

TUNISIA / INSTM REPORT

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Created in 1924 according to the standard architectural model of that period with a laboratory for the research, a museum for the public, a library for the documentation, the Oceanographical Station of Salamambo (SOS) was the first and the greatest marine sciences institution created in Africa and in the Arabic World.

In 1996, the name SOS was changed into "National Institute of Sea Sciences and Technologies" (INSTM). It is composed of five research centers, a vessel "Hannibal," a seminar space, a library, and a museum with fresh and seawater aquaria.

Recently, the INSTM has increased personnel (70 reseachers, 15 technicians, 70 workers) and laboratory materials (Aquaculture, Biotechnologies, Aquatic environment, Marine resources...).

- INSTM leads national plan research (PNM) in marine sciences linked with development,
- It participates in the different regional and national networks in connection with the Mediterranean Sea,
- It helps in solving problems due to the urban and economic activity development on the coast and in territorial waters,
- It transfers knowledge and results of its experts to professional, scientific and technical groups that surround it.

The institute is composed currently of a scientific library with more than 40,000 documents some of them with electronic support. The subscription to the ASFA databases (Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts) constitutes an important tool for researchers.

The INSTM provides a great deal of effort in the promotion of science and technology of the sea. It leads many national research plan (PNM), organises annual scientific meetings in the form of international and national seminars and insures the dissemination of its results by the publication of technical scientific documents, among them:

- Bulletin of INSTM
- Reports and documents of INSTM.

