PROGRAMME

17th International Soqotra Conference
And the Annual General Meeting Friends of Soqotra

Natural and cultural linkages

25–28 October 2018,
At the Bahrain National Museum, Manama, Bahrain
Hall (8)
FIRST DAY: THURSDAY 25/10/2018

14:00 – 17:00  Registration at the Bahrain National Museum (ARC-WH)

17:00 – 18:00  Opening

Director of the Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage
(Dr Shadia Touqan)

Friends of Soqotra
(Chairperson Dr Kay Van Damme)

Intangible Cultural Heritage Matters (Film)
Documenting and Presenting Soqotra's Intangible Cultural Heritage
(The Soqotra Culture Heritage Project)

Soqotra Exhibition
(Handicrafts from Soqotra)

19:00 – 20:00  Film: ‘Socotra, Island of the Djinn’ by Jordi Esteva, presented by the Movie Director
### SECOND DAY: FRIDAY 26/10/2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>08:00 – 09:00</td>
<td>Registration (at the Bahrain National Museum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:30</td>
<td>Welcome addresses and statements (max. 10 min. each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30-10:45</td>
<td><strong>Session 1. The Natural Heritage and its Conservation</strong> (Miranda Morris, Moderator)</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 – 09:45</td>
<td>The Friends of Soqotra: Sustainability and Conservation of Nature/Culture in the Soqotra Archipelago Kay Van Damme</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:45 – 10:00</td>
<td>The Birds of Soqotra - Their Threats and Conservation Richard Porter (video presented by Ahmed Saeed Suleiman)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:15</td>
<td>Challenges to Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity &amp; Management on Soqotra Based on a Standard Assessment Method Abdulwahab Saad Ali &amp; Fouad Naseeb</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:30</td>
<td>Invasive Alien Species and Their Control on Soqotra Ahmed Saeed Suleiman, Arne Witt &amp; Kay Van Damme</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 – 10:45</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 – 12:30</td>
<td>Coffee Break + Posters + Friday Prayers (Break)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 – 13:00</td>
<td><strong>Session 1 (cont.) The Natural Heritage and its Conservation</strong> (Fabio Attorre, Moderator)</td>
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<td>12:30 – 12:45</td>
<td>How did the cyclone influence the future development of Dragon’s Blood Tree populations on Soqotra Petr Madéra</td>
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<td>12:45 – 13:00</td>
<td>Soil and Land Degradation on Soqotra Island – To remind what a big challenge soil is Dana Pietsch</td>
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<td>13:00 – 13:15</td>
<td>Conservation and Management of the Unique Underground Karst Systems of the Soqotra Archipelago (Yemen): Risks and Opportunities Peter De Geest &amp; Soqotra Karst Project Members</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:15 – 13:30</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>13:30 – 14:30</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 – 14:30</td>
<td>World Heritage Operational Guidelines (Knowledge Café)</td>
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<td>14:30 – 14:45</td>
<td>Engaging Communities in Conserving the Soqotra World Heritage Site through Awareness and Communication Ali Mahross</td>
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<td>14:45 – 15:00</td>
<td>Dhofar/Soqotra: Rangeland deterioration linked to the collapse of traditional land management systems. Is there a future for productive livestock rearing on Soqotra? Miranda Morris</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 – 15:15</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30 – 17:00</td>
<td>Discussion + Wrap Up of the Day</td>
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<td>17:00 – 18:00</td>
<td>Tour in the Bahrain National Museum</td>
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<td>18:00 – 21:00</td>
<td>Joint Dinner (Location to be announced)</td>
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## THIRD DAY: SATURDAY 27/10/2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 4. Nature-Based Benefits</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00 – 09:15</td>
<td>Useful Plants of Soqotra</td>
<td>Ahmed Al-Rumaili</td>
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<td>09:15 – 09:30</td>
<td>Success of ARC-WH Projects Based on Community Support</td>
<td>Ismael Salem</td>
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<tr>
<td>09:30 – 09:45</td>
<td>A Study of Tourism Marketing Strategies with Special Reference to Rebranding of Yemen Tourism</td>
<td>Ahmed Abdullah Omer Ahmed</td>
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<td>09:45 – 10:00</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session 5. New Technologies and Nature Conservation</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:15</td>
<td>Planning and Management Implications of the Integration of the Water Component into Soqotra Cross-Sector Systemic Socio-Ecological Framework</td>
<td>Alfredo Guillet, Peter De Geest, Ludovico Rossini, Edoardo Scepi, Enrico Brugnoli, Fabio Attorre</td>
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<td>10:30 – 10:45</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 – 11:00</td>
<td>Mapping of the Soqotra Archipelago Using GIS and RS</td>
<td>Petr Vahalík</td>
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<td>11:00 – 11:15</td>
<td>Updating Knowledge about Endemic Plants on Soqotra: Red Listing and Important Plant Areas</td>
<td>Alan Forrest</td>
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<td>11:15 – 11:30</td>
<td>An Overview of Recent Scientific Outputs related to the Biodiversity of Soqotra and Ongoing Research</td>
<td>Kay Van Damme</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 – 12:00</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>12:00 – 13:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 – 13:00</td>
<td>GIS and Remote Sensing Applications (Knowledge Café)</td>
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13:00-14:30  **Working Groups**


*Working Group 1* – Natural Heritage (Moderators: Kay Van Damme & Fabio Attorre)

*Working Group 2* – Cultural Heritage (Moderators: Julian Jansen van Rensburg & Mohammed Ziane Bouziane)

*Working Group 3* – Cultural practices and sustainable development (Moderators: Miranda Morris, Selma Kassem)

14:30-15:00  **Coffee Break**

15:00 – 15:30  *Round-Table Discussion on Nature-Culture Challenges and Awareness on Soqotra*

15:30 – 16:00  **CLOSING REMARKS OF THE CONFERENCE – OFFICIAL END**

16:15 – 19:00  *Annual General Meeting for the Friends of Soqotra and Current and Future Projects (at ARC-WH)*

19:30  **Wrap-Up and Dinner**

**FOURTH DAY: SUNDAY 28/10/2018**

6:30 – 18:00  **Hawar Islands Excursion (Meeting Point at Novotel Bahrain Al Dana Resort)**
Organisers:

The Friends of Soqotra
www.friendsofsoqotra.org

The Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage
www.arcwh.org