



## PROGRAMME

# 17<sup>th</sup> International Soqatra Conference

*And the Annual General Meeting Friends of Soqatra*

*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 Soqatra***  
(Chairperson Dr Kay Van Damme)

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

**Soqatra Exhibition**  
(Handicrafts from Soqatra)

**19:00 – 20:00**                      **Film: ‘Socotra, Island of the Djinn’ by Jordi Esteva, presented by the  
Movie Director**

## SECOND DAY: FRIDAY 26/10/2018

08:00 – 09:00            **Registration (at the Bahrain National Museum)**

09:00 – 09:30            **Welcome addresses and statements (max. 10 min. each)**

---

**09:30-10:45            *Session 1. The Natural Heritage and its Conservation***  
**(Miranda Morris, Moderator)**

---

09:30 – 09:45            *The Friends of Soqatra: Sustainability and Conservation of Nature/ Culture in the Soqatra Archipelago*  
Kay Van Damme

09:45 – 10:00            *The Birds of Soqatra - Their Threats and Conservation*  
Richard Porter (video presented by Ahmed Saeed Suleiman)

10:00 – 10:15            *Challenges to Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity & Management on Soqatra Based on a Standard Assessment Method*  
Abdulwahab Saad Ali & Fouad Naseeb

10:15 – 10:30            *Invasive Alien Species and Their Control on Soqatra*  
Ahmed Saeed Suleiman, Arne Witt & Kay Van Damme

10:30 – 10:45            **Discussion**

**10:45 – 12:30            Coffee Break + Posters + Friday Prayers (Break)**

---

**12:30 – 13:30            *Session 1 (cont.) The Natural Heritage and its Conservation***  
**(Fabio Attorre, Moderator)**

---

12:30 – 12:45            *How did the cyclone influence the future development of Dragon 's Blood Tree populations on Soqatra?*  
Petr Maděra

12:45 – 13:00            *Soil and Land Degradation on Soqatra Island – To remind what a big challenge soil is*  
Dana Pietsch

13:00 – 13:15            *Conservation and Management of the Unique Underground Karst Systems of the Soqatra Archipelago (Yemen): Risks and Opportunities*  
Peter De Geest & Soqatra Karst Project Members

13:15 – 13:30            Discussion

**13:30 – 14:30            Lunch Break**

**14:00 – 14:30            World Heritage Operational Guidelines (Knowledge Café)**

<b>14:30 – 15:15</b>	<b><i>Session 2. Conservation Mechanisms and Communication</i></b> (Natalie Peutz, Moderator)
<b>14:30 – 14:45</b>	<i>Engaging Communities in Conserving the Soqatra World Heritage Site through Awareness and Communication</i> Ali Mahross
<b>14:45 – 15:00</b>	<i>Dhofar/ Soqatra: Rangeland deterioration linked to the collapse of traditional land management systems. Is there a future for productive livestock rearing on Soqatra?</i> Miranda Morris
<b>15:00 – 15:15</b>	Discussion
<b>15:15 – 15:30</b>	<b>Coffee Break + Posters</b>
<b>15:30 – 17:00</b>	<b><i>Session 3. Cultural Heritage and Practices</i></b> (Mohamed Ziane Bouziane, Moderator)
<b>15:30 – 15:45</b>	<i>Handicrafts by Soqotri Women - Traditional Methods and Future Ambitions</i> Haifa Taiseer
<b>15:45 – 16:00</b>	<i>Documenting the Diversity of Cultural Heritage of the Soqatra Archipelago</i> Julian Jansen van Rensburg
<b>16:00 – 16:15</b>	<i>Islands of Heritage: Conservation and Transformation in Soqatra</i> Nathalie Peutz
<b>16:15 – 16:30</b>	<i>Research and Protection of Archaeological Heritage of Socotra in Remote Locations of the Island</i> Vladimir Melnik
<b>16:30 – 17:00</b>	Discussion + Wrap Up of the Day
<b>17:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Tour in the Bahrain National Museum</b>
<b>18:00 – 21:00</b>	<b>Joint Dinner (Location to be announced)</b>

### **THIRD DAY: SATURDAY 27/10/2018**

<b>09:00 – 10:00</b>	<b><i>Session 4. Nature-Based Benefits</i></b> (Lisa Banfield, Moderator)
<b>09:00 – 09:15</b>	<i>Useful Plants of Soqatra</i> Ahmed Al-Rumaili
<b>09:15 – 09:30</b>	<i>Success of ARC-WH Projects Based on Community Support</i> Ismael Salem
<b>09:30 – 09:45</b>	<i>A Study of Tourism Marketing Strategies with Special Reference to Rebranding of Yemen Tourism</i> Ahmed Abdullah Omer Ahmed
<b>09:45 – 10:00</b>	Discussion
<b>10:00 – 12:00</b>	<b><i>Session 5. New Technologies and Nature Conservation</i></b> (Petr Maděra, Moderator)
<b>10:00 – 10:15</b>	<i>Planning and Management Implications of the Integration of the Water Component into Soqatra Cross-Sector Systemic Socio-Ecological Framework</i> Alfredo Guillet, Peter De Geest, Ludovico Rossini, Edoardo Scepi, Enrico Brugnoli, Fabio Attorre
<b>10:15 – 10:30</b>	<i>Spatio-Temporal Variability of Cover and Biomass of Vegetation of Soqatra Island</i> Fabio Attorre, Riccardi T., Messina M., Testolin R., De Sanctis M., Farcomeni A. & Malatesta R.
<b>10:30 – 10:45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>
<b>10:45 – 11:00</b>	<i>Mapping of the Soqatra Archipelago Using GIS and RS</i> Petr Vahalík
<b>11:00 – 11:15</b>	<i>Updating Knowledge about Endemic Plants on Soqatra: Red Listing and Important Plant Areas</i> Alan Forrest
<b>11:15 – 11:30</b>	<i>An Overview of Recent Scientific Outputs related to the Biodiversity of Soqatra and Ongoing Research</i> Kay Van Damme
<b>11:30 – 12:00</b>	Discussion
<b>12:00 – 13:00</b>	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>12:30 – 13:00</b>	<b>GIS and Remote Sensing Applications (Knowledge Café)</b>

---

**13:00-14:30    *Working Groups***

---

**Natural - Cultural Interlinkages and Challenges. The Way Forward for Sustainability, Awareness, Education, Conservation and Management.**

***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 Soqatra***

---

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

---

**16:15 – 19:00    *Annual General Meeting for the Friends of Soqatra 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 Soqatra**  
[www.friendsofsoqatra.org](http://www.friendsofsoqatra.org)



**The Arab Regional Centre for World Heritage**  
[www.arcwh.org](http://www.arcwh.org)