحل البحر الأحمر والسودان عامة .

والله على قولنا شهيد

Conclusions:

The Expert Meeting concentrated on bringing local, regional and international experts together in order to help design a way-forward for the ICZM Socioeconomic Monitoring Programme for the Red Sea State. It helped raise an understanding of the extent of expertise in RSS, the breadth of available literature, and the information base that exists in relation to socioeconomic studies and coastal-marine resource management in RSS. It also promoted the role of the ICZM Office in overseeing the implementation of the programme, and discussed how the participating international experts could offer guidance and training where needed.

The precise steps and detailed work programme for the socioeconomic monitoring programme will be further discussed and finalised with the ICZM Office.■