



Building a Blue Economy: Strategy, Opportunities and Partnerships in the Seas of East Asia
9-13 July



SUBTHEME 5
Meeting Institutional and Individual Skills and Capacities for Integrated Coastal and Ocean Governance

WORKSHOP 1

Transforming Human Resources into Resourceful Humans

CO-CONVENING AGENCIES:



Chairs:

Prof. Huasheng Hong
 Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) of Xiamen
Dr. Werner Ekau
 International Ocean Institute (IOI)



The East Asian Seas Congress 2012
Building a Blue Economy: Strategy, Opportunities and Partnerships in the Seas of East Asia
Changwon City, RO Korea, 9–13 July 2012

**Subtheme 5: Meeting Institutional and Individual Skills and Capacities for
Integrated Coastal and Ocean Governance**

Workshop 1: Transforming Human Resources into Resourceful Humans

11 July 2012
10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Co-convening Agencies:

Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) of Xiamen

Co-Chairs:

Prof. Huasheng Hong, Chief Scientist,
Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI), Xiamen University, PR China

Dr. Werner Ekau, IOI Chair of Directors, Director of IOI-Germany,
International Ocean Institute, Germany

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The 4th East Asian Seas (EAS) Congress, co-organized by the Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA), the Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs (MLTM) and the City Government of Changwon, was held at the Changwon Exhibition Convention Center (CECO) in Changwon City, RO Korea, from 9 to 13 July 2012. Carrying the theme “Building a Blue Economy: Strategy, Opportunities and Partnerships in the Seas of East Asia,” the EAS Congress 2012 addressed the new opportunities for the ocean economy of East Asia, the range of partnerships that have developed and are required in order to realize the full potential of a blue economy, and the progress and achievements in governance of regional/subregional seas within the framework of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA).
- 1.2. The EAS Congress 2012 featured the Fourth Ministerial Forum, the International Conference on Sustainable Coastal and Ocean Development towards a Blue Economy, the annual meeting of the PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG), an Environmental Exhibition, the Third EAS Youth Forum, and other activities. Over 1,200 stakeholders participated in the Congress. These include policymakers, resource and economic managers, business professionals, scientists, members of the academe, local and international nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), youth and community representatives, and other members of civil society from within and outside the East Asian Seas region.

- 1.3. Five major subthemes comprised the International Conference: (1) Nurturing Coastal and Ocean-based Blue Economies at the Local Level: Opportunities and Challenges, (2) Accelerating Blue Innovations in Support of an Ocean-based Blue Economy, (3) Securing Ecosystem Services through Integrated Coastal Management, (4) Good Governance, Good Business and (5) Meeting Institutional and Individual Skills and Capacities for Integrated Coastal and Ocean Governance.
- 1.4 The Workshop on Transforming Human Resources into Resourceful Humans under Subtheme 5 reviewed various capacity development, knowledge management efforts and knowledge resource networks in order to develop a roadmap to creating and strengthening regional management mechanisms to increase capacities of leaders, managers, technical and scientific professionals, among others, in the field of coastal and ocean governance.

2. SESSION 1: INNOVATIVE PLATFORMS AND STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING HUMAN RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS FOR INTEGRATED COASTAL AND OCEAN GOVERNANCE

- 2.1 Dr. Cherdsak Virapat, Executive Director, International Ocean Institute (IOI) Headquarters, discussed the importance of the IOI Road Map on building integrated ocean governance by means of capacity building, and the imperative to transform human resources into resourceful humans. Dr. Virapat began his presentation by giving an overview of IOI and the philosophy of ocean governance, which implies the need for an inclusive decisionmaking that recognized the holistic and interrelated nature of the oceans. He explained sustainable development, stressing its social, economic and environmental dimensions as based on the Brundtland definition. Taking off from this dimension, he claimed that humankind does not live from the ocean in a sustainable relationship as evidenced by its degraded state.
- 2.2 Dr. Virapat explained that community knowledge and empowerment are crucial as all stakeholders must participate in the sustainable management of natural resources and the environment. He noted that the IOI Road Map can guide capacity building by providing international and regional training on ocean governance and implementing regional and national pilot projects that will gradually be adopted and expanded to the local level. He then listed the various training programs IOI has implemented around the world like in Canada, Malta and China, and jointly offered Masters Degree Programme in Ocean Governance.
- 2.3 Prof. Makoto Tsuchiya, Professor, Faculty of Science, University of the Ryukyus, started his presentation by explaining the increasing demand for an education program that remedies the lack of expertise to support the integrated management of the coast and oceans. With the support of the Nippon Foundation, OPRF started the initiative to develop a model curriculum for integrated coastal management (ICM) through the leadership of a committee comprised of 11 professors from 11 universities across Japan. The committee reviewed the education programs on ICM at universities both nationally and internationally.
- 2.4 Prof. Tsuchiya presented the results of committee discussions that included the Model Curriculum of Education (undergraduate) for Integrated Coastal Management. He detailed the curriculum structure of this undergraduate program that included the courses in coastal science, integrated ocean management policy, consensus building

and practicum units from an internship and a graduation thesis. He then discussed the next steps of this program that include delivering lectures on ICOM and developing a school and curriculum of ICOM built on the collaboration of five national universities in the Shikoku region. He concluded that a model curriculum will contribute to the spread of education on ICM that will further promote ICM on the ground.

- 2.5 Dr. Luky Adrianto, Deputy Director, Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies (CCMRS), presented the experience of Bogor University in strengthening their ICM graduate program. He presented a brief overview of the evolution of ICM Indonesia that had external beginnings that were gradually internalized through legislation, declarations and local and international initiatives. He stressed the importance of developing human capital in ICM as a science and knowledge-based approach to ensure the health of coastal and marine ecosystems.
- 2.6 Dr. Adrianto discussed the ICM Graduate Program of Bogor University that has produced 394 graduates in the master level and 99 in the doctoral level who are employed in research institutes, universities, central and local government, NGOs and private companies. He explained that the ICM Graduate Program of Bogor Agricultural University has gained a wealth of knowledge and skills when it partnered with several European and Asian universities through student exchanges. Using an institutional and policy approach based on both governance and ecological knowledge, the program's ICM curriculum intends to develop specific ICM competencies like the ability to develop coastal and marine resource plans and governance mechanisms based on an understanding of the structure and function of coastal and marine ecosystems.
- 2.7 Dr. Chou Loke Ming, Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore (NUS), presented the challenges of developing interdisciplinary environmental degree programs in a discipline-structured university. He discussed the program structure and curriculum of the two multidisciplinary programs offered by the National University of Singapore: the Master of Science in Environmental Management (MEM) for the graduate level, and the Bachelor of Environmental Studies (BES) for the undergraduate level. Both programs are composed for units that are offered by different faculties and schools in NUS.
- 2.8 Dr. Chou noted that the challenges of developing these interdisciplinary environmental degree programs are similar to those faced in adopting ICM. He enumerated the following challenges: overcoming institutional comfort zone and established faculty and school-based policies and practices; funding and compensation; working across university-wide teaching timetables; coordination and from multidisciplinary to interdisciplinary.
- 2.9 Dr. Eng. Shigeru Tabeta, Associate Professor, University of Tokyo (UT), explained the Ocean Alliance, a transdisciplinary network that was designed to facilitate joint efforts on education and research related to the ocean. The relevant graduate schools, institutes and centers under UT are members of the Ocean Alliance (OA) that have jointly formulated a transdisciplinary framework that can impart deeper knowledge and understanding of the ocean to its students. Aside from a wide range of subject areas, students also take part in practical problem solving sessions and internships at related government and national institutions. The Ocean Alliance's

research network recognizes the need for a comprehensive and systematic perspective to develop natural resources. An interdisciplinary research group composed of experts from different fields and various departments can collectively work towards a common goal that will be applied to these environmental issues, ultimately benefiting society.

- 2.10 Dr. Eng. Tabeta enumerated and presented a brief background on the activities of the OA such as: (a) an integrated study for development of seafloor massive sulphide; (b) research on interdisciplinary ocean education; (c) eco-technological response to sea level rise in Okinotorishima; (d) technical advice to local stakeholders in the management of marine protect areas in Okinawa; and (e) technical presentation in the COP10 of Convention of Biological Diversity 2010 and response to the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami.
- 2.11 Prof. Huasheng Hong, Chief Scientist, Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI), presented Xiamen University's effort to spearhead a network of learning institutions which has become a beneficial and efficient approach for ICOM capacity development. The International Master Program for Marine Affairs (MMA) is a two-year, interdisciplinary, thesis education program that exemplifies the partnerships among colleges from different disciplines. The programs curricula have different main research focus such as ocean policy and law, marine economic and ocean and coastal management. She added that there is a need to strengthen existing integrated coastal and ocean management course programs (concepts and practice).
- 2.12 Prof. Hong enumerated the various networking efforts of XMU such as: cooperating with foreign universities like the University of Rhode Island; University of Delaware; University of Washington and Inha University; inviting well-known professors to give lectures; exchanging of faculty and students, collaborating thesis work with home agencies; continuing the implementation of the regional ICM training courses and organizing study tours and web-based seminars.

3.0 SESSION 1 PANEL DISCUSSION

- 3.1 The session highlighted the challenge of developing resourceful humans and interdisciplinary knowledge for ICOM, such that various strategies, approaches and support mechanisms aimed at strengthening human resource capacities should be developed. The presentations reiterated that universities play an important role in terms of academic education and professional training activities. The education of the next generation of leaders through innovative modes is crucial. Many forms of intra- and inter-university collaboration are underway that advance interdisciplinary curricula and research.
- 3.2 One of the main messages of the session was that the development of an interdisciplinary educational program (within and among the universities and institutions) on coastal and ocean governance is essential to be able to produce the new breed of ICM leaders and managers.
- 3.3 The first session gave the following conclusions:

- There is a need to strengthen existing integrated coastal and ocean management course programs (concepts and practice) to enable ICM practitioners to address the dynamics of the interplay between the environmental and societal realms within ecosystems;
- Networking of learning institutions is a beneficial and efficient approach for ICOM capacity development; and
- The development of interdisciplinary educational programs (within and among the universities and institutions) on coastal and ocean governance is essential to be able to produce a new breed of ICM leaders and managers.

3.4 As a way forward, the session recommended the following strategies:

- Facilitate the integration of ICM core courses to existing curriculums;
- Invest in developing an interdisciplinary educational program on ICM; and
- Create mechanisms for collaborative strategies and networking of universities and research institutions for producing a new breed of ICM leaders and managers.

4.0 SESSION 2: THE STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL AND KNOWLEDGE NETWORKING

- 4.1 Dr. Sheila Vergara, Director, Biodiversity Information Management, ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB), shared ACB's initiative that demonstrated the prudent use of available data and its transformation towards becoming a support system to decisionmaking, planning and policy preparation. She shared the experiences in the identification of Key Biodiversity Areas in the Philippines and the GAP Analysis of Protected Areas in the ASEAN Region which were used to demonstrate the use of available data, the invaluable contribution of stakeholders and the processes that provided the means to transform available but disaggregated data into useful knowledge products. She also highlighted the evolving role of the ASEAN Clearing House Mechanism in biodiversity conservation as an information support system for the region as exemplified in the Brunei Darussalam Clearing House Mechanism for Biodiversity.
- 4.2 Dr. Vergara presented the statistics and maps that showed the trends of ecological habitats and fish stock across the region that set the baselines for the regional and national targets. She noted there was an increase in the area and number of designated protected areas in the ASEAN region. She stressed the importance of proper storing, processing and analysis of biological data that must adhere to common principles. She concluded that these results must be shared and interpreted for policymakers.
- 4.3 Ms. Kristine Custodio, Project Manager, ICT Component, GEF IW:LEARN, discussed its role as a coordinating mechanism for experience sharing and learning, dialogue

facilitation, targeted knowledge sharing and replication to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of GEF IW projects. She explained that the IW:LEARN knowledge management platform for supporting communities of practice (COP) is a useful platform for capturing results and best practices and lessons from various projects. She stressed the importance of using open source content management systems as it is a cost-effective solution that can maximize productivity.

- 4.4 Ms. Custodio listed IW:LEARN's ongoing activities that include toolkit development and hosting, ICT Training, community platform, visualization tool and the Geonode platform. She noted that it is also faced with a number of challenges such as ensuring that project managers will engage more in online dialogue and encouraging others to collaborate and share spatial data. Another challenge she mentioned was gathering data and information and distributing them in a timely manner and ensuring the capability of the system to be fully functional and stable at all times. She recommended the need to provide incentives to encourage more participation in online dialogues.
- 4.5 Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, Chief Technical Officer, PEMSEA Resource Facility, shared PEMSEA's plan to embark on a regional knowledge management initiative which would build on experience and knowledge gathered within the previous GEF and World Bank initiatives. He expressed that this knowledge management platform was one way to maximize the wealth of knowledge that PEMSEA has accumulated from 14 years of practical experience in the application of ICM in the region.
- 4.6 Mr. Ross explained that there is a need to share and further expand and apply knowledge in SDS-SEA implementation. He emphasized the urgency of developing more innovative tools for knowledge capture, knowledge sharing and transfer to support the Five-Year SDS-SEA implementation Plan of respective countries. These tools are indicated in the SDS-SEA Implementation Plan (2012-2016) as one of the enabling targets of capacity development and knowledge management with its specific actions and indicators. He ended his presentation by sharing PEMSEA's next steps towards a regional knowledge management initiative.

5. SESSION 2 PANEL DISCUSSION

- 5.1 The session on the strategic management of intellectual capital and knowledge networking highlighted and discussed various capacity development and knowledge management efforts, as well as, learning resource networks as a means to build a regional knowledge mechanism for coastal and ocean governance.
- 5.2 Specifically the discussion focused on the use of available data and its transformation towards becoming a support system for decisionmaking, planning and policy, global and regional knowledge management platforms to support COPs and building a regional management mechanism for coastal and ocean governance.
- 5.3 The second session reached the following conclusions:
- Transforming available data into useful knowledge products is an essential support system for planning, decisionmaking and policy development;

- Use of communication tools for knowledge sharing and increased online collaboration facilitate learning and sharing of results and best practices in the region; and
- A regional knowledge management mechanism for coastal and ocean governance.

5.4 The session also articulated several recommendations, including:

- Identify measures/mechanisms to strengthen online dialogues for ICM communities of practice to facilitate knowledge sharing;
- Regional research programmes can be used for information creation and distribution;
- Customize information for different levels of stakeholders- from politicians to practitioners; and
- Knowledge transfer to be included as one of the key priorities in future programmes.