

Enforcement and Compliance Management Course for Western Indian Ocean Marine Conservation Practitioners

Call for applications

Dates: 27 – 31 April 2024; Venue: Kenya Coast

1. Overview

Previous evaluations of Western Indian Ocean (WIO) marine protected areas (MPAs and LMMAs) found significant gaps in compliance and enforcement management, which negatively affects conservation outcomes¹². Insights with most MPA managers in the WIO reveal that compliance and enforcement of MPA regulations remain a significant challenge. The WIO region has over 140 MPAs and over 300 LMMAs, with the majority of them having weak enforcement and compliance due to insufficient capacity and capability³.

A regional compliance and enforcement training will be held in April 2024 to provide marine conservation practitioners in charge of compliance and enforcement activities in MPAs and LMMA with an understanding of a wide range of strategies and opportunities to improve the value and effectiveness of their organizations' marine conservation operations.

This training will include experience sharing, giving participants the opportunity to be a part of an engaging learning environment. The discussions and exercises will cover a variety of MPA/LMMA/OECM regulatory and environmental issues. Participants will explore how compliance and enforcement tasks can be carried out most effectively and efficiently in order to achieve positive management outcomes while maintaining community and stakeholder trust. A critical component is developing professional competence and sharing experiences in group sessions. You will leave the training with a better understanding of the current pressures on marine resource managers, as well as a broader appreciation for potential adaptations you could make in response.

2. Participants

Managers/officers and experienced staff who lead compliance and enforcement in area-based marine management systems (MPAs, LMMA etc)

3. Course Goal

Increase knowledge of current and emerging marine conservation compliance and enforcement issues and how to manage them for effective MPA, LMMA and OECMs enforcement programs.

4. What will you learn?

- “Risk-based approach” to compliance and enforcement.
- How enforcement and compliance officers can focus their actions and interventions on specific harm-reduction objectives.
- Type of partnerships that can be established to improve compliance
- Create a compliance management tool to ensure continued compliance improvement
- Understand a range of compliance and enforcement mechanisms for marine conserved areas
- How to conduct mission and strategic planning to improve compliance management.
- How to maximise use of current and future technologies that can enhance compliance capabilities.

¹ Milali Ernest Machumu and Amaratne Yakupitiyage, “Effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas in Managing the Drivers of Ecosystem Change: A Case of Mnazi Bay Marine Park, Tanzania.,” *Ambio* 42, no. 3 (April 2013): 369–80, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13280-012-0352-8>.

² Sue Wells, “Assessment of Management Effectiveness in Selected Marine Protected Areas in the Western Indian Ocean.,” 2004.

³ UNEP-WIOMSA, *Western Indian Ocean Marine Protected Areas Outlook: Towards Achievement of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets*, 2021.

5. Training Methodology

This is an interactive training program and will consist of the following training approaches:

- Lectures Seminars & Presentations
- Group Discussions
- Individual Coursework
- Group Assignments
- Case Studies & Functional Exercises
- Practical exercises in the water

Applicants wishing to participate in this training will be required to demonstrate a set of criteria, including:

- Participants will require at least three years of experience managing an MPA or LMMA or leading compliance teams and must have a personal history of leadership.
- Must be individuals who conduct regulatory and compliance-related duties in marine conservation organizations (Government, NGOs and Community)
- Candidates who will be selected will need to provide a well written, one page overview of current compliance challenges on their MPA and be able to identify possible solutions to resolve the current challenges.
- Presentation of the course will be undertaken in English and candidates will be expected to have strong written proficiency as there will be a number of practical sessions within the course.

Added advantage for selection:

- Has recommendation from WIO-COMPAS Level 2 certification to build capacity of MPA compliance and enforcement.

6. Application process:

Please complete the application from the following [link](#). The deadline for submission of applications is 10th March 2024. Candidates will be notified of the outcome of their application by the 30th March 2024.