

UNIDO inputs to the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea

Enhancing sustainable marine fisheries management in the Red Sea State of Sudan

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is committed to promoting sustainable practices in marine fisheries management in the Red Sea State of Sudan. Biodiverse coral reefs are withstanding the effects of climate change. This report highlights the significant progress made under the project "Building institutional capacities for an ecosystem approach to management of the marine fishery in the Red Sea State (Phase I)". The UNIDO implemented project is generously funded by Norway, with the grant administered by the Norwegian Agency for

Fish Stocks and Landings  
 Marine Protected Areas  
 Climate Change  
 Marine Biodiversity  
 Usage of the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)  
 Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM)  
 Addressing Plastic Pollution  
 Gender Mainstreaming and Improving Livelihoods of Coastal Communities  
 Alternative Livelihoods for Coastal Communities  
 Impact of Population Relocation due to Conflict  
 Coastal and Ocean Governance  
 Blue Economy  
 Marine Spatial Planning  
 Plastic Pollution Impact on Economic Potential of the Red Sea

4. Addressing Challenges During Conflict:

- o The violent clashes that erupted on 15 April 2023 between the army and the paramilitary RSF in Khartoum, led to the displacement of approximately 107,000 people to the Red Sea State.
- o The sudden increase in population due to conflict underscores the importance of the project's EAFM work for resource sustainability, ecosystem resilience, food security, and livelihoods. EAFM helps manage increased fishing pressure, ensures the resilience of marine ecosystems, and contributes to local food security and conflict prevention by establishing clear and equitable rules for resource use.

5. #LoveTheRedSea Campaign and Ocean Literacy:

- o After a successful launch of the #LoveTheRedSea campaign ahead of World Ocean Day, reaching nearly 2,500 people in under 28 days, the project has generated significant momentum. This campaign encouraged community engagement and individual pledges to protect the Red Sea by reducing plastic pollution, cleaning up the surrounding environment, making more sustainable seafood choices, and educating others about the importance of the Red Sea Large Marine Ecosystem
- o Building on this success, an Ocean Literacy Program is being created and distributed, targeting high school students, fisherfolk, and the broader community. The aim is to foster an ocean-literate community in the Red Sea State that values and sustains the health of the Red Sea and the global ocean. This initiative involves satellite-based workshops, community outreach, and the distribution of educational materials.

6. Impact and Future Directions:

- o The project is contributing to the sustainable management of marine resources, aligning with SDG 14 (Life Below Water), SDG 8 (Inclusive Growth), and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).
- o Plans for continued support and capacity building to ensure the long-term sustainability of marine fisheries management in the Red Sea State.

UNIDO's efforts in the Red Sea State of Sudan exemplify the organization's commitment to sustainable marine management and the broader goals outlined in General Assembly resolution 78/69. The progress achieved through this project underscores the importance of collaborative efforts and capacity building in promoting sustainable ocean governance, even in times of conflict.