

St. Catherine National Park - Egypt
Reporting Progress at Protected Area Sites: Data Sheet 1

Name, affiliation and contact details for person responsible for completing the METT (email etc.)		Adel Soliman – adelnbu@yahoo.com Project Manager, Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency Nature Conservation Sector		
Date assessment carried out	1 Aug. 2012			
Name of protected area	St. Catherine Protected Area			
WDPA site code (these codes can be found on www.unep-wcmc.org/wdpa/)				
Designations	National - PA Protected Area	IUCN Category V Landscape Protected Area	International (please also complete sheet overleaf) WHS (Cultural)	
Country	Egypt			
Location of protected area (province and if possible map reference)			South Sinai Governorate	
Date of establishment	5 April 1996			
Ownership details (please tick)	State x	Private	Community	Other
Management Authority	Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency – Nature Conservation Sector			
Size of protected area (ha)	2977350			
Number of staff	Permanent 19	Temporary 5	local communities 21	
Annual budget (US\$) – excluding staff salary costs	Recurrent (operational) funds 67000		Project or other supplementary funds nil	
What are the main values for which the area is designated	Fauna and Flora- Landscape- Cultural sites (Moses Mount.- St. Catherine Monastery)- Bedouins traditions			
List the two primary protected area management objectives				
Management objective 1	Protection of ecosystem and Biodiversity including Flora and Fauna Diversity. This includes mitigating the effects of tourism and industrial developments			
Management objective 2	Cultural Heritage protection including Saint Katherine Monastery and Bedouin Traditions			
No. of people involved in completing assessment				
Including : (tick boxes)	PA manager 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PA staff 12 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other PA agency staff <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
	Local community 21 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Donors <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	External experts <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Please note if assessment was carried out in association with a particular project, on behalf of an organisation or donor.		GEF project strengthening PA financing and management systems		

Information on International Designations			
UNESCO World Heritage site (see: whc.unesco.org/en/list)			
Date listed June 2002	Site name St. Catherine	Site area 600 km ²	Geographical co-ordinates
Criteria for designation (i.e. criteria i to x)	I, III, IV, VI		
Statement of Outstanding Universal Value	St. Catherine is of immense spiritual significance to three world monotheistic religions. The oldest monastery has retained its monastic function without a break from its foundation in 6 th century.		
Ramsar site (see: www.wetlands.org/RSDB/)			
Date listed	Site name	Site area	Geographical number
Reason for Designation (see Ramsar Information Sheet)			
UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserves (see: www.unesco.org/mab/wnbrs.shtml)			
Date listed	Site name	Site area Total: Core: Buffer: Transition:	Geographical co-ordinates
Criteria for designation			
Fulfilment of three functions of MAB (conservation, development and logistic support.)			
Please list other designations (i.e. ASEAN Heritage, Natura 2000) and any supporting information below			
Name:	Detail:		
Name:	Detail:		
Name:	Detail:		
Name:	Detail:		
Name:	Detail:		
Name:	Detail:		

Protected Areas Threats: Data Sheet 2

Please tick all relevant existing threats as either of high, medium or low significance. Threats ranked as of high significance are those which are seriously degrading values; medium are those threats having some negative impact and those characterised as low are threats which are present but not seriously impacting values or N/A where the threat is not present or not applicable in the protected area.

1. Residential and commercial development within a protected area

Threats from human settlements or other non-agricultural land uses with a substantial footprint

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
	x			1.1 Housing and settlement
		x		1.2 Commercial and industrial areas
	x			1.3 Tourism and recreation infrastructure

2. Agriculture and aquaculture within a protected area

Threats from farming and grazing as a result of agricultural expansion and intensification, including silviculture, mariculture and aquaculture

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
			X	2.1 Annual and perennial non-timber crop cultivation
x				2.1a Drug cultivation
		x		2.2 Wood and pulp plantations
		x		2.3 Livestock farming and grazing
			X	2.4 Marine and freshwater aquaculture

3. Energy production and mining within a protected area

Threats from production of non-biological resources

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
			X	3.1 Oil and gas drilling
	X			3.2 Mining and quarrying
			X	3.3 Energy generation, including from hydropower dams

4. Transportation and service corridors within a protected area

Threats from long narrow transport corridors and the vehicles that use them including associated wildlife mortality

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
		X		4.1 Roads and railroads (include road-killed animals)
		x		4.2 Utility and service lines (e.g. electricity cables, telephone lines,)
			x	4.3 Shipping lanes and canals
			x	4.4 Flight paths

5. Biological resource use and harm within a protected area

Threats from consumptive use of "wild" biological resources including both deliberate and unintentional harvesting effects; also persecution or control of specific species (note this includes hunting and killing of animals)

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
	x			5.1 Hunting, killing and collecting terrestrial animals (including killing of animals as a result of human/wildlife conflict)
	x			5.2 Gathering terrestrial plants or plant products (non-timber)
		x		5.3 Logging and wood harvesting
			x	5.4 Fishing, killing and harvesting aquatic resources

6. Human intrusions and disturbance within a protected area

Threats from human activities that alter, destroy or disturb habitats and species associated with non-consumptive uses of biological resources

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
	x			6.1 Recreational activities and tourism
		x		6.2 War, civil unrest and military exercises
	x			6.3 Research, education and other work-related activities in protected areas
		x		6.4 Activities of protected area managers (e.g. construction or vehicle use, artificial watering points and dams)
		X		6.5 Deliberate vandalism, destructive activities or threats to protected area staff and visitors

7. Natural system modifications

Threats from other actions that convert or degrade habitat or change the way the ecosystem functions

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
			x	7.1 Fire and fire suppression (including arson)
		x		7.2 Dams, hydrological modification and water management/use
		x		7.3a Increased fragmentation within protected area
		x		7.3b Isolation from other natural habitat (e.g. deforestation, dams without effective aquatic wildlife passages)
	x			7.3c Other 'edge effects' on park values
		x		7.3d Loss of keystone species (e.g. top predators, pollinators etc)

8. Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Threats from terrestrial and aquatic non-native and native plants, animals, pathogens/microbes or genetic materials that have or are predicted to have harmful effects on biodiversity following introduction, spread and/or increase

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
		X		8.1 Invasive non-native/alien plants (weeds)
		X		8.1a Invasive non-native/alien animals
			x	8.1b Pathogens (non-native or native but creating new/increased problems)
			x	8.2 Introduced genetic material (e.g. genetically modified organisms)

9. Pollution entering or generated within protected area

Threats from introduction of exotic and/or excess materials or energy from point and non-point sources

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
		X		9.1 Household sewage and urban waste water
		x		9.1a Sewage and waste water from protected area facilities (e.g. toilets, hotels etc)
		X		9.2 Industrial, mining and military effluents and discharges (e.g. poor water quality discharge from dams, e.g. unnatural temperatures, de-oxygenated, other pollution)
			x	9.3 Agricultural and forestry effluents (e.g. excess fertilizers or pesticides)
	x			9.4 Garbage and solid waste
			x	9.5 Air-borne pollutants
			x	9.6 Excess energy (e.g. heat pollution, lights etc)

10. Geological events

Geological events may be part of natural disturbance regimes in many ecosystems. But they can be a threat if a species or habitat is damaged and has lost its resilience and is vulnerable to disturbance. Management capacity to respond to some of these changes may be limited.

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
			x	10.1 Volcanoes
			x	10.2 Earthquakes/Tsunamis
			x	10.3 Avalanches/ Landslides
		x		10.4 Erosion and siltation/ deposition (e.g. shoreline or riverbed changes)

11. Climate change and severe weather

Threats from long-term climatic changes which may be linked to global warming and other severe climatic/weather events outside of the natural range of variation

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
		x		11.1 Habitat shifting and alteration (coral reef bleaching)
	x			11.2 Droughts
			x	11.3 Temperature extremes
		x		11.4 Storms and flooding

12. Specific cultural and social threats

High	Medium	Low	N/A	
	x			12.1 Loss of cultural links, traditional knowledge and/or management practices
		x		12.2 Natural deterioration of important cultural site values
		x		12.3 Destruction of cultural heritage buildings, gardens, sites etc

Assessment Form

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
1. Legal status Does the protected area have legal status (or in the case of private reserves is covered by a covenant or similar)? <i>Context</i>	The protected area is not gazetted/covenanted	0		Prime Ministerial decree no. 940/1996, published in the official gazette	Preparation to be declared as a biosphere reserve
	There is agreement that the protected area should be gazetted/covenanted but the process has not yet begun	1			
	The protected area is in the process of being gazetted/covenanted but the process is still incomplete (includes sites designated under international conventions, such as Ramsar, or local/traditional law such as community conserved areas, which do not yet have national legal status or covenant)	2			
	The protected area has been formally gazetted/covenanted	3	x		
2. Protected area regulations Are appropriate regulations in place to control land use and activities (e.g. hunting)? <i>Planning</i>	There are no regulations for controlling land use and activities in the protected area	0		Due to the overwhelming size of the Protectorate, the paucity of staff to manage it and the limited funds available it can be construed that this causes obstacles towards effective management, during 2008, 8 more trainee rangers were enrolled at the PA and received adequate training currently the new rangers are performing the roles within the PA management plan successfully.	To increase staff and equipment
	Some regulations for controlling land use and activities in the protected area exist but these are major weaknesses	1			
	Regulations for controlling land use and activities in the protected area exist but there are some weaknesses or gaps	2	x		
	Regulations for controlling inappropriate land use and activities in the protected area exist and provide an excellent basis for management	3			
3. Law enforcement Can staff (i.e. those with responsibility for managing the site) enforce protected area rules well enough? <i>Input</i>	The staff have no effective capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations	0		Security status	
	There are major deficiencies in staff capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations (e.g. lack of skills, no patrol budget, lack of institutional support)	1			
	The staff have acceptable capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations but some deficiencies remain	2	x		
	The staff have excellent capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations	3			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
4. Protected area objectives Is management undertaken according to agreed objectives? <i>Planning</i>	No firm objectives have been agreed for the protected area	0		Objectives have not all been met due to the relatively limited funding for the protected area compared to its large area, more resources should be allocated through retention of an extra part of the entrance fees and directing it to conservation activities which will help the PA to be more financially sustainable.	
	The protected area has agreed objectives, but is not managed according to these objectives	1			
	The protected area has agreed objectives, but is only partially managed according to these objectives	2	x		
	The protected area has agreed objectives and is managed to meet these objectives	3			
5. Protected area design Is the protected area the right size and shape to protect species, habitats, ecological processes and water catchments of key conservation concern? <i>Planning</i>	Inadequacies in protected area design mean achieving the major objectives of the protected area is very difficult	0			
	Inadequacies in protected area design mean that achievement of major objectives is difficult but some mitigating actions are being taken (e.g. agreements with adjacent land owners for wildlife corridors or introduction of appropriate catchment management)	1			
	Protected area design is not significantly constraining achievement of objectives, but could be improved (e.g. with respect to larger scale ecological processes)	2			
	Protected area design helps achievement of objectives; it is appropriate for species and habitat conservation; and maintains ecological processes such as surface and groundwater flows at a catchment scale, natural disturbance patterns etc	3	x		

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
6. Protected area boundary demarcation Is the boundary known and demarcated? <i>Process</i>	The boundary of the protected area is not known by the management authority or local residents/neighbouring land users	0		The boundaries are defined in PA decree and is plotted on the national land use map	
	The boundary of the protected area is known by the management authority but is not known by local residents/neighbouring land users	1			
	The boundary of the protected area is known by both the management authority and local residents/neighbouring land users but is not appropriately demarcated	2	x		
	The boundary of the protected area is known by the management authority and local residents/neighbouring land users and is appropriately demarcated	3			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
7. Management plan Is there a management plan and is it being implemented? <i>Planning</i>	There is no management plan for the protected area	0			
	A management plan is being prepared or has been prepared but is not being implemented	1			
	A management plan exists but it is only being partially implemented because of funding constraints or other problems	2	x		
	A management plan exists and is being implemented	3			
<i>Additional points: Planning</i>					
7a. Planning process	The planning process allows adequate opportunity for key stakeholders to influence the management plan	+1	x	Stakeholders and local communities are involved	
7b. Planning process	There is an established schedule and process for periodic review and updating of the management plan	+1	x	Management plan is to be updated every 5 years	
7c. Planning process	The results of monitoring, research and evaluation are routinely incorporated into planning	+1	x	New monitoring data are added regularly	
8. Regular work plan	No regular work plan exists	0		and staff availability	

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
Is there a regular work plan and is it being implemented <i>Planning/Outputs</i>	A regular work plan exists but few of the activities are implemented	1			
	A regular work plan exists and many activities are implemented	2			
	A regular work plan exists and all activities are implemented	3	x		
9. Resource inventory Do you have enough information to manage the area? <i>Input</i>	There is little or no information available on the critical habitats, species and cultural values of the protected area	0		PA has sufficient information for most key areas	Updating information according to periodical monitoring
	Information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is not sufficient to support planning and decision making	1			
	Information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient for most key areas of planning and decision making	2			
	Information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient to support all areas of planning and decision making	3	x		
10. Protection systems Are systems in place to control access/resource use in the protected area? <i>Process/Outcome</i>	Protection systems (patrols, permits etc) do not exist or are not effective in controlling access/resource use	0		More staff are needed	
	Protection systems are only partially effective in controlling access/resource use	1			
	Protection systems are moderately effective in controlling access/resource use	2	x		
	Protection systems are largely or wholly effective in controlling access/resource use	3			
11. Research Is there a programme of management-orientated survey and research work? <i>Process</i>	There is no survey or research work taking place in the protected area	0		There is a considerable survey directed to management objectives	
	There is a small amount of survey and research work but it is not directed towards the needs of protected area management	1			
	There is considerable survey and research work but it is not directed towards the needs of protected area management	2			
	There is a comprehensive, integrated programme of survey and research work, which is relevant to management needs	3	x		
12. Resource management	Active resource management is not being undertaken	0			
	Very few of the requirements for active management of critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values are being implemented	1			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
Is active resource management being undertaken? <i>Process</i>	Many of the requirements for active management of critical habitats, species, ecological processes and, cultural values are being implemented but some key issues are not being addressed	2			
	Requirements for active management of critical habitats, species, ecological processes and, cultural values are being substantially or fully implemented	3	x		
13. Staff numbers Are there enough people employed to manage the protected area? <i>Inputs</i>	There are no staff	0		Lake of staff	
	Staff numbers are inadequate for critical management activities	1			
	Staff numbers are below optimum level for critical management activities	2	x		
	Staff numbers are adequate for the management needs of the protected area	3			
14. Staff training Are staff adequately trained to fulfil management objectives? <i>Inputs/Process</i>	Staff lack the skills needed for protected area management	0			
	Staff training and skills are low relative to the needs of the protected area	1			
	Staff training and skills are adequate, but could be further improved to fully achieve the objectives of management	2	x		
	Staff training and skills are aligned with the management needs of the protected area	3			
15. Current budget Is the current budget sufficient? <i>Inputs</i>	There is no budget for management of the protected area	0		Limited budget and bureaucratic inertia	
	The available budget is inadequate for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage	1	x		
	The available budget is acceptable but could be further improved to fully achieve effective management	2			
	The available budget is sufficient and meets the full management needs of the protected area	3			
16. Security of budget	There is no secure budget for the protected area and management is wholly reliant on outside or highly variable funding	0			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
Is the budget secure? <i>Inputs</i>	There is very little secure budget and the protected area could not function adequately without outside funding	1			
	There is a reasonably secure core budget for regular operation of the protected area but many innovations and initiatives are reliant on outside funding	2	x		
	There is a secure budget for the protected area and its management needs	3			
17. Management of budget Is the budget managed to meet critical management needs? <i>Process</i>	Budget management is very poor and significantly undermines effectiveness (e.g. late release of budget in financial year)	0		Despite the limited amount of funds the available budget is well utilized.	
	Budget management is poor and constrains effectiveness	1			
	Budget management is adequate but could be improved	2	x		
	Budget management is excellent and meets management needs	3			
18. Equipment Is equipment sufficient for management needs? <i>Input</i>	There are little or no equipment and facilities for management needs	0			
	There are some equipment and facilities but these are inadequate for most management needs	1			
	There are equipment and facilities, but still some gaps that constrain management	2	x		
	There are adequate equipment and facilities	3			
19. Maintenance of equipment Is equipment adequately maintained? <i>Process</i>	There is little or no maintenance of equipment and facilities	0			
	There is some <i>ad hoc</i> maintenance of equipment and facilities	1			
	There is basic maintenance of equipment and facilities	2	x		
	Equipment and facilities are well maintained	3			
20. Education and awareness Is there a planned	There is no education and awareness programme	0			
	There is a limited and <i>ad hoc</i> education and awareness programme	1			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
education programme linked to the objectives and needs? <i>Process</i>	There is an education and awareness programme but it only partly meets needs and could be improved	2			
	There is an appropriate and fully implemented education and awareness programme	3	x		
21. Planning for land and water use Does land and water use planning recognise the protected area and aid the achievement of objectives? <i>Planning</i>	Adjacent land and water use planning does not take into account the needs of the protected area and activities/policies are detrimental to the survival of the area	0			
	Adjacent land and water use planning does not takes into account the long term needs of the protected area, but activities are not detrimental the area	1			
	Adjacent land and water use planning partially takes into account the long term needs of the protected area	2	x		
	Adjacent land and water use planning fully takes into account the long term needs of the protected area	3			
Additional points: Land and water planning					
21a: Land and water planning for habitat conservation	Planning and management in the catchment or landscape containing the protected area incorporates provision for adequate environmental conditions (e.g. volume, quality and timing of water flow, air pollution levels etc) to sustain relevant habitats.	+1			
21b: Land and water planning for connectivity	Management of corridors linking the protected area provides for wildlife passage to key habitats outside the protected area (e.g. to allow migratory fish to travel between freshwater spawning sites and the sea, or to allow animal migration).	+1	x		
21c: Land and water planning for ecosystem services & species conservation	"Planning adresses ecosystem-specific needs and/or the needs of particular species of concern at an ecosystem scale (e.g. volume, quality and timing of freshwater flow to sustain particular species, fire management to maintain savannah habitats etc.)"	+1			
22. State and commercial neighbours Is there co-operation with adjacent land	There is no contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land and water users	0			
	There is contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land and water users but little or no cooperation	1			
	There is contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land and water users, but only some co-operation	2			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
and water users? <i>Process</i>	There is regular contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land and water users, and substantial co-operation on management	3	x		
23. Indigenous people Do indigenous and traditional peoples resident or regularly using the protected area have input to management decisions? <i>Process</i>	Indigenous and traditional peoples have no input into decisions relating to the management of the protected area	0		There are 21 indigenous people employed in PA as community guards- 27 daily workers	
	Indigenous and traditional peoples have some input into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management	1			
	Indigenous and traditional peoples directly contribute to some relevant decisions relating to management but their involvement could be improved	2			
	Indigenous and traditional peoples directly participate in all relevant decisions relating to management, e.g. co-management	3	x		
24. Local communities Do local communities resident or near the protected area have input to management decisions? <i>Process</i>	Local communities have no input into decisions relating to the management of the protected area	0			
	Local communities have some input into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management	1			
	Local communities directly contribute to some relevant decisions relating to management but their involvement could be improved	2			
	Local communities directly participate in all relevant decisions relating to management, e.g. co-management	3	x		
Additional points <i>Local communities/indigenous people</i>					
24 a. Impact on communities	There is open communication and trust between local and/or indigenous people, stakeholders and protected area managers	+1	x		
24b. Impact on communities	Programmes to enhance community welfare, while conserving protected area resources, are being implemented	+1	x		
24c. Impact on communities	Local and/or indigenous people actively support the protected area	+1	x		
25. Economic benefit	The protected area does not deliver any economic benefits to local communities	0		Hand craft production and training.	

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
Is the protected area providing economic benefits to local communities, e.g. income, employment, payment for environmental services? <i>Outcomes</i>	Potential economic benefits are recognised and plans to realise these are being developed	1		Providing them job opportunities. Handcrafts–promote eco-tourism	
	There is some flow of economic benefits to local communities	2	x		
	There is a major flow of economic benefits to local communities from activities associated with the protected area	3			
26. Monitoring and evaluation Are management activities monitored against performance? <i>Planning/Process</i>	There is no monitoring and evaluation in the protected area	0		Monitoring program for key species and flagship species	
	There is some <i>ad hoc</i> monitoring and evaluation, but no overall strategy and/or no regular collection of results	1			
	There is an agreed and implemented monitoring and evaluation system but results do not feed back into management	2	x		
	A good monitoring and evaluation system exists, is well implemented and used in adaptive management	3			
27. Visitor facilities Are visitor facilities adequate? <i>Outputs</i>	There are no visitor facilities and services despite an identified need	0		Must be revised and improved	
	Visitor facilities and services are inappropriate for current levels of visitation	1			
	Visitor facilities and services are adequate for current levels of visitation but could be improved	2	x		
	Visitor facilities and services are excellent for current levels of visitation	3			
28. Commercial tourism operators Do commercial tour operators contribute to protected area management? <i>Process</i>	There is little or no contact between managers and tourism operators using the protected area	0			
	There is contact between managers and tourism operators but this is largely confined to administrative or regulatory matters	1			
	There is limited co-operation between managers and tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences and maintain protected area values	2	x		
	There is good co-operation between managers and tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences, and maintain protected area values	3			

Issue	Criteria	Score: Tick only one box per question		Comment/Explanation	Next steps
29. Fees If fees (i.e. entry fees or fines) are applied, do they help protected area management? <i>Inputs/Process</i>	Although fees are theoretically applied, they are not collected	0			
	Fees are collected, but make no contribution to the protected area or its environs	1			
	Fees are collected, and make some contribution to the protected area and its environs	2	x		
	Fees are collected and make a substantial contribution to the protected area and its environs	3			
30. Condition of values What is the condition of the important values of the protected area as compared to when it was first designated? <i>Outcomes</i>	Many important biodiversity, ecological or cultural values are being severely degraded	0			
	Some biodiversity, ecological or cultural values are being severely degraded	1			
	Some biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are being partially degraded but the most important values have not been significantly impacted	2	x		
	Biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are predominantly intact	3			
<i>Additional Points: Condition of values</i>					
30a: Condition of values	The assessment of the condition of values is based on research and/or monitoring	+1	x		
30b: Condition of values	Specific management programmes are being implemented to address threats to biodiversity, ecological and cultural values	+1	x		
30c: Condition of values	Activities to maintain key biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are a routine part of park management	+1	x		
TOTAL SCORE			78		