

WIO Regional Introductory MPA Management Training Course

Rhodes University Accredited Introductory MPA Management Training Course

Dates: 30 March - 03 April 2020

Venue: Rhodes University, Makhanda, Eastern Cape, Republic of South Africa

Closing time/date for Applications: 16h00 (SAST, GMT+2), 31 January 2020

The Rhodes University Department of Ichthyology and Fisheries Science (DIFS) in collaboration with the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA) are offering a regional Introductory MPA Management Training Course which will be run from the 30th March to the 3rd April 2020.

The course is recognized as a key training intervention particularly for professionals embarking on their careers in the MPA sector, and provides a strong foundation for the skills and understandings required for effective MPA management. The course has been adapted for the regional context from the introductory course developed and offered in South Africa for the past 10 years and the regional MPA management training course developed and offered by WIOMSA.

The course is strongly recommended for those considering applying for the Western Indian Ocean Certification of Marine Protected Area Professionals (WIO-COMPAS) Level I certification, as the competences covered in the course are closely aligned with those required for certification at this level.

Course Content:

The course covers 10 topics:

1. The Purposes, Roles, Benefits of and Challenges to MPAs
2. Criteria for the Selection, Proclamation and Establishment of MPAs
3. International Agreements, Conventions, and Treaties & National Policies, Legislation and Institutional arrangements
4. Enforcement and Compliance
5. Introduction to Marine Ecology
6. Management of Fisheries and other Marine Resources
7. Assessment and Monitoring of MPAs
8. Basics of Operational Planning
9. Human dimensions of MPAs and Climate Change
10. Stakeholders, Communication and Conflict



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Field Visit:

The course includes a full day field visit to a rocky shoreline and estuary adjacent to the newly declared Addo Elephant National Park MPA near Port Elizabeth. This will involve discussions around the process of establishment of the MPA and a practical activity looking at coastal ecology.

Assignments:

- **Pre-course Assignment** – all course participants will be required to complete a simple pre-course assignment. The purpose of this is to help the tutors understand the participants' contexts, backgrounds, levels of experience, and expectations of the course.
- **Post-course Assignment** – all participants wishing to gain certification from Rhodes University will be required to complete a post-course assignment. This will be based on the topics discussed during the training, and will provide an opportunity for participants to locate their learning and understanding in their own working contexts. The assignments, which must be submitted within 1 month of the end of the course, will be assessed by the tutors according to clear criteria. Those meeting the criteria will be awarded a Rhodes University certificate of competence. All others, including those who choose not to write the assignment, but have attended the course fully, will be provided with a letter of attendance.

Course Outcomes:

- Enhanced management skills within MPA management teams
- Developed understanding of the roles and benefits of MPAs
- Developed understanding of the national and international legislation relating to MPAs
- Developed understanding of the options for enforcement of and compliance with the legislation
- Developed understanding of management planning processes, and application of these in context
- Developed understanding of the principles of marine ecology, and key components within the local contexts
- Developed understanding of natural resources management, including fisheries management
- Developed understanding of the assessment of management effectiveness (monitoring and evaluation)
- Developed understanding of basic operational planning
- Developed understanding of the human dimension of MPAs and the impacts of climate change
- Developed understanding of issues related to engaging with stakeholders

Course Language:

For this running of the course, all materials and teaching will be in English. (It is intended to run a French version of the course in the near future.)



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Course Process and Logistics:

The course will occupy 5 full days of a minimum of 8 and maximum of 10 hours/day, starting promptly at 08h30 every day. Four days will involve discussions and activities around the 10 topics, with the fifth day (probably Wednesday, depending on the tides) spent in the field.

Accommodation for 6 nights on a Bed and Breakfast basis will be arranged for all participants. Lunches/coffees/teas/cool drinks and water will be provided during the training days, with packed lunches for the field trip. Breakfasts will be provided by participants' accommodation, and a stipend will be provided to cover the costs of suppers for 6 days.

Transport will be provided from Port Elizabeth airport to Makhanda when participants arrive, and back to Port Elizabeth airport when they leave. Transport will also be provided from the training venue for the field visit. Transport will NOT be provided from participants' accommodation to the training venue. All accommodation will be in walking distance of the venue.

Course Participants:

The training course is intended for individuals and core teams of people from conservation agencies and organisations with particular responsibilities for management of MPAs, and management of marine and coastal areas in general. Participants may be:

- MPA personnel (assistant managers, rangers, nature conservators, field officers etc.), with management aspirations and potential
- Key community representatives with specific responsibilities for MPA and/or coastal resources management
- Government officials with specific responsibilities related to MPA and/or coastal resources management

A total of 25 places are offered for the training course, so early registration is encouraged

Costs:

All costs, including the course fees; participants' travel from and return to their home town/village/MPA; accommodation for 6 nights in Makhanda; meals for the duration of the course; and transport for the field trip are covered by funding from WIOMSA.

All other costs, including any extra days/nights spent in Makhanda must be covered by the participants or their organisations.



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Application:

Please complete the Application form (below) and send to:

Yvain Erasmus (y.erasmus@ru.ac.za), with subject 'MPA Course Application'.

All applications must be accompanied by a copy of a National Senior Certificate (matric certificate in South Africa) or equivalent proof of successful completion of senior/secondary/high schooling by the applicant.

Applications must also be accompanied by a short Curriculum Vitae (CV) of the applicant.

Applications must arrive no later than 16h00 (SAST, GMT+2), Friday 31 January 2020 (Applications arriving later will not be considered)

Please refer any questions to Yvain by email (above) or call on: +27 (0)46 6038415



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APPLICATION FORM	
Applicant Full Name	
Country	
Languages Spoken	
Written	
Position	
Organisation	
Workplace (MPA or other) address	
Years of experience (in MPA management)	
Home address	
Email address	
Telephone contacts	
Special dietary requirements	
Supervisor name	
Supervisor email/telephone	
Supervisor permission/support obtained (Yes/No)	<p>.....(Supervisor signature)</p> <p>.....(date)</p>
Applicant code (office use only)	
Application accepted (Y/N, date) (office use only)	



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