



PEMSEA/WP/2019/44

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE
MEETING OF THE GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA
PROJECT ON SCALING UP
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA

**Joy-Nostalg Hotel and Suites
Ortigas, Philippines**

10–11 April 2019



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Project Steering Committee Meeting of the **GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA)** was held at the Joy-Nostalg Hotel and Suites, Ortigas, Philippines on 10 – 11 April 2019. The Meeting was attended by representatives from eight project participating countries, namely: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines and the UNDP Regional Hub Bangkok were present on behalf of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as Secretariat for the Meeting.

Presentations made by country and PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) representatives during the meeting highlighted project achievements and progress, as well as challenges, lessons learned and remaining targets before the completion of the project.

The PSC made the following major decisions:

- Adoption of revised indicators and end of project targets and appropriate changes be incorporated as a revision to the Strategic Results Framework of the Project Document;
- Approval of Project Work Plan and Budget for January to August 2019 and the 12-month extension at no additional cost to GEF, as presented in the meeting;
- Review and evaluation of available budget which may be re-allocated to other priority activities before final budget re-allocation during the 11th Partnership Council Meeting on 24-26 July 2019; and
- Approval of conduct of the terminal evaluation at least 3 months before end of project.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
FOR THE GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA PROJECT ON SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY FOR THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA (SDS-SEA)**

**Joy-Nostalg Hotel and Suites
Ortigas, Philippines**

INTRODUCTION

- i. The Project Steering Committee Meeting of the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA Project on Scaling up the Implementation of the SDS-SEA was held at the Joy-Nostalg Hotel and Suites, Pasig City, Philippines on 10-11 April 2019.
- ii. The Meeting was attended by representatives from eight project participating countries, namely: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam.
- iii. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Philippines and the UNDP Regional Hub Bangkok were present on behalf of the Global Environment Facility and UNDP.
- iv. The PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF) served as Secretariat for the Meeting.
- v. The full list of participants is given in Annex 1.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

- i. Dr. Jose Erez Padilla, Regional Technical Adviser, Waters and Oceans, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub, served as Chair of the Meeting on behalf of Mr. Titon Mitra, Country Director, UNDP Manila, who was unable to attend.
- ii. Dr. Padilla welcomed all country representatives to the meeting and expressed appreciation to the Philippines Department of Environment and Natural Resources for co-hosting the event. He emphasized that PEMSEA's progress on coastal and ocean governance and management is being monitored using easily measurable and appreciated indicators, such as the length of coastline covered by integrated coastal management (ICM) programs. This type of tracking provides policymakers and local Chief Executives with clear indication of the project's scope and geographic coverage as well as its governance and management benefits in those areas where ICM is being implemented.

- iii. Dr. Padilla underscored the significance of the meeting including a review of progress and impacts that the project has achieved thus far, and consideration of the proposed 12-month project extension, as recommended in the project’s Mid-Term Review.
- iv. PEMSEA Executive Director Ms. Aimee Gonzales welcomed the participants and reminded them of their shared commitments to the project. Summarizing the objectives of the meeting, she stated that the meeting discussion will focus on the remaining two years of implementation and how each participating country intends to fulfill their respective targets not just by the completion of the project term but also beyond it and mainstreaming the scaling up of ICM implementation in the respective countries’ coastal and marine programs. The decision on the project’s extension on a “no additional cost” basis was also highlighted.
- v. The meeting adopted the agenda as presented in Annex 2.

1.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PSC MEETING 2018

- 1.1 Mr. Adrian Ross, Senior Project Manager, PRF, provided an overview of the decisions of the previous PSC meeting (July 2018) and the resulting actions taken by the PRF. He indicated that actions had been undertaken on all decisions, and that the outcomes of those actions, specifically those related to the Mid-Term Review (MTR) recommendations, would be presented under Items 4 and 5 of the meeting’s agenda.
- 1.2 Mr. Ross advised the meeting that the PRF had completed project review and planning meetings with National Implementing Partners in all participating countries during the first quarter of 2019. The meetings were conducted to assess the implications of the MTR recommendations on country work programs, budgets and targeted deliverables, and to agree on the proposed work program in each country for a 12-month project extension, from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020.
- 1.3 The Meeting was reminded that the proceedings of the 2018 PSC had been distributed to all participating countries in September 2018, and that no comments or questions were received by the PRF Secretariat. Thus, the 2018 PSC proceedings were considered approved on a ‘no-objection’ basis, and had been uploaded into the PEMSEA website (www.pemsea.org) for continuing reference.
- 1.4 The Meeting had no further comments on the actions taken by the PRF in addressing the decisions of the 2018 PSC.

2.0 COUNTRY AND REGIONAL PROGRESS REPORTS

- 2.1 The eight participating countries delivered their respective country reports. The Individual country reports are found in this [\(e-link\)](#)

CAMBODIA

- 2.2 The representative from Cambodia, Mr. Long Rithirak, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Environment, reported on Cambodia's progress in implementing the GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA SDS-SEA Scaling Up Project, including status of achieving end of project targets, target deliverables for 2019-2020, lessons learned, gaps and challenges and sustainability of SDS-SEA implementation beyond the project.
- 2.3 The presentation highlighted the following achievements in SDS-SEA Project implementation in Cambodia:
- At the national level, the updating of the White Paper which provides recommendations for policy reform, institutional strengthening and integration into the country's development plans have been completed. The first National State of Oceans and Coasts report has been completed and is expected to be published in 2019.
 - ICM program implementation currently covers 100% of Cambodia's coastline with ICM governance mechanism in place in the 4 coastal provinces, namely: Preah Sihanouk, Kampot, Kep and Koh Kong.
 - Implementation in the pilot sites addressing CCA/DRR (Toul Srangnam, Kep), habitat protection (Prek Thnoat, Kampot and Kampong Smach, Preah Sihanouk), fisheries and livelihoods (Koh Rong, Preah Sihanouk), pollution reduction and waste management (Khemrak Phumin, Koh Kong and Sihanoukville Municipality, Preah Sihanouk) is in progress: scoping, baseline and risk/vulnerability assessments were completed in all sites; 4 pilot sites (Toul Srangnam, Prek Thnoat, Kampong Smach and Koh Rong) have completed their management plans while 2 sites (Khemrak Phumin and Sihanoukville Municipality) are currently developing their management plans; as part of local government's initiatives, activities addressing the above priorities and in support of implementing their management plans are currently being undertaken in all of the sites.
 - On innovative financing mechanism, some coastal management initiatives are being funded from collection of user's fees from boat operators and the continuing partnership with Sihanoukville Tourism Association. Case study will be prepared to document good practices, lessons learned, benefits and impacts of this initiative.
 - Preah Sihanouk Province, as the most mature site has been providing mentoring and capacity building support to the 3 coastal provinces in various aspects of ICM program implementation.
- 2.4 Except for outcomes 6 (pollution reduction/waste management) and 7 (CCA/DRR) under Component 2, all other end of project targets identified for Cambodia under Components 1, 2 and 3 will be fully achieved by August 2020 following the 12-month no additional cost extension

of the project. End of project indicators for outcomes 6 and 7 are reduction in BOD and nutrients loads and awareness raising on evacuation routes and early warning system, respectively. The focus in Kep Province is saltwater intrusion and does not necessarily address awareness raising on early warning systems and evacuation routes.

2.5 There is a budget shortfall of about USD 55,000 for the implementation of the following priority activities: 1) the development of coastal use zoning plan in Kampot, 2) mangrove protection and rehabilitation in Kep; 3) initiation of community-based solid waste management in Koh Kong; and 4) preparation of METT assessment reports for Kampong Smach and Koh Rong.

2.6 Sustaining SDS-SEA implementation beyond the life of the project is anticipated through the: 1) legislation of the Environmental Code, which integrates a section on coastal zone management; 2) the implementation of the National Environment Strategy and Action Plan (2016-2023), which integrates priority programs of the SDS-SEA, including climate change, biodiversity conservation, pollution reduction and waste management, and 3) the establishment of the Coastal Conservation Unit within MOE, which is responsible for coastal conservation and management in Cambodia.

2.7 The following comments were raised after the presentation:

- With 100% of the country's coastline covered by ICM programs, the commitment and active involvement of provincial, city and municipal personnel is of paramount importance. A National ICM Forum will be conducted in 2019 to distill the good practices and lessons learned and to discuss the sustainability of coastal management initiatives beyond the life of the project.
- The mainstreaming of coastal management initiatives into local and national governments' development plans will be pursued to ensure the sustainability of management efforts, including promotion of ownership.
- Political will is key to ensuring the necessary balance across social, economic and environmental issues for sustainable development and blue economy growth. The case of Preah Sihanouk Province was cited by Mr. Long, where there has been a 300 percent increase in solid and liquid wastes from increased investments in the area. The Prime Minister mandated four Ministries (Environment, Land Management and Construction, Public Works and Transport, and Finance) to step up the efforts in addressing solid and liquid wastes issues in Preah Sihanouk Province and allocated 1 Million USD funding to support the efforts.

CHINA

2.8 Ms. Zhu Xiaotong, on behalf of the China-PEMSEA Center (CPC) of the First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources, China, informed the meeting that the CPC had been established by China's State Oceanic Administration and PEMSEA in December 2014. The

objectives of the CPC, as identified in the Agreement between the two organizations, are as follows:

- To guarantee the effective implementation of SDS-SEA in China;
- To provide certification and trainings related to ICM for China and the region;
- To provide technical support in ICM to local governments of coastal areas; and
- To conduct international cooperation related to ICM.

2.9 Ms. Zhu informed the meeting that all aspects of the SDS-SEA project are progressing well in China. She pointed out that, in March 2018, a major re-organization was initiated by the central government. As a consequence, the State Oceanic Administration was dissolved and a new ministry, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), was created. The MNR is responsible for ocean-related resource management policies and programs in China, among others, including the implementation of the SDS-SEA. Ms. Zhu indicated that the re-organization process is still underway, specifically at the sub-national level. To provide a more comprehensive assessment of the potential implications of these changes on national ocean policy, institutional arrangements and SDS-SEA implementation in China, a contract was issued by PEMSEA to CPC in December 2018 to conduct a national review. The report will be completed and submitted by December 2019.

2.10 At present, more than 30% of China's coastline is covered by ICM programs. The coverage includes 22 sub-national/local governments, 8 of which are new ICM sites (an additional 20% of the coastline) that were established under the current project. In addition, 11 pilot sites have been operationalized within existing ICM programs to demonstrate ICM scaling up approaches and benefits. The 11 pilot projects cover:

- Habitat protection/restoration: 27 hectares of Chinese Tamarix in Changyi Special Marine Ecological Protected Area; 462.3 hectares of coastal wetlands of Daling River Estuary (Jinzhou, Liaoning) restored with native species (*Saline Seepweed (Suaeda heteroptera)*, Common Bulrush (*Herba Scipi triquetris*), and Common Reed (*Phragmites communis*); benefit assessments underway.
- MPA management and effectiveness: strengthening MPA management effectiveness of Nanji Islands, Dongying, Quanzhou, Fangchenggang and Yangjiang areas, with a total areal coverage of more than 4,000 km²; baseline METTs completed, management responses developed and management improvements being initiated; Sustainable fisheries/EAFM: demonstrating an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management and Livelihoods Development in Haizhou Bay, Lianyungang City, with total coverage 820 km² sea area; management plan developed and sea ranching and artificial reef installation initiated, along with alternative livelihood program.
- Climate change adaptation/disaster risk reduction: developing and implementing a preparedness and response program for sea level rise in Dongying City; 412.67 km of coastline; storm surges caused direct economic loss of more than 700 million RMB; coastal vulnerability assessment and response program completed; initiation of Early Warning System (EWS), awareness building and response measures.

- Pollution reduction: report of Fujian Province’s legislation on water resource management and benefits to strengthening integrated river basin and coastal area (Jiulong River/Xiamen Bay) management (December 2019).
- Innovative financing mechanisms/economic instruments: marine ecological GDP research and case study of Sanya; integrating natural capital valuation into diving anagement in Sanya; ecosystem marine function zoning: a case study of Xiamen.

2.11 Ms. Zhu indicated that the proposed 12-month extension would provide CPC with the opportunity to monitor and assess the impact of the management interventions being undertaken at the 11 pilot sites, as well as strengthen the development and implementation of ICM programs at the 8 new ICM sites in China. The project plans to organize and conduct a national ICM workshop in 2019 to take stock of ICM programs across the 22 local governments and identify areas for improvement. In 2020, the project is planning a national SDS-SEA workshop to review and assess the contribution of SDS-SEA implementation to the objectives and priorities of China’s coast’s and ocean’s policy and programs, and its sustainability beyond the current project.

INDONESIA

2.12 Mr. Dida Migfar Ridha, Director of Marine and Coastal Pollution and Degradation Control, Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MOEF), presented Indonesia’s country report.

2.13 The presentation highlighted the following:

- Indonesia has established a policy and legislative framework for managing its marine and coastal areas, including the Indonesian Ocean Policy that was adopted in 2017. Preparation of a national SDS-SEA Implementation Plan is ongoing.
- ICM coastline coverage is currently 33%, having increased from 7.69% at the start of the project, considering 18 provinces that have adopted ICM zoning plans. This is likely to increase as preparation of ICM plans are ongoing in other coastal provinces, as required under NA 27/2007 (Law on Management of Coastal Zones and Small Islands, amended in 2014) and NA 23/2014 that transferred responsibility for coastal management to provincial level.
- Implementation in Indonesia’s six ICM Learning Sites is in progress with key ICM governance elements in place/strengthened at the local government level; and conduct of baseline and risk/ vulnerability assessments and preparation/updating of management plans in progress in pilot sites; various local, national and partner initiatives are ongoing in support of these management plans

- Some quantitative targets in the pilot sites are not likely to be achieved despite the 12-month extension, including selected indicators under Output 5.1 (sustainable fisheries/EAFM), Output 5.2 (alternative livelihoods), Output 6.1 (pollution reduction/waste management) and Output 7.1 (CCA/DRR). Amended indicators were proposed, considering recommendations from the project Mid-Term Review, as discussed in the 2018 PSC Meeting.
 - ICM coordination and management mechanisms at the local level provided a forum across agencies and sectors to discuss roles and responsibilities in environmental/marine/coastal management, plans and resources for implementation, and various concerns. However, increasing problems in coastal and marine areas such as nutrients, waste water, marine litter and micro plastic pose challenges to ICM programs. Replication of good practices and sustainability of ICM Learning Sites also need continuing capacity building, institutional strengthening, strategic programming and funding. Governance mechanisms need to be improved to harmonize marine and coastal management vertically across regency/city, provincial and national levels. Indonesia is developing a Marine Quality Index as indicator target for marine and coastal management.
 - A National ICM Forum will be conducted in 2019 to take stock, consolidate lessons learned and good practices, and confirm the coverage of ICM programs in Indonesia. A workshop on SDS-SEA scaling up will be conducted before the end of the project in 2020 to discuss sustainability of results and outcomes beyond the project, considering Indonesia's related national and local programs, and sustainable development and ocean-related commitments.
- 2.14 Ms. Ingrid Narcise, Country Programme Manager, PRF, highlighted Indonesia's progress in implementing their national ICM program, and the SDS-SEA Project's contributions to support this program by demonstrating approaches and tools for strengthening local capacities and institutional mechanisms for ICM implementation. The shift in authority for marine and coastal management from regency/city to provincial level provided a challenge to the regency/city-level sites of the SDS-SEA Project to coordinate their programs with the provincial government, but it also provides an opportunity to scale up ICM implementation in Indonesia as ICM plans are being developed at the provincial level.
- 2.15 Dr. Padilla appreciated Indonesia's achievements in ICM implementation considering the country's long coastline and limited project resources. He recognized the partnerships that contributed to these achievements and encouraged all countries to track and report these partnerships. He also encouraged countries to align and track the achievement of project targets to relevant SDGs. He recommended to discuss the proposed amended project indicators under Agenda Item 4 of the meeting.
- 2.16 Questions raised during the discussion concerned Indonesia's experience in the delegation of authority for marine and coastal management to the provincial level as well as experiences and

challenges in coordinating various marine and coastal management projects at varying scales (i.e., from local to LMEs).

2.17 Mr. Ridha explained that:

- Indonesia applies a combination of top-down and bottom-up approaches in managing their coastal and marine areas. Although responsibility for marine and coastal management has been moved to the provincial government, environmental and pollution management remains at the local level. Their environmental impact assessment system ensures that medium-term planning do not impact coastal and marine environment and resources; and
- Depending on the issue, Indonesia coordinates various marine and coastal initiatives at varying scales. Currently they are establishing a Regional Ocean Center in Bali that will promote opportunities for sharing experiences and knowledge with other countries, and bring together solutions for improving environmental and marine/coastal management in each country and the region.

LAO PDR

2.18 The representative from Lao PDR, Ms. Chindavanh Souriyaphack, Technical Officer, Department of Water Resources, presented the status of Scaling Up SDS-SEA implementation in Lao PDR, including target deliverables for 2019-2020, challenges, lessons learned and sustainability of SDS-SEA implementation after GEF support.

2.19 The presentation highlighted the following:

- Lao PDR has enacted the updated Water and Water Resources Law in 2017, which provides the legal framework for improved river basin management in the country. The development of the National Water Resources Strategy to 2030 is currently ongoing while a National Guideline on Water Use Fee has been drafted.
- For local level implementation, key governance elements for integrated river basin management (IRBM) in 3 sub-basins (Houay Champi, Houay Paili and Houa Sedone) covering the 3 provinces in the Sedone River Basin have been put in place except for sub-basin management plans which are undergoing development. At least 50 members of the core teams and Steering Committees of the 3 provinces have been trained on IRBM principles and implementation practices.
- In support of the implementation of the Sedone River Basin Strategy, scoping, baseline, risk and vulnerability assessments for the implementation of on-the-ground activities covering water supply, livelihood and pollution reduction were completed in the 3 sub-

basins. Activities for the provision of access to adequate and safe drinking water benefiting at least 250 households in the 3 sub-basins has been initiated.

- 2.20 Despite delays in project implementation due to long approval process of the Government, all end of project targets are expected to be fully achieved if the project is extended by 12-months, as recommended in the MTR report.
- 2.21 The sustainability of SDS-SEA implementation beyond GEF support is anticipated through the implementation of the updated Water and Water Resources Law, the adoption and implementation of the National Water Resources Strategy to 2030, and the adoption and implementation of the Water Permit Guideline.
- 2.22 The initial tracking of co-financing commitments for the SDS-SEA Project, which is estimated at 4.1 Million USD, excluding the 6.7 Million USD loan from World Bank to support the implementation of integrated water resource management in the lower Mekong region, includes Sedone River Basin. The estimated co-financing excludes in-kind commitments such as personnel and office allocation. The initial co-financing estimates exceeded the commitment of 2.5 Million USD as indicated by the Government of Lao PDR at the start of project.
- 2.23 The following points were clarified during discussion:
- The tracking of co-financing commitments should not include other GEF supported projects.
 - The implementation of the SDS-SEA Scaling Up Project in Lao PDR, being a landlocked country, exemplifies the “ridge-to-reef” approach of addressing coastal pollution highlighting that activities in the upstream will affect the coastal areas.

PHILIPPINES

- 2.24 Ms. Crisanta Marlene Rodriguez, Director, Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources presented the Philippines country report on SDS-SEA implementation.
- 2.25 Highlights of the presentation included the following:
- Philippine Government’s commitment and support to SDS-SEA implementation and scaling up through hosting of the 2018 East Asian Seas Congress that provided the platform for reporting and sharing of efforts of various EAS stakeholders and partners that contribute to SDS-SEA implementation.
 - Achieving the target for ICM scaling up which was confirmed and validated through the conduct of ICM Third Party Assessment (TPA) using the ICM Code as standard for assessing 32 coastal provinces (out of 64) covering an estimated coastline of 9.747 km or 26.85% of the Philippine coastline.

- ICM implementation at 8 ICM learning sites cover:
 - Habitat protection/restoration: assessment and mapping of coral reefs in 24 sampling sites in 9 municipalities covering 1,795 hectares of coral reefs in Tablas Island in Romblon Province for potential ecotourism and livelihood opportunities in collaboration with DENR and Romblon State University. Biophysical assessment of 46 MPAs (1,969.934 hectares) in Batangas Province covering critical habitats in collaboration with Malampaya Foundation.
 - MPA management and networking: Periodic monitoring of critical habitats in 2 MPAs in Guimaras Province in collaboration with University of the Philippines Visayas showing increased coral cover and fish density inside the core zones of the 2 MPAs in Guimaras Province. Increased areal coverage of coastal and marine areas in Guimaras Province placed under protected status, i.e., from 4 MPAs in 1990 to 12 MPAs in 2018 with an increase of 841 hectares of marine areas covered. Increase in METT ratings obtained for MPAs in Guimaras Province, Oriental Mindoro Province and Macajalar Bay. Strengthening of networking of the 46 MPAs in Batangas Province continuing.
 - Climate change adaptation/disaster risk reduction: LGU Resilience Scorecard application in Bataan Province launched in coordination with the National Resilience Council. Consultations with the Provinces of Cavite and Pampanga on the application of the scorecard initiated.
 - Pollution reduction: Batangas Bay watershed profile prepared and validated involving local university partners, key local government departments and national agencies.
 - Sustainable fisheries: Bay-wide ICM plan developed for Macajalar Bay covering 470km² of fishing ground; Macajalar Bay Ecological and Fisheries Profile being updated.
- Engaging stakeholders and university partners in consultations, planning and implementation which reinforced learnings and capacity building, knowledge exchange and documentation of project impacts.
- Actions for addressing delay in project implementation, particularly in Romblon Province where the commitment of Romblon State University in project implementation was secured.
- No budget shortfall for the identified activities for 2019 and for the 12-month extension until August 2020.

- 2.26 The sustainability of the SDS-SEA will be ensured by mainstreaming the project's outputs, good practices, tools and approaches into DENR BMB's priority programs for coastal and marine management, particularly the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Management Program (2016-2028). BMB's effort to develop a number of coastal management-related Technical Bulletins are also expected to support SDS-SEA/ICM implementation and scaling up. Moreover, BMB's plan to conduct a second cycle TPA to cover the remaining coastal provinces will confirm the total coastline covered with ICM in support of the Philippines' commitment to the Danang Compact.
- 2.27 The project facilitated the creation of partnerships in the ICM sites where various ICM-related projects are also being implemented to reduce duplication of efforts and facilitate sharing of resources. More importantly, the project provided added value to existing efforts by introducing an integrative framework where specialized work of various institutions and projects, including sectoral concerns are discussed and mainstreamed, in support of the concerned local government's priorities and targets.
- 2.28 Clarifications were requested on: sustaining the efforts of the project, for instance, in linking the results of modeling efforts and recommendations from SOC reporting with strategic planning, including alignment with the priorities of national governments, for instance on biodiversity conservation; and how the outputs from previous phases of the GEF Project in Manila Bay are being utilized in the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program of the national government.
- 2.29 Ms. Nancy Bermas, Senior Country Programme Manager, PRF, emphasized that the Operational Plan for the Manila Bay Coastal Strategy (OPMBCS), one of the key outputs from the GEF-supported Manila Bay Environmental Management Project (MBEMP), was cited in the Supreme Court Decision issued in December 2008 requiring 14 national government agencies to clean and rehabilitate Manila Bay. In addition, DENR has published the second edition of the Manila Bay Atlas, which provides an update on the status of resources and environment in the Bay resulting from the implementation of the OPMBCS. The selection of Manila Bay as demonstration site for the GEF/UNEP Global Nutrient Cycling Project was also cited where the SDS-SEA Project is benefiting from capacity building on the application of nutrient modeling tools that were developed under the GNC Project in Batangas Bay watershed.
- 2.30 Dr. Padilla concluded that other countries may be interested in nutrient modeling particularly in light of the new GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA IRBM project and suggested that exchanges between Philippines and other countries can be further pursued.

THAILAND

- 2.31 Mr. Sakanan Plathong of Prince of Songkla University presented Thailand's country report on behalf of the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR).
- 2.32 The presentation highlighted the following:

- Despite the delayed project approval and initiation in Thailand, various national, local and project initiatives have been undertaken that contribute to achieving the project targets.
- There have been a lot of progress on marine and coastal governance in Thailand, with the development and implementation of key national policies, plans, legislations and programs and many national reforms for sustainable development of coastal and marine areas and resources
- ICM is covering more than 17% of the country's coastline. National implementation of ICM and marine spatial planning is facilitated by the following:
 - Promotion of Marine and Coastal Resources Management Act 2015, which mandated the establishment of 1) a National Marine and Coastal Resources Committee chaired by the Vice Prime Minister, with subcommittees and working groups focusing on various issues including preparation of national State of Coast report; and 2) Provincial Marine and Coastal Resources Committees chaired by the Governor to coordinate preparation of marine and coastal resources management plans for integration into provincial development plans and preparation of annual provincial State of the Coast reports (similar to the ICM approach promoted by PEMSEA).
 - National Marine Interest Act 2019, which promotes marine spatial planning; under the Act, a committee will be established to be led by the Prime Minister, which will prepare a National Marine Policy.
 - Marine spatial plans will be prepared for all provinces, to be accompanied by strengthening of provincial marine and coastal resources committees to implement the plans, capacity building for managers and stakeholders and implementation of pilot projects.
- While the SDS-SEA Project is focused on the eastern coast, other similar initiatives are being implemented in other areas of the country.
- The SDS-SEA/ICM Scaling Up Project in the provinces of Chonburi, Chantaburi, Rayong and Trat are being initiated, building on existing marine and coastal management mechanisms, programs and projects, including the following:
 - Chonburi: operationalizing the Provincial Oil Spill Contingency Plan (prepared in previous PEMSEA project phase) replicating the approach and system set up in Saensuk Municipality, in coordination with the Marine Department and other concerned agencies; and preparing a coastal erosion management plan for Saensuk and coastal use zoning plan for Koh Sichang Municipality in conjunction with programs to implement the above-mentioned laws.
 - Chantaburi: consolidating and enhancing ongoing mangrove rehabilitation projects supported by the government and various partners under a habitat and

marine resources and conservation plan for the pilot sites in Bangkrachai, Khlong Kut, Koh Proet & Pak Nam Laem Sing Subdistricts.

- Rayong: improving cooperation and efficiency and reducing conflicts in solid waste management through the preparation and implementation of an integrated solid waste management plan for Tapong, Ban Pae and Klang Subdistricts, Neung Phra, Muang Rayong and Ban Pae Municipalities, and Khao Leamyia- Koh Samet National Park.
 - Trat: improving fisheries management in Mairut and Laemklat Subdistricts, including implementation of the fisheries conservation zone in Mairut.
 - Consultations, establishment of working groups, orientation and data gathering for the preparation of SOC reports for the provinces and conduct of baseline and risk and vulnerability assessments in the pilot sites are ongoing; orientation on CUZ has been conducted for Koh Sichang.
- The components of the project focusing on oil spill preparedness and response in the Gulf of Thailand and the Port Safety Health and Environmental Management System (PSHEMS) have progressed significantly.
 - Capacity building and further research are needed with regard to the social and economic benefits of marine and coastal ecosystems and their conservation, and enhancing collaborations between natural scientists and economists.
 - There are sufficient project funds to implement the agreed work plan for 2019-2020.

2.33 During the follow-on discussion, Ms. Narcise added that although project development and planning in Thailand took time, the project was developed and will be implemented in the context of the Marine and Coastal Resources Management Act. The Provincial Marine and Coastal Resources Committees in the four provinces will be serving as ICM Project Coordinating Committees and the Secretariat of the Provincial Committees will be serving as ICM Project Management Office (i.e., no need to establish separate mechanisms). Priorities and activities were adequately discussed with local pilot sites, and collaborations with universities/ICM Learning Centers were arranged for support in implementing the project. With the SDS-SEA project designed to support implementation of the Marine and Coastal Resources Management Act, support from DMCR was also guaranteed, which is important for sustainability of results after the project.

2.34 Dr. Padilla noted that extending Thailand's ICM coverage from the initial 5.46% to 20%, will be impressive once brought to fruition. Mr. Sakanan responded that considering the implementation of the Marine and Coastal Resources Management Act, the ICM coverage could be up to 100%.

2.35 Mr. Ross commended the role of the universities in the scaling up of ICM implementation in Thailand. In particular, Burapha University and Prince of Songkla University are very strong

partners of PEMSEA and the local governments. It was also indicated that Mr. Sakanan is a close partner of DMCR and heavily involved in policy and legislative reform initiatives in Thailand. ICM scaling up may have its challenges but it is already enshrined in the law and there are good opportunities for progress.

TIMOR-LESTE

2.36 Mr. Celestino da Cunha Barreto, National Director for Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Management, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAF), presented Timor Leste's country report.

2.37 The presentation highlighted the following:

- Project implementation at the national and local levels are well underway and targets are likely to be completed before the end of the project.
- A key output at the national level, the National Oceans Policy, will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for review. Preparation of an implementation plan for the policy will be initiated in the coming months, targeting submission to the government in early 2020. A strategy and action plan have been agreed with the Policy Development Working Group in Timor Leste to facilitate these activities.
- ICM programs in three municipalities (Dili, Liquica and Manatuto) cover 32% of the country's coastline. ICM governance mechanisms are being strengthened at the municipal level, with the establishment of ICM coordination and management mechanisms and ongoing preparation of long-term coastal strategies and medium-term implementation plans. In parallel, in village-level pilot sites, risk and vulnerability assessments have been completed, preparation of management plans are ongoing and on-the-ground actions are being implemented addressing priority issues:
 - In Maabat Village, Manatuto Municipality, consultations are ongoing for strengthening institutional mechanisms for a locally managed marine area established through traditional law; and training on mangrove rehabilitation, mudcrab culture and participatory monitoring of local fisheries have been undertaken with various partners.
 - In Vaviquinia Village, Liquica Municipality, mangrove rehabilitation is being done to prevent coastal erosion and to minimize impacts of flooding during rainy season and extreme high tide events; support for improving capacity for nearshore fisheries is being coordinated with MAF; and priorities for alternative livelihood development have been identified. In Ulmera and Vatuvou villages, PEMSEA sites in previous GEF project phase, eco-tourism and livelihood development are being continued with various partners.

- In Atauro Island, Dili Municipality, baseline assessment of the Atauro-Vila MPA using the MPA management effectiveness tracking tool (METT) showed various areas of improvement. Consultations are ongoing with various organizations working in the area to harmonize efforts towards improving the METT rating.
- Collaborations with the National University of Timor Leste (UNTL) and Oriental University of Timor Leste (UNITAL), PEMSEA ICM Learning Centers, are operational at the national and local levels.
- The SDS-SEA Project has contributed to the following: 1) continuing commitment of the Government of Timor Leste (GoTL) to provide voluntary financial contribution to PEMSEA; 2) commitment of GoTL to implement the National Oceans Policy following its adoption by the Council of Ministers; 3) commitment of the municipalities of Dili, Liquica and Manatuto to implement ICM, and promote coordination among their various partners; 4) Inclusion of ICM into the curriculum of the newly-established Department of Fisheries and Marine Science at UNTL; 5) promoting the concept of Blue Economy development in the country and as a way to foster cooperation with neighboring countries; 6) promoting with UNDP, UNESCO, FAO and various international and local NGOs, how ongoing and pipeline projects can be integrated/consolidated toward common objectives; 7) experience in accessing financial support for ICM programs from government and other partners; and 8) inspiring individuals involved with PEMSEA to seek further education in the field of marine and coastal and fisheries management.
- Further efforts are needed to enhance national coordination mechanisms for donor projects to avoid duplication and ensure support for government plans and programs; promote sharing of data/information from sectoral programs/projects; and promote government commitment to sustain achievements of completed projects through incorporation into government plans and budgets.
- Timor Leste's National SDS-SEA Program includes ongoing and planned projects with various partners and donors that will be contributing towards the SDS-SEA targets beyond the current GEF/UNDP SDS-SEA Project, including the following:
 - GEF/UNDP Project on Implementation of the Arafura and Timor Seas Regional and National Strategy Action Program (ATSEA2);
 - GEF/UNDP Project on Building Shoreline Resilience of Timor Lest to Protect Local Communities and their Livelihoods;
 - GEF/FAO Project on Transboundary Cooperation for Sustainable Management of the Indonesian Seas; and
 - Various bilateral, multi-lateral and donor-supported projects.

2.38 In the discussions following the presentation, Ms. Narcise underscored Timor Leste's commitment to PEMSEA and the SDS-SEA Programme demonstrated through the country's annual financial contribution to PEMSEA. With limited GEF funds remaining, the country contribution will be supporting most of the activities specified in the project work plan for 2019-

2020. Considering ongoing government decentralization, the SDS-SEA project is contributing to enhance local government capacity and mechanisms for integrated management of marine and coastal areas and resources at the local level. And the National Oceans Policy is expected to provide the framework for consolidating the country's various programs and donor projects toward common objectives.

- 2.39 The importance of the National Oceans Policy and the process of its development to Timor Leste were emphasized. As a country that is emerging from relatively recent conflicts, the preparation of the ocean policy was able to bring stakeholder groups together, including donors, to agree on six strategic objectives (i.e., working together, securing national jurisdictions, blue economy development, strengthening natural defense, investing in people/capacity development, and climate change adaptation and mitigation). The policy provides a framework for working together and convening various efforts including donor programs and projects. Hopefully the effort can advance further in the coming months.

VIET NAM

- 2.40 Ms. Nguyen Thanh Thao, Deputy Director, Department of International Cooperation, Science and Technology, Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands presented Vietnam's country report on SDS-SEA implementation.
- 2.41 The presentation highlighted the significant developments in national coastal and ocean policy and institutional arrangements in Vietnam over the past years, which directly contribute to SDS-SEA implementation in Vietnam. These include the following:
- Approval by the Prime Minister of the National ICM Strategy up to 2020 with Vision to 2030 (Decision No. 2295/QD-TTg) in 2014.
 - Approval by the Prime Minister of the National ICM Action Plan 2016-2020 (Decision No. 914/QD-TTg) in 2016.
 - Passage of the Law on Marine and Island Resources and Environment in 2015 and promulgation of Decree No. 40/2016/ND-CP in 2016 providing details for the implementation of certain articles of the Law, including the development and implementation of ICM programs at the local level.
 - Issuance of Decision No. 2363/QD-BDP and Decision No. 01/QD-BDP in 2017 detailing the operational mechanisms for the National ICM Coordinating Committee and establishing the National ICM Coordination Office, respectively.
 - Approval of Circular No 49 by in 2017 (No. 49/2017/TT-BTNMT) detailing the technical regulations for ICM. The Circular aims to implement the articles of the Law on Marine and Island Resources and Environment on ICM and its implementation is anticipated to facilitate the coverage of the 28 coastal provinces.

- Achieving the target for ICM scaling up, which is estimated to cover 49.2% of the country's coastline, involving 14 out of the 28 coastal provinces.
 - No budget shortfall for the identified activities for 2019 and for the 12-month extension until August 2020.
- 2.42 The delay in project implementation in Vietnam is mainly attributed to the long review and approval process of foreign-funded projects at the national level and tedious administrative procedures in certain provinces.
- 2.43 Ms. Thao indicated that VASI and the 6 provinces are committed to fast track the implementation of project activities to ensure that the expected deliverables will be completed by June 2020.
- 2.44 Ms. Bermas opined that Vietnam has benefited from the experiences of other countries with mature ICM programs such as the Philippines. Danang's achievements since its establishment as national ICM demonstration site in 2000 are well recognized and is becoming a favored venue for international events, including the GEF Expanded Constituency Workshop in 2017 and the GEF General Assembly in 2018. The study visits associated with these events have provided opportunities for Danang to showcase its efforts in ICM implementation.
- 2.45 Dr. Padilla attested Vietnam's commitment for ICM implementation and scaling up through its own initiatives or with support from other development partners.
- 2.46 Dr. Padilla concluded the country presentations by thanking the country representatives and conveying his appreciation on the wealth of knowledge and experiences shared in the presentations. While delay in project implementation is experienced in some cases, the countries are on track in achieving the 20% ICM scaling up target. He encouraged the countries to prepare video presentations for the next PSC meeting to capture the perspectives of the various partners and stakeholders on the project's impacts and outcomes.

REGIONAL PROGRESS REPORT

- 2.47 PEMSEA, as an Implementing Partner, presented a regional progress report [\(e-link\)](#) highlighting the achievements, lessons learned, remaining deliverables, and constraints and challenges covering the following areas:

REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

- 2.48 Mr. Ross cited that the updated Regional SDS-SEA Implementation Plan 2018-2022, which was adopted in 2018, contains priority governance and management programs that contribute to sustainable development of oceans and coasts and blue economy growth. He enjoined the countries to consider aligning the objectives, expected outcomes, indicators, targeted actions

and schedule of their national SDS-SEA IPs with those of the regional SDS-SEA IP as well as other international instruments, including the SDGs.

- 2.49 Mr. Ross highlighted the prominent role of the local governments in the region in SDS-SEA/ICM implementation. He emphasized that the number of local government representatives at the 2015 East Asian Seas Congress surpassed representation from any other sector at the Congress, indicating the importance that local governments are now placing on sustainable development and management of coastal and marine areas under their jurisdiction.
- 2.50 The PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Development (PNLG) is considered unique and one of a kind in the region. From a purely technical collaboration, the onus to participate and share knowledge and experiences at the annual PNLG Forum has shifted to the local Chief Executives. Thus, the PNLG truly represents a network of local leaders. In line with the commitment of the PNLG members to the Ansan Declaration, PRF has developed a tracking system that serves as means for the PNLG members to report their progress in implementing management programs in accordance to their SDG commitments.
- 2.51 The value of the State of the Ocean and Coasts reporting in planning and monitoring and evaluation is well recognized. Challenges remain in the uptake of the SOC as a reporting instrument as there are countries where systematic collection and consolidation of necessary data on blue economy is not yet in place.

SELF SUSTAINABILITY, PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT AND OCEAN INVESTMENT

- 2.52 Mr. Ross stressed the following points concerning PRF's efforts in facilitating blue economy investments:
- PRF has expanded its services to national and local governments, and other stakeholders in the region in support of SDS-SEA implementation, covering: project development and management, capacity development and training, certification, sustainable financing and investments, particularly in transforming development projects with viable investments component intended for governments and private sector;
 - PRF has focused on interactions with the private sector, both regionally and internationally to better understand how to better engage this sector in our work. Private sector engagement is considered most challenging as development organizations do not speak 'private sector language', i.e., bankable investments; due diligence, return of investments, etc. Based on these interactions, PEMSEA is now pursuing ways and means of strengthening project development, sustainable development and investment services in support of SDS-SEA implementation.
 - PRF has also explored investment opportunities for local governments implementing ICM programs. Mr. Ross emphasized that there are many different funds and programs

available to support investments in the coastal and ocean sector, from capital venture to impact investment to grants. PEMSEA is endeavoring to address this “investment ecosystem” while at the same time working with local governments to develop investment opportunities.

- An East Asia Ocean Investment Facility (EAOIF) has been proposed by the PRF as mechanism for delivering sustainable financing and investment services to national and local governments of the region, as well as interacting with and promoting investments to financial institutions, investors and the business community. Three operating modality options are under review: 1) extending the in-house PRF investment services to include EAOIF; 2) creating a separate private company to serve as the EAOIF, and 3) creating partnership arrangements with a private sector/business entity with some EAOIF functions managed by the private sector and some managed as PRF services. The proposal is to develop get consensus among PEMSEA Partner Countries on the preferred option, and to develop and incubate the preferred option and refine and transform it into a sustainable facility over the next 5 years.

2.53 Dr. Padilla recognized that “innovations” and “facility” are becoming popular words in development projects. Many facilities have been developed but what is important is countries and partners will favor those that create the most appealing facility. He added that local governments, particularly the PNLG are potential clients for EAOIF.

2.54 Dr. Padilla further noted that local governments are key to sustaining the ICM approach. While the countries can implement ICM on their own, the PNLG through its network of 50 local governments across 10 countries in the region has facilitated ICM scaling up.

2.55 Mr. Ross pointed out that the sustainability of the PNLG is a measure functional, financial and organizational aspects of the network. In his assessment, the PNLG has achieved the following:

- Functional: PNLG membership is growing and the increasing participation by local Chief Executives in PNLG meetings is evidence that the network is serving its purpose.
- Financial: PNLG is self-sustaining, with Xiamen Government supporting 50 percent of the PNLG Secretariat’s operational costs; the PNLG members paying annual fees and taking turns to host the annual PNLG forum.
- Organizational: Past meetings of the PNLG have pointed out the need to strengthen PNLG Secretariat services to participating governments, including knowledge sharing; capacity development; communication; and monitoring and reporting. The PRF needs to be closely involved and supportive of efforts to strengthen and sustain the PNLG recognizing the important role that local governments play in achieving on-the-ground changes that support SDS-SEA objectives and targets.

- 2.56 Ms. Gonzales reiterated that in the context of sustaining the PNLG, there are some issues that need to be resolved, particularly payment of membership fees. PNLG's sustainability will be tabled in the upcoming PNLG Executive Committee meeting in June 2019. She also informed the meeting that the Xiamen Government will be hosting the 2019 PNLG Forum as one of the possible side events of the 2019 Xiamen World Ocean Week.
- 2.57 Mr. Joao Carlos Soares (Timor Leste) inquired how Timor Leste can access funds from GEF 7 and GCF with US\$ 16 million and US\$ 82 M allocations, respectively.
- 2.58 Dr. Padilla described the process of accessing the funds, i.e., identifying priority areas and concerns and identifying an implementing agency (e.g., UNDP, FAO, WB, etc.) that can provide the necessary support in preparation of project concept and project document and guidance until project approval. He further added that Timor Leste has US\$ 6 million STAR allocation. Flexibility is allowed in terms of combining climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation and land degradation concerns into one project. PRF can play a major role by incorporating ICM into the design of the project.
- 2.59 Ms. Gonzales confirmed PEMSEA's support to Timor Leste to help develop project proposals for submission to GEF and GCF, which are particularly relevant considering the National Ocean Policy and Implementation Plan that are being considered for adoption and implementation in Timor Leste.
- 2.60 Mr. Soares further inquired if other PSC members have experiences in facilitating government approval of their national ocean policies.
- 2.61 Ms. Narcise shared that Timor Leste's National Ocean Policy (NOP) is ready for submission to the Council of Ministers (COM). At a recent national NOP workshop in Timor Leste, the participants revisited the agreed process and timeframe for the completion of the NOP's implementation plan, which is targeted for submission to the COM in 2020. A roundtable involving Director Generals of key ministries will be convened to raise awareness and secure commitment for the approval of the implementation plan in the first half of 2019.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER AND SHARING

- 2.62 Under Component 3 on Knowledge Platform for Building a Sustainable Ocean-based Blue Economy, Ms. Johanna Diwa, Capacity Development Manager and Ms. Jean Marine Isabelle Lau Wang, Knowledge Platform Manager, PRF, presented the status of activities related to trainings, knowledge sharing and outreach.
- 2.63 The following major accomplishments were highlighted:
- Representatives from ASEAN and PEMSEA countries and international organizations participated in a regional workshop on the implementation of SDG 14 and other related marine and coastal goals, which was co-organized with Korean Maritime Institute.

Participants from PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) were trained in a collaborative workshop Satellite Data for Marine Applications with the Plymouth Marine Laboratory on. Most recently, a Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Training Workshop was organized and participated by representatives of ICM Learning Centers in Indonesia, Timor Leste and Thailand and some local government personnel in five ICM sites in the Philippines.

- Hands-on capacity development regional programmes such as the PEMSEA Traineeship Programme where five ICM practitioners from China, Indonesia and Lao PDR completed the programme last year.
- Gender balance in the representation of women in these training events was highlighted in line with PEMSEA's commitment to advance women's participation and leadership through opportunities linked to ICM implementation.
- Designation of 16 ICM Learning Centers and 2 Regional Centers of Excellence and the creation of the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers was highlighted as one of the achievements in knowledge transfer and sharing. This Community of Practice serves as a platform facilitating and promoting transfer and exchange on best practices and lessons learned.
- ICM Course Manual was one of the knowledge products that was certified, published and disseminated serving as main reference in the ICM training assisting participating countries in the implementation of national ICM scaling up programs.

2.64 Remaining challenges include the completion of new manuals and translation and adoption to local language.

2.65 Ms. Diwa highlighted the collaboration with global learning platform of IWLearn and the Caribbean LME. It was pointed out that a networking visit is scheduled in September 2019 during the CLME+ Partnership Forum, where PEMSEA is expected to share its initiatives related to governance systems and sustainability efforts, and to introduce PEMSEA's services that may be useful to the Caribbean.

2.66 Achievements under knowledge management include the following:

- Full operationalization of the Seas of East Asia Knowledge Bank (SEAKB), which contains useful resources and tools on coastal and ocean governance and blue economy such as national and local State of the Coasts reports, ICM case studies, policy briefs, webinars, and manuals. The platform also provides information about some of PEMSEA's services such as capacity development, ICM certification and linking ocean investments. Further, the SEAKB is home to the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers Directory and PEMSEA Network of Local Governments SAP Tracking System, through which members of both networks record their efforts and progress in achieving specific Sustainable

Development Goals. The SEA Knowledge Bank may be accessed at <http://seaknowledgebank.net>.

- Operationalization of the PNLG SAP Tracking System, which has been populated by 25 PNLG members with their respective site profiles, SDG targets, management plans, and progress updates. Most of these members selected targets 6.1, 11.2, 13.3, 14.1 and 14.3 as priorities, with 14.1 selected by the most number of members. Encouraging PNLG members to start or update their tracking system profiles is a major challenge but is an ongoing effort. Access to the full SAP Tracking System is currently limited to PNLG members, but an overview of its contents may be accessed at <http://seaknowledgebank.net/pnlg-tracking-system/pnlg-directory>.
- Operationalization of the PNLC Directory, which has been populated by 15 PNLC members with their institutions' profiles, SDG commitments, and the research, courses, activities and services each institution offers towards achieving these SDG commitments.
- SEAKB improvements and advanced features are in development. A major development is in the interactive regional map that will visually showcase the ICM projects in the region and, consequently, the region's contribution to the global ocean agenda. Another feature is the PEMSEA Task Force directory, which is planned to be populated within the year. The PEMSEA Task Force's objective is to serve as a technical support mechanism for the implementation of programs and projects within the framework of SDS-SEA. A page dedicated to IW knowledge exchange activities is also in the pipeline.
- The SEA Knowledge Bank, with its improved and additional features, is expected to be completed by Q4 of 2019.

2.67 It was clarified during the discussion that the form currently available in SEAKB for the PEMSEA Task Force serves as a call for expression of interest and registration of basic information for individuals who would like to be included in PEMSEA's roster of experts on sustainable ocean development and management. The Chair, highlighting the potential value of this roster to firms, governments and others, advised looking into the potential of this initiative as a formal service of the PEMSEA Resource Facility.

PEMSEA CERTIFICATION SERVICES

2.68 Mr. Renato C. Cardinal, Programme Manager, PRF, introduced the progress report certification service (Output 3.2), port safety, health and environmental management (Output 7.2), sustainable business award (Output 8.2) and ICM manager certification (Output 9.3).

Certification Services

- 2.69 Mr. Cardinal discussed that the focus of the certification services is the development, adoption, implementation of suite of products, services, funding mechanisms and partnership (e.g., ICM Code and PSHEMS Recognition System; and Sustainable Business Award) and to sustain PEMSEA's technical services through the delivery of products and services to Partners, Sponsoring Organizations and collaborators.
- 2.70 He reported that the Port Safety Health and Environmental Management System (PSHEMS) certification services is now implemented through cost-sharing arrangements wherein 100% of PEMSEA's operational cost for the delivery of certification and training services for PSHEMS is covered by the sustainable financing mechanisms and partnership arrangement with partner ports and port authorities.
- 2.71 The ICM System certification services is now developed and implemented in the region and the ICM Code (standard for ICM System) was approved by East Asian Seas Partnership Council as a PEMSEA certified standard/document. At present, 15 local governments received ICM System Level 1 Certification (Preah Sihanouk, Cambodia; Xiamen Municipality, Dongying City, Lianyungang City, Haikou City, Quanzhou, Municipality, Fangchenggang City China; Province of Batangas, Province of Bataan, Province of Cavite, Province of Guimaras, Philippines; Chonburi Province, Thailand; City of Da Nang, Province of Thua Thien Hue, Province of Quang Nam, Vietnam).
- 2.72 Interest in ICM system and PSHEMS is increasing. ICM Level 2 capacity development and trainings are initiated in the Philippines (Level 2 trainings conducted in Batangas, Guimaras, Bataan and Cavite) in China (Level 2 trainings and ICM System Auditor Training conducted). ICM System Level 1 Certification planned for China (5 new sites), Indonesia (Sukabumi, Bali, Tangerang), Philippines (new ICM and CRM sites), and in Timor Leste. For PSHEMS, Bangkok Port and Laem Chabang Port availed of PEMSEA services for PSHEMS Level 2 trainings and certification through cost-sharing arrangement; and private ports in Laem Chabang Thailand signify interest to avail of their own PSHEMS certification from PEMSEA.
- 2.73 A business sustainability plan will be finalized and marketing activities rolled out in the region and other regions as part of the outreach services to optimize the growth potential and sustainability of certification services.

PSHEMS

- 2.74 Mr. Cardinal reported the activities and outputs on PSHEMS implementation in support to the objective of increasing the preparedness and capability of coastal communities to respond to natural and manmade hazards and the adoption of the Port Safety Health and Environmental Management (PSHEM) Code as an international standard for voluntary use in ports of participating countries.

- 2.75 The implementation of the PSHEMS in 5 international ports in the region, namely Bangkok and Laem Chabang Ports in Thailand; Batangas, Cagayan de Oro and General Santos Ports in the Philippines, exhibited results achieving 90% compliance with national regulations regarding pollutant discharges from port operations; 25% increase in “green cover” within the port area; and 50% reduction in accidental spills from ship and cargo handling operations within the port area. The ports of Phnom Penh and Sihanoukville in Cambodia are also implementing the PSHEMS and are on their way to achieving the impacts defined above.
- 2.76 To achieve the adoption of the PSHEM Code as an international standard for voluntary use in ports of participating countries, workshops with the port authorities in the region will be conducted. The code will be refined by incorporating the inputs from the port authorities.

Sustainable Business Award and ICM Manager Certification

- 2.77 Mr. Cardinal reported that the Sustainable Business Award and ICM Manager Certification are being developed to implement: 1) a recognition system for the corporate sector/ business community as an incentive mechanism to support ICM scaling up programs and blue economy development in partnership with local governments in the region; and 2) certification of ICM professionals to enhance the skills, knowledge and support services of national and sub-national governments.
- 2.78 The ICM Manager Certification Program and the Sustainable Business Award were also announced during the PNLG Forum in November 2018. The former invited ICM implementers to apply for certification that will validate and, at the same time, showcase their levels of expertise in ICM. On the other hand, the Sustainable Business Award can be given to any business entity that has helped a local government implement ICM. The PNLG members showed interest in both certification programs and signify commitment to support their implementation.
- 2.79 The handbooks for Sustainable Business Award and ICM Manager Certification were prepared and undergoing internal review by PRF. Both the Sustainable Business Award and ICM Manager Certification will be implemented in 2019. The first awarding is being planned during the PNLG Forum scheduled in November 2019.

3.0 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MID-TERM REVIEW (MTR) RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Mr. Ross recalled that the MTR was conducted over a one-month period in April-May 2018 by two external evaluators contracted by UNDP. In addition to a desk top review, interviews and evaluations were conducted at the PRF, and site visits and meetings were conducted in the Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam with National Implementing Partners and local governments implementing ICM programs. Telephone interviews were conducted with Implementing Partners in China, Thailand, Timor Leste and Lao PDR.
- 3.2 The final MTR report was submitted to UNDP in June 2018, and presented to the PSC meeting in July 2018. Principal among the recommendations in the MTR report were: a) refinement/

amendment of project indicators and end-of-project targets as stated in the Project Document's Strategic Results Framework; and b) extension of the project for a 12-month period on a 'no-additional cost basis, from 31 August 2019 to 31 August 2020.

- 3.3 The meeting was reminded that the 2018 PSC agreed in principle to the MTR recommendations, subject to formal confirmation at PSC Meeting 2019 with supporting project work plans and budgets covering the extension period. The 2018 PSC had also requested participating countries to accelerate project implementation at the national level, and the PRF to accelerate implementation of the remaining deliverables at regional level.
- 3.4 The meeting was advised that these issues were further discussed and resolved with participating countries and UNDP following the 2018 PSC meeting. Outcomes of those discussions included updated national and regional work plans and budgets for an extended 12-month project period (Agenda Item 5), and revisions to the Strategic Results Framework.
- 3.5 Mr. Ross presented the specific revisions to the Strategic Results Framework (Annex 3), which had been developed in close collaboration with participating countries and UNDP.

Conclusions:

The PSC meeting noted that:

- 3.6 In line with the MTR findings, the recommended revisions to the indicators and end of project targets for the overall project objectives and outcomes 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7 have been positively considered by UNDP.
- 3.7 The recommended revisions were thoroughly discussed during consultations with the countries in line with the preparation of work plans and budgets for the implementation of the current project (January-August 31, 2019) and for the 12-month extension (1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020) at no additional cost to GEF.

Decision

The 2019 PSC meeting decided to:

- 3.8 Adopt the revised indicators and end of project targets, as recommended by the MTR, and that the appropriate changes will be incorporated as a revision to the Strategic Results Framework (SRF) in the Project Document. The revised SRF will be circulated to all participating countries as an Annex to the PSC meeting report (see Annex 3).

4.0 PROJECT WORK PLAN AND BUDGET 2019-2020

- 4.1 Mr. Ross presented a summary of the national and regional project work plans from 2014, to mid-term, to the proposed 12-month project extension (31 August 2020), including expected

deliverables that would be achieved. It was highlighted that the 2019 budget was aligned with planned activities and outputs from January 2019 to 31 August 2019, and that separate work plans and budgets had been prepared for the proposed 12-month extension for all 8 participating countries and at the regional level, as recommended by the 2018 PSC and the MTR report (see Annex 4).

4.2 The specific deliverables that will be achieved as a consequence of the 12-month no-additional cost extension, as iterated in the MTR report are:

Outcome 1

- Signed Agreements with Country and Non-Country Partners provide voluntary financing and in-kind commitments to sustain PEMSEA's core operations.
- Letters of Cooperation signed between PEMSEA and YSLME Interim Commission, WCPFC Commission and other regional governance mechanisms for collaborative planning and implementation of projects and activities that contribute to the objectives and targets among the respective SAPs.

Outcome 2

- Achievement of national coastal and ocean policies and institutional arrangements in Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Timor Leste and Vietnam.
- Incorporation of SDS-SEA/ICM, CCA/DRR, and SAP/NAP targets into the respective medium-term investment plans in Cambodia, Lao PDR and Timor Leste, and to initiate investments.

Outcome 4

- ICM coverage of 20% of coastline in Thailand, and completion of SOC reports across all local governments implementing ICM programs.
- Gathering evidence of benefits derived by 25% of local governments implementing ICM programs.
- Measurable improvements in conservation focused ICM pilot demonstration projects
- Measurable 10% improvement in METT in MPA-focused ICM pilot demonstration sites

Outcome 5

- Evidence of improved stock management and a reduction in overall fishing effort using ecosystem-based approach to reduce overexploitation.
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- Measurable improvements in reductions in overexploitation of fisheries and improved incomes for fishers' households in EAFM-focused pilot sites.

Outcome 6

- Initiation of pilot integrated river basin and coastal area management demonstration projects in priority watershed/coastal areas, focused on management strategies and investments to reduce levels of target pollutants (BOD; nutrients; and pathogens) and improved water resource conservation and use management).

Outcome 7

- Evidence of community awareness meetings conducted; evacuations routes established and publicized; and emergency drills/exercises conducted on a regular basis in CCA/DRRM-focused ICM pilot demonstration projects in highly vulnerable coastal communities.
- Achievement of sub-regional oil spill contingency plan in Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam.

Outcome 9

- Achievement of national and sub-national environmental monitoring programs in Indonesia, Lao PDR, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste and Vietnam
- Achievement of evidenced-based sound policy on ICM in all countries.

4.3 In the ensuing discussion, all participating countries acknowledged the benefits of extending the project for 12-months on a no-additional costs basis.

4.4 The representative from China, indicated that it would be necessary to submit a formal request for project extension to the new administration in China's Ministry of Natural Resources. Ms. Zhu indicated that the China-PEMSEA Center, the project focal point in China, was proceeding with the formal request and she anticipated that the outcome of this request would be forthcoming by the end of May 2019.

Conclusions:

The PSC meeting noted:

4.5 The AWP's and budgets for 2019 and 12-month extension were prepared through bottom-up approach by consolidating the national and regional work plans and budgets into the project annual work plan and budget.

- 4.6 The approval of the 12-month extension will serve as basis for PRF to formalize the request for UNDP's subsequent approval of the work plan and budget to 2020.
- 4.7 Budgetary shortfalls are occurring in some countries (i.e., Cambodia, Indonesia, Timor Leste) to complete the stipulated deliverables in the 12-month extended project.
- 4.8 Cambodia's request for PRF to send a formal letter to inform the countries of the one-year extension at no additional cost.
- 4.9 China's requirement to proceed with an internal approval process for a 12-month, no-additional cost extension, to be initiated by the China-PEMSEA Center for submission to China's Ministry of Natural Resources, with an expected response by 31 May 2019.
- 4.10 PEMSEA will work with participating countries to extend their respective MOAs for the 12-month extension to take effect at the national level. PRF will issue conformé letters to all participating countries for the MOA extension before the termination of the existing MOA (i.e. 31 August 2019).

Decisions:

The PSC meeting decided to:

- 4.11 Approve the AWP and budget for January to August 2019, as presented to the PSC Meeting and hereto attached with a total budget of USD 1.472 M to be disbursed by UNDP to allow regional and national activities to proceed as planned.
- 4.12 Approve the AWP and budget for the 12-month extension at no additional cost to GEF, as presented at the PSC Meeting and hereto attached, including identified deliverables at the country and regional levels, with a total budget of USD 1.419 M. Subsequently, PRF to submit to UNDP the request for extension for final approval of GEF before August 31, 2019 original project closure date.
- 4.13 Pending the response from China, PRF will undertake a review and evaluation of available budget that may be re-allocated to other priority activities in participating countries. The PRF was requested to complete this assessment by June 30, 2019 and to hold side meetings with the UNDP and participating countries at the EAS Partnership Council meeting in July 2019 for final review and approval of the budget reallocations.

5.0 PREPARATIONS FOR THE PROJECT TERMINAL EVALUATION

Discussion Highlights

- 5.1 UNDP Philippines, serving as Principal Project Resident Representative (PPRR) for the project, presented the UNDP/GEF Terminal Evaluation Guidelines, including the rationale, terms of

reference, schedule, methodology, evaluation criteria and ratings for the project terminal evaluation. Details on the terminal evaluation guidelines can be accessed at: <http://web.undp.org/evaluation/documents/guidance/GEF/UNDP-GEF-TE-Guide.pdf>.

- 5.2 The meeting noted that the revised Strategic results Framework will be used for the conduct of the terminal evaluation.
- 5.3 It was highlighted that the terminal evaluation should include information on co-financing commitments for the SDS-SEA Project that were expended by countries and other organizations (e.g., UNDP). Co-financing commitments include in-kind contribution such as staff time, parallel programs and projects that complement the SDS-SEA Project. Co-financing commitments for the SDS-SEA Project from participating countries and other organizations amounted to about USD 157,269,200. The meeting was informed that copies of co-financing letters will be uploaded in the Google Drive created for the PSC meeting.

Conclusions

The PSC noted that:

- 5.4 The conduct of the terminal evaluation will be done 2 to 3 months before end of the project.
- 5.5 The UNDP will prepare the TOR for the Terminal Evaluation and issue the contract to the external evaluators.
- 5.6 The schedule, number of countries and sites to be visited, and team of consultants will be determined and finalized in close consultations between PRF, UNDP and participating countries.

Decisions

The PSC decided:

- 5.7 The approval of conduct of the terminal evaluation at least 3 months before end of the project.
- 5.8 UNDP will recruit 2 consultants: one technical specialist and one governance specialist.
- 5.9 The terminal evaluators will conduct site visits to at least 3 countries.
- 5.10 The results of the Terminal Evaluation will be presented during the EAS Partnership Council in July 2020.

6.0 OTHER BUSINESS

- 6.1 The representatives from Timor-Leste inquired of the possibility to conduct a study tour among its officials for capacity building. It was clarified that since Timor-Leste provides voluntary country contributions to PEMSEA, a study tour may be arranged and consulted with PRF.

7.0 CLOSING

- 7.1 In closing, the country representatives re-affirmed their commitments to fulfill the remaining targets of the project with the extension at no additional cost to GEF.
- 7.2 The Chair congratulated the countries and the secretariat for the progress it has made to the project. Furthermore, UNDP commended the valuable wealth of information that were raised throughout the discussions, stating that these data can be developed into various knowledge products for the countries, PEMSEA and the region.
- 7.3 Mr. Ross applauded the efforts and achievements of the countries. The lessons learned from the project are substantial and should be shared as good practices. He further expressed his appreciation for their cooperation to extend the project.
- 7.4 The Chair adjourned the meeting on 11 April 2019 at 12:50pm.

ANNEX 1
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**PSC MEETING OF THE GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA PROJECT ON SCALING UP
THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA
Joy Nostalg Hotel and Suites, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
April 10-11, 2019**

List of Participants

COUNTRY PARTNERS

CAMBODIA

Mr. Long Rithirak
Deputy Director General
Ministry of Environment
#48, Samdech Preah Sihanouk Tonle Bassac,
Chamkar Morn,
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Kingdom of Cambodia

CHINA

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CHINA-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal
Management Cooperation Center (CPC)
People's Republic of China

Ms. Zhang Lingyu
CHINA-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal
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INDONESIA

Mr. Dida Migfar Ridho
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Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic
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Mr. Ben Ezra Panggabean
Marine and Coastal Pollution and Degradation
Control,
Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Republic
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Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Lao PDR

Ms. Chindavanh Souriyaphack
Technical Officer
Department of Water Resources
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
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Ms. Crisanta Marlene P. Rodriguez
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Biodiversity Management Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural
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Director
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service
Department of Environment and Natural
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Ms. Alita D. Sangalang, M.Sc.
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PEO
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Ms. Andrea Palma
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TIMOR LESTE

Mr. Joao Carlos Soares
Director General for Environment, the Secretary
of State for Environment Office
Timor Leste

Mr. Celestino da Cunha Barreto
National Director for Fisheries and Aquatic
Resources Management
Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
Timor Leste

VIETNAM

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Thao
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Department of Science, Technology and
International Cooperation
Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

COLLABORATOR

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Regional Technical Adviser, Waters and Oceans
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United Nations Development Programme
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United Nations Development Programme
Philippines

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United Nations Development Programme
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Ms. Jesa-Ann Consolacion
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PEMSEA SECRETARIAT

Ms. Aimee Gonzales
Executive Director
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross
Senior Project Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Renato Cardinal
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Ms. Nancy Bermas
Senior Country Programme Manager
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PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Cristine Ingrid S. Narcise
Country Programme Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

Ms. Daisy Padayao
Country Programme Manager
PEMSEA Resource Facility

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Ms. Elsie Merina
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Ms. Jhowilyn Zaldivar
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Ms. Vida Isabel Vasquez
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PEMSEA Resource Facility

Mr. Arsenio Jr. Dacaymat
IT System Administrator
PEMSEA Resource Facility

**ANNEX 2
MEETING AGENDA**

**ANNOTATED AGENDA OF THE PSC MEETING OF THE GEF/UNDP/PEMSEA PROJECT ON SCALING UP
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA**

Joy-Nostalg Hotel and Suites, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, Philippines
April 10-11, 2019

DAY 1

April 10, 2019 (Wednesday)

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|--|
| 0900 – 0915 | 1.0 | Opening of the Project Steering Committee Meeting and Approval of Meeting Agenda
The UNDP representative will deliver opening remarks as the Principal Project Resident Representative (PPRR) and Chair of the Meeting.

The Meeting will review and approve the meeting agenda. |
| 0915 – 0930 | 2.0 | Matters Arising from the PSC Meeting 2018
The Meeting will review the key recommendations and decisions from the PSC 2018 and status or actions taken as presented by PEMSEA Resource Facility, the regional Implementing Partner (IP). |
| 0930 – 1045 | 3.0 | Country and Regional Progress Reports
(maximum of 30 minutes each)
Representatives from the 8 project participating countries will be invited to share their respective progress reports on SDS-SEA implementation focusing on major project highlights, achievements, and lessons learned, as well as the remaining project deliverables, constraints and challenges.

A regional progress report will be presented by the IP highlighting achievements, lessons learned, and remaining deliverables, constraints and challenges covering regional governance, sustainability of SDS-SEA implementation, SOC reporting, knowledge management and learning, financing and investments, and outreach.

Each presentation will be followed by short open discussion or Q&A. |
| 1045 – 1100 | | Coffee Break |
| 1100 – 1230 | | Continuation of Agenda Item 3.0 |
| 1230 -1330 | | Lunch Break |
| 1330 - 1530 | | Continuation of Agenda Item 3.0 |

1530 – 1545	Coffee Break
1545 – 1645	Continuation of Agenda Item 3.0
1645	Closing of Day 1

Day 2
April 11, 2019 (Thursday)

0900 – 1030	<p>4.0 Implementation of the Mid-Term Review Recommendations As a follow-up to the Mid-Term Review, the Meeting will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. changes that have been made to Project Document outputs and indicators, as approved by UNDP; and b. progress made in implementing the MTR recommendations, as coordinated and undertaken by the IP. <p>In particular, the IP will introduce the process for tracking/confirming co-financing commitments and expenditures for the project, as recommended by the MTR.</p> <p>The Meeting will be invited to comment on the progress on implementation of the MTR recommendations, as well as raise any unforeseen concerns or challenges with such recommendations.</p>
1030 - 1045	Coffee Break
1045 – 1130	<p>5.0 Project Work Plan and Budget 2019-2020 The Meeting will review the proposed Work Plan and Budget, covering the period 2019-2020, with due consideration of the proposed one-year extension to the project, as recommended by the MTR and as adopted in principle during the PSC Meeting 2018.</p> <p>The IP will present the proposed Project Work Plan and Budget for 2019-2020.</p> <p>The Meeting will be invited to review and adopt the proposed work plan and budget.</p> <p>The Meeting will be invited to endorse a one-year no-cost extension of the project, based on the approved work plan and budget 2019-2020, to UNDP.</p>
1130 – 1215	<p>6.0 Preparation for Project Terminal Evaluation In preparation for the Project Terminal Evaluation which is expected to be initiated in early 2020, the UNDP representative will be presenting</p>

the proposed Terms of Reference (TOR) and timetable for the conduct of the Project Terminal Evaluation.

The IP will introduce the scope, format and content of country and regional terminal reports, as well as the schedule for completing terminal financial and technical reports.

1215 – 1230

7.0 Other Business

1230

Closing of the PSC Meeting

ANNEX 3
Strategic Results Framework

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
<p>Objective:</p> <p>To catalyze actions and investments at the regional, national and local levels to rehabilitate and sustain coastal and marine ecosystem services and build a sustainable coastal and ocean-based economy in the East Asian region, in accordance with the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of participating countries and local governments that have mainstreamed SDS-SEA/ICM programs into their respective development and investment plans effectively managed coastal areas through operationalizing zoning schemes/MSP, PAs/MPAs, EAFM, IRBCAM and other management benefits livelihood development and reduction in vulnerability to climate change of vulnerable communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of participating countries and local governments that have mainstreamed SDS-SEA/ICM programs into their respective development and investment plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three (3) participating national governments (Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam) and eight (8) local governments (Preah Sihanouk and Koh Kong, Cambodia; Dongying and Fangchenggang China; Sukabumi and Tomini Bay, Indonesia; Guimaras and Batangas, Philippines; Danang and Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam) have mainstreamed SDS-SEA/ICM programs into their respective development and investment plans to rehabilitate and sustain coastal and marine ecosystem services and build a sustainable coastal and ocean based blue economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three (3) participating national governments (Indonesia, Philippines, Vietnam) and eight (8) local governments (Preah Sihanouk and Koh Kong, Cambodia; Dongying and Fangchenggang China; Sukabumi and Tomini Bay, Indonesia; Guimaras and Batangas, Philippines; Danang and Thua Thien Hue, Vietnam) have mainstreamed SDS-SEA/ICM programs into their respective development and investment plans to rehabilitate and sustain coastal and marine ecosystem services and build a sustainable coastal and ocean based blue

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement in household income of fishery communities by 25% in 10% of households in priority sites • Improved awareness, preparedness and resiliency in 12 highly vulnerable villages • 5% of households in highly vulnerable coastal areas relocated away from hazard zones • 100% of households in highly vulnerable coastal areas provided with evacuation routes and safe refuge locations • 1,500 households in Cambodia and Lao PDR benefit from improved sanitation 	economy

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
			and access to safe and reliable water supplies	
<p>Outcome 1:</p> <p>A self-sustaining, country-owned, regional mechanism governing and managing LMEs and coastal waters, rebuilding and sustaining ecosystems services and reducing the impacts of climate change on coastal populations in the East Asian Seas region.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Signed Partnership Agreements between PEMSEA and YSLME Commission, WCPF Commission and other regional governance mechanisms result in collaborative planning, coordination and implementation among the respective SAPs, while addressing program sustainability and integration with broader regional cooperation frameworks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Letters of Cooperation signed between PEMSEA and YSLME Interim Commission, WCPF Commission and other regional governance mechanisms for collaborative planning and implementation of projects and activities that contribute to the objectives and targets among the respective SAPs.

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
Outcome 4: Increased areal extent of healthy, resilient habitats (i.e., blue forests), including mangroves, coral reefs, sea grass and other coastal habitats/ areas			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional investment platform established and functioning, partnering and catalyzing ICM scaling up and environmental investments in at least 3 ICM investment sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deleted from Outcome 4 and inserted as an activity under Outcome 2, as follows: <i>Activity 2.3.4: Set up and implement a functional platform to promote, facilitate, structure and package projects and investments in support of SDS-SEA and ICM scaling up and blue economy development in the EAS region.</i>
Outcome 5: Improved management of over exploited and depleted fisheries. leading to recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased proportion of fishing grounds with reductions in overexploitation of fisheries and improved incomes for fishers' households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extent (km²) of sea areas covered by improved stock management and a reduction in overall fishing effort 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable fisheries-focused ICM pilot demonstration projects, covering 2,000 km² of threatened fishing grounds (Table 14) providing evidence of improved fish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable fisheries-focused ICM pilot demonstration projects, covering 2,000 km² of threatened fishing areas providing evidence of improved stock

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
			<p>catch (10% improvement in CPUE) using ecosystem-based approach to reduce overexploitation, with replication of good practices initiated in 4 other threatened fishing grounds (Table 14).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot projects on sustainable/alternative livelihoods for fishers and fishing communities result in 25% household income improvement in 10% of households generating income from non-fishing 	<p>management and a reduction in overall fishing effort using ecosystem-based approach to reduce overexploitation (Table 14).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased proportion of fishers' households benefiting from sustainable alternative livelihood opportunities.

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
			sources, with replication of supplemental livelihood policies, capacities and incentive programs initiated in 4 other fishing communities (Table 15).	
Outcome 6: Reduced discharge of pollutants from land-based activities and improved water use efficiency / conservation in priority river basins and coastal areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased proportion of priority river basins and coastal areas (i.e., pollution hotspots) with measurable reductions in pollutant discharges and improved water use efficiency/conservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watershed/coastal area covered by pilot projects (Table 16) focused on pollution reduction and water conservation and management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot integrated river basin and coastal area management demonstration projects completed in priority watershed/coastal areas (25,000 km² as identified in Table 16), providing evidence of reduced pollutant discharges (20% BOD; 10% nutrient) and water resource conservation and use management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot integrated river basin and coastal area management demonstration projects initiated in priority watershed/coastal areas covering 25,000 km² (as identified in Table 16), focused on management strategies and investments to reduce levels of target pollutants (BOD; nutrients; and pathogens) and

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Innovative technologies and good practices in nutrient management and water use conservation demonstrated in priority coastal areas and river basins, with replication of good practices initiated in 5 other priority river basin and coastal areas (Table 16). 	improve water resource conservation and use management.
Outcome 7: Increased preparedness and capability of coastal communities to respond to natural and manmade hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% of households in highly vulnerable coastal areas relocated away from hazard zones 100% of households in highly vulnerable coastal areas provided with evacuation routes and safe refuge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of highly vulnerable communities (Table 17) with functional community awareness programs and regular emergency drills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCA/DRRM-focused ICM pilot demonstration projects, covering 11 highly vulnerable coastal communities (Table 17) provide evidence of improved awareness preparedness and resiliency to the impacts of climate change, oil spills and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCA/DRRM focused ICM pilot demonstration projects, covering 11 highly vulnerable coastal communities (Table 17) provide evidence of: community awareness meetings conducted; evacuations routes established and publicized; and

AMENDMENTS TO THE STRATEGIC RESULTS FRAMEWORK OF THE GEF/UNDP PROJECT SCALING UP THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDS-SEA				
Objective/ Outcome	Key Indicator(s)	Key Indicator(s) (revised following MTR)	End of Project Targets	End of Project Targets (revised following MTR)
	locations		other natural and manmade hazards.	emergency drills/exercises conducted on a regular basis

ANNEX 4
Project Work Plan and Budget

ANNEX 4

The **Project Work Plan and Budget** is uploaded in this link:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XqLasyM-XJtgRZ6mYspJlI5NcDafmrG>