



STRONG High Seas Capacity Development Series

The EVENT:

The [STRONG High Seas project](#) will be running a series of virtual capacity development workshops through 2021. The fourth interactive virtual workshop will introduce you to Marine Genetic Resources and discuss the path from discovery to commercialisation. These themes are under discussion as part of the BBNJ negotiations; we will discuss the various opportunities and challenges for African countries.

Introduction to Marine Genetic Resources

Thursday 18 November 2021

09:00 – 12:30 Abidjan Time * 11:00 - 14:30 South African Time (SAST)

Simultaneous translation will be available in English and French

Abidjan Time	SAST/CET	Thursday 18 November 2021		
09:00 -09:10	11:00 – 11:10	Introduction to the STRONG High Seas capacity development series	Shannon Hampton	IOI-SA
09:10 -10:30	11:10 – 12:30	Marine Genetics 101: from populations and biodiversity to conservation and management	Sophie von der Heyden	Stellenbosch University
10:30 – 10:45	12:30 – 12:45	Short break		
10:45 – 12:15	12:45 – 14:15	Marine Genetic Resources: From science to commercialisation	Marcel Jaspars	University of Aberdeen
12:15 – 12:30	14:15 – 14:30	Closing	Shannon Hampton	IOI-SA

Please register by clicking [here](#). We will consider your participation based on the availability of spaces. Priority will be given to representatives and stakeholders from the Abidjan Convention area.



The Series:

- An introduction to the United Nations Law of the Sea and Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction negotiations (held on 17 & 18 June 2021)
- Understanding the Ecology and human pressures in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction and Area-based Management Tools (including Marine Protected Areas). (25 August 2021)
- The Socio-economic importance of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) in the context of ABNJ (6 October 2021)
- **Understanding Marine Genetic Resources (18 November 2021)**
- Conservation and Sustainable Use of resources in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (December 2021)

A certificate will be issued to all those who participate in a minimum four of the events in the series.

Target Audience:

We welcome anyone with an interest in Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction, with particular focus on the Abidjan Convention Region. We hope that the series will provide the participants with tools and knowledge to share with their colleagues and across national departments to help the countries of the Abidjan Convention to enhance ocean governance in the region and implement the BBNJ treaty in their national context after its ratification.

About STRONG High Seas

The STRONG High Seas project is a five-year project that aims to strengthen regional ocean governance for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Working with the Secretariat of the Comisión Permanente del Pacífico Sur (CPPS; Permanent Commission for the South Pacific) and the Secretariat of the West and Central Africa Regional Seas Programme (Abidjan Convention), the project will develop and propose targeted measures to support the coordinated development of integrated and ecosystem-based management approaches for ocean governance in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The STRONG High Seas project has the following overarching objectives:

1. Facilitate the development of improved management approaches for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction in the Southeast Pacific and Southeast Atlantic regions;
2. Identify best practices and provide support to regional institutions and national authorities for implementing existing regional instruments;
3. Develop options for regional governance in a future international instrument under UNCLOS and transfer regional lessons learned to the global level to promote ocean governance.

For more information about the STRONG High Seas project, please visit the [website](#) or contact: stronghighseas@iass-potsdam.de



Partners of the STRONG High Seas project



Supported by:



Federal Ministry
for the Environment, Nature Conservation
and Nuclear Safety

The STRONG High Seas project is part of the International Climate Initiative (IKI). The Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU) supports this initiative on the basis of a decision adopted by the German Bundestag.

based on a decision of the German Bundestag

