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**Workshop Series on**

**Effects of Climate Change on the Indian Ocean Marine Environment**

**Organizers:**

IORA Regional Centre for Science & Technology Transfer (RCSTT)

The Iranian National Institute for Oceanography and Atmospheric Science (INIOAS)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

**In Cooperation with:**

Iranian Research Organization for Science and Technology (IROST)

The Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC-UNESCO)

Regional Education and Research Centre on Oceanography for West Asia (RCOWA) under the auspices of UNESCO

IOC Regional Committee for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO)

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**Introduction**

The Indian Ocean, as the third-largest body of water in the world, plays an important role in the economy, ecosystem and the weather from local to global scales. Many properties of the Indian Ocean, can be fundamentally influenced by climate change. Climate change is rapidly impacting the weather, ecosystems and life of more than two billion people. Therefore, investigation of climate change effect from different points of view, from marine environment/biodiversity to weather variation, is significant.

The workshop series entitled as "Effects of Climate Change on the Indian Ocean Marine Environment" are planned to be organized by the Regional Centre for Science and Technology Transfer (RCSTT) in cooperation with the Iranian National Institute for Oceanography and Atmospheric Science (INIOAS) and Regional Education and Research Centre on Oceanography for West Asia (RCOWA) under the auspices of UNESCO. The workshop series will focus on the effects of climate change on the physical, chemical, biological and meteorological properties of the Indian Ocean and adjacent seas. The workshops will aim to bring together scientists and policymakers with an interest in climate change and marine environments. During the workshops, the scientists of climate change will present their latest findings, knowledge and information on different aspects of climate change, its impacts and also the related policies. Participants from IORA region will have the opportunity to discuss and formulate new issues and research areas focused on the followings:

* [Atmospheric](https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/sea-surface-temperature)-oceanic parameters
* Extreme events
* Dissolved gases
* [Coastal flooding](https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/coastal-flooding).
* [Ocean acidity](https://www.epa.gov/climate-indicators/ocean-acidity)
* Marine ecosystem

**Objectives**

* + - To promote sharing knowledge and findings on the effects of climate change on various aspects of the marine environment and ecosystem.
    - To enhance capacities and skills of IORA Member States on the sustainable management and

conservation of the marine biodiversity.

* + - To encourage international research parternership to invest in the conservation and restoration of blue carbon ecosystems asan important component for mitigating the effects of climate change.
    - To increase awareness and resilience of IORA Member States on climate change driven disasters and damages.
    - To design an action plan to address the impacts of climate change on marine environment and ecosystems, as well as its implications on food security.
    - To motivate researchers to assess and validate their hypothesis on the climate change, leading to promotion of numerical climate prediction.

**Expected Outcomes**

* To establish a network of experts in the IORA countries for exchanging the knowledge and experience on the climate change in the Indian Ocean environment.
* Influencing policy decisions related to the marine environment in the region and promoting the mainstreaming of climate change mitigations and adaptation measure across the various sectors in the Indian Ocean environment.
* Sharing the action points to combat climate change and achieve sustainable development in the Indian Ocean margin.

**The First Webinar on**

**The Effects of Climate Change on the Indian Ocean Marine Environment**

**May 10, 2021**

**Topics**

The topics to be covered in the first webinar would be as follows:

* Climate Change, general Concepts, definitions, facts and effects
* Variation of atmospheric parameters and related outcomes
* Potential effects of climate change on the extreme events
* Threats of climate change on sensitive marine ecosystems in the marginal seas
* Biogeochemical processes and the influence of anthropogenic activities within time and space
* Advances and challenges in climate predictions on subseasonal to decadal timescales and projections of future climate change

**Target Participants**

Experts from IORA Member States/Dialogue Partners, R&D institutions, scientists and students with wide interest and experience in climate change and marine sciences.

# Duration and Time

# The First Webinar of the Workshop Series on Effects of Climate Change on the Indian Ocean Marine Environment is a one-day programme which will be conducted on May 10, 2021. The webinar will be held from 11:00 to 15:40 at Tehran time (GMT+4:30).

**Registration**

The IORA Member States and Dialogue Partners are invited to nominate their representatives to participate in the programme and it would be highly appreciated if they could nominate their participants and fill the attached registration form and send them to the organizers **by latest 1 May 2021.**

**Format and Programme**

The Webinar will be managed in Skyroom web conferenc service. The registration links will be sent to the interested applicants in due time.

# Note: The time, duration and holding modality of the next workshops will be determined considering the COVID-19 pandemic conditions in due course.