

## Workshop Invitation

### Building Capacities for Regional Ocean Governance: Marine Genetic Resources and Area-based Management Tools

14 August 2019

Dear Distinguished Delegates,

Germany, along with the Secretariats of the Abidjan Convention and Permanent Commission for the South Pacific (CPPS), the STRONG High Seas project ('Strengthening Regional Ocean Governance for the High Seas') and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) are pleased to invite you to the workshop '**Building Capacities for Regional Ocean Governance: Marine Genetic Resources and Area-based Management Tools**', which will take place on **25<sup>th</sup> August 2019** between **9.30 am and 4.30 pm** at **265 W 37th Street 17th Floor, New York, NY 10018, USA**.

This workshop will be the opportunity to bring together ministry representatives and UN negotiators from the Southeast Pacific, Southeast Atlantic and Southwest Pacific regions with the objectives to:

- Discuss marine genetic resources (MGRs) in the context of the global negotiations: from in-situ sampling to digital sequences; the role of marine science and using environmental DNA as a conservation tool;
- Exchange on lessons learnt and best practices in regional ocean governance, particularly with regard to the conservation of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction through the application of area-based management tools (ABMTs);
- Highlight the importance, opportunities and challenges of regional ocean governance approaches for the implementation of a future BBNJ agreement under UNCLOS, including the perspectives of Least Developed Countries (LDCs) for participation and implementation;
- Provide a networking opportunity for participants from different regions and countries and ensure mutual learning.

A draft agenda is attached to this invitation. Please note that this workshop will be held **in English**.

**To participate in this event, please register at the following link:** <https://events-iass-potsdam.de/event.php?vnr=c9-10a&mid=2>.

We would be happy if you could share this information with your delegates and other interested individuals. If you have any questions, please contact: [stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de](mailto:stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de).

We look forward to welcoming you to the workshop.

Kind regards,

Ilka Wagner, Head of Division Marine Conservation, German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety

Abou Bamba, Head of the Abidjan Convention Secretariat

Ambassador Méntor Villagómez, General Secretary of the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific

Ben Boteler & Dr. Carole Durussel, Co-Leads STRONG High Seas Project, Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies

Essam Yassin Mohammed, Head of Blue Economy – Shaping Sustainable Markets, International Institute for Environment and Development

### About the STRONG High Seas Project:

The STRONG High Seas project is a five-year project that aims to strengthen regional ocean governance for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. It is coordinated by the Institute for Advanced Sustainability Studies (IASS) and implemented together with the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), BirdLife International, the International Ocean Institute (IOI) – Southern Africa, the Universidad Católica del Norte (UCN), WWF Colombia, and WWF Germany. Working with the Secretariat of the Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS; Permanent Commission for the South Pacific) and the Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme (Abidjan Convention), the project will develop and propose targeted measures to support the coordinated development of integrated and ecosystem-based management approaches for ocean governance in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The STRONG High Seas project has the following overarching objectives:

1. Facilitate the development of improved management approaches for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic regions;
2. Identify best practices and provide support to regional institutions and national authorities for implementing existing regional instruments;
3. Develop options for regional governance in a future international instrument under UNCLOS and transfer regional lessons learned to the global level to promote ocean governance.

For more information about the STRONG High Seas project, please visit: <https://www.prog-ocean.org/our-work/strong-high-seas/> or contact: [stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de](mailto:stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de).

### Partners of the STRONG High Seas project



Supported by:



based on a decision of the German Bundestag

The STRONG High Seas project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI; <http://www.international-climate-initiative.com/en/>). The Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.

**About IIED's Blue Economy Work Programme:**

IIED's Blue Economy work programme looks at the use of innovative economic solutions to address the challenges facing the ocean. These are solutions to support healthy marine and coastal ecosystems and resilient coastal communities. Our aim is to enhance understanding of (1) the contribution that fisheries make to the economy and to the livelihoods of millions of people who depend on them, and (2) the difference equitable sharing of the benefits of sustainable marine and coastal resources management could make to people. We are identifying and promoting incentive mechanisms that align ecological and economic outcomes in equitable ways. We are striving to promote equitable and fair international treaties. In this way, we want to inspire, inform and influence people who are in the position to make positive changes, including resource users, governments, scientists, private enterprises and consumers.

## Workshop Agenda

<b>9:30 – 10:00</b>	<b>Arrival &amp; Coffee</b>
<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ilka Wagner, BMU</li> <li>• Ben Boteler, IASS</li> <li>• Essam Yassin Mohammed, IIED</li> </ul> <b>Overview of the day</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kristina Gjerde, IUCN</li> <li>• Glen Wright, IDDR</li> </ul>
<b>Building Capacities for Regional Ocean Governance: Marine Genetic Resources</b> <i>Facilitator: Kristina Gjerde (IUCN)</i>	
<b>10:15 – 10:45</b>	<b>Marine Genetic Resources: from Sampling to Commercialisation</b> <i>Prof. Marcel Jaspars, University of Aberdeen</i>
<b>10:45 – 11:00</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>11:00 – 11:30</b>	<b>Strengthening Marine Science and Building Capacities</b> <i>Dr. Judith Gobin, University of the West Indies</i>
<b>11:30 – 11:45</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>11:45 – 12:30</b>	<b>Discussion</b>
<b>12:30 – 13:30</b>	<b>Lunch &amp; Coffee</b>
<b>Exchange on lessons learnt and best practices in regional ocean governance</b> <i>Facilitator: Glen Wright (IDDR)</i>	
<b>13:30 – 14:00</b>	<b>The African Perspective</b> <i>Essam Yassin Mohammed, IIED</i> Respondent: Abou Bamba, Abidjan Convention
<b>14:00 – 14:15</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>14:15 – 14:45</b>	<b>The South American Perspective</b> <i>TBD</i> Respondent: Méntor Villagómez, CPPS
<b>14:45 – 15:00</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>15:00 – 15:30</b>	<b>The Pacific Islands Perspective</b> <i>TBD</i> Respondent: TBD
<b>15:30 – 15:45</b>	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
<b>15:45 – 16:30</b>	<b>Discussion</b>