

# PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

## Introduction

- i. State Party: **Republic of Sudan**
- ii. Year of ratification or acceptance of the *Convention*: **6, June, 1974**
- iii. Name of World Heritage property (State(s) Party(ies)) (Identification number)  
**Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dugonab Bay/Mukkawar Island Marine National Park (Sudan – Red Sea)**
- iv. Organization(s) or entity (ies) responsible for the preparation of the report:  
**Wildlife Conservation General Administration(WCGA) and Sudanese MAB National Committee / Sudanese National Commission for UNESCO (NATCOM).**
- v. Date of the report: **30 November 2020**
- vi. Signature on behalf of the State Party: Sudanese National Commission for UNESCO

## 1. Executive Summary of the report

*[Note: each of the sections described below should be summarized. The maximum length of the executive summary is 1 page.]*

No	Issue (as per WHC decision 2016)	% progress	Key progress narrative	Constraints	Planned actions	Partners
1	State Party to establish, in close consultation with local dive operators and other stakeholders, a code of conduct including formal rules and regulations for all dive operators and to ensure compliance	<b>95%</b>	Close relation had been established with the local dive operators and stakeholders. Formal rules and regulations and fees for divers and visitors had been set-up, substantial entry fee (diving fee) been established.	Little constraint about the amount of fees but solved and agreed upon by the Tourism Department / Red Sea State, Ministry of Environment	The local dive operators and tourism companies promised to financially support the property in the new season January 2021.	Ministry of Environment at the Red Sea State. Diving Companies.
2	Reaching out to dive operators, both national and foreign, to raise awareness about these rules and regulations and	<b>80%</b>	Many Awareness workshops and meetings were conducted	Financial obstacles for continuing more meetings and awareness activities	More Awareness and Education programs are planned	UNESCO World Heritage, UNESCO Khartoum UNESCO Office, NATCOM UNESCO Chair

	encourage best practice in line with international standards,					for Oceanography and Marine Biology, National MAB Committee , Ministry of Environment Red Sea State, at National Center for Curricula and Educational Research, Associated Schools of UNESCO Federal Ministry of Education
3	Establishing appropriate mechanisms, such as, fines and a licensing system, to avoid violations	90%	Fines for violations are determined	Poor education programs	Plans for more awareness activities.	WCGA, Ministry of Environment and Department of Tourism Red Sea State
4	Ensuring regular patrolling to monitor any vessels operating within either component of the property	40%	Little patrolling and monitoring are going on	Due to COVID 19 ,the site is semi-closed, all tourism activities were stopped, specially diving, being cancelled by decision from the Governor of the Red Sea State, no visitors, no fishing by local community(affecting their economic situation),most of the staff being moved , kept to the minimum.	More activities within the new season-2021	Red Sea University, Marine Sciences and Oceanography Faculty, WCGA

5	Finalize, adopt and start implementing the IMP as soon as possible.	70%	The integrated management plan for the whole property being finalized and translated from English to Arabic. It was adopted by WCGA in a Validation workshop at 17 September 2019.	The implementation of the MP was delayed due to Financial constraints and due to the close-up of the property for precaution from COVID 19.	Request for more funds through many proposed projects	WCGA, Higher Council for Environment and Natural Resources, UNDP NATCOM Khartoum UNESCO Office
6	Provide further resources for the management of the property.	75%	The monthly budget for the property has increased to 3 folds from the original budget. Fees -toll are collected from visitors and divers.	The economic and political situation in Sudan during the Transitional Period, affect the budgeting and proposed plans	To continue to increase financial resources and provide assurances to maintain ongoing sustainable financing	WCGA Federal Ministry of Finance

## **2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee**

*[Note: The State(s) Party(ies) is/are requested to address the most recent Decision of the World Heritage Committee for this property, paragraph by paragraph.]*

### **Decision 40 COM 8 B.6: Requests the State Party to:**

- a- 1) Requests the State Party to finalize, adopt and start implementing the IMP as soon as possible, and encourages it to provide further resources for the management of the property;**

The integrated management plan for the whole property being finalized by the consultant Dr. Rebecca Kluas. Expert of MAB Committee had translated the MP from English to Arabic Language. It was adopted by WCGA in a Validation workshop attended by many stakeholders, at 17 September 2019. The implementation of the MP was delayed due to Financial constraints and due to the close-up of the property for precaution from COVID 19.

### **Request for more funds through many proposed projects:**

1-A project titled “Strengthened protected areas system and integrated ecosystem in Sudan”, was submitted for fund by GEF-UNDP at April 2018. The Project strategy is to focus on strengthening system through investment from two GEF focal areas - biodiversity and land degradation. It aims to do this through main components: Component 1 Enabling environment established at the national level for expanded PA management for policy change, Component 2 Improved management effectiveness at selected terrestrial and marine PAs. Targeted investments include Dungonab Bay. Investments split into: ecological management, enforcement and operations, economic development (ecology, governance, and economics). Component 3 SLM and Integrated Natural Resource Management in multi-use landscapes around targeted PAs, and Component 4 Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management. to improve management effectiveness at selected terrestrial and marine Protected Areas, and Integrated Natural Resource Management interventions, including Gender mainstreaming and knowledge management.

2-Seeking opportunity for funds from Global Fund for Coral Reefs, grant for funding will open in 2021.

3- A plot of 500 square meters has been specialized by the Governor of the Red Sea State for establishing a center for **Gender equality and empowerment of women in heritage site** (the proposal for establishing the center has been submitted to U.N Women Office in Khartoum for funding).

### **2- Reaching out to dive operators, both national and foreign, to raise awareness about these rules and regulations and encourage best practice in line with international standards,**

Close relation had been established with the Mohammed Qol, and Arkayai, local dive operators and stakeholders. Formal rules and regulations and fees for divers and visitors had been set-up. Awareness meetings were being held with the local dive operators about rules and regulations. Several meetings were held with the Tourism Dept / Red Sea ,Ministry of Environment discussing the amount of substantial entry fee (diving fee) that allow a monetary return to the park in support of its management, protection and overall surveillance. They agreed to the amount of fees and the contribution to the Tourism Dept / Red Sea Ministry of Environment. The local dive operators and tourism companies promised to financially support the property in the new season Jan 2021.

### **3- Establishing appropriate mechanisms, such as, fines and a licensing system, to avoid violations,**

Fines for violations are determined by the park managers after several meetings with the different stakeholders.

**4- Ensuring regular patrolling to monitor any vessels operating within either component of the property;**

Due to COVID 19 ,the property is semi-closed, all tourism activities were stopped, specially diving, being cancelled by decision from the Governor of the Red Sea State, no visitors, no fishing by local community(affecting their economic situation),most of the staff being moved. The few staff who remained for administrative work, but doing no monitoring activities.

**5- Reaching out to dive operators, both national and foreign, to raise awareness about these rules and regulations and encourage best practice in line with international standards,**

Many Awareness workshops are conducted; including:

- 1) A Workshop on Biosphere Reserves towards Sustainable Development was organized on 21 March 2018, Grand Holiday Villa, by UNESCO Khartoum Office and the MAB National Committee. The MAB National Committee highlighted the importance of the Natural Heritage Site.
- 2) A training workshop on Evaluating the Management Effectiveness of World Heritage site, from 25 – 27 April 2018, organized by Nature program: International Union for the Conservation of Nature and the Arab Regional Center for World Heritage, in collaboration with the Sudanese National Commission for UNESCO, the Wildlife Conservation General Administration and the Red Sea University. National Committee for Education, Science and Culture and the Ministry of Tourism, Antiquities and Wildlife. The workshop attained by all stakeholders including the local communities. aimed at building the capacity of the technical team in the field of principles and applications of assessing and reporting on the management effectiveness of natural World Heritage properties within an applied practical methodology on Sanganeb Marine National Park and Dungonab Bay/Mukkawar Island Marine National Park. The workshop consisted of four work axes: an introduction to the World Heritage Convention, an introduction to the story of the site's inclusion on the World Heritage List, a practical application of the technical tool for assessing the administrative effectiveness of protected areas and World Heritage sites, and finally a practical application of the principles and tools of good governance for World Heritage sites. The guidelines approved by UNESCO and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature have been implemented in the so-called "Enhancing Our World Heritage: 2008" and the Management Effectiveness Assessment of Protected Areas: 2006, respectively.

- 3) UNESCO Office in Khartoum translated in 2019 the Guidelines for Management of Marine World Heritage Sites from English to Arabic.
- 4) An Expert meeting in support of the conservation of the property and implementation of a broader vision for the management of the site, the use of its resources and the socio-economic development and inclusion of local communities, organized by Fanny Douvère, coordinator, World Heritage Marine Programme, World Heritage Centre, attended by experts from Marine World Natural Heritage Sites: Mauritania, Seychelles, Brazil, South Africa and participants from Khartoum and Red Sea State, at Port Sudan, during 9-11 October 2018.
- 4) A consultation meeting organized by UNESCO Chair of Marine and Oceanography at National Center for Curricula and Educational Research / White Nile State, during 22-23 Sept. 2018 with the aim of promoting the MAB programme and World Natural Heritage for including this subject within the Science Curricula in the General Education.
- 5) A training workshop conducted by Associated Schools of UNESCO by lecturing teachers about Climate change impacts on Biosphere Reserves and Marine protected areas in Sudan during 12 October 2019. Plans are set up for more collaboration with Associated Schools Project (ASPnet) to conduct activities at the Red Sea State.

**6- Provide further resources for the management of the property.**

1. The economic and political situation in Sudan during the Transitional Period, affect the budgeting and proposed plans. But the Director of WCGA hardly convinced the Ministry of Finance to increase the monthly budget for the property to 3 folds of the original budget. Other resources (Fees -toll) would be collected from visitors and divers.
2. General Administration for Environment of the Red Sea state joined effort with PRSEGA for the implementation of the GEF funded project " Strategic Ecosystem Based Management" of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden. This project includes four components:
  - Component 1: strengthening the principles of marine managed areas through stakeholders driven (MPA) implementation.
  - Component 2: strengthening coastal communities using incentives approach to improve fisheries management and achieve other marine resources benefits.
  - Component 3: regional environmental and socioeconomic monitoring supporting ecosystem based management (EBM) and community benefits.
  - Component 4: Project management
3. There were many activities which had been implemented within the framework of this project in the Natural Heritage Site:

- Two glass boats for local communities in Mohamed Qol and DOUNGONAB with workshop for boats maintenance.
- Establishment of 5 stations for solar energy for the two villages.
- Distribution of milky goats for 80 households in the villages as alternative source of livelihood.
- Supplied bakery equipment for women in the villages
- Rehabilitation of the guest house of the Wildlife Conservation General Administration (WCGA).
- Building capacity of the staff of the Wildlife Conservation General Administration.

#### **b- Other activities;**

1. WCGA with Sudanese National MAB Committee/ NATCOM continued their communication efforts with National Partners, Regional and International organizations towards further support, collaboration and coordination towards achieving the requirements of WHC and other requirements for improving the work environment in the property.
2. UNESCO approved a training project within the framework of participation programme "**Gender equality and empowerment of women in heritage site - The Sanganeb Marine National Park and the DOUNGONAB Bay – Mukkawar Island Marine National Park**" The project will contribute to meeting the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as follows:
  - **SDG 1: No Poverty.** Through its livelihood improvement and community-based natural resource management interventions, the project aims to support the reduction of poverty. Demonstrable increase in revenues for the families in the Property. It also aims to improve fisheries management in selected areas which also hopes to alleviate pressure on the fisheries resources and support food security in the long term.
  - **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth.** Through livelihoods options and micro-financing opportunities, the project aims to improve and support local economic development and employment. Gained skills and talents by women. Increase the economic benefits to the community from the sustainable use of marine resources, through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism.
  - **SDG 13: Climate action.** The project aims (to a lesser extent) to support climate mitigation and thus community resilience to climate change. Encourage women – especially the young - to participate in sustainable management and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts.
  - **SDG 14 Life below water** through conservation and sustainable use the Red Sea marine resources for sustainable development.
3. Since Jan 2016, Cousteau society in partnership with others provides the scientific document of Sha'ab Rumi for declaration as Sudan's third MPA As

first step; the document was translated to Arabic language and submitted by MAB Committee to WCGA. The process for declaring Sha'ab Rumi as Sudan's third MPA is going on by WCGA and Marine PAs Department in the Red Sea State and was about to finalize the process . Once declared, in the near future, MAB Committee and WCGA will start the process for adding Sha'ab Rumi to the property core area.

## **6. Signature of the Authority**

**Wafaa Sidahmed Mohamed Nouredin**

**Secretary General**

**Sudanese National Commission for UNESCO**



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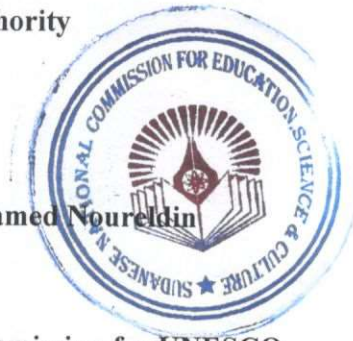
**6. Signature of the Authority**

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**Wafaa Sidahmed Mohamed Noureldin**

**Secretary General**

**Sudanese National Commission for UNESCO**



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**Annexes**

**Annex (1):** Natural World Heritage property Action Plan (2016-2017)-  
Implementation Actions needed to develop the property:

Activity		The executing agency	Other cooperating agencies		Date starting of	
			Internal collaborators	External collaborators	2016	2017
<b>A- Site Administration</b>						
1	Improve the working environment	WCGA	Red Sea State		✓	✓
2	Presence of staff on the site	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	WCGA		✓	
3	<u>Provide financial support for the administrative work and request additional support</u>	WCGA	Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Wildlife Ministry of Interior Affairs		✓	✓
4	An administrative structure to manage the work, naming director of Heritage site, his deputies, managers of marine protected areas - the	WCGA	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State		✓	


	distribution of power to the administrative offices					
5	Increased personnel distributed to control points, , continuous presence of guards at Sanganeb	WCGA	Ministry of Interior Affairs			✓
6	Choose a logo for the site	WCGA	MAB Committee		✓	
7	Determine the boundaries of the site on land and sea (Develop New Maps)	WCGA	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	IUCN and Arab Regional Heritage Center	✓	✓
8	<u>Declaration of additional sites to protect (eg Rumi reefs) and added to the components of the site in the future.</u>	WCGA	MAB Committee	IUCN and Arab Regional Heritage Center Cousteau	✓	
9	Providing aids work - two vehicles, boats and bicycles.... etc.	WCGA	Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Wildlife Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Interior Affairs	Arab Regional Heritage Center Cousteau - SUDIA	✓	✓
10	Providing, posters, Media tools, camera, screen, TV .... etc.	WCGA	Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Wildlife			✓
11	Cooperation with the local community, establish voluntary groups to cooperate with the administration	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	NGOs, Heritage Young Volunteer group SUDIA		✓	✓

	in various administrative areas (groups for patrolling, group for conservation, group for ecotourism , group for awareness ... etc) )					
12	Determine fees and permission to enter the marine reserves	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	WCGA Red Sea State		✓	
13	<u>The Integrated Management Plan for the site</u>	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	WCGA Red Sea State MAB	IUCN and Arab Regional Heritage Center PERSIGA	✓	✓
<b>(B) Training and awareness</b>						
1	Train employees on the management and protection of the site – on diving - monitoring and control Visitors	Red Sea University	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	NGOs IUCN and Arab Regional Heritage Center PERSIGA African Heritage Fund	✓	✓
2	A comprehensive program of environmental awareness on components of the Red Sea Environment	Ministry of Environment and Tourism Red Sea State Red Sea University	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State		✓	✓
<b>(C) Development of tourism</b>						
1	The development of tourism strategy, including	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	Ministry of Environment and Tourism Red Sea State	Cousteau IUCN	✓	✓

	legislation and governing laws	State				
2	Media support with sound scientific information	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	Ministry of Environment and Tourism Red Sea State	Cousteau Red Sea University Ministry of Tourism, Heritage and Wildlife	✓	✓
3	Establish information Center; supported by publications, maps and images	WCGA Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	National Organizations SUDAI Red Sea University	Cousteau		✓
4	The establishment of a maritime museum	WCGA Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	Red Sea University National Organizations	Cousteau		✓
5	Develop Web-site and e-Mail for the site	WCGA	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	Cousteau, WHC	✓	✓
6	Improve the status of the local Communities	Dept. of Marine Protected Areas – Red Sea State	NGOs, SUDAI UNESCO Chair for Women in Science and Technology	Cousteau, SUDAI IUCN and Arab Regional Heritage Center	✓	✓
<b>D-Foreign cooperating approaches</b>						
1	Addressing the external collaborators	NATCOM MAB		Arab Regional Heritage Center	✓	✓

## Annex II: Report of General Administration of Environment, red Sea State

HIGHER COUNCIL FOR ENVIRONMENT AND TOURISM AND INVESTMENT  
RED SEA STATE  
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF ENVIRONMENT



المجلس الأعلى للبيئة والسياحة والاستثمار  
ولاية البحر الأحمر  
الإدارة العامة للبيئة

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Date : 25 November 2020

**Background :**

General Administration for Environment Red Sea state joined efforts with PERSGA for implementation of the GEF funded project strategic Ecosystem based management of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden .The project is implemented through three technical components and a management component . It focuses on improving management of marine resources in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden through building on resources protection , incentive system for communities and harmonization of the achieved through institutional technical assistance with on ground activities in selected MPAs, including awareness of participatory approach in using marine resources applying ecosystem based management principles .

The project is implemented over four years , starting January 2016 . The early stage of the project involves setting the ground for EBM through detailed assessment of the present status in MPAs management in technical , administrative and legislative aspects . Thus the early stage of the project involves active interaction between the project Coordination Unit and National Coordinator ,, NCs ,, and contracted consultants . With the NCs selected by the countries and 10 consultants it was essential to organize this Consultation Meeting to harmonies efforts and come out with a common Work plan based on the individual work plans submitted by consultants in their Inception Reports as well as national consultants for reviewing legislations strategies , policies .

(1)

The project is including four components following as

**Component 1 : Strengthening the Principles of marine managed areas through stakeholder driven (MPA) implementation**

This component selected Marine Protected Areas as pilots to serve as marine managed areas to include zonation and multiple uses consistent with local community needs and benefits using a participatory, community-based process. Activities within this component include the provision of training and demonstrations necessary to implement, use and update marine areas management plans in cooperation with national implementing agencies in the (PERSGA) network. This component also focuses on improving the capacity of member countries to share information and select the most appropriate marine protected /managed area models (MPAs/ MMAs) based on current capacity and area (s) of comparative advantage and environmental features.

**Component 2 : Strengthening coastal communities using incentives approach to improve fisheries management and achieve other marine resource benefits**

This component provide institutional and technical capacity needed for communities to use and protect living marine resources to increase net benefits derived from the resources in a sustainable manner. The capacity of community and user group build to understand trade, associated with development and the costs and benefits to the community and to organize as user groups around these uses and their roles in rights co-management of fishery resource, in connection to their correlated roles identified under component 1. They also trained in the monitoring of the uses and their impacts on the resources, particularly on fisheries to support informed decisions by communities in co-management. Through a community-driven process, the selected coastal communities receive support to identify and develop sub-projects for alternative livelihood initiatives to reduce pressure on the resources and improve benefits to the community members.



### **Component 3 : Regional Environmental and Socioeconomic Monitoring Supporting Ecosystem Based Management (EBM) and Community Benefits**

This component build on ongoing monitoring activities and help standardizing monitoring variables and approach between the participating countries , making data comparable and sharable through the strengthening of a regional network and database . It support the expansion of monitoring to include socio-economic data, especially for fishery and (MPA) communities . Capacity building also be strengthened through workshops and knowledge exchanges.

### **Component 4 : Project Management**

This component support the ( GEF) project with technical , administration , procurement , financial management , project monitoring and evaluation and environmental and social impact monitoring . This includes cost of training of (PERSGA) and at the local project management level in the administrative ,environmental and social aspects mentioned . The project executed by (PERSGA) , and comply with ( GEF ) 1W and world Bank reporting requirements ( e.g. providing a GEF – 1W webpage consistent with 1 W LEARN ) , provide 1 W Experience Notes , submit a GEF 1W tracking tool at project start , provide for routine M&E processes , external Mid-Term and Terminal Evaluations , and project closure , provide lessons learned and other project information to 1W- LEARN, and attend GEF 1 W Biennial Conferences .

#### **Activities & Programs Implemented in Dongnab site :**

In collaboration with PERSGA , there are some activities & programs through project (SEM) as explained below :-

- 1- Supplied two glass's boats for Local community for both Dongnab & Mohamed Qoal .
- 2- Supplied one boat for wild life in the site .
- 3- Built workshop for boats maintenance .
- 4- Supplied equipments for maintenance work.



- 5- Established five stations of solar energy for both Dongnab & Mohamed Qoal.
- 6- Distributed milky goats for( 80) household for both Dongnab & Mohamed Qoal as alternative livelihood.
- 7- Rehabilitation for wild life guest house in site.
- 8- Supplied five computers for wild life staff .
- 9- Supplied bakery equipments for women society for both Dongnab & Mohamed Qoal.
- 10- Several Training workshops in the site for marine monitoring &early system for conservation of marine resources.

With Best Regards



Ashbo Ohaj Feki  
Director of Environment  
Red Sea State

### Annex III photos of the experts meeting of the World Heritage Sites







Annex IV photos of the Workshop on efficient management of the Natural heritage Sites



