Ocean Country Partnership Programme

Marine Protected Area Management Plan Training

Fuvahmulah, 25 August 2024, Maldives

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This report is compliant with <u>JNCC's Evidence Quality Assurance Policy</u>.

Ocean Country Partnership Programme:

The Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCPP) is a bilateral technical assistance and capacity building programme that provides tailored support to countries to manage the marine environment more sustainably, including by strengthening marine science expertise, developing science-based policy and management tools and creating educational resources for coastal communities. The OCPP delivers work under three thematic areas: biodiversity, marine pollution, and sustainable seafood.

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Acronyms

- IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature
- MPA Marine Protected Area
- MCCEE Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy
- OCPP Ocean Country Partnership Programme
- OECM Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measure
- PAME Protected Area Management Effectiveness
- PCA Protected and Conserved Area
- Q&A Questions and Answer

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of the Second Marine Protected Area Management Planning Training held under the Consultancy to Develop Marine Protected Areas management plans and training in the Maldives, covering key discussions, activities, and the outcomes of the training sessions.

The second Marine Protected Area Management Planning Training was conducted on the 25th of August 2024 at the Kurundhuma Maalam in Fuvahmulah city, Maldives. The training was delivered by Island Wetlands and organized by the Ministry of Climate Change, Environment, and Energy (MoCCEE) in collaboration with the Ocean Country Partnership Programs (OCPP). This program aimed to enhance the management and protection of marine ecosystems, specifically Marine Protected Areas in the Maldives.

The purpose of this training workshop was to empower the Fuvahmulah City Council, NGOs, Tourism Operators and Community Stakeholders with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively develop and implement management plans for the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) under their jurisdiction. Given the exceptional biodiversity of the Maldives' marine ecosystems and their critical contribution to the national economy through tourism and fisheries, it is essential to ensure the sustainable conservation of these natural resources.

The aim of this training was to develop understanding of two published document: (i) the Maldives National Framework for Management of Protected and Conserved Areas, and (ii) Maldives National Management Plan Guidance for Protected and Conserved Areas and also to equip council members, environmental mangers, protected area management staff and community members including NGOs, with the practical expertise to develop and implement MPA Management Plans. The goal of this training was to cultivate a sense of responsibility for marine conservation, ensuring the long-term sustainability and resilience of the Maldives' marine ecosystems, which are crucial to the survival and well-being of its island communities.

Main objectives of the training were to:

- improve understanding of MPA management within Fuvahmulah City Council, environmental mangers, protected area management staff, NGOs, Tourism Operators and Community Stakeholders.
- Provide comprehensive training on the National PCA Management Framework and Guidance documents;
- Equip participants with the skills to develop effective MPA Management Plans; and

• Facilitate and support capacity development for the upcoming Farikede Management plan works organized by MoCCEE.

To achieve the aforementioned objectives, the training specifically targeted to managers and users of Farikede Marine Protected Areas MPAs that has been legally designated under Environment Protection and Preservation Act 4/93.

1.1. Training Participants

The training was initially proposed for city council, environmental managers, MPA management staff within council, NGOs, Tourism Operators, Fishermen and community stakeholders associated with the Farikede MPA, with a target of 25 participants. A total of 15 nominations were submitted, including participants from city council, dive schools, pelagic divers, and NGOs.

#	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Hussain Mahil Ahmed	Computer Technician	FCC
2	Adam Isham	Programme Coordinator	WIF
3	Aishath Suna Shaah	Council officer	FCC
4	Mohamed Sharafudeen	Director	Pelagic Divers
5	Fathimath Noora Abdul Sahthaar	Project Consultant	WIF
6	Hamna Hussain	Co-founder	Miyaru
7	Abdullah Ibrahim	Owner	Maathundi
8	Ahmed Wijaan	Assistant Council Officer	FCC
9	Mariyam Amaany	Assistant Librarian	FCC

Table 1: List of participants nominated by Fuvahmulah City Council.

Marine Protected Area Management Plan Training, Fuvahmulah

#	Name	Designation	Organization
10	Niuma Hassan		FCC
11	Ibrahim Aleef	Media Officer	FCC
12	Mariyam Saji Hussain	Council Officer	FCC
13	Mariyam Solih	Assistant Council Officer	FCC
14	Aisaru Ibrahim Mohamed	Assistant Council Officer	FCC
15	Mohamed Jaush Shujau	Assistant Ranger	FCC

A total of 13 participants attended the training, with the majority representing Fuvahmulah City Council. The workshop was scheduled during daytime hours to accommodate council staff and government officials' working hours, though this timing created some challenges for tourism industry participation. Participation from tourism operators, particularly dive operators, was lower than expected. Two main factors contributed to this: first, the workshop was scheduled during the daytime, conflicting with their primary business hours when most diving and excursions take place. Their preferred time for such engagements was in the evening. Secondly, ongoing discussions regarding management measures for diving in Fuvahmulah, particularly the introduction of a user fee, led to some misinterpretations about the objectives of the workshop.

Despite these challenges, persistent efforts by the IW team and Fuvahmulah City Council successfully brought key stakeholders, including some dive operators, divers, fishermen, and community leaders, to some sessions, raising the total participant count to 13. It was also noted that the Environment Unit of Fuvahmulah City Council, responsible for developing and implementing management plans, could not participate adequately. The participant list is provided in Table 2.

#	Name	Designation	Organization
1	Aishath Suna Shaah	Council officer	FCC
2	Mariyam Amaany	Assistant Librarian	FCC
3	Ibrahim Aleef	Media Officer	FCC
4	Mohamed Sharafudeen	Director	Pelagic Divers
5	Aisaru Ibrahim Mohamed	Assistant Council Officer	FCC
6	Aiminath Nafia	Assistant Council Officer	FCC
7	Ahmed Ali	Tourism Development Officer	FCC
8	Hassaan Mohamed	Deputy Minister	MCCEE
9	Hawwa Rasheed	Assistant Director	FCC
10	Mohamed Rasheed	Director	PDF
11	Abdulla Zufar Ali	DAF President	DAF
12	Ahmed Shuan	DM- Center Dive	FCD
13	Ahmed Abdulla	Fishermen	

Table 2: List of participants present in the Training.

1.2. Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) in MPA Management Training

In line with the Gender Equity and Social Inclusion (GESI) principles outlined in the Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCPP), the training for Marine Protected Area (MPA) management planning was designed to promote equitable participation. To ensure gender equity, participating organizations were encouraged to send an equal representation of men and women, with a particular emphasis on including women in decision-making roles. This approach aimed to address inequalities and provide opportunities for women and other marginalized groups to actively contribute to MPA management.

Inclusive invitations and communications were key to broadening participation. The invitations were crafted in accessible language and disseminated through channels that reached both men and women. Additionally, a WhatsApp group was established to facilitate communication and address any travel or venue-related emergencies. The training was scheduled during regular business hours to accommodate government and council staff, though this timing presented some challenges for tourism industry representatives.

Approximately 47% of the nominations were women, and 31% of the participants in the workshop were women. This lower representation is attributed to the fact that the industry is predominantly male dominated, resulting in a slightly higher number of men participating in the workshop.

During the training, participants were asked if they required any additional support to fully engage with the materials and activities. This commitment to inclusivity ensured that all attendees had equal access to resources and could actively participate, reinforcing the GESI framework's focus on providing equitable opportunities for all.

2. Content and Delivery of the Training

The one-day training program, spanning a total of six hours, was designed to provide participants with a thorough understanding of Marine Protected Area (MPA) management. The program featured a blend of presentations, discussions, and practical exercises, aimed at equipping attendees with the essential knowledge and skills for effective MPA design and management.

The training was organized into structured sessions, each addressing crucial aspects of MPA management such as legal frameworks, management planning, stakeholder engagement, and management strategies. A significant portion of the training was

dedicated to discussions for the participants and these sessions were well participated by the participants.

A thirty minutes breakfast, one-hour lunch break and one 10-minute coffee breaks were incorporated into the schedule to ensure participants remained engaged and refreshed throughout the day. The detailed outline of the training can be found in Appendix One of the report.

Below is an outline of the structure and content of the training:

Registration and Pre-Assessment

The training day commenced with the registration of participants from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. This was immediately followed by a pre-assessment of the participants' knowledge on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The pre-assessment, conducted through an online questionnaire, aimed to evaluate the participants' understanding of MPA management and to identify their expectations from the training. The results of this assessment were displayed live on the screen, providing immediate insights into the participants' baseline knowledge.

Introduction to Marine Protected Areas

This session provided an introduction to marine ecosystems, with a focus on local biodiversity in the Maldives. It emphasized the importance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in preserving biodiversity and supporting local communities. Participants were introduced to the definition and significance of MPAs, followed by a discussion and Q&A session.

Legal and Policy Context

The legal and policy frameworks governing protected areas in the Maldives were presented, covering relevant laws and regulations. The roles and responsibilities of local stakeholders in implementing and adhering to these frameworks were discussed, ensuring that participants understood their obligations under these legal structures. A brief overview of the legal status of Farikede was given in this session.

Introduction to the National MPA Management Framework

This session provided an overview of the National Framework for the Management of Protected and Conserved Areas in the Maldives. It covered the key components and objectives of the framework, highlighting the importance of effective management practices and the role of local stakeholders in MPA management. A Q&A session followed to address any uncertainties.

Management Planning and Zoning

Participants were introduced to the concept of management planning for MPAs, including the purpose and key questions that a management plan should address. The session outlined the steps and processes involved in management planning, with a focus on zoning and resource management. A discussion and Q&A session followed to further explore the challenges and considerations in MPA management planning.

Management Plan Preparation

This session delved into the comprehensive process of developing an MPA management plan, covering aspects such as data collection, stakeholder engagement, and community involvement. An interactive session allowed participants to engage in identifying resources and establishing a planning team. A case study analysis was also conducted to demonstrate effective stakeholder engagement strategies.

Writing a Management Plan – Part 1

The first part of the session on writing a management plan focused on the key elements of a management plan, including site description and key values. Participants engaged in a breakout session to brainstorm and discuss the key facts about their selected MPA.

Writing a Management Plan – Part 2

The session continued with the identification of constraints, opportunities, and threats, as well as governance structures and policies. The discussion allowed participants to identify key values and threats specific to their MPAs, fostering collaboration and deeper understanding.

Writing a Management Plan – Part 3

The final part of the management plan writing session focused on setting a clear vision and management objectives. Participants developed management strategies and action plans, including the creation of SMART objectives.

Steps for Effective Management Plan

Participants were guided through the process of resource need assessment, identifying essential requirements for effective MPA management. The session also addressed common challenges in MPA management.

Sustainable Financing

The number of participants present and representations of sectors were not adequate enough to continue this session, hence the session was changed to discussion regarding

Management Plan Session with Tourism Operators and Fishermen:

In this practical session had to be modified into a session on identification of existing resource use and challenges as the number of participants and representations of sectors were not adequate to develop the mock management plan as planned for this workshop. Instead focus was given to understand the Farikede MPA, the important zones, resource uses and challenges. The tourism operators, dive school representatives and fishermen representative engaged in discussion to identity significant ecological characteristics of the area, along with resource use and threats. Discussions were conducted in detail.

Training Delivery Methods:

The training was delivered through interactive presentations, group discussions, workshops, case studies, real-life examples, and practical exercises.

A Google Drive folder was created for all participants, containing essential resources to support their involvement in the workshop. The folder included copies of the presentation slides, a template for the mock management plan, maps of the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), and the official gazette announcement for the declaration of the Farikede MPA. Additionally, participants were provided with a printed A3-sized paper map of Farikede MPA and which they used during the practical exercises.

Evaluation and feedback sessions were integrated to ensure assessment of participant understanding.

Assessment and Certification:

The training concluded with the presentation of certificates to participants by Deputy Minister of MoCCEE, Mr. Hassaan Mohamed. A post-training assessment was conducted to gather feedback on the participants' experiences and perceptions of the MPA management training. This assessment was aimed at identifying areas of strength and opportunities for improvement, rather than testing knowledge acquisition.

Participants provided valuable insights into which sessions they found most effective and engaging. Sessions on practical MPA management strategies and interactive sessions received particularly positive feedback. These were noted for their relevance and practical application.

3. Key Discussion and Observation Farikede MPA

Description & Features:

Farikede MPA is recognized as a crucial aggregation site for sharks and other large marine fauna. It was designated as a Marine Protected Area (MPA) under the Environmental Protection and Preservation Act (EPPA) 4/93 on July 22, 2020, classified as a Habitat/Species Management Area.

The top reef depth is approximately 15 metres, and the MPA includes various reef forms with diverse corals, such as soft coral, mushroom corals, cabbage gardens, manta ray cleaning stations, and pelagic fish cleaning stations. These diverse habitats support a wide range of species and ecological interactions, making the area comparable to a natural aquarium for pelagic species.

Key marine species frequently observed in Farikede include Oceanic Manta Rays, Whale Sharks, Reef Manta Rays, Sea Turtles, Eagle Rays, Napoleon Wrasse, and a variety of shark species, such as Zebra Sharks, Blue Sharks, Whitetip Sharks, Thresher Sharks, Hammerhead Sharks, Grey Reef Sharks, Silvertip Sharks, and Tiger Sharks. The area is a major attraction in the southern atoll, particularly for shark and mega fauna excursions, reinforcing its ecological and tourism importance.

Threats & Concerns:

- Farikede area is excessively used for deep sea dives. The number of users are increasing with current tourism development plans and increasing number of tourism establishments. There is a locally enforced guidelines currently implemented by the Fuvahmulah City Council. However, there is inadequate protection for Farikede. Despite their official protection status, effective enforcement and conservation measures are lacking, leaving this are vulnerable.
- 2. As the area is famously known for Sharks and Mega fauna watching. The importance of conservation of these species were emphasized. Specifically, Shark conservation faces serious challenges, with ongoing unintentional shark catching may pose significant threat to their population if not addressed.
- 3. A critical gap in awareness exists. Conservation campaigns have not been effectively conducted, leading to a lack of understanding about the importance of protecting marine life among local community.
- 4. While some progress has been made in identifying species and understanding shark breeding patterns, these efforts need to be expanded and integrated into broader conservation strategies to ensure more comprehensive protection.

- 5. The concern is not limited to sharks alone; other marine species in protected areas are also at risk due to insufficient protection and enforcement. The issue of ghost nets within Farikede marine protected areas (MPAs) continues to be a significant problem, as they trap and harm marine life long after being discarded.
- 6. Unregulated anchoring by safari boats is damaging the marine environment, emphasizing the need for better guidelines and controls to prevent further harm.
- 7. Traditional ecological knowledge, once passed down within families, is no longer being systematically transmitted. There is a need for more structured and widespread sharing of this valuable knowledge beyond family lines to preserve it for future generations.
- 8. There's a significant generational gap in awareness. Older generations are more resistant to accepting protection and conservation measures. Further, there is support from the tourism operators for the management, however user fee is the main concern the industry has with regard to the management of Farikede area.
- 9. The tourism sector within Fuvahmulah city does not use their biosphere reserve status as a promotional tool. There is a need for more awareness about the benefits of working within a biosphere reserve.
- 10. There are difficulties in accessing and using land within protected areas, particularly wetlands. This creates a perception among locals that entering PAs is an offense.
- 11. Wetlands are being filled, and the size of water bodies is shrinking. Immediate management actions are required to reverse this trend.
- 12. In Farikede, there are conflicts between tourism operators and fishermen, both of whom seek to generate income from the same areas. Fishermen in Farikede harvest up to 7 tonnes of fish daily, using the same areas that are also targeted by sport fishing. There is a need for alternative training or skills development for fishermen to reduce pressure on areas within MPA.
- 13. The police and other law enforcement officers are not fully aware of the regulations governing MPAs and lack the knowledge to handle compliance issues effectively.

Recommendations:

- A well-crafted management plan for Farikede could allow both fishing and tourism activities to co-exist without compromising the marine environment.4.6. Selection of three MPAs for MPA Development.
- There is a pressing need to raise awareness among law enforcement officers and other stakeholders, including educational institutions like Zikura College.
- The Council has an interest in establishing research facilities within the protected areas to better understand and manage the ecosystems.

• There are existing affiliations with international organizations and NGOs, therefore this could bring in expertise, funding, and global recognition to the conservation efforts.

4. Training Feedback Assessment

For monitoring, evaluation, and learning purposes, training attendees were asked to complete a brief online questionnaire both before and after the training. This approach was designed to assess the impact of the training on their knowledge of MPA management and to gather feedback for improving future sessions.

Before the first presentation, an online questionnaire was distributed to all attendees, with a QR code link displayed to encourage maximum participation. The pre-assessment survey consisted of seven questions aimed at gauging the participants' initial level of knowledge and understanding of the training's focus areas. The post-assessment survey, which contained eight questions, included a final question soliciting feedback on the training's delivery.

The questions were primarily multiple-choice, allowing participants to quickly navigate the survey. A total of 13 responses were received, providing valuable insights into the effectiveness of the training and areas for future improvement.

4.1. Composition of the Training

The training program was attended by 13 participants, with 69% of the trainees being male and 31% female. The participants were categorized as follows: 29% were City Council participants, 14% were community members, and 57% fell into other categories (Figure 1).

The 57% in other categories included tourism operators (23%), NGO representatives (8%), government officials (15%), and dive school operators (11%). Although the sectors fishermen and tourism operators were included in the pre-assessment questionnaire (since the invitation requested the participation of industry stakeholders such as fishermen and tourist operators), one trainee was who involved in fishing, three trainees in tourism and one NGO attended, but they did not identify themselves as such in the assessment.

While participants suggested arranging future trainings at times more convenient for divers and fishermen, this needs to be balanced against the scheduling preferences of government and council staff who primarily work during standard business hours. Future training programs may consider offering multiple sessions at different times to accommodate various stakeholder groups. Regarding experience in MPA management among the participants, 57% had no prior experience in this field. Meanwhile, 14% had over six years of experience, none had 4-6 years, 14% had 1-3 years, and 14% had less than one year of experience.

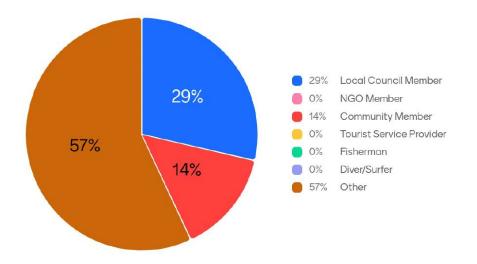


Figure 1: Professional capacity of the Participants.

4.2. Summary of Feedback

Feedback from participants indicated that 100% felt adequately supported during the training in terms of access to training materials, language assistance, and other resources.

When assessing their confidence in applying the skills and knowledge gained from the training to MPA management, 25% of the participants expressed they are somewhat confident, while 75% reported feeling confident. Notably, none of the participants indicated a lack of confidence in applying what they had learned.

An overwhelming 100% of participants felt that the training topics were relevant and useful to their professional roles, underscoring the program's alignment with their practical needs in MPA management. Participants acknowledged that the training was very informative and emphasized the importance of initiating the development and implementation of the management plan as soon as possible.

Participants provided several suggestions for improving future training sessions, including arranging such trainings at a convenient and flexible time for divers and fishermen who use the areas. Participants noted, they found laws and regulation, governance and zonation as most beneficial part of the training.

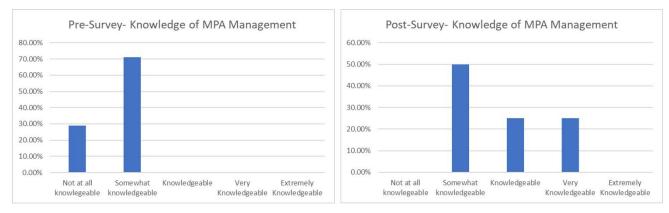
4.3. Knowledge Assessment

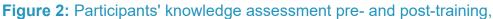
The participants' knowledge of MPA Management and Conservation was evaluated through both a pre-assessment and post-assessment, focusing on five criteria: not at all knowledgeable, somewhat knowledgeable, knowledgeable, very knowledgeable, and extremely knowledgeable.

Before the training, 29% of participants identified themselves as not at all knowledgeable, 71% as somewhat knowledgeable, none as knowledgeable, and none rated themselves as very knowledgeable or extremely knowledgeable.

Following the training, the results showed a significant improvement in knowledge. The post-assessment indicated that none of the participants were not at all knowledgeable, 50% were somewhat knowledgeable, 25% were knowledgeable, 25% were very knowledgeable, and none considered themselves extremely knowledgeable. By the end of the training, 50% of participants had reached a knowledgeable or very knowledgeable level.

The training significantly enhanced participants' knowledge levels. Before the training, none of the participants rated themselves as "Knowledgeable" or "Very knowledgeable". Additionally, the proportion of participants who rated themselves as "Knowledgeable" or better increased from 0% before the training to 50% after, highlighting a substantial improvement in their overall grasp of MPA management concepts.





5. Conclusion

The Second Marine Protected Area (MPA) Management Planning Training, held on August 25, 2024, at Fuvahmulah City, marked as a stepping stone for the better management of Farikede MPA and overall advancement in marine conservation efforts in the Maldives. Organized by the Ministry of Climate Change, Environment, and Energy (MoCCEE) and

Marine Protected Area Management Plan Training, Fuvahmulah

delivered by Island Wetlands with support from the Ocean Country Partnership Programs (OCPP), the training was designed to equip key members of City council, NGOs, and community stakeholders with the necessary skills to develop and implement effective management plan for Farikede MPA.

The training focused on critical areas such as the National PCA Management Framework, legal and policy contexts, and stakeholder engagement. Participants received practical tools and guidance on components for creating their own MPA Management Plans, enhancing their understanding of Maldives' marine ecosystems and sustainable management practices. Through collaborative discussions and exercises, participants explored resource use, threats, management challenges, and opportunities, applying their new knowledge to develop strategies for addressing user conflicts, knowledge gaps, and governance issues within Farikede MPA.

Reflecting on the training, it is evident that while the objectives were largely achieved – empowering key council representatives and community stakeholders to draft management plans – there is room for further improvement. Future sessions could benefit from scheduling adjustments to better accommodate tourism and fisheries stakeholders and ensuring more comprehensive participation from key city council staff. This will enhance the effective application of knowledge and support the next steps in developing the management plan for Farikede MPA.

Appendix 1: Training Outline

Total Duration: 6 hours

8:30:00 AM - 09:30 AM: Registration and Welcome

- Registration of participants
- Brief overview of the training program and objectives
- Breakfast

09:30 AM - 09:45 AM: Introduction to Marine Protected Areas

- Presentation: Introduction to Marine Ecosystems
 - Introduction to ecosystems and biodiversity in the local context.
 - Importance of MPAs
 - Definition and significance of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)
 - o Benefits of MPAs for biodiversity and local community
- Discussion and Q&A (5 minutes)

09:45 AM - 10:00 AM: Legal and Policy Context

- Presentation: Legal and Policy Framework for Protected Areas in the Maldives.
 - Relevant laws and regulations
 - Roles and responsibilities of local stakeholders

10:00 AM - 10:15 AM: Introduction to the National MPA Management Framework

- Presentation: Overview of the National Framework for Management of Protected and Conserved Areas
 - Key components and objectives
 - Importance of effective PCA management
 - Importance for local stakeholders
- Discussion and Q&A (5 minutes)



10:15AM - 10:30 AM: Coffee Break

10:30 AM - 10:50 AM: Management Planning and Zoning

- Presentation: Management Planning for MPAs
 - Definition and purpose of a management plan
 - Key questions a management plan should answer
 - Steps and processes involved
 - Importance of zoning and resource management
- Discussion and Q&A (10 minutes)

10:50 AM - 11:10 AM: Management Plan Preparation

- Presentation: The process for developing a management plan
 - Data and information collection
 - o Stakeholder and community engagement activities
- Interactive session on identifying resources and establishing a planning team
 - Case study analysis on stakeholder engagement
 - o Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement Strategies
- Discussion and Q&A (5 minutes)

11:10 AM - 11:25 AM: Writing a Management Plan - Part 1

- Presentation: Key elements of writing a management plan
 - Description of the Site
 - Key Values of the Site
- Discussion on key facts about their selected MPA

11:25 AM - 11:40 AM Writing a Management Plan – Part 2

- Presentation: Key elements of writing a management plan
 - o Identification of Constraints, Opportunities, and Threats
 - Governance
 - \circ $\;$ Group Discussion on identifying key values and threats



11:40 AM - 12:00 PM: Writing a Management Plan - Part 3

- Presentation: Key elements of writing a management plan
 - o Setting vision and management objectives
 - o Developing management strategies and action plans

12:00 PM - 01:15 PM: Lunch Break

01:15 PM - 01:30PM: Steps for Effective Management Plan

- Presentation: Resource Need Assessment
 - Identify needs in capacity building, human resources, finance, technology, equipment, and infrastructure.
- Presentation: Market Assessment/Destination Assessment with Willingness to Pay
 - Evaluate potential markets, tourism opportunities, and assess visitor willingness to pay.
 - Overcoming common challenges
- Discussion and Q&A (5 minutes)

01:30 PM - 03:30 PM: Management Plan Session with Tourism Operators and Fishermen

Discussion with Tourism Operators, Fishermen, Divers and Dive Schools (Identification of resource use, threats and opportunities)

03:30 PM: Closing

- Summary of key takeaways from the training
- Discussion on next steps and follow-up actions
- Completion of feedback forms
- Closing remarks by the facilitator



Training Delivery Methods:

The training will be delivered in person to and the following methods will be taken in to account while delivering the training.

- Interactive presentations and lectures
- Group discussions and workshops
- Case studies and real-life examples
- Practical exercises
- Evaluation and feedback sessions

Assessment and Certification:

To ensure the effectiveness of this training program it is crucial to integrate continuous assessment within the sessions. The following methods will be considered to ensure the effectiveness of the training:

- Continuous assessment through quizzes and practical exercises
- \circ $\;$ Final evaluation based on participation and group work

Certification of completion for all participants.



Appendix 2: Photos of the training























Ocean Country Partnership Programme

The Ocean Country Partnership Programme (OCPP) is a bilateral technical assistance and capacity building programme that provides tailored support to countries to manage the marine environment more sustainably, including by strengthening marine science expertise, developing science-based policy and management tools and creating educational resources for coastal communities. The OCPP delivers work under three thematic areas: biodiversity, marine pollution, and sustainable seafood. Funding is provided through the overarching Blue Planet Fund (BPF) by the UK Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

