

1. *Coral Reefs: a Common Heritage*

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Short Description

The proposed workshop will focus on the *coral reef vulnerability* and on the notion of *heritage* and is intended to be an interdisciplinary and dynamic activity that brings together scholars coming from different scientific disciplines such as marine biology, ecology, geography, law, anthropology and economics in order to establish a dialogue and debate on the coral reef heritage.

Workshop objective

The objective of the workshop is to launch a debate on the issues of the 1st Summer School on the Vulnerability of Coral Reef Heritage¹ (EEA-VulPaRe) held in 2014 in Toliara (Madagascar) open to all the participants coming from different disciplinary fields that will be present at the 9th WIOMSA Symposium. Mainly, we intend to define and discuss the notions of heritage and coral reef vulnerability through the lens of law and economic frameworks, ecological and biological indicators, local perceptions, beliefs, uses and practices.

Workshop outcomes

The expected outcomes of this workshop are:

- create a scientific discussion network on the topic of coral reef heritage and its vulnerability
- develop a definition of “coral reef heritage” that is relevant to the people and coral reefs of the Western Indian Ocean but also to the scientific community
- elaborate a workshop document summarizing points of view about: a) the definition of coral reef heritage; b) aspects of its vulnerability; c) cooperation and citizen participation processes. The coordinating committee with the contribution of all the workshop participants will write the document.
- promote collaborations between researchers of different nationalities that are interested to engage in a scientific network on coral reef heritage.

Targeted audience

The workshop is intended to be an open interdisciplinary event. Ideally, participants should include specialists from varied disciplines such as biology, ecology, economics, sociology, anthropology, geography and others. We especially expect to have among the participants graduate and post-graduate students, researchers, and environmental actors such as NGOs or public institutions.

¹ <http://www.ihs.mg/Formation/Ecole%20d-ete%20Australe.php>