



الأمانة العامة لصون
المها العربي
General Secretariat for
the Conservation of the
ARABIAN ORYX



ARABIAN ORYX CONSERVATION CHAMPIONS: A PROPOSAL

Opportunities for supporting
regional capacity building
& research



هيئة البيئة - أبوظبي
Environment Agency - ABU DHABI

ARABIAN ORYX CONSERVATION: A SHARED LEGACY



Arabian Oryx (*Oryx leucoryx*) are endemic to the Arabian Peninsula. They are the largest of the antelopes that once grazed the plains and deserts of the region and are uniquely adapted to the extremely arid environment. The beautiful body and the shape of the eyes of the Arabian Oryx inspired many Arabian poets who wrote of their beauty. Sadly, the Arabian Oryx were relentlessly persecuted until the last wild individuals were hunted in 1972. Thankfully, regional and international efforts through captive breeding and reintroduction initiatives have successfully restored the species in the Arabian Peninsula.

THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE ARABIAN ORYX (GSCAO): CHAMPIONING THE CAUSE OF ARABIAN ORYX CONSERVATION

GSCAO was established in 2001 with the key role of supporting all efforts to protect and conserve the Arabian Oryx, to agree regional criteria and standards, and to coordinate efforts between range states. The GSCAO is hosted by the Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi (EAD). Examples of key milestones of the GSCAO include:

- Development of the Arabian Oryx Regional Conservation Strategy and Action Plan in 2007
- Launching the GSCAO's website www.arabianoryx.org in 2013
- Surveying the Arabian Oryx disease in the range states (2011, 2013, 2015, 2018)
- Developing the first ever Arabian Oryx Housing and Husbandry guidelines in 2018, with partner institutions and members of the GSCAO's Technical Advisory Group.

GSCAO'S AREAS OF RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION

GSCAO raises the profile of Arabian Oryx Conservation in the region and supports range state countries through information sharing and capacity building. This is implemented through technical workshops that are organised based on the identified needs and priorities of local institutions of Arabian Oryx in the range states. Key conservation topics are determined through the GSCAO's five-year strategic work plans that are developed and agreed together with range states and partner institutions across the regions. Key work areas include:

- Reintroduction
- Conservation breeding
- Housing and Husbandry guidelines
- Veterinary care
- Genetic management
- Conservation planning
- Wildlife Record keeping
- Wildlife monitoring & ranger training
- Wildlife law enforcement
- Conservation education and awareness
- Capacity building

HOW CAN RANGE STATES AND PARTNER INSTITUTIONS CONTRIBUTE TO THE GSCAO'S EFFORTS?

Your institution is key to helping advance Arabian Oryx conservation across the region. As a member and partner of the Secretariat, you play a key role in helping achieve the shared vision of ensuring the continued survival of viable populations of the species across their historical range. Your support is essential to achieving the common goal for protecting and managing this species to the highest level of scientific and wildlife welfare standards.

Any contribution, big or small, can make a positive impact. You can help by contributing to the implementation of the GSCAO's strategic work plan through a number of activities, including:

- Hosting national or regional level capacity building workshops on Arabian Oryx conservation and management
- Funding and supporting the GSCAO's publications that include technical guidelines, position papers, workshop proceedings and surveys
- Supporting the participation of Arabian Oryx wildlife managers and scientists across the region in key technical workshops
- Providing in kind support through contributing expertise, facilitating meetings and discussions, providing advisory services, hosting of key meetings, and development of communication material on Arabian Oryx conservation efforts

WHY SUPPORT THE GSCAO?


By supporting and contributing to regional conservation efforts for the Arabian Oryx, your institution can:

- Have a leading role in setting conservation agendas and capacity building priorities
- Gain significant regional and global media exposure
- Contribute to regional/national conservation efforts
- Establish a legacy of protecting this iconic species for future generations
- Raise awareness and technical capacity at the local and regional level of species conservation efforts
- Help meet national level wildlife and biodiversity protection targets
- Support involvement of your local community and national stakeholders in the capacity building workshops and meetings of the Arabian Oryx Member States
- Receive direct technical and logistical support for events, meetings and other activities from the Secretariat for any sponsored activities
- Expose your logo on publications, website and giveaways
- Be mentioned in media releases of GSCAO
- Have the opportunity to speak at GSCAOs' events





FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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