



Global Targets Local Benefits

Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for
the Seas of East Asia beyond 2015

16-21 November 2015

Session 1

A Decade of Partnerships in Sustainable Development of
the Seas of East Asia: Synergies and Achievements

Workshop 3

Coastal and Ocean Governance in the Seas of East Asia: from Nation to Region

CO-CONVENING AGENCY:

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

OPRI
THE OCEAN POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Co-Chairs: **Ms. Lena Kern**
Chief Advisor,
GIZ SSME Project

Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg
Former Executive Secretary/
Director General, International
Oceanographic Commission of
UNESCO

Mr. Hiroshi Terashima
President, Ocean Policy
Research Institute - Sasakawa
Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF)

Dr. Chua Thia-Eng
Chair Emeritus, EAS Partnership
Council



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East Asian Seas Congress 2015
Global Targets, Local Benefits: Setting the Sustainable Development Agenda for the
Seas of East Asia beyond 2015
Da Nang, Vietnam, 16-21 November 2015

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Co-convening Agencies

GIZ Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion Project
Ocean Policy Research Institute - Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF)

Sponsoring Organization

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Workshop Chairs:

Ms. Lena Kern, Chief Advisor, GIZ SSME Project
Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg, Former Director General, IOC/UNESCO
Mr. Hiroshi Terashima, President, OPRI-SPF
Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Chair Emeritus, East Asian Seas Partnership Council

Workshop Coordinator: Mr. Guo Yinfeng,

Head, Planning and Partnership Development, PEMSEA

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ABNJ	–	Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction
ACB	–	ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity
AHP	–	ASEAN Heritage Park
AMS	–	ASEAN Member States
ATS	–	Arafura and Timor Seas
ATSEA	–	Arafura and Timor Seas Ecosystem Action
BRIOF	–	Bitung Research Institute of Oceanic Fisheries
CAP	–	Comprehensive Action Plan
CIS	–	Commonwealth of Independent States
COBSEA	–	Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia
CTMPAS	–	Coral Triangle MPA System
CSO	–	Civil Society Organization
CT6	–	Multilateral Partnership of the CTI-CFF between the governments of Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Solomon Islands and Timor-Leste.
CTI	–	Coral Triangle Initiative
CTI-CFF	–	Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries, and Food Security
DENR	–	Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines
DMCR	–	Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Thailand
EAFM	–	Ecosystem Approach Fishery Management
EAS	–	East Asian Seas
EBM	–	Ecosystem-based Management
EEZ	–	Exclusive Economic Zone
GDP	–	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	–	Global Environment Facility
GIZ	–	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
HNS	–	Hazardous and Noxious Substances
ICM	–	Integrated Coastal Management
IEC	–	Information, Education and Communication
IOC/UNESCO	–	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission – United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
IOC/WESTPAC	–	IOC Sub-commission for the Western Pacific
IONet	–	Islands and Oceans Net
IUU	–	Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated
LME	–	Large Marine Ecosystem
M&E	–	Monitoring and Evaluation
MIMA	–	Maritime Institute of Malaysia
MCS	–	Monitoring, Control and Surveillance
MONRE	–	Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment, Viet Nam
MOU	–	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	–	Marine Protected Area

MSY	–	Maximum Sustainable Yield
NAP	–	National Action Program
NCC	–	National Coordinating Committee
NGO	–	Non-governmental Organization
NOP	–	National Ocean Policy
NOWPAP	–	Northwest Pacific Action Plan
NPOA	–	National Plans of Action
OPINEAR	–	Ocean Policy Institute Network in East Asian Region
OPRC	–	Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and Co-operation
OPRI-SPF	–	Ocean Policy Research Institute - Sasakawa Peace Foundation
PEMSEA	–	Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia
PICES	–	North Pacific Marine Science Organization
PMO	–	Project Management Office
PNG	–	Papua New Guinea
PNLG	–	PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development
POPs	–	Persistent Organic Pollutants
PPP	–	Public-Private Partnership
RPOA	–	Regional Plan of Action
RSM	–	Regional support missions
RSSD	–	Regional Seas Strategic Directions
SAP	–	Strategic Action Programme
SDG	–	Sustainable Development Goals
SDS	–	Sustainable Development Strategy
SDS-SEA	–	Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia
SGP	–	Small Grants Programme
SIDS	–	Small Island Developing States
SIMCA	–	Sugud Islands Marine Conservation Area
SOPHIL	–	Southern Deep Sea Fishing Association Inc., Philippines
SSME	–	Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion
TDA	–	Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis
TNC	–	The Nature Conservancy
TWG	–	Technical Working Group
UNCLOS	–	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNDP	–	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	–	United Nations Environment Programme
VASI	–	Vietnam Administration of Seas and Islands
VMS	–	Vessel Monitoring System
WCPFC	–	Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WPEA-SM	–	Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas project
WSSD	–	World Summit on Sustainable Development
YSLME	–	Yellow Sea Large Marine Ecosystem

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The six Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) and subregional seas¹ of East Asian region are experiencing physical, ecological and socioeconomic changes associated with infrastructure development, urbanization, extreme climate events, land and sea based activities, and population increase. International cooperation at regional and LME levels has facilitated in many ways collaborative responses among countries to the challenges and uncertainties with countries' adoption of ocean policies and measures in alignment with the regional action programs such as the strategic action programme (SAP) and regional sustainable development strategy.
- 1.2 What are the drivers that have shaped the regional coast and ocean governance? What achievements and impact have these regional governance mechanisms made in addressing overfishing, eutrophication, loss of coastal and marine biodiversity and other transboundary issues in the last decade? What are the gaps in our understanding of the coasts and oceans? What are the innovative implementation and governance mechanisms for SAPs and the regional strategy? What should the collaborating countries do in terms of policy and regulatory framework and institutional arrangements to make these regional mechanisms and initiatives work more effectively? This workshop is designed to facilitate regional and national initiatives to respond to the ocean agenda enshrined in the Future We Want at Rio+20 and SDGs.

2. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTPUTS OF THE MEETING

- 2.1 The meeting was opened by Dr. Gunnar Kulunberg, former Executive Secretary of IOC of UNESCO. After a message of appreciation to GIZ and OPRI-SPF who made the workshop possible through their sponsorship, Dr. Kullenberg welcomed participants to attend the workshop. In his remarks, he highlighted the objectives of the meetings as to: (1) better understand the challenges and gaps in research and education, implementation and reporting, and transboundary partnerships within the

¹ Yellow Sea, East China Sea, South China Sea, Sulu-Sulawesi Seas, Indonesia Seas and Gulf of Thailand

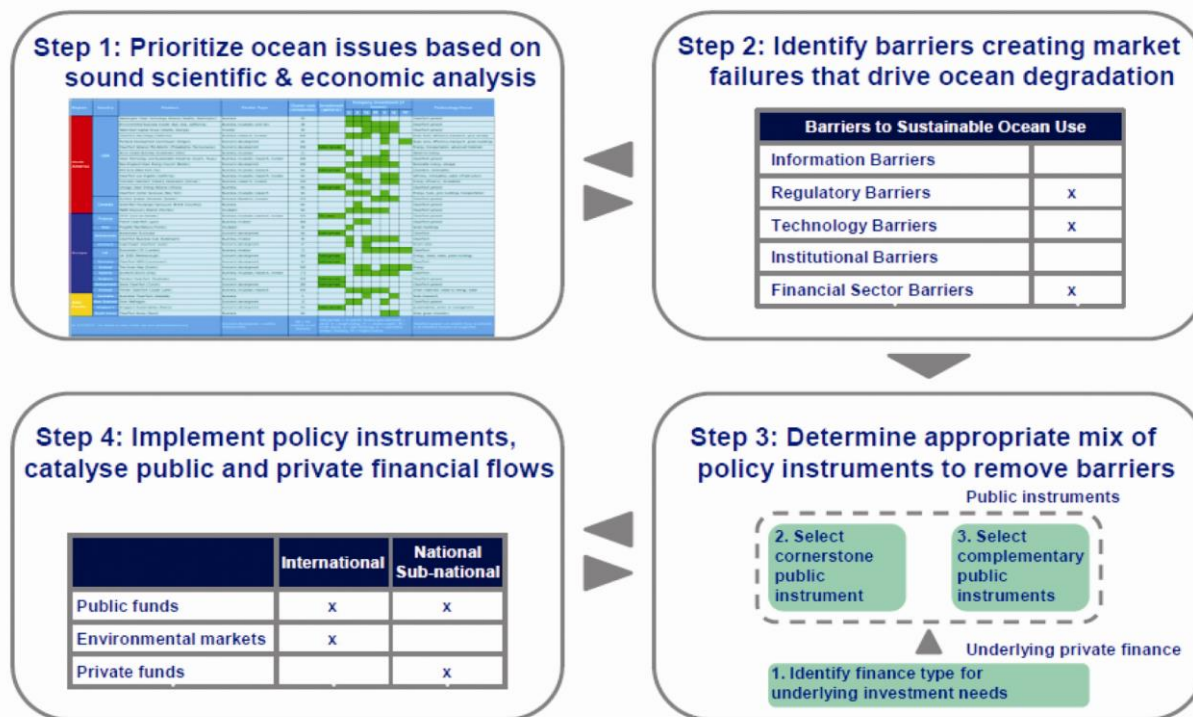
seas of East Asia and identify solutions and respond to challenges, and opportunities for collaboration among regional mechanisms, national and local governments and donor agencies; (2) facilitate exchanges in regional and national policies and initiatives for coastal and ocean governance reflected in the Future We Want at Rio+20 and SDGs

- 2.2 Regarding the outputs or expectations from the two day workshop, Dr. Kullenberg highlighted the following for participants to consider as outputs of the workshop: (1) Improved knowledge and appreciation of progresses, achievements, and impacts of regional ocean governance in the EAS region at national and subnational, LME and regional level; (2) better understanding of the gaps, challenges, lessons learnt and opportunities for making regional governance of transboundary LMEs and regional seas more country-owned, effective and sustainable; and (3) elaboration and common understanding on the way forward in development of national policies and regulatory framework and partnerships for improving coastal and ocean governance to contribute to achieve SDGs in the EAS region.

3. KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

- 3.1 **Dr. Andrew Hudson**, Head of UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Programme, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP, delivered the keynote presentation entitled “Regionalizing the SDGs – Perspectives of the UNDP/GEF” to set the scene and outline the ocean agenda under SDGs, and their relevance to EAS region and LMEs.

- 3.2 In his presentation, Dr. Hudson undercored the value of the “blue ocean” to the “green” economy in terms of food security, tourism, transport, energy, ecosystem services, poverty reduction, and their significant global market value which amounts to over US\$ 1.7 trillion each year and provide job opportunities to over 400 million people. In spite of the great value, the oceans are at risk from overfishing, coastal hypoxia, invasive species, habitat loss and ocean acidification, most of which are accelerating. He ascribed the ocean degradation to market and policy failures. For example, he related coastal hypoxia to the lack of internalizing cost of nutrient damage into the price of fertilizer and human and livestock wastewater management, and overfishing as a result of lack of internalizing socioeconomic and environmental costs of overfishing into sustainable fisheries management and bad subsidies to fisheries. He introduced the four step planning approach (figure below) and TDA/SAP, ICM and legal framework as the three ocean planning instruments adopted by UNDP/GEF to protect and restore the ocean.



3.3 Dr. Hudson cited examples of UNDP-GEF support to reversing hypoxia in the Danube River and Black Sea as a good practice, YSLME, PEMSEA and WCPFC as the programs with tangible impacts facilitated by the application of the above-specified methodologies. He emphasized that LMEs require a transboundary or multicountry cooperative approach. He concluded that the ocean governance and management framework provided by SDS/SEA, continued scaling up of ICM, and the EAS LME SAPs position the region very well for effective implementation of SDGs 6, 14 and other linked SDGs, at local, national and regional levels.

4. PART 1: FROM JOHANNESBURG PLAN OF IMPLEMENTATION TO SDGS: MEETING THE ASPIRATIONS OF NATIONS AND REGIONAL SEAS GOVERNANCE

4.1 In part 1, Ms. Lena Kern of GIZ presented a report on policy analysis and lessons learnt from the ocean governance initiatives operating in the East Asian Seas region, which aimed to contribute to discussions among regional seas mechanisms and initiatives in the EAS region, and strengthen coordination and synergies of EAS initiative. The review and analysis is guided by the hypothesis that: *“regional seas mechanisms are effectively coordinated in information and knowledge sharing, programming, capacity development, legislation and enforcement, and implementation of their respective strategic action programs or strategies”*.

4.2 In response to the coastal issues of concerns to all countries in the region, EAS initiatives are established which are multinational and aligned with LMEs, focus on key themes of sustainable use and protection, created by or with international organizations in conjunction with member countries, and cover some overlapping geographies and objectives. After summarizing the success factors of EAS initiatives, Ms. Kern raised the following points among EAS initiatives for discussion:

- The usefulness of scientific advisory boards
- Joint data collection and sharing among programs
- Cooperation with NGOs and private sector vs relying on governments
- How to best develop regional policies that develop into national laws
- Best mechanism for “best practices” to be adopted by programs at regional or the national level

4.3 With regard to strengthening of M&E mechanisms, the study observed insufficient M&E systems in place and weak capacity and no agreed standard means of monitoring progress towards objectives and/or tracking the status of marine systems in the EAS region. The team suggested to: (1) develop a shared Report Card to track SDGs initially; (2) pick a test key indicator and harmonize it (per theme) to show a regional map such as for MPAs, relative water quality, habitat quality, etc; and (3) experiment with crossover members on advisory boards or thematic and M&E bodies among programs.

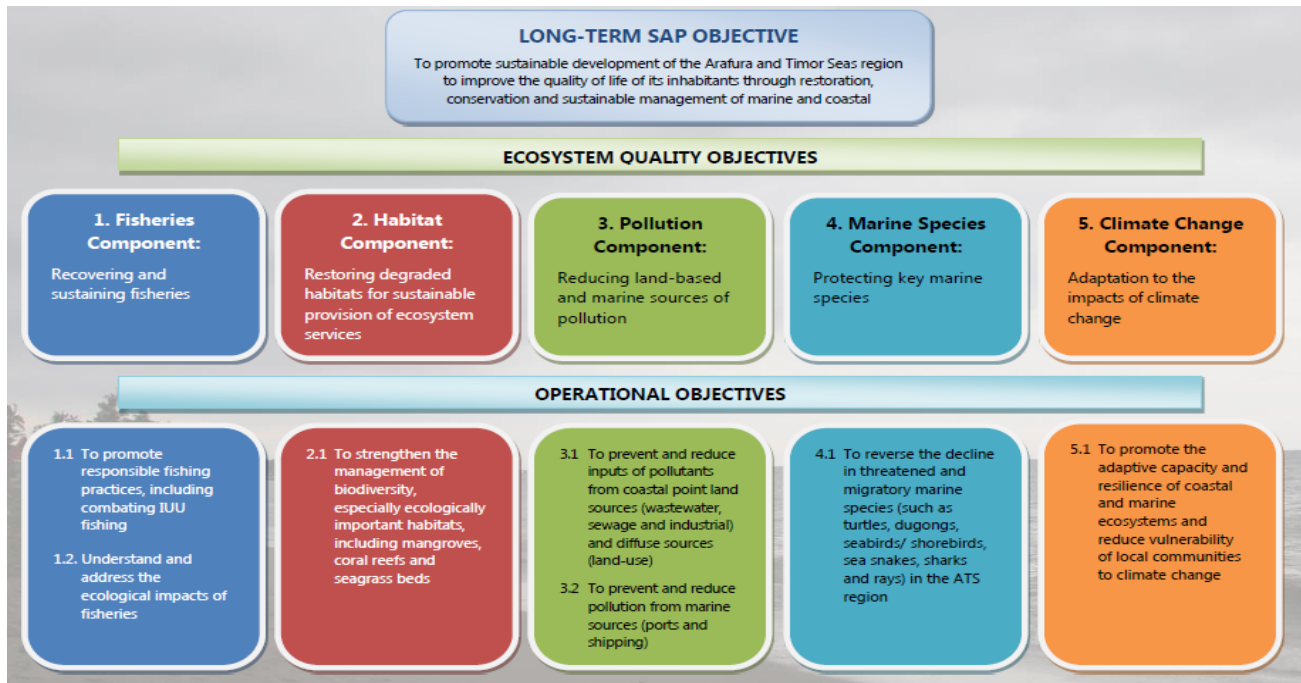
4.4 On forging further partnerships, the study suggested:

- collaboration around local government networks of PEMSEA, CTI-CFF and SSME;
- collaboration of CTI-CFF and WCPFC on tuna stock management;
- more formal collaboration of northern EAS initiatives (NOWPAP, YSLME and parts of COBSEA and PEMSEA) on M&E systems development, building effective education programs for government and local stakeholders, sharing lessons on fisheries management in areas;
- strong link or merger between SSME and CTI-CFF;
- Pick themes (such as topical TWGs for collaboration);
- Find new and innovative and sustainable funding sources to adjust to reductions in donor funding;
- Leveraging education opportunities, e.g., Fulbright scholarships and other fellowships;
- Develop an East Asian Seas Brand and link it with the private sector.

4.5 Following the presentation, Ms. Kern chaired Part 1 with Dr. Alan White of TNC focusing on three key questions:

1. What factors/indicators are being used to determine the success of EAS initiatives and strategies?
2. What are the means applied to monitor and report on progress towards objectives, and the impact and benefits derived?
3. How can EAS initiatives work better, to the greater benefits of countries of the region and the health and resiliency of the regional seas?

4.6 **Dr. Tonny Wagey**, Former Project Manager of UNDP/GEF Regional Project on Arafura and Timor Seas (ATSEA), introduced the objectives and accomplishments of the first phase of the ATSEA Project (2000-2014) participated by Indonesia, Timor-Leste, and Australia followed by Papua New Guinea (PNG) in 2011. The project resulted in the undertaking of TDA and adoption of the SAP by all participating countries through the Ministerial Declaration for ATSEA SAP, as well as the approval of national action program (NAP) of Indonesia and Timor-Leste.



- 4.7 Initial implementation of SAP as a part of the project activities focused on livelihood development such as mud crab and culture seaweed culture, fish product processing supported by mangrove restoration activities and performance monitoring. Institutionally, the PMO of the project was hosted by Bali, Indonesia, serving as the interim secretariat of the ATS regional institution. The project also developed Regional Cooperation and Sustainable Finance Mechanism. Key lessons learnt from the project include recognition of the importance of networking and coordination among stakeholders, need for relevant scientific information and government support.
- 4.8 **Dr. Widi Agoes Pratikto**, Executive Director of CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat, highlighted the uniqueness and significance of the 75,000 km² of reef that are home to 500 coral species and 3,000 fish species supporting the life of 120 million people and the multi-billion tuna industry in 6 countries. A 10-year CTI-CFF Regional Plan of Action (RPOA) was adopted in 2009 committed to achieve 5 goals related with seascape, ecosystem approach fishery management (EAFM), MPAs, climate change adaptation and threatened species management. The institutional structure of the CTI-CFF consisting of Council of Ministers, Committee of Senior Officials, Secretariat, National Coordinating Committee, Technical Working Group and networks for local governments, women, business and fishers has made CTI-CFF an organization with broad partnerships with national governments, development banks, international organizations and NGOs.
- 4.9 **Dr. Alexander Tkalin**, NOWPAP Coordinator, presented NOWPAP as an example of regional seas governance mechanism. He highlighted NOWPAP as a regional seas programme of UNEP with four member countries committed to protect the marine and coastal environment in the region. Key accomplishments include the established intergovernmental mechanism allowing member states focusing on marine environment quality; established sustainable institutional infrastructure consisting of intergovernmental meetings, trust fund, Regional Activity Centers and Regional Coordinating Unit; established close partnership relations with projects and organizations in the region; raised awareness among the public about the marine litter, HABs, biodiversity, oil spills, pollutants inputs with rivers and from atmosphere; enhanced capacity of experts; and regional

agreements and guidelines adopted by member states. NOWPAP will continue to implement its Medium-Term Strategy adopted in 2012 in collaboration with other organizations, programs and projects such as PEMSEA, YSLME, COBSEA, PICES, IOC/WESTPAC and others.

- 4.10 **Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross**, Executive Director of PEMSEA, echoed with Dr. Andrew Hudson and Dr. Pratikto the value of coasts and oceans to people of the region. In response to the increasing challenges to the coasts and oceans in the region over time, PEMSEA, in its evolution into a regional intergovernmental organization, has positioned itself to achieve the mission of fostering and sustaining healthy and resilient coasts and oceans, communities and economies across the Seas of East Asia through integrated management solutions and partnerships. PEMSEA's effective governance mechanism of the East Asian Seas Partnership Council, PEMSEA Resource Facility and EAS Congress, broad country memberships and Non-Country Partners, and the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) and regional implementation plan (2012-2016) put high demand for a sustainable PEMSEA. He highlighted ratification of the Headquarters agreement between the Philippine government and PEMSEA, voluntary contribution from China, Japan, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore and Timor-Leste, recognition of PEMSEA as an Implementing Partner of UNDP as well as host of EAS Congresses and PNLG forums as key indication of progress for a self-sustainable partnership mechanism.
- 4.11 Mr. Ross referred key achievements in achieving the SDS-SEA to putting in place ocean policies or water governance strategy by 10 countries, institution of ocean and water legislation by 7 countries and establishment of national institutional arrangements for coastal and water governance by 9 countries. Another accomplishment is the increased ICM scaling up which has covered 10 percent of regional coastlines focusing on coastal and ocean governance, habitat, climate change adaptation and risk reduction, sustainable fisheries, integrated river basin and coastal area management, etc.
- 4.12 Good practices in bringing about these accomplishments include creation and full operation of a regional network of ICM Regional Centers of Excellence and Learning Centers and a regional network of 40 local governments for experience-sharing in ICM implementation for 15 years, knowledge management and development in progress of the East Asian Seas Sustainable Business Network to interact with peers on sustainable business and management practices. He highlighted PEMSEA's aspiration for building a blue economy which entails ICM scaling up to 25 percent of the region's coasts by 2021, realizing adequate funding and strengthening investments, and applying innovative financial mechanisms and economic incentives to balance financial returns with positive social and environmental impacts. He concluded his presentation by highlighting the existing gaps and challenges at the national level which requires partnerships strategy and collaboration among regional seas mechanisms to address them.
- 4.13 **Dr. SungKwon Soh** from the WCPFC Secretariat discussed the progress of WPEA-SM Project on Sustainable Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the West Pacific and East Asian Seas among Indonesia, Philippines and Vietnam. In project implementation, he highlighted that tuna does not recognize man-made boundaries, which requires that stock assessment and management must be done on a regional and sometime ocean-wide basis. This three-year project (2015-2017) will focus on regional governance, implementation of policy, institutional and fishery management reforms including adoption of market-based approaches, and knowledge sharing through a regional platform. Capacity development through workshops and training courses, knowledge management through production of over 150 reports, and integration of catch data in the project into regional

stock assessments since 2011 are some of the key progress and achievements. There is a clear ownership of the project by countries given its consistency with WCPF Convention and Commission requirements. Improved accuracy and reduction of uncertainty in regional stock assessment and national policy reform will be the key impact indicators of the project. As a program of the WCPFC, the project results are sustainable financially and technically, and institutionally through establishment and operationalization of WCPFC Office in the Philippines and establishment of Bitung Research Institute of Oceanic Fisheries (BRIOF). Project results ownership, sufficient project budget, communications, and high quality consultants and local experts are the key lessons learnt from the project implementation.

- 4.14 **Mr. Reynaldo F. Molina** from UNEP/COBSEA introduced architecture of UNEP Regional Seas Programmes and its Regional Seas Strategic Directions (RSSD) 2013-2016, and successes, challenges and recommendations and options. The UNEP Regional Seas Programme, established in 1974, aims to address degradation of oceans and seas through sustainable use and management of marine and coastal resources. It provides a legally binding framework and promoted implementation of cross-cutting policies fostering transboundary cooperation among countries. It is composed of 18 Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs) with agreed Strategic Action Programmes through GEF funding, and follows the RSSD, focusing on applying ecosystem-based management, addressing pollution from land-based activities, capacity development for coastal governance, promoting resource efficiency and productivity, coordination and capacity development, in state of marine environment reporting, and strengthening mechanisms for multilateral environmental agreements collaboration. The Regional Seas Programme is one of the most comprehensive initiatives for the protection of the marine and coastal environment that is well established in the oceans governance landscape and promotes the idea of a “shared sea”. Challenges to the Regional Seas Programme include lack of adequate funding, lack of interaction between fisheries and other socioeconomic sectors, unsystematic implementation of regional agreements, lack of capacity or means from public administration to design and implement strong environmental policies, etc. Strengthening existing or creating new governance mechanisms and enhancing cooperation and coordination between them are the key recommendations to make the regional ocean governance system more coherent, effective and efficient.
- 4.15 **Ms. Nilda S. Baling**, Officer-in-Charge, Coastal and Marine Division, Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resource of the Philippines, shared her country’s experience in the protection of the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion. She highlighted the importance of the Philippines in the SSME whereby 55 percent of the 45 million people inhabiting the ecoregion reside in the Philippines. Equally, nearly 52 percent of the coral reef area, and 71 percent of MPAs are in Philippine waters. She highlighted the rationale for the SSME to biodiversity significance, economic importance, dissemination of information, sharing resources and addressing threats among the three countries. Key achievements include the signing of an MOU to adopt the Conservation Plan for the SSME and formation of the Tri-National Committee in 2004, creation of three Sub-Committees on MPAs, fisheries and threatened species in 2006, and the publication of a Comprehensive Action Plan for Species Protection, MPAs and networks, and Sustainable Fisheries in 2011 (CAP). A good example of alignment of national policies to CAP of SSME is EC No. 578 on the establishment of national policy on biodiversity particularly in the SSME. She highlighted Verde Island Passage Management Corridor, MPA Network and Sea Turtle MPA Network as direct outputs of the SSME project based on ecological connectivity. In summary, Ms. Baling concluded that effective SSME cooperation can draw support from development partners, and the SSME has

promoted interagency collaboration and national policy development and implementation on the ground and at a regional scale.

4.16 A moderated discussion followed after the presentations, which covered the mechanisms on how the regional partnerships operate for the East Asian Seas and how to ensure the active fulfillment of the respective countries' commitments. PEMSEA stressed the need to establish the **value and benefits** that the member countries receive in participating in these regional efforts. Among PEMSEA's approaches is its coordination undertakings such as knowledge sharing and organizing events, e.g., trainings for the various partnership bodies over the region, conferences such as the EAS Congress, and participation to events and trainings that are organized by other projects and programs to benefit from other mechanisms' expertise. ATSEA echoed PEMSEA's standpoint adding that each **geographical area has its unique situations** and NOWPAP stressed that **models differ in addressing regional challenges**. The geographical and regional overlap of PEMSEA and COBSEA was also queried. The synergy of the two programs were highlighted and it was clarified that the functions of the two regional bodies are unique from each other. **COBSEA focuses on EBM while PEMSEA is on ICM**. Meanwhile, CTI-CFF also mentioned that each of the six CTI countries have their respective mechanisms incorporated in the national plans of action (NPOAs) but **monitoring and evaluation needs to be strengthened**.

4.17 For the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the regional actions, SSME mentioned that for Philippines, there is a comprehensive management program for coastal and marine biodiversity but there is a **need to establish first the baseline conditions** through surveys and assessments which are ongoing. NOWPAP's M&E is focused on the implementation through performance indicators and outputs but there is a need for **a long-term effective implementation to evaluate impacts**. CTI-CFF's M&E in its RPOA is achieved through the NPOAs of the six countries with their own M&E systems where **strengthening of national M&E systems** is needed. ATSEA, on the other hand, has a multisectoral approach in dealing with coastal and marine issues in the region highlighting the people's ownership of the project. WCPFC mentioned that the project has components on establishing baseline information and monitoring targets, however, it is a **challenge to monitor tuna stocks at the country level** because of their migratory behavior. Specifically, he cited an example of one of the participating countries who spent millions of US dollars in assessing the tuna stocks which is impractical due to the migratory nature of the species. In this sense, WCPFC emphasized collaboration between countries and regional fisheries management bodies. Lastly, PEMSEA expressed that **M&E indicators depend on the maturity of the program** as progress is measured. Regional level progress indicators depend on what is happening at the country level and the conduct of M&E takes time to be done regularly. The shift from measuring not just outputs but also the impacts was also conveyed as a good improvement in the conduct of M&E.

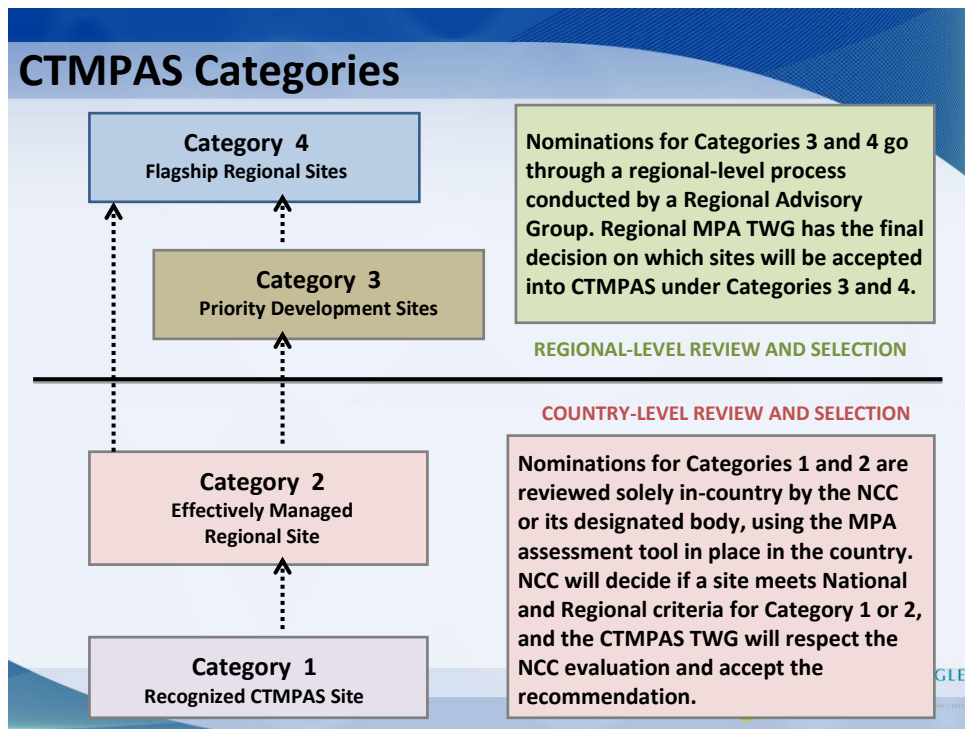
5. PANEL SESSION 2: PARTNERSHIPS FOR WIN-WINS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE SDGS

5.1 The panel session, chaired by **Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg**, was designed to explore good practices in partnership development with the academe, youth, local governments, private sector and other stakeholders to achieve the desired goals of SAPs in line with the SDGs. There were six speakers in the session.

- 5.2 **Mr. Thai Van Quang**, Head of Technical Division of Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Da Nang, Viet Nam, showcased the experiences of Da Nang in strengthening the resilience of local people and adaptation process to the adverse impact of climate change in an integrated manner. As a city affected by 10-12 floods and storms each year with significant economic and human lives, the Municipal Government of Da Nang emphasized the roles of government, enterprises and social organizations and participation of local people in awareness raising. Partnerships are entered into between local governments and Women’s Unions, the Youth Union and Red Cross to regularly organize training courses to their peers. Integration of adaptation programs into social development program ensure funding for implementation. Working with international organizations for investment in programs and experience and knowledge exchanges with other cities through PNLG has also benefited the city in design and implementation of initiatives.
- 5.3 **Atty. Roberto Oliva** , Executive Director of the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), illustrated the roles of ACB in biodiversity conservation in ASEAN and its partnership with PEMSEA on marine biodiversity. Serving as the secretariat of the ASEAN Heritage Parks (AHPs), ACB partnered with PEMSEA in the preparation of the proposal entitled “Achieving the Aichi Targets through Integrated Coastal Management” with the aim of mobilizing large-scale coastal and marine conservation action in the Southeast and East Asian region. In parallel to this initiative and approaching ICM through the need to conserve inter-tidal habitats, ACB has partnered with the East Asian Australasian Flyway Partnership to focus on migratory species that are nearing extinction. A sub-regional strategy will be developed to contribute to the conservation of this most threatened skyway in the world. In the context of the upcoming ASEAN integration, ACB presented the ASEAN Working Group on Coastal and Marine Environment as a regional forum that enables discussions among ASEAN Member States (AMS) on common issues in the region and the means to address them.
- 5.4 **Mr. Roberto Baylosis**, Executive Vice President of Southern Deep Sea Fishing Association Inc., Philippines (SOPHIL), shared the experience of partnership between the Interagency Site Committee created by SSME project with fisheries association in Zamboanga City, and some lessons learned.
- 5.5 The private sector fishery industry of Zamboanga has formally started to collaborate with SSME through the Sulu-Celebes Sea Sustainable Fisheries Management Project which identified Zamboanga City as the demonstration site through participation in the Inter-agency Site Committee officially established in May 2011. In the implementation of the Regional Strategic Action Programme on the Unsustainable Exploitation of Fish, the fishery industry was involved in sardine stock assessment and coordinated members to implement a close season fishing for sardines, the biggest industry in the city. To convince the stakeholders to implement the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) scheme, particularly on the enforcement of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) which involved affordability for the stakeholders, the fishery association also played key roles. In gathering of accurate data even after the Project, members of the fishery association began to reflect the actual status of resources of sardines to implement science-based fisheries management. Private sectors are also willing to engage in cost-sharing schemes to facilitate capacity-building activities and IEC campaigns.
- 5.6 On behalf of **Dr. Theresa Mundita Lim**, Chair of CTI MPA Technical Working Group and Chair of SSME Sub-committee on MPA and MPA Networks, **Dr. Vincent V. Hilomen**, Executive Director for

Priority Programs and Projects of Biodiversity Management Bureau of DENR of the Philippines, introduced the responses of CTI to poor coverage by MPA of coral reefs and ineffective management of existing MPAs through a development and implementation of the Coral Triangle MPA System (CPMPAS) framework. In spite of the significance of CTI in distribution of coral reefs, 84 percent of coral reefs are not covered by MPAs, and 80 percent of the MPAs are rated as ineffective. The established CTI MPA Technical Working Group (TWG) in 2011 — mandated to guide regional MPA efforts and to ensure that Goal 3 of the CTI RPOA is achieved — has established a four-step roadmap towards implementation of the CTMPAS up to 2020. The CTMPAS Framework and Action Plan was developed to harmonize neighboring jurisdictions of the same level, and between the various community-to-regional level managers which is a critical component to success for participating MPA and MPA networks across the CT6. It is being implemented through five basic strategies with three recurring themes contributing to the success of a comprehensive and effective CTMPAS: (1) Ecological; (2) Governance; and (3) Society. The inclusion of MPA sites and networks in the CTMPAS is based on their regional value, uniqueness or importance and the level of effectiveness they achieve in meeting basic criteria in design and implementation as MPA sites or networks. Four site categories are established to ensure selection criteria is followed.

5.7 The framework has also agreed to the principles of being inclusive, integration, aim for social equity and acknowledge and respect national processes to guide programs and activities. Currently, the CTMPAS framework has been completed, and 17.8 percent of reef habitat are designated, and approximately 80-90% of MPAs are included as Category 1. Apparently, the CTMPAS has served as the umbrella under which most CTI-CFF MPA activities come together and most importantly, it sets the stage for improved quality of design and implementation to assist in achieving the goals of the CTI-CFF countries.



5.8 **Dr. Chung Fung Chen**, Lead Marine Biologist of Reef Guardian, Sabah, Malaysia, shared the experiences of an MPA’s partnership with the private sector for conservation purposes. Many

marine protected areas (MPAs) have failed because of a lack of funding and effective enforcement for conservation. The private company, Reef Guardian Sdn Bhd was appointed by the State Government of Sabah, Malaysia, to manage the Sugud Islands Marine Conservation Area (SIMCA) since 2004. Conservation fees of RM25 (Ringgit Malaysia) per person per night is charged to all visitors to Lankayan Island Dive Resort within the SIMCA and this has generated a sustainable source of financing to meet most Reef Guardian's operational and management costs. The availability of adequate funds has enabled Reef Guardian to invest in capacity building and surveillance technology such as a land-based radar tracking system to monitor fishing activities within SIMCA. Through broader collaboration with Sabah Wildlife Department, Reef Guardian team members were trained and certified as Honorary Wildlife Warden to enforce the Wildlife Conservation Enactment 1997 within SIMCA. The Reef Guardian enforcement team has reduced illegal fishing and sea turtle egg poaching within the conservation area for the past 11 years. Partnership with the resort operator in sustainable development practices, sewage water treatment, strict recreational rules and regulation has reduced environmental impacts from daily resort operation and increased environmental awareness to tourists and the public. Private investment and management in MPAs offers an alternative approach that can address the problems of sustainable funding and enforcement that so often hamper MPA success.

- 5.9 **Dr. Sulan Chen**, Program Advisor, International Waters and Chemicals Regional Focal Point – Asia, Europe and CIS countries, GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP, advocated a governance approach that utilizes nested and coordinated set of local actions for the implementation of coherent regional framework. Effective regional seas' governance requires coordinated actions among countries bordering the seas and connected with the seas under regional frameworks and coordination to manage transboundary environmental issues. Policies and management plans developed by formal inter-state processes will eventually have to be implemented at local sites, therefore community-based actions are critical to the effectiveness of these higher level policies. On the other hand, community-based coastal and marine waters projects are often local and stand-alone projects, lacking consideration of regional linkages and perspectives. Such links between regional processes and local actions not only enhances the effectiveness of local actions in addressing international waters issues but also strengthens regional frameworks.
- 5.10 Dr. Chen called for vertical integration of actions at regional, national and local levels, by incorporating local actions into national and regional management frameworks, and developing and implementing local actions in alignment with regional and national priorities and considerations. She based her appeal on the experiences of community-based project approaches in the East Asian Seas supported by the GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) as a part of the UNDP initiative to promote "local action, global impact" approach to sustainable development. The presentation shared good cases of local actions in the East Asian Seas that should be replicated to achieve high local ownership and sustainability, and through linkages with other partners and entities, to generate scaled up impacts.

6. FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS: PARTNERSHIPS FOR WIN-WINS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE SDGS

- 6.1 Following the presentations by panelists, the Chair facilitated a panel discussion. Questions and highlights of discussion are summarized below. Generally speaking, the panelists had demonstrated that there is active participation of national governments, technical support from academe to give

science-base is existent, and support for implementation from private sector appeared to be strong. The session also found aggressive action at national and local level involving politicians at both levels.

QUESTION 1: What mechanisms facilitate your participation in implementation of the Regional SAP or SDS?

- ▶ A mechanism needs to be created to serve as a regional framework, involving key stakeholders to facilitate and implement the agreed activities such as the private sector and all other stakeholders; it can also be used to monitor transboundary issues and help ensure that local communities are involved since they need to be involved in implementation.
- ▶ The mechanism also overlooks and watches the development and harmonization of neighboring jurisdictions of the same level, with the understanding that time span is at least a decade;
- ▶ Convinced of the state of its very basis for economics, social and sustainable development with inclusiveness (national-province-local).
- ▶ A mechanism which uses governance approach that is inclusive with nested and coordinated set of local actions so they become linked to a coherent regional plan; with the PEMSEA local government network as a living example.
- ▶ A mechanism which introduces a fee in tourism resort, partnership with scientific community for data collection, and uses PPP to generate funds and expertise for sustainable management.

QUESTION 2: What are the motivations that attracted your organization to partner with the Regional Seas Programme?

- ▶ The strategic visions of sustainable development requires regional, national and local cooperation to handle a transboundary environment like the ocean, and find solutions to adopt to climate change as part of ocean governance.
- ▶ Find root causes of transboundary problems, e.g., fish migration, depletion, pollution, harmful algal blooms, and find options for solutions, e.g., to address unsustainable fisheries.
- ▶ To achieve vision of sustainable development coordination among concerned parties, (research, government, social organizations, private enterprises) and the participation of local populations (rural and urban areas) is needed/important/necessary;
- ▶ Private investments and management of MPAs offer an alternative approach to achieve sustainable funding and management options for enforcement of MPA regulations.

QUESTION 3: How are you benefiting from the partnership? What would you do to improve the partnership?

- ▶ From a regional forum that enables discussion among the member states on common issues, with participation of NGOs.
- ▶ The links between regional process and local actions enhance effectiveness of implementation and strengthens the regional forum/framework.
- ▶ We have a related, specified strategy with themes contributing to, and involving, ecology, governance, society, and includes existing mechanisms as MPA's.
- ▶ We need to improve the links, dialogue, understanding between local actions, community actions and governments; need understand governance in much broader and inclusive sense than just a centralized policy shaping organization.

QUESTION 4: What do you hope to achieve through this partnership?

- ▶ Support in developing a regional strategic action programme for the problems at hand such as unsustainable fisheries, and with a science-based plan, to gradually achieve sustainability.
- ▶ Support and contribute to understanding as regards the problems related to implementation of monitoring, control, surveillance, and vessel monitoring system, as regards fisheries.
- ▶ Strengthen vertical integration of actions at regional, national and local levels, including local actions into national planning, and involving local politicians in the process of community-based actions.
- ▶ Strengthen horizontal linkages between local actions in the area/province/nation to related actions; provide for stimulations, exchange of experiences, best practices, and mutual support; break the isolation of individual local actions;
- ▶ Raised awareness of the public and their participation, with training courses and exchanges between participating groups and communities.

7. SUMMARY OF ISSUES, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND KEYNOTE PRESENTATION AND PART 2 OF THE WORKSHOP

7.1 The keynote presentation and Part 1 of the workshop focused on the following two issues: (1) responses, progress and achievements of EAS programs and initiatives in terms of institutional sustainability, program implementation and monitoring, as well as status and opportunities of coordination and collaboration; and (2) partnership modalities and practices among EAS programs and initiatives, and with the business community, private sector, CSOs, academe, city networks and other stakeholders that bring mutual benefits and transparency, as well as enhance the participation of stakeholders while contributing to the achievement of the SDGs, in particular Goals 14 and 6.

7.2 The keynote and Part 1 of the workshop concluded that:

- Stable and well-established regional institutional mechanisms are a prerequisite to long-term programs involving the protection and management of coastal and marine ecosystems, and may include, but not be limited to, functional secretariats, resource facilities, regional activity centers and technical working groups, most of which are multinational in structure.
- Sustainable finance mechanisms are critical to long-term functionality of EAS initiatives. Mobilizing contributions from countries and setting up trust funds can enhance long-term financial revenues for operation of the initiatives.
- Broad-based strategies and action plans encompassing the various social, economic and ecological challenges to sustainable development of coasts and oceans in the region provide useful frameworks and platforms for strengthening collaboration and coordination of efforts across regional and country-driven programs and implementation of the SDGs, in particular those related with oceans (SDG 14) and water (SDG 6).
- Coordination and participation of concerned parties (e.g., academe, government, non-governmental, civil organizations, private enterprises, etc.) are important and necessary in order to achieve the common vision of sustainable development.
- Regional, national and local cooperation is required in order to manage a transboundary environment like the ocean, and to find solutions to adapt to climate change as part of ocean governance.

- Developing functional M&E Systems is essential for successful adaptive management while it was recognized that it takes time to develop and implement an effective M&E system which is usually only possible in mature programs.
- Private investments and management offer an alternative approach in some countries to achieve sustainable funding and management options for implementing EAS programs and activities.

7.3 The keynote presentation and panel discussion of Part 1 of the workshop proposed the following recommendations for following up and implementation by regional seas programs and initiatives in the EAS region:

- All regional EAS initiatives need to be very sensitive to local, sub-national and national capacities to undertake technical work, planning, financial planning and governance in order to ensure more sustainable outcomes.
- Regional and national plans of action need to be complimentary and better aligned in order to ensure synergy and optimal leverage of resources from national and international sources and strong political will.
- Commonalities and opportunities for collaboration among EAS regional and sub-regional initiatives need to be proactively pursued, and working agreements should be formed among regional programs through both formal and informal means, in order to enable efficiencies of the respective work programs, minimize overlaps and duplication of effort, and clarify roles, functions, capacities and needs in the implementation of programs and initiatives.
- EAS regional initiatives should develop innovative and self-sustaining financing mechanisms in order to facilitate implementation of regional strategies, action plans and programs by collaborating countries.
- Effective M&E systems of regional strategies and programs need:
 - good baseline data in order to measure change;
 - good information systems that track data and make it publicly available and enhance potential analysis;
 - alignment of goals and objectives and indicators across ministries and sectors in a country and at the regional scale; and
 - process as well as outcome (impact) indicators.
- There is a need to improve the links, dialogue and understanding between local actions, community actions and governments. Governance should be understood in a much broader and inclusive sense rather than just as a centralized policy shaping mechanism.
- The roles of coastal and marine ecosystems in modern society and the impacts of humans on their health should be better understood based on the results of best available scientific research and analysis. Such information should be integrated into school curriculums, from grade school to college, in an effort to raise awareness, nurture ocean stewardship and ensure compliance with policies and laws.

8. PART 2: DEVELOPMENT OF OCEAN POLICIES IN THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA – CASE STUDIES OF SELECTED COUNTRIES

8.1 Part 2 of the workshop focused on development of ocean policies in the Seas of East Asia with case studies from China, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, RO Korea, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Specifically, this Part discussed the status of national policies, legal and regulatory frameworks under framework of UNCLOS, Agenda 21, WSSD Plan of Implementation and The Future We Want.

To the extent possible, the workshop also tried to identify gaps in policy and legislation development and implementation that countries might want to undertake reforms. As designed, this part sought to feature innovations in ocean policies, impact of their applications, how effective “integrated management” at national and local levels was and the challenges and how governments moved forward towards addressing them.

8.2 The workshop consisted of a keynote presentation by **Mr. Hiroshi Terashima**, President of OPRI-SPF, eight presentations by researchers, scholars and officials from the above-mentioned eight countries and a panel discussion by the eight presenters moderated by **Dr. Chua Thia-Eng**, Chair Emeritus of the EAS Partnership Council and Mr. Terashima.

8.3 **Mr. Hiroshi Terashima’s** keynote presentation was entitled “Development of Ocean Governance at the National and Local Level under the Framework of UNCLOS, the Future We Want, and SDGs.” In his review, while UNCLOS 1994 regulates almost all areas of ocean up to 200 nautical miles from the shore and entrusts the management of these spaces to individual coastal states, it does not necessarily provide a concrete framework for how states are to coordinate and cooperate in managing the oceans, for promoting peaceful use, conserving natural resources, and protecting the environment. He highlighted key issues related with oceans and seas in *The Future We Want* (2012), i.e., areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ), marine pollution, marine debris in particular plastic, persistent organic pollutants (POPs), heavy metals and nitrogen-based compounds), alien invasive species, sea level rise and coastal erosion, ocean acidification, ocean fertilization, maximum sustainable yield (MSY) of fisheries, IUU fishing, coral reefs and mangroves, MPAs, small island developing states (SIDS) and capacity building as the key means of implementation. He also highlighted that of the 17 SDGs and 169 targets, Goal 13 (take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact), Goal 14 (conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development) and Goal 17 (the global partnership for sustainable development) as most relevant to PEMSEA. In view of the challenges in implementation of UNCLOS and various action plans concerning Sustainable Development, including Agenda 21, the WSSD Plan of Implementation (2002) and *The Future We Want*, including marine pollution over increasingly wider areas, integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas and the marine environment, sustainable management of marine biological resources and control of IUU and disputes over border delimitations, he holds the view that the national governments as constituent members of international society and their initiatives hold the key to successful implementation, and that harmonization between UNCLOS/Agenda 21 regime and the implementation by individual states is necessary.

8.4 The comprehensive management of coastal areas including land and sea requires development, use, and protection of the environment to be managed in an integrated fashion, which is different from the long-practiced functional approach to managing fishing, transportation, land reclamation, etc. Meanwhile, initiatives for comprehensive management of land and sea areas which require systematic management of the vast ocean spaces extending up to 200 nautical miles from shore that make up the EEZ and continental shelf, are new phenomenon for many countries.

8.5 The new plan of action, *Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in September 2015, entails 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), including a concrete goal devoted to the ocean entitled “*Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*” and action targets. Along with these global initiatives, multistakeholder partnerships are needed, exemplified by Islands and

Oceans Net (IO Net) — an international collaborative Network for national and local governments, international organizations, regional organizations, business sector, NGOs, media, youth, etc. Mr. Terashima strongly hopes that the countries in East Asia can implement comprehensive management of the ocean and coastal areas and sustainable development through cooperation and coordination under the PEMSEA framework and the revised SDS-SEA.

- 8.6 **Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma**, Director of Ocean Policy Division of Policy Bureau of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan, discussed Ocean Policy Development in Japan. He highlighted Japan's perspectives of oceans as common for all mankind as security of food, ocean resources and energy, cargo transport and global environment. At the same time, he said it is also important to take appropriate measures to deal with marine environmental protection, management of fishery resources and safety of coastal lines and maritime transport. In Japan, since it was necessary to establish executive structure and promote comprehensive and integrated approach to such ocean issues, Basic Act on Ocean Policy was enacted and enforced in 2007.
- 8.7 Under this Act, the Headquarters for Ocean Policy which the prime minister serves as the Director-General was established in the Cabinet in order to respond to issues with regard to the oceans intensively and comprehensively. In accord with the Act, the Basic Plan on Ocean Policy was adopted in 2008 and revised in 2013. In the Plan, specific ocean measures that need to be comprehensively and systematically promoted in the coming five years are stipulated for each of the 12 basic concepts set forth in the Basic Act on Ocean Policy, including 6 measures to be taken in a focused manner and to be taken under close cooperation among related agencies, i.e., promotion of the development and use of marine resources; preservation of marine environment; promotion of research and development of marine science and technology; promotion of marine industry and strengthening of international competitiveness; comprehensive management of coastal zone; and enhancement of citizen's understanding of the seas and fostering of human resource.
- 8.8 As one of the twelve concepts, "Comprehensive Management of the Coastal Zones", or ICM, is expected to be applied to implement efforts of respective local entities on integrated and overall management of land and marine areas in accordance with respective local context to develop their own plans to ensure coastal safety, good environment and attractive and autonomous regions. Specific measures related to comprehensive management of coastal zone, include: implementation of comprehensive management of coastal zone; proper control of nutrients and pollutant load; implementation of *Sato-umi* construction activities; recovery of marine litter and drifting oil; construction of coasts friendly to nature and users; and management in enclosed coastal seas. Coastal areas under existing coastal legislation including Coastal Act, Port and Harbour Act, Act on Development of Fishing Ports and Grounds, etc., now cover 85 percent of coastlines in Japan.
- 8.9 **Prof. Denise Cheong**, Research Fellow of Centre for International Law of National University of Singapore, discussed the balance between legal and administrative measures — Singapore's implementation of international conventions on marine spill recovery planning. She introduced the law-making process in Singapore and then gave an overview of international framework for marine spill contingency planning, in particular, the International Convention on Oil Pollution Preparedness, Response and cooperation in 1990 (OPRC), Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Cooperation on Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances 2000 (OPRC-HNS Protocol). By way of example, she discussed the legislative and administrative measures taken to implement international conventions relating to marine contingency planning for oil and hazardous and noxious spills. As for implementation of these frameworks in Singapore, she highlighted legislative

measures, such as the Act of parliament which designates competent authority, empowers competent authority to make regulations and puts in place compensation claim mechanisms, and subsidiary legislation that requires emergency plans to be available on ships, prescribes type of equipment, dispersants and need for trained personnel, and requires pollution incidents to be reported without delay, etc. She also illustrated administrative measures at the national level and derived from bilateral and trilateral measures. Comparing to the approach of New Zealand, detailed legislation goes further than Singapore legislation exemplified by establishment of an oversight committee, providing a tiered approach, regulating the development and review of the marine oil spill response strategy and contingency plans, and actual spill responses. In summary, she concludes that legislative measures provide a statutory basis for enforcement of obligations of the relevant parties under national law, and by comparison, administrative measures are harder to enforce, especially if there is a lack of transparency but can work well if with competent and honest government.

- 8.10 **Dr. Liu Yan**, Professor and Division Director of Marine Environment and Resources Research Office of the China Institute for Marine Affairs of State Oceanic Administration, discussed China's Marine Sustainable Development Policy at the workshop. She traced the sustainable coastal and ocean management policies to 1996 when China's Ocean Agenda 21 proposed the background, aims, and priority areas for the sustainable development of marine areas. Since its implementation, the sustainable development of China's ocean and coasts in the past two decades coincides with the transition of China's economic and social development. Now, the policy framework of China's marine sustainable development has gradually been established. She then discussed the policy framework from three aspects: (1) the development process and the composition of China's marine sustainable policy system including the legal system, strategy and planning; (2) the latest progresses of China's marine sustainable development policy such as ecosystem-based management mechanism from mountain to sea, marine ecological-civilization and blue economy; and (3) China's actions for marine sustainable development based on the framework of SDG 14. Finally, she pointed out some of the challenges such as lack of detailed mechanisms for implementation, fragmentation in legal framework and the need for harmonization, insufficient funds for enforcement, and heavy reliance on administrative and regulatory approaches, etc.
- 8.11 **Ms. Cheryl Rita Kaur**, Senior Researcher, Centre for Coastal and Marine Environment, Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA), submitted a paper on ocean policy development, progress and challenges in Malaysia to the workshop which was presented by Dr. Keita Furukawa of OPINEAR.
- 8.12 In her view, ocean and coastal management has long ceased from being just about fishing and navigation but has evolved to cover the management of a myriad of activities coexisting in a sea or coastal area. The situation in Malaysia is not much different. The increasingly complex sea use structure logically requires or demands changes in sea management objectives and approaches. She elaborated that maritime affairs in Malaysia are however largely managed in a sectoral manner, i.e., a tiered system structured around the federal and state government, ministries and agencies and to a lesser extent the local authorities. The management system is dependent on each tier of governance performing planning and coordination, implementation and enforcement, and developmental roles within the confines of their jurisdiction as defined by the constitution, laws and governmental directives. In theory, this approach provides a fairly reasonable coverage of sectoral issues. However, the extent and effectiveness of the coverage is subject to discussion, contestation and contention especially where cross-sectoral issues are concerned.

- 8.13 The importance of the ocean sector to national well-being requires that the approaches that have been largely inherited from the past are revisited towards establishing anticipatory, coordinated, adaptive and directed responses to new challenges and opportunities at sea. Recognizing this, the Government prepared a draft National Ocean Policy (NOP). The policy builds on the new policy directions, strategies and programmes that will enable the country to emerge as a high-income nation; besides embracing a more focused role for Government as a regulator and catalyst while harnessing the creativity, energy and initiative of the private sector as the primary driver of Malaysia's growth aspirations. The NOP is envisaged to provide an essential framework to manage ocean resources in an inclusive and sustainable manner.
- 8.14 **Ms. Pham Thi Gam**, Deputy Director, Department of Policy and Legislation of the Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Islands (VASI), Ministry of Natural Resource and Environment Viet Nam (MONRE), presented the marine policy development in Viet Nam in recent years. She firstly highlighted the roles of marine resources to marine economy and GDP in fishery industry, tourism, shipping, mining of oil and minerals. She observed that there are various laws developed and agencies established to govern the exploitation and use of the sea, which sometimes generate conflicts in benefits sharing and use of marine resources as a result of the rapid increase in marine economic development of sectors. Consequently, the marine ecosystem has been degraded and destroyed; the marine environment is seriously polluted.
- 8.15 To deal with these issues, she said that Viet Nam, with the support of international and regional organizations, has implemented the integrated management approach with successful demonstration from early 2000s. Policies and legislation have been developed to strengthen this approach. The Law on Natural Resources and Environment of Sea and Islands, which is marked as a milestone in the progress of the application of integrated management in Viet Nam was approved on 25 June 2015 by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. This law regulates instruments for integrated management of marine natural resources and marine environmental protection. According to this law, instruments for integrated management, such as Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Coastal Resources, Integrated Management Program of Coastal Resources, Coastal Setback Lines, which are developed and implemented with a view to deal with conflicts among sectors in the use of coastal resources, protect marine environment, conserve marine ecosystem to target sustainable development in the long term. Marine environmental protection is focused with periodically monitoring and assessing the status of water quality, sediments, ecosystems and biological diversity of marine areas and islands; preventing and controlling marine pollution from various sources: land-based sources, activities at sea, transboundary wastes; investigating and evaluating total maximum loading of marine environment; identifying marine environmentally high risk areas; preparing and responding to pollution incidents at sea from oil spills, hazardous and noxious substances; permitting and managing of dumping activities at sea, etc..
- 8.16 **Mr. Bamroongsak Chatanathawej**, Director, Marine and Coastal Resources Protected Unit, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources (DMCR), Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Thailand, discussed the latest development in coastal and marine legislation to strengthen coastal and ocean governance and expand MPA coverage. As a response to marine and coastal issues in the country, namely overexploitation of marine resources, marine pollution, coastal erosion, degradation of marine ecosystem, etc. Thailand enacted a new legislation "Promotion of Marine and Coastal Resource Management Act, B.E. 2558" (2015). This new law authorizes the DMCR to exercise the responsibility of conservation, restoration, protection and

management of marine and coastal resources that will not override the previous laws. The important point is its focus on the participation of coastal communities facilitated by the Marine and Coastal Resources Provincial Committee on developing action plans and participating in the process of the promulgation the marine protected area and management of marine and coastal resources inhabited in and nearby the community.

- 8.17 Presently DMCR has developed a five-year plan (2016-2021) and a roadmap for processing the establishment of the protected areas under this law. In 2016, DMCR plans to gazette 2 marine protected areas, namely: (1) Sea turtle breeding ground at Ko Kra in Nakorn Si Thammarat Province; and (2) Dugong habitat and its home-range off Trang Province's coast. Regarding marine and coastal issues, the DMCR expects that the new Act can be a key to success in marine and coastal resources management and sustainable development in Thai's waters.
- 8.18 **Dr. Jiyeon Choi**, Associate Research Fellow of Marine Research Division of Korea Maritime Institute, Republic of Korea, delivered a presentation entitled "Integrated Coastal and Ocean Governance of Korea – Evolution & Innovation."
- 8.19 She highlighted the area of RO Korea's territorial sea as large as 87,000 km², taking up 87% of the total area of the country, and length of the coastline as long as 14,700 km. In addition, she underscored that RO Korea's coast consists of beautiful and diverse natural landscapes such as estuaries, islands, tidal flats, sea cliffs, lagoons and beaches, and that its coasts provide not only important habitats for marine life, but also the basis of livelihood for the people, which support RO Korea's marine economy through the continuous use and development of the coast and ocean. She iterated the challenges between development and maintenance of coastal ecosystem. For example, during the 1980s-1990s, RO Korea's coasts had been transformed into new lands for industrial, residential and agricultural uses in the wake of rapid industrialization and urbanization, with the consequence that coastal wetlands were degraded and coastal water became polluted, gradually reducing the productivity of fishery resources.
- 8.20 A paradigm shift occurred when Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 recommended 'integrated coastal management' in 1992 as a strategy to achieve the protection and sustainable use of coastal and marine resources. In 1999, the Coastal Management Act that focused on 'integration' and 'cooperation' was enacted to set the basic direction of national policies, which resulted in the establishment of the national integrated coastal management plan, restriction on medium and large reclamation projects, the establishment of coastal management information systems, and public awareness raising. However, several problems and concerns were exposed in the process of implementing the coastal management governance, such as insufficient management of natural resources, lack of mechanisms to reduce coastal conflict, and a deficiency in coastal ecosystem services evaluation. In response, the coastal management act was amended in 2010 and 2014 in order to strengthen the management tools and polices, with the examples of coastal water zoning system, target-based natural coast management and coastal erosion management system to better serve current and future coastal societies. Since then, the RO Korean government has revised the second integrated coastal management plan to make it possible to communicate with the common people and to promote consensus building through deliberation. Finally, she emphasized that her country is working on creating coastal and ocean governance to achieve sustainable development through rational and harmonized coastal system in order to realize ecosystem-based management, cooperation and power sharing.

- 8.21 **Dr. Jay L. Batongbacal**, Director, Institute for Maritime Affairs & Law of the Sea, University of the Philippines, and Atty. **Rodolfo Ferdinand N. Quicho, Jr.** Country Programme Manager, GEF-SGP OP5, UNDP/DENR-Biodiversity Management Bureau, jointly presented a report entitled “Philippine Coastal/Ocean Law & Policy: Sliding Back to ‘Business as Usual’?.”
- 8.22 Despite decades of pioneering work on coastal resource management, Philippine environmental advocates, resource managers, and local government units face essentially the same legal and jurisdictional problems already identified and challenged by various pilot sites and projects implemented since the 1990s. By and large, policy changes have been rather incremental and slow, rather than remedial and revolutionary. In major ocean sectors such as seafaring and high seas fishing, policy reforms have been introduced under threat of adverse international consequences to local employment and business opportunities. Meanwhile, key domestic marine sectors such as commercial fishing, offshore petroleum exploration, and marine environmental protection have experienced significant policy shifts on account of both reform initiatives and crises. The staggered trend between policy reform and reversal raises legitimate questions regarding the trajectory of the Philippine coastal and ocean law and policy.
- 8.23 The panelists presented findings of the coastal fisheries of the Philippines as decline in municipal fishing production coupled with increased production in commercial fishing sector, increased incidence of “fish kills” in coastal, riverine, and lake areas since 2010 and the trend of becoming characterized as “seasonal” which is indicative of declining coastal environment conditions from pollution, overexploitation and eutrophication. Based on their notes, impact of overfishing and decline will first affect or intensify smaller, artisanal sector that comprises much larger population which will be source of sharp social tensions in the near future. For MPAs, local management still requires much improvement in monitoring, and it becomes slow to designate major national MPAs since 2009. In general, it is observed that in spite of national coastal and ocean management activities and implementation of SDS-SEA, integrated management and capacity for coordinated management and responses are still elusive. Lack of priority and leadership on the part of the Executive led to national policy deadlock that were not effectively resolved. Yet there is a marked increase in public awareness and consciousness about coastal and ocean issues. Meanwhile, there is a trend toward increasing localization of coastal management and marine environmental protection, and the public policy crises are given substantial press coverage. In conclusion, there is still much to do to implement the SDS-SEA. There are key developments that have drawn the attention of the Philippine government, there is a clear danger and proof of slide-back to reactionary, un-integrated, localized and short-term “business as usual” in coastal management. National leadership is clearly needed and overall “champion” instead of sectoral champion should clearly be demonstrated to reverse the situation.
- 8.24 Following the presentations, the two co-Chairs facilitated a panel discussion focusing on the question — The Ocean and Sea are big, we know only a part of that. We should think how make it to work?
- 8.25 Highlights of the discussion include:
- We should understand the threats to marine and coastal resources are serious in an alarming rate.
 - Comprehensive Act can be an ideal driving engine for establishment of ocean governance at National level as exemplified by Basic Act on Ocean Policy in Japan and Coastal Management Act in RO Korea.

- Individual national law, legislation, relevant protocols and action plans can empower ocean governance under national and international obligations through regulations and planning processes. Examples include Port and Harbour Law in Japan, OPRC in Singapore, Action Plan for Water Pollution Reduction and Treatment in China, The Law on Natural Resources and Environment of Sea and Islands in Viet Nam, DMCR's Act in Thailand and National MPA establishment in Philippines.
- Transparency in legislative implementation from Intentional treaties to National legislative level is crucial. National Governments and local governments should establish firm institutional structure to keep its transparency in role-sharing.
- UNCLOS, MPA setting under Aichi Biodiversity Target, Goal 14 of Sustainable Development Goals in the 2030 agenda and SDS-SEA (PEMSEA) serve as guiding principles for our direction to implement Ocean governance with ICM/IOM.
- Capacity building and involvement of scientists, and establishment on standard for individual ocean education from Primary School is needed.
- National Ocean Policy should aiming the nation's well-being, security and prosperity in a balanced manner with consistency on local management level as well as international management level.
- Political will should be established.
- Enforcement of law, is also big concern. Legislation enforcement on Ocean Policy including environmental management is usually weak compared with other legislation. Mechanisms for empowerment should be secured the Ocean Policy enforcement. Facilitation mechanisms such as monitoring by Coast Guard or authorities can be implement especially.

8.26 Part 2 of the workshop has proposed the following recommendation for inclusion into the overall workshop report:

- National policy process and regional and international cooperation should be mutually reinforcing, as a nation is the basic constituent of international society. To achieve the targets under the framework of UNCLOS, Agenda 21, WSSD Plan of Implementation, The Future We Want, SDGs, SDS-SEA and of regional programs, national policies and action plans need to be aligned with regional and international obligations.
- Regional and national plans of action need to move towards alignment to ensure synergy and a good leverage of resources and national and international investments strengthened by good political will;
- National ocean policies should aim at the nation's well-being, security and prosperity in a balanced manner with equitable attention to local, national and regional management levels;
- There is a need to improve the links, dialogue and understanding between local actions, community actions and governments. Governance should be understood in a much broader and inclusive sense rather than just as a centralized policy shaping mechanism;

9. CLOSING SESSION: SDS-SEA – THE ROADMAP TOWARDS ACHIEVING SDGS IN THE EAS REGION

- 9.1 The closing session focused on the how the SDS-SEA can serve as a platform to move towards SDG at regional level. In this session, a keynote entitled SDS-SEA – the Roadmap Towards Achieving SDGs in the EAS region was presented by Undersecretary Analiza Teh, Chair of the Intergovernmental Session of the EAS Partnership Council.
- 9.2 USec. Teh highlighted that SDS-SEA is a direct response to the four challenges to the Seas of East Asia – pollution from land based sources, climate change, overexploitation of resources and habitat loss. She emphasized that the SDS-SEA 2015 provides a common platform for regional cooperation, and a framework for policy and programme development and implementation at the national and local levels, on a voluntary basis, and is meant to assist countries in effectively implementing Agenda 21, WSSD Plan of Implementation, the Future We Want and SDGs through an integrated approach, and effective coordination and cooperation at all levels, for coastal and ocean management. The seven strategies of the SDS-SEA 2015 directly support the achievement of the four SDGs – Goal 6 (water and sanitation), goal 11 (sustainable city), goal 14 (blue ocean) and goal 17 (partnership development). Meanwhile, they indirectly contribute to the achievement of nine other goals related with poverty reduction, reduction of hunger, gender equality, reduction of inequality, terrestrial biodiversity conservation, etc. Then she highlighted five approaches to execute the Strategy through: (1) collaborative regional and national planning covering the period of 2016-2021; (2) strengthening national policy, legislation and supporting institutional arrangements; (3) scaling up ICM through incentives of certification of ICM systems at the local level; (4) building networks and partnerships; (5) monitoring and evaluation through the State of Coasts and Ocean reporting at local, national and regional levels.
- 9.3 Following the presentation, the Chair invited the following panelists onstage:
- **Mr. Chu Pham Ngoc Hien**, Deputy Minister of MONRE, Viet Nam
 - **Mr. Hiroshi Terashima**, President, OPRI-SPF
 - **Mr. Chris Severin**, Sr. Environmental Specialist, GEF Secretariat
 - **Ms. Franca Sprong**, Chief Advisor, GIZ SSME Project
 - **Dr. Vo Si Tuan**, Vice Chair of UNESCO IOC/WESTPAC & Director of the Institute of Oceanography, Vietnam
- 9.4 The panelists shared their views on linkages between SDS-SEA and the SDGs, challenges, and the desired expectations in the coming years, which can be summarized below:
- Tremendous results have been achieved through the platform of PEMSEA and SDS-SEA. In this case, SDS-SEA and PEMSEA provide an adequate framework and platform for strengthening collaboration and coordination of efforts in regional and country-driven programmes.
 - PEMSEA is best placed to address issues identified in SDGs such as conservation and sustainable use of ocean biological resources, area-based measures including MPAs, ocean acidification, etc.
 - Regarding expected outcomes in the coming five years, the donor community will be interested in learning how ICM can underpin blue economy, achievements of Aichi Targets and climate-related targets, and SDGs. Meanwhile, innovations in making ICM financially viable would be another area PEMSEA can explore in the future.
 - Key challenges confronted by PEMSEA is how countries will sustain PEMSEA. While there is a 25% coverage of regional coastlines by ICM, it is useful to develop subtargets to clarify the roles of national and local governments.

- Existing limitations in application of science to reduce vulnerability and move towards sustainable development were also discussed, summarized below:
 - Appropriate awareness on the importance of marine science as driving factors for sustainable development at local and national levels and regional programs;
 - Gap between scientists and policymakers and the need for commitment, truth, flexibility;
 - Systematic and multidisciplinary approach to the program development in order to address the requirement of conventions, instruments and emerging initiatives; and
 - Limited dedicated and capable international experts.

9.4 Unsec. Teh appreciated the affirmation of panelists to the relevance of SDS-SEA to SDGs and the roles of PEMSEA in coordinating its implementation. She confirmed that monitoring and knowledge sharing will be tackled through the regional and national planning processes. On the financial sustainability of PEMSEA, she assured the participants that the Headquarters agreement of PEMSEA was already approved by the Philippine Government, a very positive step forward to sustaining PEMSEA. Meanwhile PEMSEA's sustainable development plan was also adopted to explore source of support through services and expanding partnerships with the private sector, etc.

10. CONSULTATIONS ON SUMMARIES OF CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The Chairs/Co-Chairs of the workshop presented the conclusions and recommendation of their sessions and parts for further comments. The summary of overall workshop issues, conclusions and recommendations is in Annex 3.

Annex 1.
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

GOVERNMENTS

CHINA

Guanqiong Ye
Assistant Professor
Zhejiang University
Zhejiang, China
gqy@zju.edu.cn
gq-y@hotmail.com

Liu Yan
State Oceanic Administration (SOA)
liuyan@cima.gov.cn
China

INDONESIA

Heru Waluyo Koesworo
MOEF Indonesia
heruw.koes@gmail.com

Kaisar Akhir
Official Youth Delegate
Department of Marine Science and Technology
Bogor Agricultural University
kaisarakhir@gmail.com

Alan Koropitan
Bogor Agricultural University
alan@ipb.ac.id

Tonny Wagey
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
Indonesia
twagey@gmail.com

Dasminto Rahmudi
Indonesia
dasminto@yahoo.com

Iwan Nirawandi
Indonesia
niwarandi@yahoo.com

Abdul Kodir
Head, Fisheries and Sea Agency
Environmental Board of Sukabumi Regency
dislutkankab.sukabumi@gmail.com
andulkodir016@gmail.com

Daden Gunawan Supardi
Head, Environmental Board of Sukabumi
Regency
dadengunawan@yahoo.co.id

Trisda Filtra Permata
Environmental Board of Sukabumi Regency
filtra95@yahoo.com
Andreas Hutahaeen
Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries
andreas0212@gmail.com

JAPAN

Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma
Director of Ocean Policy Division
Policy Bureau
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and
Tourism (MLIT)
Japan

Mr. Daisuke Miura
Ocean Policy Division Policy Bureau
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and
Tourism (MLIT)
Japan

MALAYSIA

Monique Alwine Sumampouw
Manager
People & Marine Biodiversity
WWF Malaysia
Sabah, Malaysia
msumampouw@wwf.org.my
moniques33@yahoo.com

Cheryl Rita Kaur
Senior Researcher
Centre for Coastal and Marine Environment
Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA)
Unit B-06-08 Megan Avenue II
12 Jalan Yap Kwan Seng
50450 Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA
Tel: +6 03 2161 2960
Fax: +6 03 2161 7045
cheryl_rk@mima.gov.my

Dr. Chung Fungchen
Lead marine biologist
Reef Guardian
Sabah, Malaysia

PHILIPPINES

Alicia L. Lustica
Center Head
Biodiversity, Coastal, Wetlands, and Ecotourism
Research Center (BCWERC)
Mandaue City, Philippines
bcwerc7erdb@gmail.com
rtderds7@yahoo.com

Myrna Candelario
Senior Aquaculturist
Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources,
Region 4B
Palawan, Philippines
mbcandz_01@yahoo.com

Ma. Lourdes Moreno
Science Research Specialist
OIC Mangrove and Estuarine Section
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
Laguna, Philippines
mqmoreno@yahoo.com;
mqmoreno@gmail.com

Yolanda Gomez
Member
Philippine Water Partnership
Philippines
ybgomez@yahoo.com; ygomez@waterlinks.org

Roberto Domondon
Senior Manager
Regional Development
Rare Philippines
Philippines
pdomondon@rare.org
domondon.paolo@gmail.com

Roberto Baylosis
Southern Philippine Deep Fishing Association
Zamboanga City, Philippines
baylosisroberto@gmail.com

Len R. Garces
Research Fellow
WorldFish
Laguna, Philippines
l.garces@cgiar.org

Araceli Oredina
Development Management Officer IV
DENR
Quezon City, Philippines
aoredina@yahoo.com

Eugenio O. Diaz, Jr.
Deputy Executive Director
DENR
Quezon City, Philippines
eugene2066@yahoo.com

Raymond R. Virgino
Development Management Officer IV
DENR
Quezon City, Philippines
cocobang2@yahoo.com

Dr. Vincent V. Hilomen
Executive Director for Priority Programs and
Projects
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Project Manager
UNDP Marine Key Biodiversity Areas Project
DENR
Quezon City, Philippines
vvhilomen@up.edu.ph

Reynaldo Guanzon
Finance Associate
Biodiversity Management Bureau
DENR
Quezon City, Philippines

Chita Hidalgo
Science Research Analyst
Manila Bay Coordinating Office
DENR
Manila, Philippines
mbco_2011@yahoo.com

Jacob F. Meimban, Jr.
Executive Director
River Basin Control Office
DENR
jakemeimban@yahoo.com

Gil Bigcas
DENR XI Regional Office
Philippines
forester5811@yahoo.com.ph

Dr. Jay Batongbacal
Associate Professor, University of the
Philippines College of Law
and Director, UP Institute for Maritime Affairs
and Law of the Sea
karagatangpilipino@gmail.com,
jay.batongbacal@gmail.com

Ryan Reyes
Research Assistant
National Fisheries Research and Development
Institute (NFRDI)
Quezon City, Philippines
mcnayr_02@yahoo.com

Noel C. Barut
Interim Deputy Executive Director
National Fisheries Research and Development
Institute (NFRDI)
Quezon City, Philippines
necbarut@gmail.com

Ms. Nilda S. Baling
Officer-in-Charge
Coastal and Marine Division
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Department of Environment and Natural
Resources
Republic of the Philippines

RO KOREA

Ko Minjung
Senior Manager
International Relations Department
Ansan City Council
Ansan City, RO Korea
ansanbravo@korea.kr
neomini@kolea.kr

Kim Hanjin
Korea National Park Service
RO Korea
vega097@gmail.com

Lee Sang Kyu
Korea National Park Service
RO Korea
bio549@gmail.com

SINGAPORE

Prof. Cheong Wei Min Denise
Centre for International Law
National University of Singapore

Lum Zhi Lei
Desk Officer
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Singapore
lum_zhi_lei@mfa.gov.sg

THAILAND

Bamroongsak Chatanathawej
Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation
Department of Marine And Coastal Resources
Thailand

bamroonc@gmail.com

TIMOR-LESTE

Julio Pereira de Castro
Dili Municipality
Timor-Leste
bot_lebah@yahoo.com

Filomeno da C. Ximenes
ICM Coordinator
Dili Municipality
Timor-Leste
dacortaximenes@yahoo.com

Sebastiao Soares Pinto
ICM Coordinator
Manatuto Municipality
Timor-Leste
bastypinto@yahoo.com

Mario Marques Cabral
Technical Adviser of Fisheries
PEMSEA-Project Management office (PMO)
Timor-Leste
mariomarcab@yahoo.com

Mario Viegas Tilman
Vice Dean III
Universidade Nacional Timor Lorosa'e (UNTL)
Timor-Leste
tilmanmario@yahoo.com

Lince Dessy
Dean
Universidade Oriental Timor Lorosa'e (UNITAL)
Timor-Leste
dessylince@gmail.com

Rofino Lopes de Carvalho
Youth Delegation
Timor-Leste

Viet Nam

Mr. Chu Pham Ngoc Hien
Deputy Minister

MONRE
Viet Nam
Mr. Thai Van Quang
Head
Technical Division
Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development
Danang

Ms. Pham Thi Gam
Deputy Director
Department of Policy and Legislation
VASI/MONRE

Nguyen Mauh Dong
National Boundary Commission
mauhdong2002@yahoo.com

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Global Environment Facility

Christian Severin
Senior Environmental Specialist International
Waters Lead
The Global Environment Facility
New York, USA
cseverin@thegef.org

**United Nations Development Programme
(UNDP)**

Dr. Andrew Hudson
Head, UNDP Water and Ocean Governance
Programme, Bureau for Policy and Programme
Support, UNDP

Grace Tena
Programme Associate
UNDP Philippines
grace.tena@undp.org

Dr. Sulan Chen
Program Advisor -International Waters and
Chemicals Regional Focal Point - Asia, Europe
and CIS countries

GEF Small Grants Programme
UNDP

Ma. Cecilia Colarina
Policy Officer

Eunice Gasmin
Project Associate
UNDP/GEF Project Strengthening the Marine
Protected Areas to Conserve the Marine Key
Biodiversity Areas (MKBA Project)
Quezon City, Philippines
egasmin@gmail.com

Rowena M. Tercero
Ecosystems Management Specialist
UNDP/GEF Small Grants Project
Cabuyao, Laguna, Philippines
rowenamtercero@yahoo.co.uk

Rochelle Balitaan-Villanueva
Programme Associate
UNDP/GEF Small Grants Project
Quezon City, Philippines
rochelle.villanueva@undp.org
rlbalitaan@gmail.com

Ericson F. Faeldan
Finance and Admin Assistant
UNDP/GEF Small Grants Project
Quezon City, Philippines
ericson_faeldan@yahoo.com

Rodolfo Ferdinand N. Quicho, Jr.
Country Programme Manager UNDP/GEF Small
Grants Project
Quezon City, Philippines
junquicho@gmail.com

Atty. Rodolfo Ferdinand Quicho
Country Programme Manager
GEF Small Grant Programme
Philippines

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity

Atty. Roberto Oliva

Executive Director
ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB)

COBSEA

Reynaldo F. Molina
COBSEA/UNEP

NOWPAP

Mr. Alexander Tkalin
Coordinator
NOWPAP RCU (Toyama Office)
5-5 Ushijimashin-machi, Toyama City
930-0856, Japan
Tel: +81-76-444-1611
Fax: +81-76—444-2780
Alexander.tkalin@nowpap.org

IOC/UNESCO

Gunnar Kullenberg
Former Executive Director
IOC/UNESCO
gkullenberg@gmail.com

Dr. Vo Si Tuan
Vice Chair of UNESCO WESTPAC & Director of
the Institute of Oceanography
Vietnam

CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat

Widi Agoes Pratikto, PhD
Executive Director
CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Mina Bahari 2 Building, 17th Floor
Ministry of Marine Affairs & Fisheries
Jl. Medan Merdeka Timur 16, Jakarta 10110,
Indonesia

Muhamad Alvin Pahlevi
CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat
Administrative Assistant
apahlevi@cticff.org
alvinpahlevi@yahoo.com
Jawa Barat, Indonesia

WCPFC

Dr. SungKwon Soh
Project Manager
WCPFC

PEMSEA

Dr. Chua Thia-Eng
Chair Emeritus
EAS Partnership Council

Unsec. Analiza Teh
Chair
Intergovernmental Session
EAS Partnership Council

Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross
Executive Director
PEMSEA

Yinfeng Guo
Head
Planning and Partnership Development
PEMSEA
gyinfeng@pemsea.org

DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES

GIZ

[Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH /
German Development Cooperation]

Ms. Franca Sprong
Chief Advisor
GIZ SSME Project

Marion Antonette Abuel-Daclan
Senior Advisor
BMUB Support to the Sulu-Sulawesi Marine
Ecoregion (SSME) Project
GIZ-BMUB Office
DENR-PAWB, Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife
Nature Center

North Avenue, Diliman 1100
Quezon City, Philippines
+63 2 426 0198
marion.daclan@giz.de; mariondaclan@giz.com
www.giz.de

Ms. Lena Kern
Chief Advisor
GIZ SSME Project

Janina Korting
GIZ
Eschborn, Germany
janina.korting@giz.de

ACADEME

Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)

Kim Gyeong-Min
Official Youth Delegate
Korea Marine Environment Management
Corporation (KOEM)
RO Korea
mk95777@naver.com

Korean Maritime Institute

Dr. Jiyeon Choi
Associate Research Fellow
Marine Policy Research Department
Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)
RO Korea

BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

South Philippine Deep Sea Fishing Association

Mr. Roberto Baylosis
Executive-Vice President
Southern Deep Sea Fishing Assn., Inc. (SOPHIL)
3rd flr, Torre de Buenavista
Buenavista St., Zamboanga City
Philippines

baylosisroberto@yahoo.com

NGOs

International EMECS Center

Yasuo Kawawaki
Executive Director
International EMECS Center
kawasaki@emecs.org.jp

Dr. Tetsuo Yanagi
Senior Research Scientist
International EMECS Center

Prof. Takeshi Hidaka
Professor
International EMECS Center
hidaka@fuk.kindai.ac.jp

Prof. Osamu Matsuda
Professor Emeritus
Hirshima University

The Nature Conservancy (TNC)

Dr. Alan White
Senior Scientist
Asia-Pacific Program
The Nature Conservancy

OPINEAR

Dr. Keita Furukawa
Secretariat of OPINEAR
Director Ocean Research and Development
Department
OPINEAR
k-furukawa@spf.or.jp

FOUNDATIONS

Ocean Policy Research Institute - Sasakawa Peace Foundation (OPRI-SPF)

Hiroshi Terashima
President
OPRI-SPF
Japan
h-terashima@spf.or.jp

Masako Otsuka
Senior Fellow
OPRI-SPF
Japan
m-otsuka_s@spf.or.jp

Dr. Miko Maekawa
Senior Resarcher
OPRI-SPF
Japan
maekawa@spf.or.jp

Kayako Fujishige
Resarcher
OPRI-SPF
Japan
k-fujishige@spf.or.jp

Dr. Sehee Hwang
Resarcher
OPRI-SPF
Japan
xrubicon.riv@gmail.com

Annex 2.
WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Time	Activity/Presentation	Possible Speaker/Panelist
November 18 (Regional and National)		
Opening and Keynote Chair: Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg		
1030 – 1100	Keynote presentation: Regionalizing the SDGs – Perspectives of the UNDP/GEF Dr. Andrew Hudson Head, UNDP Water and Ocean Governance Programme, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP	
Part 1: From Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to SDGs: Meeting the Aspirations of Nations in Regional Seas Governance.		
Chair: Ms. Lena Kern , Chief Advisor, GIZ SSME Project		
1100 – 1120	Introductory Note: Policy Analysis and Lessons learnt from the Regional Seas and Ocean governance Mechanisms Operating in the East Asian Seas Ms. Lena Kern , Chief Advisor, GIZ SSME Project	
1120 – 1230 Presentations and Q&A	Panel Session 1: Regional Seas Governance Mechanisms: drivers, progress and lessons learnt 1. what factors/indicators are being used to determine the success of EAS initiatives and strategies? 2. what are the means applied to monitor and report on progress towards objectives, and the impact and benefits derived? 3. how can EAS initiatives work better, to the greater benefits of countries of the region and the health and resiliency of the regional seas? Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tonny Wagey, Former Project Manager, ATSEA Regional Project • Dr. Widi Agoes Pratikto, Executive Director, CTI-CFF Regional Secretariat • Mr. Stephen Adrian Ross, Executive Director, PEMSEA • Dr. SungKwon Soh, Project Manager, WCPFC • Reynaldo F. Molina, COBSEA/UNEP • Dr. Alexander Tkalin, Coordinator, NOWPAP • Ms. Nilda S. Baling, Officer-in-Charge, Coastal and Marine Division, Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resource, Republic of the Philippines, Philippine experience in the SSME Tri-national Committee 	
1230 – 1400	Lunch	
1400 – 1600	Continuation of Panel Session 1, facilitated discussion and open Forum Panel discussion will be moderated by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lena Kern, GIZ; • Dr. Alan White, The Nature Conservancy 	
1600 – 1615	Coffee break	
1615 – 1745	Panel Session 2: Partnerships for Win-Wins towards Achieving the SDGs 1. What mechanisms facilitate your participation in implementation of the regional SAP or SDS? 2. What are the motivations that attracted your organization to partner with the regional seas programme?	

	<p>3. How are you benefiting from the partnership? What would you do to improve the partnership?</p> <p>4. What do you hope to achieve through this partnership?</p> <p>Facilitator: Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Thai Van Quang, Head, Technical Division, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Danang, Vietnam • Atty. Roberto Oliva, ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB) • Mr. Roberto Baylosis, Executive-Vice President, Southern Philippines Deep Sea Fishing Association Inc., Philippines (SOPHIL) • Dr. Vincent V. Hilomen, on behalf of Chair, CTI MPA TWG; Chair of SSME Subcommittee on MPA and MPA Networks • Dr. Chung Fungchen, Lead marine biologist, Reef Guardian, Sabah, Malaysia • Dr. Sulan Chen, Program Advisor -International Waters and Chemicals Regional Focal Point - Asia, Europe and CIS countries, GEF Small Grants Programme, UNDP
1745 – 1800	Wrap up of the day by the two Chairs: issues, conclusions and recommendations

November 19: (National and Local)	
Part 2: Development of ocean policies in the Seas of East Asia – Case studies of selected countries Co-Chair: Dr. Chua Thia-Eng , Chair Emeritus of EAS Partnership Council; Mr. Hiroshi Terashima , President of OPRI-SPF	
1030 – 1110	Keynote presentation: Development of Ocean Governance at the National and Local Level under the Framework of UNCLOS, the Future We Want and SDGs Mr. Hiroshi Terashima , President of OPRI-SPF
1110 – 1230	Panel Session 1: Case studies of ocean policy development in selected countries Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma, Director of Ocean Policy Division, Policy Bureau, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT), Japan • Prof. Cheong Wei Min Denise, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore • Ms. Liu Yan, China Institute for Marine Affairs, State Oceanic Administration, China • Dr. Cheryl Rita Kaur, Senior Researcher, Centre for Coastal and Marine Environment Maritime Institute of Malaysia (MIMA) • Ms. Pham Thi Gam, Deputy Director, Department of Policy and Legislation, VASI, MONRE • Mr. Bamroongsak Chatanantawej, Director of Marine and Coastal Protected Area Management Unit, Office of the Marine and Coastal Resources Conservation, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and environment, Thailand • Dr. Jiyeon Choi, Associate Research Fellow, Marine Policy Research Department, Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), RO Korea • Atty. Rodolfo Ferdinand Quicho, Country Programme Manager, GEF Small Grant Programme, Philippines
1230 – 1400	Lunch
1400 – 1430	Session 2: Case studies of selected countries (cont.)

<p>1430 – 1600</p>	<p>Panel discussion: Development and impact of national ocean policies Facilitators: Dr. Chua Thia-Eng; Mr. Hiroshi Terashima</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) What are the benefits and challenges resulting from the implementation of national ocean policies? (2) How does regional cooperation being enhanced through national policy of countries in the region? (3) What further steps should be undertaken to promote and strengthen the SDG of the East Asian Seas Region? <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Toshiyuki Onuma • Prof. Cheong Wei Min Denise • Ms. Liu Yan • Dr. Cheryl Rita Kaur • Ms. Pham Thi Gam • Mr. Bamroongsak Chatanantawej • Dr. Jiyeon Choi • Atty. Rodolfo Ferdinand Quicho • Prof. Shin Kisugi, Deputy President, The Open University of Japan • Dr. Keita Furukawa, OPINEAR
<p>1600 – 1615</p>	<p>Coffee break</p>
<p>16:15 – 16:30</p>	<p>Keynote: SDS-SEA – the Roadmap Towards Achieving SDGs in the EAS region Unsec. Analiza Teh Chair, EAS Partnership Council Intergovernmental Session Chaired by Mr. Yinfeng Guo</p>
<p>16:30 -17:00</p>	<p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do PEMSEA and the SDS-SEA provide an adequate framework and platform for strengthening collaboration and coordination of efforts across regional and country-driven programmes? • What are the existing limitations and how can they be overcome? • What are some of the desired outcomes and expectations in the next 5 years? <p>Facilitator: Yinfeng Guo</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Chu Pham Ngoc Hien, Deputy Minister of MONRE, Viet Nam • Mr. Hiroshi Terashima, President, OPRI-SPF • Mr. Chris Severin, Sr. Environmental Specialist, GEF Secretariat • Ms. Franca Sprong, Chief Advisor, GIZ SSME Project • Dr. Vo Si Tuan, Vice Chair of UNESCO IOC/WESTPAC & Director of the Institute of Oceanography, Vietnam
<p>1700 – 1800</p>	<p>Summary and consensus-building on workshop issues, key conclusions and recommendations to the plenary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lena Kern/Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg • Mr. Hiroshi Terashima/Dr. Chua Thia-Eng • Mr. Yinfeng Guo

ANNEX 3. SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Prepared by the following Chairs, Co-Chairs and facilitators based on workshop presentations, moderated panel discussions and interactions between panellists and participants:

Ms. Lena Kern, Chief Adviser, GIZ/ SSME Project

Dr. Alan White, The Nature Conservancy

Dr. Gunnar Kullenberg, Former Executive Secretary, IOC/UNESCO

Mr. Hiroshi Terashima, President, Ocean Policy Research Institute – Sasakawa Peace Foundation

Dr. Chua Thia-Eng, Chair Emeritus of the EAS Partnership Council

Mr. Yinfeng Guo, Head, Planning and Partnership Development, PEMSEA Resource Facility

Workshop Focus

1. The focus of presentations and discussions held during the workshop were as follows:
 - responses, progress and achievements of EAS programs and initiatives in terms of institutional sustainability, program implementation and monitoring, as well as status and opportunities of coordination and collaboration;
 - the usefulness of SDS-SEA as the platform and framework for coordination and collaboration among East Asian Seas programs in achieving the SDGs.
 - partnership modalities and practices among EAS programs and initiatives, and with the business community, private sector, CSOs, academia, city networks and other stakeholders that bring mutual benefits and transparency, as well as enhance the participation of stakeholders while contributing to the achievement of the SDGs, in particular Goals 6 and 14 .
 - progress and practices regarding the development and implementation of national policies and action plans in alignment with the frameworks provided by UNCLOS, Agenda 21, WSSD Plan of Implementation and The Future We Want.

Workshop Conclusions

2. **Stable and well-established regional institutional mechanisms are a prerequisite to long term programs involving the protection and management of coastal and marine ecosystems**, and may include, but not be limited to, functional secretariats, resource facilities, regional activity centers and technical working groups, most of which are multinational in structure.
3. **Sustainable finance mechanisms are critical to long-term functionality** of EAS initiatives. Mobilizing contributions from countries and setting up trust funds can enhance long term financial revenues for operation of the initiatives.

4. **Broad-based strategies and action plans encompassing the various social, economic and ecological challenges to sustainable development of coasts and oceans in the region** provide useful frameworks and platforms for strengthening collaboration and coordination of efforts across regional and country-driven programs and implementation of the SDGs, in particular those related with oceans (SDG 14) and water (SDG 6).
5. **Coordination and participation of concerned parties** (e.g., academia, government, non-governmental, civil organizations, private enterprises, etc.) are important and necessary in order to achieve the common vision of sustainable development.
6. **Regional, national and local cooperation is required in order to manage a transboundary environment like the ocean**, and to find solutions to adapt to climate change as part of ocean governance.
7. **Developing functional M&E Systems is essential for successful adaptive management while it was recognized that it takes time to develop and implement an effective M&E system** which is usually only possible in mature programs.
8. **Private investments and management offer an alternative approach in some countries** to achieve sustainable funding and management options for implementing EAS programs and activities.
9. **A Comprehensive Ocean Act can be an ideal driving engine for ocean governance** at the national level. Individual national laws, relevant protocols and action plans can strengthen ocean governance measures in fulfilling national and international obligations through appropriate regulations and planning processes.
10. **Transparency in legislative design and implementation** from international treaties to the national legislative level is crucial.

Workshop Recommendations

11. **The national policy process and regional and international cooperation should be mutually reinforcing**, as a nation is the basic constituent of international society. To achieve the targets under the framework of UNCLOS, Agenda 21, WSSD Plan of Implementation, The Future We Want and the SDGs, as well as relevant regional strategies and strategic action plans and programs, there is a need to align national policies and action plans with regional and international obligations.
12. **All regional EAS initiatives need to be very sensitive to local, sub-national and national capacities** to undertake technical work, planning, financial planning and governance in order to ensure more sustainable outcomes.
13. **Regional and national plans of action need to be complimentary and better aligned** in order to ensure synergy and optimal leverage of resources from national and international sources and strong political will.
14. **Commonalities and opportunities for collaboration among EAS regional and sub-regional initiatives need to be proactively pursued**, and working agreements should be formed among

regional programs through both formal and informal means, in order to enable efficiencies of the respective work programs, minimize overlaps and duplication of effort, and clarify roles, functions, capacities and needs in the implementation of programs and initiatives.

15. **EAS regional initiatives should develop innovative and self-sustaining financing mechanisms** in order to facilitate implementation of regional strategies, action plans and programs by collaborating countries.
16. **Effective M&E systems of regional strategies and programs need:**
 - good baseline data in order to measure change;
 - good information systems that track data and make it publically available and enhance potential analysis;
 - alignment of goals and objectives and indicators across ministries and sectors in a country and at the regional scale; and
 - process as well as outcome (impact) indicators.
17. **National ocean policies should aim at the nation's well-being, security and prosperity** in a balanced manner with equitable attention to local, national and regional management levels.
18. **There is a need to improve the links, dialogue and understanding between local actions, community actions and governments.** Governance should be understood in a much broader and inclusive sense rather than just as a centralized policy shaping mechanism.
19. **The roles of coastal and marine ecosystems in modern society and the impacts of humans on their health should be better understood** based on the results of best available scientific research and analysis. Such information should be integrated into school curriculums, from grade school to college, in an effort to raise awareness, nurture ocean stewardship and ensure compliance with policies and laws.