

Leading the way in West Africa—Arguin, Saloum and Bijagos Marine Protected Areas

Conservation Cinema No. 62

Background:

In West Africa, marine protected areas are proving their success in protecting species and the livelihoods of people who depend on natural resources.

This film was produced by the Regional Coastal and Marine Conservation Programme for West Africa (PRCM) which coordinates the work carried out by international organisations (WWF, Foundation for the Banc d'Arguin, Wetlands International, IUCN) in seven West African coastal countries: Mauritania, Senegal, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone. It highlights three of the most important marine protected areas located in Mauritania, Senegal and Guinea Bissau.

Each of these areas is managed by local people. This special protection contributes to maintaining a healthy and productive environment and protecting the rich biodiversity which includes, among other iconic species: sharks (Banc d'Arguin National Park), manatee (Saloum) and hippopotamus (Bijagos). These protected areas serve as models to be followed by other West African countries where several marine protected areas are now being established.

Produced by the PRCM, 2003, French, 52 min.

Where:

7 October 11:45-12:45

'Arguin, Saloum, Bijagos' marine protected areas in West Africa

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About IUCN

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges by supporting scientific research; managing field projects all over the world; and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN, international conventions and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice.

The world's oldest and largest global environmental network, IUCN is a democratic membership union with more than 1,000 government and NGO member organizations, and almost 11,000 volunteer scientists and experts in some 160 countries. IUCN's work is supported by over 1,000 professional staff in 60 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world. IUCN's headquarters are located in Gland, near Geneva, in Switzerland.

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