

Project Update: June 2017

- Questionnaire Survey:

A total of 83 interviews were conducted across Marsa Alam region in several locations, Marsa Alam city (n= 55), Tondoba Village (n= 7), Nakari Village (n= 4) and Port Ghalib Harbour (n= 17). For the respondent gender distribution, males were the most dominant (98.8%) than females (1.2%) of the response. The majority of the respondents belonged to the age group of 26–50 years (86%). Of the sampled population of fishermen, 63% had parents who were fishers, while 70% had grandparents also involved in fishery-related activities. Overall, 34% of the respondents said that fishing was their main source of livelihood, while 15% of the interviewees, fishing is the only way of earning a living.

The dugong has different local names across its distribution range in the Red Sea. The majority of alternate name is “geuld” meaning “skin or leather”, followed by the name of “gamal al-bahr” meaning “sea-camel”. Another name of “araset al-bahr” meaning “mermaid” is recorded. All the respondents saw the dugong (100%) in Marsa Alam. A total of 233 were recorded dugong sighting frequency where historically, the majority (46%) sighted the dugong every year followed by frequent (22%) while 1% sighted the dugong for only. About dugong sighted last year, where it was recorded daily, weekly, monthly and several times with 6%, 22%, 21% and 24% respectively. Information on the dugong distribution, abundance, sighting and many other data were recorded.

- Meeting with Stakeholders:

For preparation and enrol the stakeholders in the project, one meeting was conducted with marketing and security manager of Hilton Marsa Alam Nubian Resort (Fig 1). Two meeting was conducted with the marketing and diving managers of Blue Ocean diving centre (fig 2 to 5) at Marsa Abo Dabbab, one of the main diving centres at Marsa Abo Dabbab, the main popular site for the dugong in Marsa Alam. Another meeting was conducted with Diving De diving centres (Fig 6) and another meeting with the recreational manager of Solymar Abo Dabbab Resort (Fig 7) at Marsa Abo Dabbab.



Fig 1: First meeting with stakeholders of Hilton Marsa Alam Nubian Resort



Fig 2 and 3: First meeting with stakeholders of Blue Ocean Diving center



Fig 4 and 5: Second meeting with stakeholders of Blue Ocean Diving center



Fig 6: Meeting with Diving De Diving center



Fig 7: Meeting with Solymar Abo Dabbab Resort