



Creation of the First MPA in Jordan

International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) 35th General Meeting



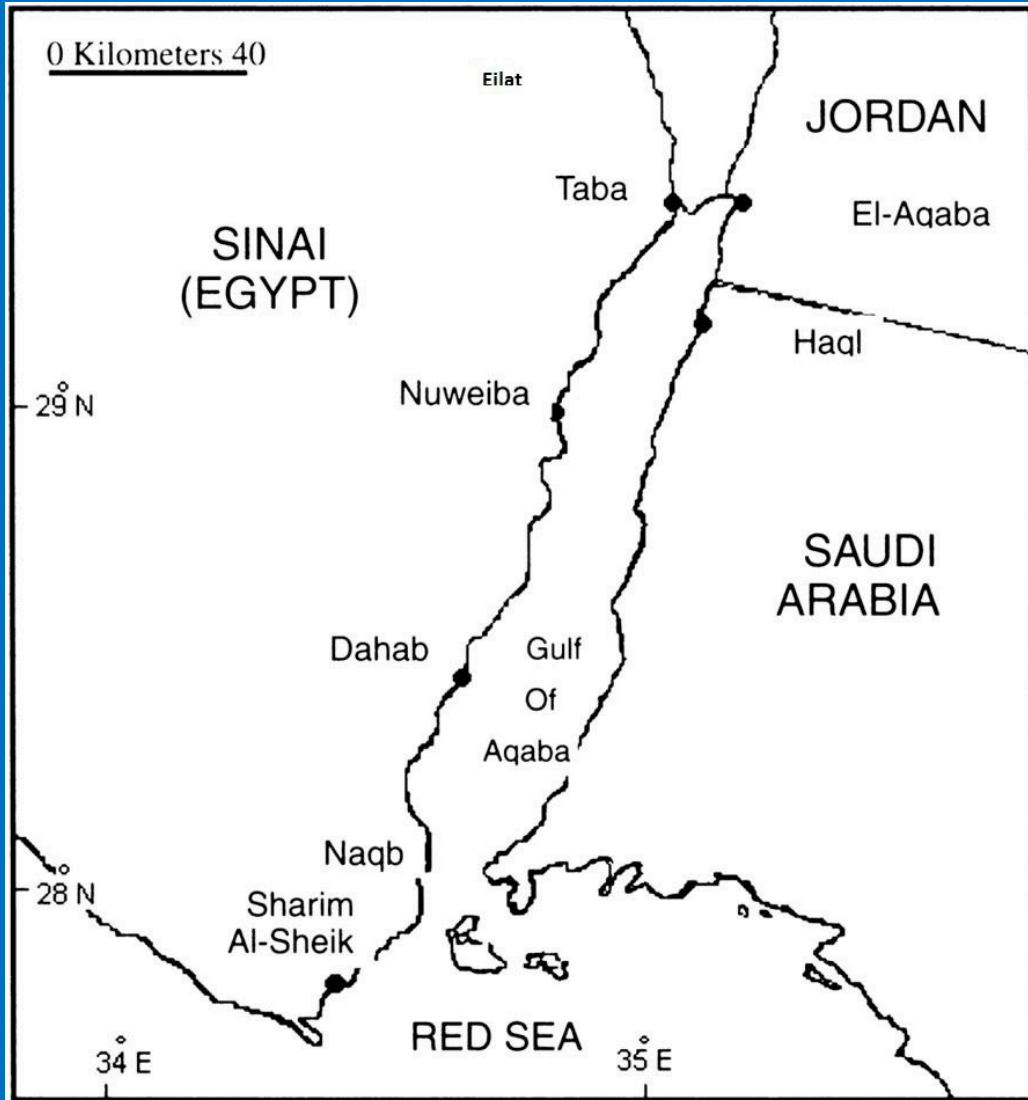
**The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan – Jordan
Feb. 2021**



The Gulf of Aqaba is the only marine outlet to Jordan

Jordan has a 27 km of Coastal shoreline on the Red Sea

The population of Coastal City of Aqaba is 180 thousand



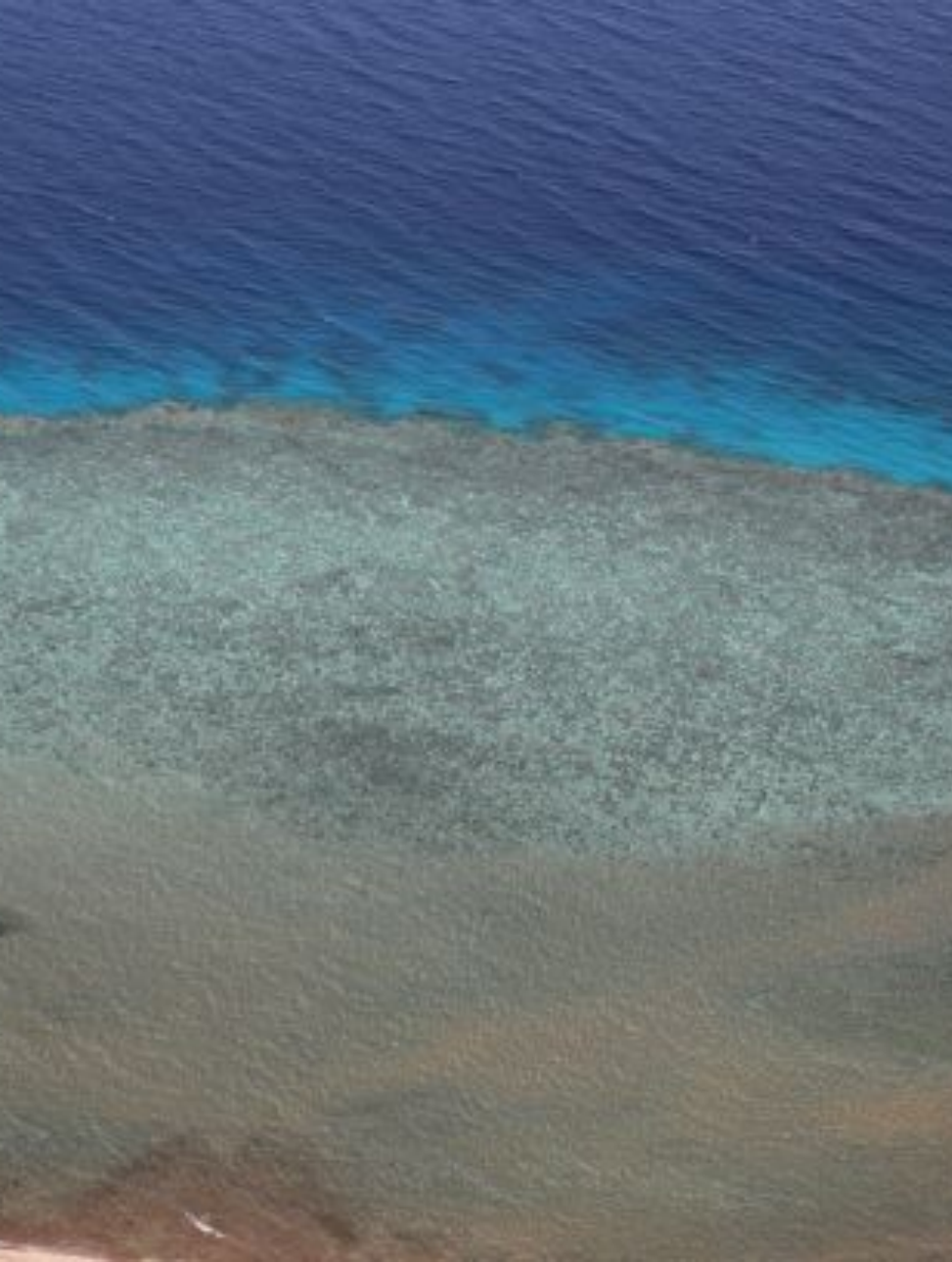
Gulf of Aqaba

- The Gulf of Aqaba (GoA), is a semi-enclosed basin located in the sub-tropical arid zone, and extends over a length of 180 km with a width between 5 and 25 km.
- In the north of the Red Sea, at the northeast tip of the Gulf of Aqaba. This provides Jordan with the only access to the sea for activities such as ship transport, fishing, tourism and industrial development.
- This coastal stretch includes the presence of 13 km of a discontinuous series of fringing reefs, which contains unique marine and coastal ecosystems, habitats and rich biodiversity composition.

Aqaba Marine park (AMP)

- The Aqaba Marine Park was established in 1997, under the jurisdiction of the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority (ASEZA). It aims to conserve and manage the natural near-shore marine environment of the Aqaba south coast region with its rich biodiversity, while allowing touristic uses at sustainable levels, for the benefit and enjoyment of the present and future generations of Jordanians and the global community





Aqaba Marine Protected Area (AMPA)

- On June 3rd, 2020, His Majesty King Abdulla II gave his directive to declare the existing Aqaba Marine Park (AMP) as a new Aqaba Marine Reserve (AMR).

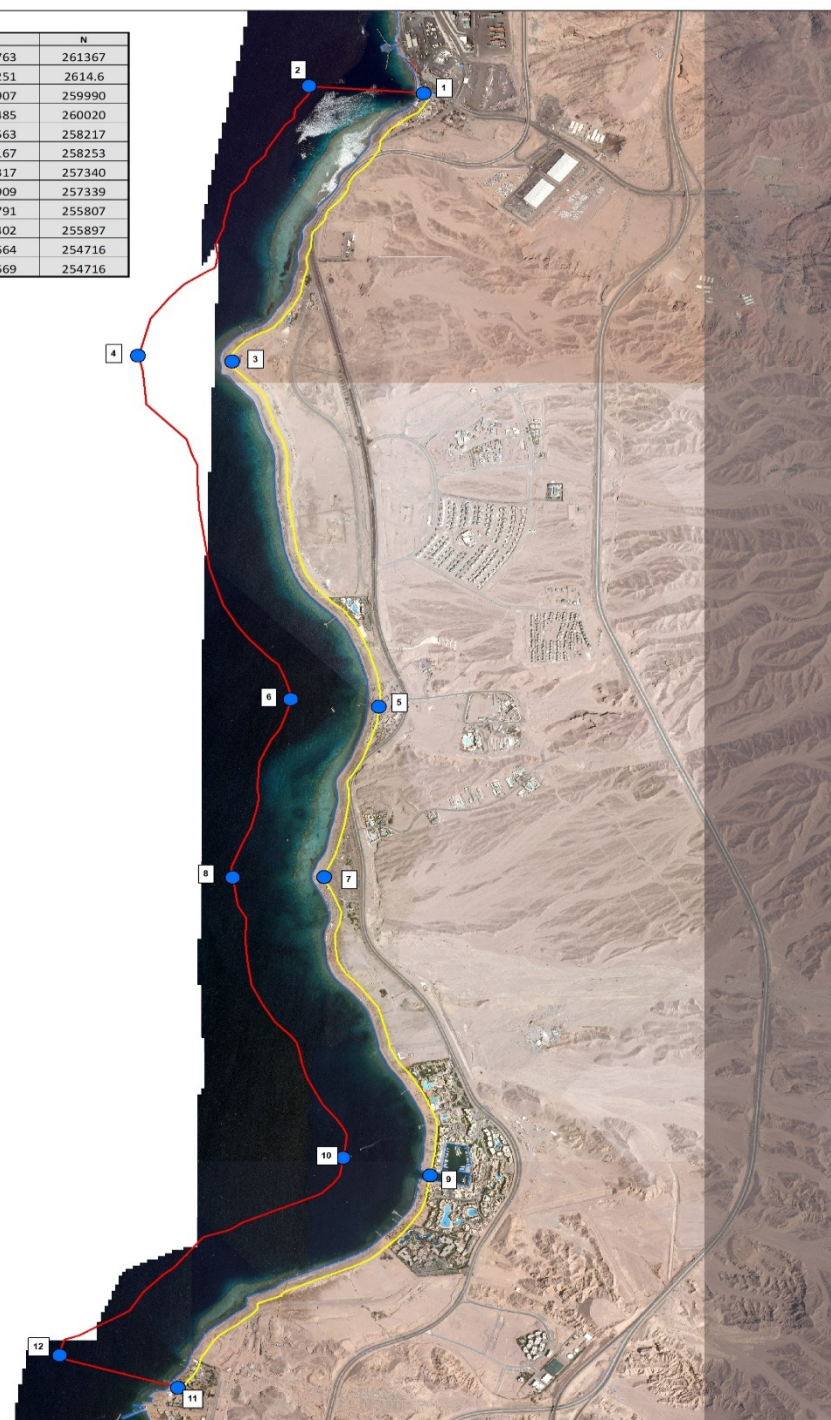
- The proposed (AMPA) boundaries follow the original boundaries of the Aqaba Marine Park (AMP) and extends over 7km length from the Passenger Terminal in the north to the Royal Diving Club in the south. The park's terrestrial boundary currently lies 50 m east of the Mean High-Water Mark and the marine boundary lying 350m west of the Mean High-Water Mark.





- The AMPA is distinctive and unique because of its high number of species, diverse number of habitats, high endemism, and remoteness.
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- The AMPA length is 7km out of 27 km which represents 26% of the total coastline length.
- Its area is 2.8 km² which represents 2.9% of the total area of the Jordanian Territorial Water.

No.	E	N
1	303763	261367
2	303251	2614.6
3	302907	259990
4	302485	260020
5	303563	258217
6	303167	258253
7	303317	257340
8	302909	257339
9	303791	255807
10	303402	255897
11	302664	254716
12	302669	254716



صورة جوية 2014



Produced by
Eng. Reem Mobideen

Map 1: Proposed Aqaba Marine Protected Area (AMPA)
Boundaries with coordinates,
Aqaba/ Jordan



- **Stakeholders Consultation**

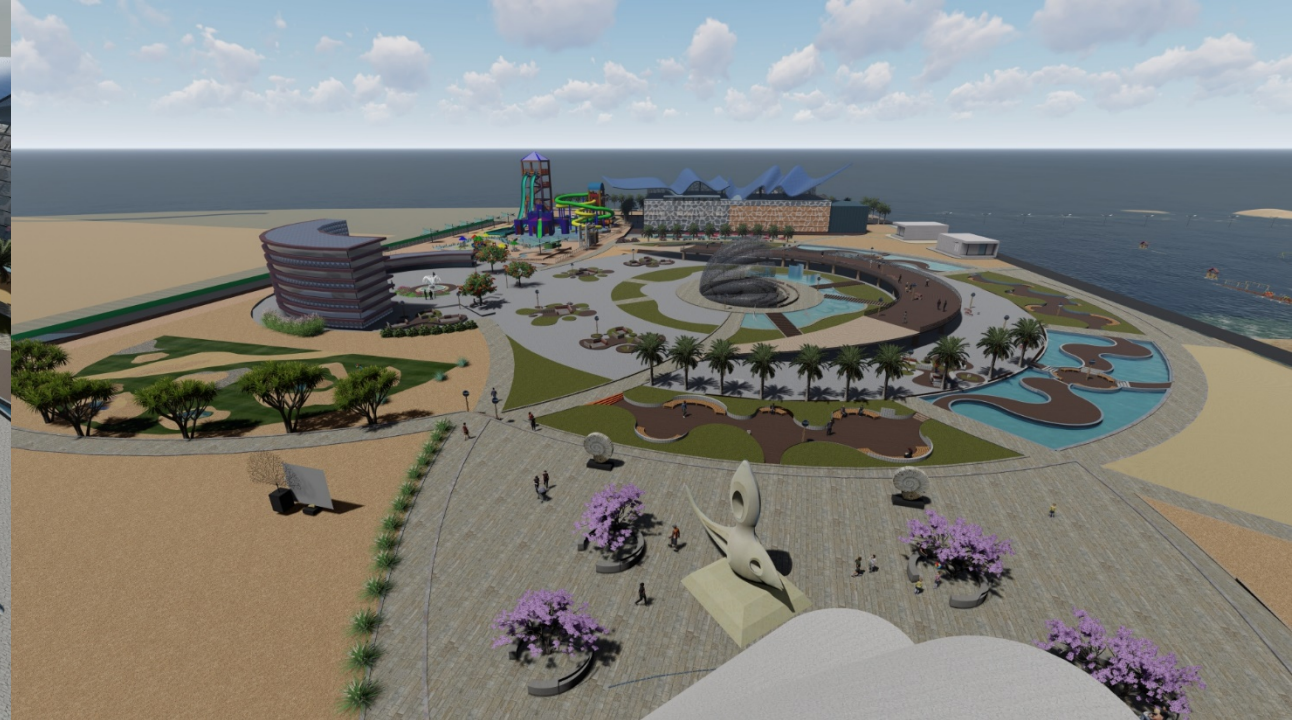
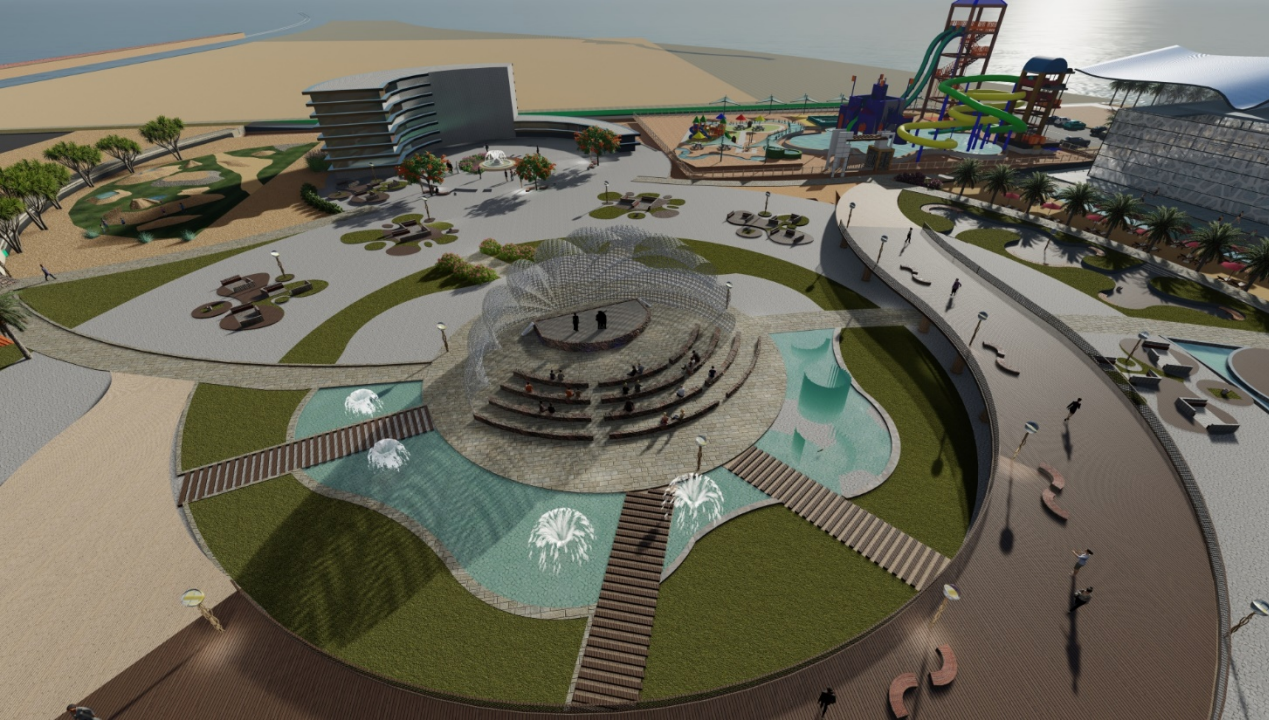
- Several stakeholders' consultation efforts have been accomplished by ASEZA to inform decision makers, local communities and various other stakeholders about the anticipated plan to declare the Aqaba Marine Park into the Aqaba Marine Protected Area. The consultation included five major consultations processes which are "sorted out according to the timeframe":

- Steering committee meeting
- Technical and local community meeting.
- Board of Commissioners at ASEZA
- Stakeholders Meeting
- Specific stakeholder's events.



Declaration Process

- The nomination file was prepared through international and national consultant funded by UNDP, in cooperation with ASEZA to make sure all recommendation and comments addressed in nomination file.
- After reviewing the nomination file from steering committee, the file sends formally to Ministry of Environment depending on Environmental Protection law 7/2017.
- A technical reviewing committee make recommendation to accept declaration of Protected area to minister of Environment.
- 8/12/2020 The marine protected area was announced in partnership with the Aqaba Special Economic Zone Authority and the United Nations development Programme, after receiving approval from the Cabinet..
- A memorandum of understanding was previously signed between MOEnv and ASEZA to manage the protected Area from ASEZA.
- In January 2021, the final draft of the Aqaba Marine Protected Area's Management Plan (AMPAMP 2021-2026) was prepared.



Future aspirations

Establish an Aqaba Park of Science and Ecotourism (APSE) aiming to create a World Class Scientific Research Hub, focusing on the ecology, ecosystem services, restoration and non extractive utilization of coastal and marine resources.



HOPE SEE YOU SOON
IN AQABA
Thank you for your
attention