

# Capacity Building Needs of Regional Seas Organization for High seas Biodiversity



Secretariat of the  
Convention on Biological Diversity



- **Capacity** to collect information and data about the marine areas and to use the available analytical tools effectively and adapt them
- **Challenges :**
  - ❑ absence of adequate scientific data
  - ❑ limited access to equipment and technologies necessary to compile such data, relating to physical and biological patterns, such as the distribution of species, habitats and ecosystems within EEZs or beyond
  - ❑ lack of knowledge and training relating to the best processes, methods and tools to use in identifying EBSAs and moving from single sites to networks
  - ❑ limited hardware, software, or connectivity
  - ❑ inadequate human or financial resources

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- **Possible ways to address challenges :**
  - ❑ **Regular short –term training courses** on the process of identifying EBSAs, including the use of methods and tools
  - ❑ **Exchange visits** between practitioners to learn first-hand the process of identifying and designating EBSAs
  - ❑ Sharing of experiences and case studies through a dedicated web portal and web-GIS tools, such as <http://openoceansdeepseas.org>
  - ❑ **Long-term degree programs and training courses** to enhance scientific capacity, not only relating to EBSAs, but to marine conservation biology, spatial ecology and other related disciplines
  - ❑ **Knowledge sharing network** that provides professional expertise and advice to those wishing to identify EBSAs

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- **Possible ways to address challenges :**
  - **Regional training workshops** to bring together the expertise and experience from developing and developed countries, fostering South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation to access best available information and increase the quality of decisions made for identifying EBSAs
  - Options for these workshops include integration with regional training in the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas (POWPA) where lessons learned in coastal areas could be shared and possibly applied in open oceans and deep seas, including areas beyond national jurisdiction