

Local Solutions to Global Sustainable Development Agenda

ICM Case Studies in the East Asian Seas Region

Editors: Chua Thia-Eng, Chou Loke Ming, Gil Jacinto and Danilo Bonga



Local Solutions to Global Sustainable Development Agenda: ICM Case Studies in the East Asian Seas Region highlights the contributions of PEMSEA over nearly 25 years in sustainable coastal development. The multi-sector, interdisciplinary approach being applied in the design and implementation of integrated coastal management (ICM) programs in East Asia provides good working models in policy and functional integration. Case studies of integration across coastal use sectors, disciplines, levels of government and stakeholders, as well as spatial and temporal scales, are discussed.

Over the decades, the pursuit by PEMSEA to operationalize ICM in the region has always been aligned with the prescriptions from international agendas, particularly those related to biodiversity, pollution, disasters, fisheries and water resources; in parallel with the progress made in concept and practice, globally; and attuned to the problems in the implementation of ICM, as they manifest at the local level. Over the years, ICM has gained increased political and social acceptance; provided

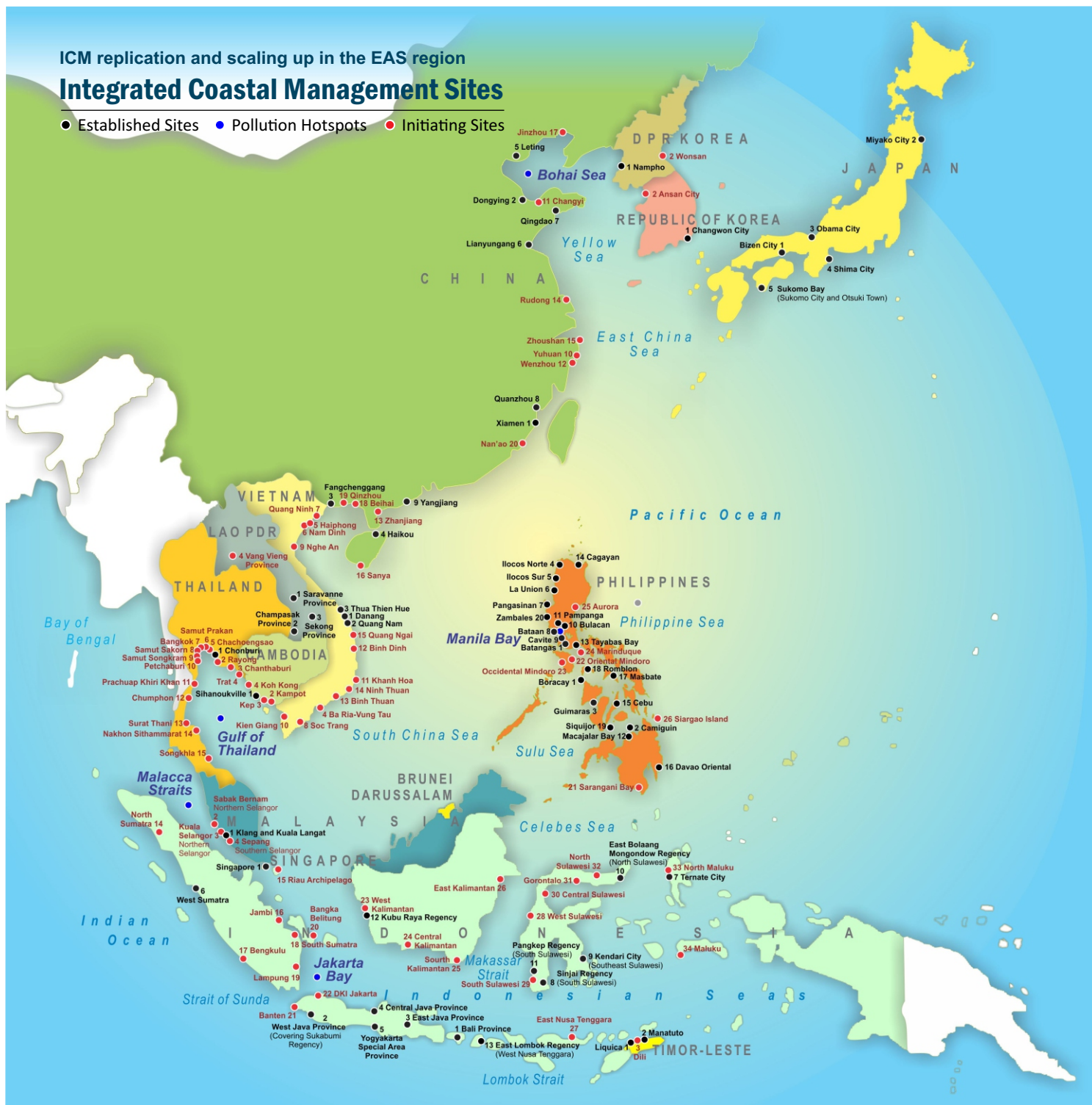
participatory platforms to strengthen interagency, inter-sector cooperation; strengthened policy-science integration to ensure effectiveness and efficiency in management interventions; built local institutional and individual management capacity for addressing management complexities in the coastal and marine areas; and created innovative sustainable financing mechanisms for long term investments.

In 2012, renewed calls to further secure political commitment for sustainable development ushered in what is known as the “Rio+20 initiative” with the release of the outcome document, *The Future We Want*. The year was also geared towards looking beyond the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which expired in 2015 and towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs provide 17 goals with 169 targets to guide actions globally in key areas where government, private sector and citizens must invest to transform economies and prosper within the social and ecological boundaries of the planet.

Against this new political commitment, and essaying the contributions of ICM to the new targets, this book is being published to highlight the unique evolution of the ICM system in the East Asian Seas region and to offer and demonstrate effective working models that have been well ahead of mechanisms being discussed in the international arena. Tractable outcomes have been demonstrated in support of ecosystem-based management, adaptive management, spatial planning, governance and public administration, systems science and leadership development.

The three-part publication:

- is a comprehensive discussion of the ICM system backed by 47 case studies;
- is written by local leaders, managers and practitioners, natural and social scientists, academicians and NGO partners;
- seeks to share PEMSEA's experience to support replication and scaling up of ICM in the region; and
- provides an operational modality that other regions in the world can apply.

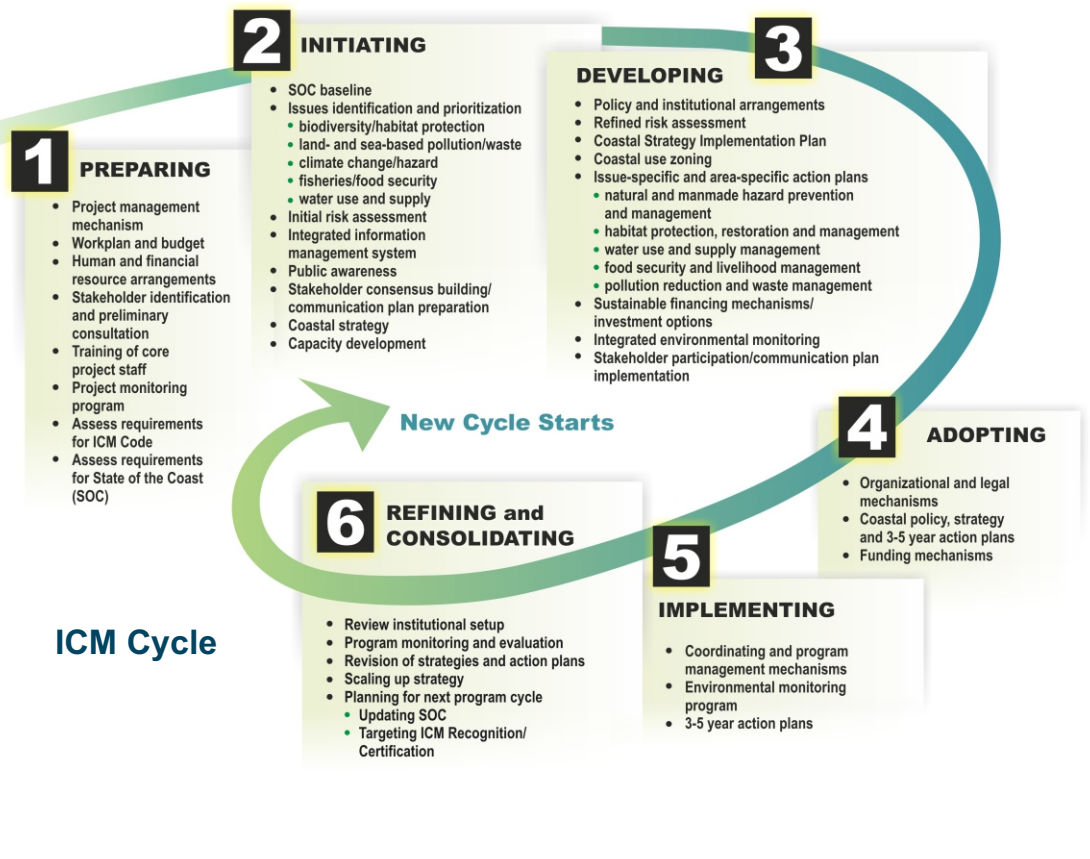
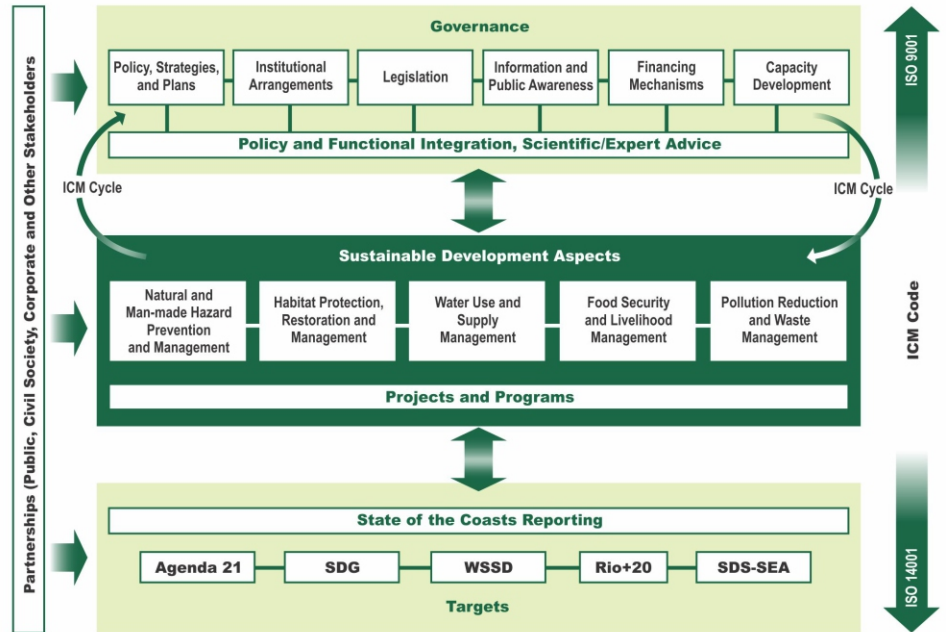


From 1993 to 2016, PEMSEA established ICM sites in almost 60 locations in 12 countries demonstrating the value of ICM and building capacity for expansion to other locations in collaboration with local governments. By 2016, over 17% of the region's coastline was under ICM.

Amplified in the book, PEMSEA utilizes two important methodological frameworks: (1) the Framework for Sustainable Development of Coastal Areas (SDCA) and (2) the ICM cycle. Both serve as a conceptual map and an analytical/decision-making tool—and thus a learning tool—that enable ICM to be operationalized and institutionalized in the sites.



Sustainable Development of Coastal Areas (SDCA)



The frameworks serve as an operational modality of the international instruments utilized by local governments to reinforce the ICM practice. They have since become a means to attract buy-in by the local governments; systematically identify and implement targeted management intervention, including economic investments and scientific research; and fortify partnerships and build capacities.

The benefits of an ICM system have been expanded in coastal areas and watersheds throughout the region's coastline through geographical and functional scaling up. PEMSEA and its partners have set a target of covering 25% of the region's coastline by 2021 to further demonstrate and validate the viability and effectiveness of an ICM system.

The book is replete with experiences relating to improved integrative, collaborative coastal governance:

- ▶ National policies, strategies and legislative support have been enhancing ICM system development and implementation at the local level.
- ▶ Over time, the experiences across various political, social and economic conditions amidst a wide range of issues of local, national and global concerns indicate that the ICM system is doable and viable.
- ▶ The ICM system provides an effective governance framework and operational processes across political systems, be it a democratic system (e.g. Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia) or a centralized system (e.g. China, Vietnam and DPR Korea); and across economic systems, be it a developed nation (e.g.

Singapore, RO Korea, Japan) or a developing nation (e.g. Timor Leste)

- ▶ Spatial planning has been demonstrated as a way to reduce or resolve use conflicts, maintain ecosystem health, help in food security and reduce impacts of disasters.
- ▶ Each ICM site has its own unique attributes and strengths that make them ideal sites for cross-learning and site visits to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and experiences in ICM implementation. A critical mass of coastal managers and ICM experts in the region has been developed over the years through this process.
- ▶ Stakeholder involvement has taken various forms, but partnerships have stood out as key to successful collaboration. Innovative partnership mechanisms have been created that helped implement management interventions and targeted investments and research.
- ▶ An informed public has been providing a strong political base for ICM system implementation.
- ▶ An initial batch of ICM sites have been conferred with Level 1 ICM certifications: in Cambodia (Preah Sihanouk); in China (Xiamen, Dongying, Fangchenggang, Lianyungang, Quanzhou, Haikou); in the Philippines (Batangas, Cavite, Bataan, Guimaras); in Thailand (Chonburi); and in Vietnam (Danang, Thua Thien Hue, Quangnam). More efforts are planned to make it a standard practice for ICM implementation. Underpinned by incremental, phased and periodic re-evaluation, certifications can contribute to continual improvement.

Register by sending an email to info@pemsea.org in order to receive a downloadable copy of the book.



PEMSEA Resource Facility

Tel: (+632) 929-2992
Fax: (+632) 926-9712

info@pemsea.org
www.pemsea.org