Kuwait hosts Workshop on Conservation and Management of Protected Areas

5 April 2016

Kuwait

The IUCN Commission for Ecosystem Management for West Asia and the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) jointly organized a Workshop on Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in Kuwait from 20-24 March. The workshop was attended by 50 participants from a range of government agencies (Environment Public Authority), private sector (Kuwait Oil Company), NGOs (e.g. Kuwait Environmental Protection Society) as well as researchers from KISR.

The Ramsar Convention came into force in Kuwait in September 2016 and the workshop allowed participants to have a better understanding of the Ramsar Convention and Kuwait’s obligation as the newest Contracting Party, such as on the conservation and wise use of their accession Ramsar Site, the Mubarak Al-Kabeer Nature Reserve.

A field visit was made to the Jahra Pools Nature Reserve which is the largest freshwater area in the country and is formed by treated effluent flowing from a nearby town to the sea, forming open shallow pools and extensive areas of reedbeds. The site has the potential to be designated as the country second Ramsar Site.

The workshop was the latest in a series organized by the IUCN Commission for Ecosystem Management for West Asia. Previous workshops were held in Oman (2014) and Qatar (2015).

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