



Convention on Biological Diversity






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**SUSTAINABLE OCEAN INITIATIVE (SOI)
CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP
FOR EAST AFRICA**
Nosy Be, Madagascar, 18-22 January 2016

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1. Opening and registration

The Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) Capacity-building Workshop for East Africa will be held in Nosy Be, Madagascar from Monday, 18 January to Friday, 22 January 2016.

The workshop will start at 9 a.m. on Monday, 18 January and registration will take place at the venue of the workshop at 8:00 a.m. the same day.

2. Venue

The workshop will be held at:

Nosy Be Hotel

(also known as Nosy Be Hotel Concept Boutique Hotel & Spa)

BP 209

Nosy Be, Madagascar

Tel: +261 20 8606 151

+261 3406 771 87/89

E-mail: contact@nosybehotel.com

Web site: nosybehotel.com

3. Working language

The workshop will be held in English and French.

4. Documents

Participants are kindly reminded to bring their own copies of the documents for the workshop as there will be no extra copies made available on site. Documents are available on the following web page:



<https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=SOIWS-2016-01>

5. General information on access to Nosy Be, Madagascar



Nosy Be is an island off the northwest coast of Madagascar. It is serviced by the Fascene Airport which can be accessed via the Ivato International Airport in the capital, Antananarivo. Some direct international flights from France and Italy are also available. Taxis / transportation is available at the arrival hall at the exit of the airport and the trip to the meeting venue hotel would cost about US \$7.00 to \$10.00. Distance from the airport to the venue hotel is approximately 25 km.

6. Visa information



Participants from all countries invited require a visa to enter the Republic of Madagascar and are strongly advised to contact the nearest Malagasy diplomatic or consular mission **as soon as possible** in order to secure the required entry visa in a timely manner, prior to departure. Please note that some airlines will not allow boarding without a valid visa. A listing of Malagasy diplomatic or consular missions abroad can be found at the following link:

<http://www.madagascar-consulate.org/embassies-world.html>

Information on visa procedures for entry into the Republic of Madagascar can be found at each Madagascar Embassy link.

To facilitate the issuance of visas, the Secretariat will issue upon request invitation letters to be attached to the visa applications.

7. Hotel information

A block of rooms has been reserved to accommodate all workshop participants at the Nosy Be Hotel. Reservations for funded participants will be made by the CBD Secretariat. Self-funded participants are requested to make their own hotel reservations by contacting Ms. Elma Ross by email: nosy.be.hotel@moov.mg or by telephone: 261 06 771 86 and 261 2086 061 51. Lunch for participants will be included in the meeting package. The rates offered to workshop participants are MGA120,000.00 per room per night, breakfast is MGA15,000.00 and the airport shuttle service (airport/hotel/airport) is offered at MGA55,000.00. Please request the shuttle service when you make your hotel reservation.

Further information on hotels in Madagascar is available on the web site of the Ministry of Tourism:

http://www.madagascar-tourisme.com/index.php?option=com_prestataires#tabs-1



8. Payment of the Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA)

The relevant portion of DSA will be disbursed to participants during the meeting. Participants will be informed of the details in due course.

9. Official languages

The official languages in Madagascar are Malagasy and French.

10. Weather and time zone information



In January, average temperatures in the Nosy Be region (Antsiranana) usually range between a maximum of +31°C in the daytime and a minimum of +23°C at night. Current weather conditions in the area can be found at: <http://worldweather.wmo.int/en/city.html?cityId=9>.

The standard time zone in Madagascar is GMT/ UTC +3 hours.

11. Electricity

The electrical currents in Madagascar are 230 Volts, 50 Hertz, the plugs are as shown in the illustrations below.



12. Currency



The currency in Madagascar is the Malagasy Ariary (MGA). The current exchange rate as at 27 December 2015 is US \$1 = MGA 3,187.00 and €1.00 = MGA 3,496.07 (source: www.xe.com, rates are subject to change).

13. Disclaimer

The CBD Secretariat disclaims all responsibility for medical, accident and travel insurance, for compensation for death or disability compensation, for loss of or damage to personal property and for any other loss that may be incurred during travel time or the period of participation. In this context, it is strongly recommended to secure international medical, accident and travel insurance for the period of participation prior to departure.