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"First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win."

Mahatma Gandhi (Indian Philosopher, internationally esteemed for his doctrine of nonviolent protest, 1869-1948)



# The Egyptian Marine Living Resources of the Red Sea-Conservation Challenges and HEPCA's Role (lessons learned)

- Presentation content:
  - Introduction to the Red Sea living resources (limited but valuable)
  - Red Sea living resources between conservation and development/uses; Lessons learned and challenges for sustainable uses
- Summery on HEPCA's overview & roles



# Brief on HEPCA conservation roles with emphasis on solid waste management in the Egyptian Red Sea

- Presentation content:
  - Introduction HEPCA
  - Brief on HEPCA's conservations roles
- HEPCA and solid waste (successful story)

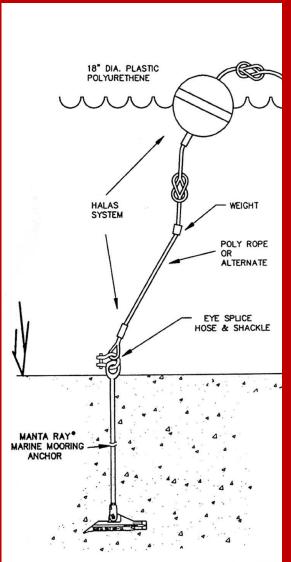
### **How we are?**

**HEPCA** (Hurghada Environment preservation and Conservation Association) is an EGYPTIAN NGO specializing in the field of marine and land conservation in the Egyptian Red Sea. What began with a dozen of concerned individuals (divers and dive operators), grew through the years to become a large network of scientists, professional divers, industry experts, and community members who are pro-active in protecting and preserving the natural resources of the Red Sea, as well as supporting the local community. HEPCA is declared offecially in 1995. See www.hepca.org





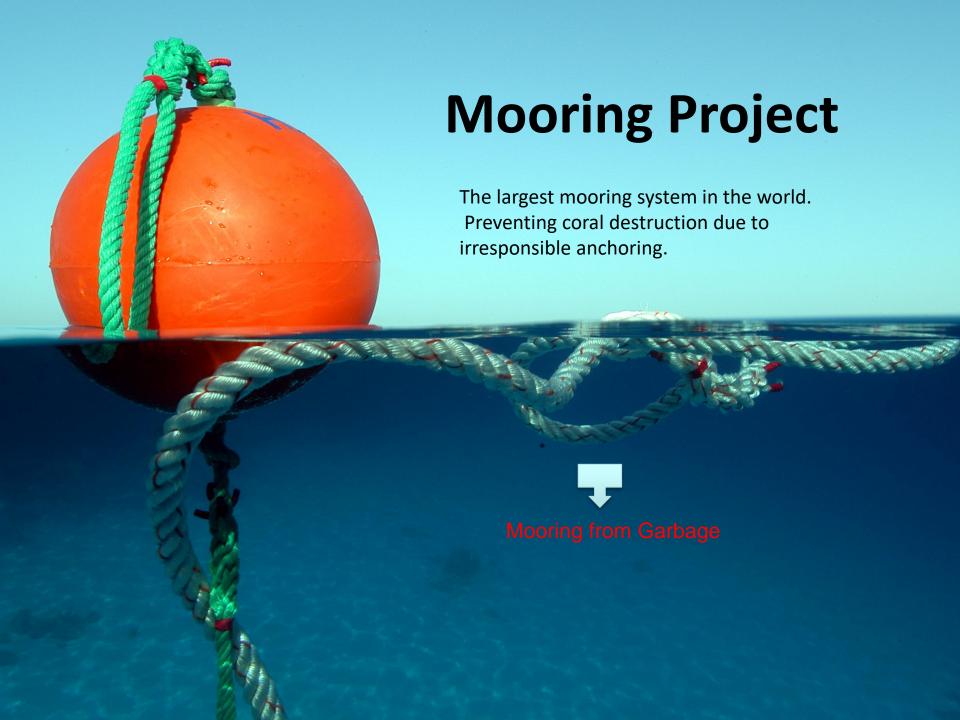
### The start: mooring installation







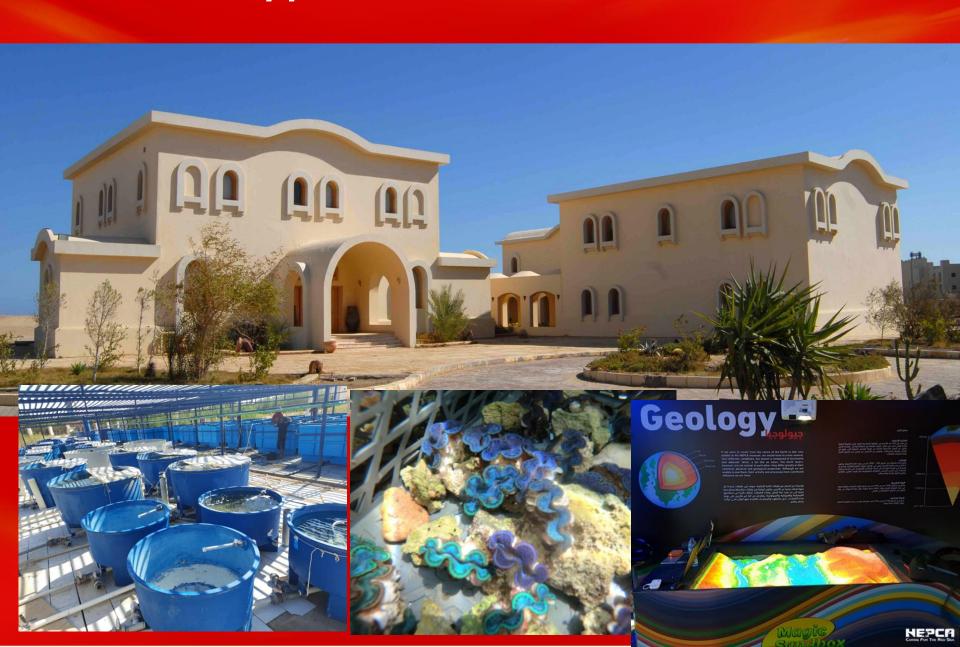








## **Support Education & Research**





## **Investing in Children & Youth**

**Outreach & awareness** 





# Solid waste management, success story Start: Clean ups campaigns

- Underwater and above water continuing clean ups
- Community based conservation



Lesson : un- sufficient without effective SW management process on land





## Marsa Alam Solid Waste Management





















# Hurghada Solid Waste Management







Workers and employees 680 in total and 390 sweepers











# Hurghada Solid waste Recycling plant 400 tons/day















# RS Governorate/HEPCA Experience in banning single use plastics

#### Start:

1- Governor Decree No. 54/2000: Banning plastic bags on pleasure boats

2- Governor Decree No. 489, 2008:
Banning light plastic bags in food staffs
Banning plastic bags less than 25
micron thickness in pleasure boats



### **The Governor Decree, 2018**

The ban of the single-use of plastic bags will apply on any food related outlets within the Red Sea like Restaurants, Coffee shops, Supermarkets, Groceries, Butchers, Fisheries, Fruits and Vegetables shops and Pharmacies, and will also ban single-use plastic cutleries used in food and beverage in Restaurants & Coffee shops as well as Safari and daily boats such as knives, plugs, plastic hooks, cups and dishes except for the usage of the heavy duty garbage bags. In addition to the above, the Red Sea governorate will not give authorization for plants to produce plastic bags within the city.

ينص القرار على حظر استخدام الأكياس البلاستيك بالمحال العاملة في مجال الغذاء (المطاعم – السوبر ماركت – البقالة – اللحوم – الأسماك – الفواكه والخضروات) و كذلك الصيدليات، كما يحظر حظرا نهائيا استخدام الأكياس البلاستيك و الأدوات البلاستيك والتي تستخدم لمرة واحدة في كافة أنشطة المشروبات والأطعمة مثل السكاكين والمعالق والشوك البلاستيك والأكواب والأطباق و الماصات (الشاليموه) بالمطاعم وكذلك المراكب السياحية كافة (السفاري - النزهة – اليومية) بمحافظة البحر الأحمر عدا الأكياس الثقيلة الخاصة بتجميع القمامة حفاظا على البيئة البحرية، كما ينص القرار عدم الترخيص لمصانع انتاج الاكياس الخفيفة داخل نطاق محافظة البحر الاحمر.



## Red Sea Hotels – plastic free

Our goal is to reduce the amount of one-way plastic in Red Sea Hotels

- Phase I
  - Stop disposable plastic in the all-inclusive operation
- Phase II
  - Replace plastic all-inclusive bracelets by organic bracelets
- Phase III
  - Stop plastic amenities in guest rooms, Stop plastic laundry bags
- Phase IV
  - Equipe Housekeeping, kitchen and admin with organic working equipments
- Phase V
  - Replace plastic decorations with decorations of organic materials





# Biodegradable plastic bags Is it true or commercial fraud

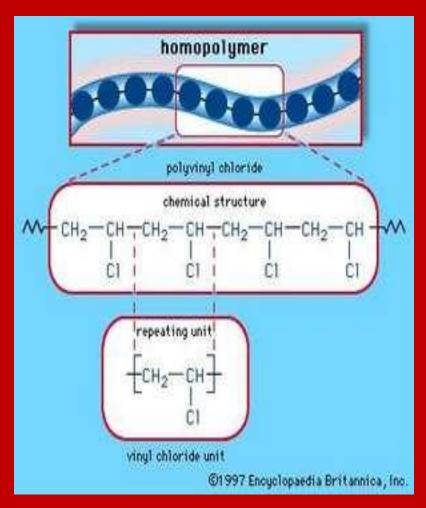






# Biodegradable plastic

- All plastic are degrading by bacteria, i.e. biodegradation
- Polymers are just fragmenting the long hydrocarbon chain in smaller chains
- Theoretically, this increase the surface of the plastic plastics and accelerate the rate of degradation under certain condition:
  - 30oC temperature
  - Enough UV light
  - Enough oxygen
  - "No available in marine or dumping sites"





Major publicity success: HEPCA and the Red Sea Governorate were selected by the Egyptian National Program of solid waste as Model for implementing the Extended Producer Responsibility(EPR), (https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\_fbid=142303531416403&id=100069102704325&sfnsn=scwspwa\_in Arabic).

# Coca Cola/HEPCA cooperative project "Towards more efficient municipal solid waste management plan for the city of Hurghada"

#### Goal

"improve the MSW management process for the City of Hurghada, with emphasis on collection and recycling of PET".

#### Through several specific objectives as follows:

- 1-Encourage the community to be engaged in the MSW management process: (cleanup and awareness campaigns, outreach programs).
- 2- Improve solid waste collection efficiency by 10-15%:
- 3: Improve the PET collection quantities and quality, and enhance the PET recycling process:

## Future aspiration

- Install PET recycling planet of 7,000 tones/year
- Install garbage bag production line to reduce introduction of plastic bags
- Recycling of organic waste, as feed for animals (restaurants & kitchens, 100 tons/day) Recycling of RDF
- Reduce the reject by at least 30%
- **o** Banning the single use plastics based on community support, and providing more and more of multiple use bags
- Build an educational Solid waste recycling Center



### In conclusion:

- ▶ It is Questionable: EPR (Extended Producers responsibility) OR EIR (Extended Impactors Responsibility) ??
- Raising the values of the recyclable materials by producers, will solve the problem
- ➤ I do believe that the SW management problems are not due financial constrains, the lack of proper management (HEPCA, as a case)
- NGOs/SW management is a win-win situation as a huge revenue generation tool to cover cost needs for their conservation activities
- ➤ Civil societies including non-profit NGOs are the key factor to solve the solid waste management in many cities (HEPCA's case)





# Thank you