



**EAS** XIAMEN, CHINA  
6-8 NOVEMBER  
**CONGRESS2024**

**WOW** 19<sup>th</sup>  
2024厦门国际海洋周  
World Ocean Week in Xiamen

# Blue Synergy for a Shared Future: One Sustainable and Resilient Ocean

6-8 NOVEMBER 2024 • XIAMEN CITY, CHINA



**SUBTHEME 1.2**  
**OCEAN SCIENCE, POLICY, AND PRACTICE**

## “Sharing Experiences and Best Practice in Sustainable Management of MPAs” workshop

PROCEEDINGS

### CONVENERS:



中华人民共和国自然资源部  
Ministry of Natural Resources of the People's Republic of China

厦门市人民政府  
Xiamen Municipal People's Government





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8TH EAST ASIAN SEAS CONGRESS

**Blue Synergy for a Shared Future:  
One Sustainable and Resilient Ocean**

XIAMEN, CHINA • 6-8 NOVEMBER

## Sharing Experiences and Best Practice in Sustainable Management of MPAs

7 November 2024, 10:00 AM – 5:30 PM (GMT+8)  
Xiamen International Conference Center Hotel

### 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The sub-session of 2024 East Asian Seas Congress *Sharing Experiences and Best Practice in Sustainable Management of MPAs* was successfully held on 7 November 2024 in Xiamen, attracting more than 60 international participants on site.
- 1.2 Organized by the China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center (CPC) and the First Institute of Oceanography (FIO), Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) of China, and co-organized by the PEMSEA Resources Facility (PRF), this workshop aims to promote the management effectiveness of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) in the East Asian Seas (EAS) region, understand international commitments for marine biodiversity conservation, and exchange the excellent management practice of MPAs and Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs), thus fostering networking of MPAs in the EAS region and exploring potential pathway to realize the Biodiversity Targets.
- 1.3 The workshop was also greatly supported by various unites who have committed to biodiversity conservation, including 1 international cooperation platform, 2 research institutes, 5 non-governmental organizations and 1 enterprise. They are the North-East Asian Marine Protected Areas Network (NEAMPAN), the Third Institute of Oceanography (TIO) of MNR, the

National Marine Hazard Mitigation Service (NMHMS) of MNR, Ant Forest Foundation, Beijing Office of WildAid, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) Beijing Representative Office, SEE Foundation, World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Beijing Representative Office and Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.

- 1.4 The workshop has invited 10 speakers from 5 countries to discuss the scientific design for MPA networks, experiences in conserving biodiversity through expanding MPAs and OECMs, identification and conservation planning for key marine biodiversity areas based on ecoregions, introductions to cases where social welfare platforms support the development of marine conservation areas, scientific research on OECMs and related cases, sharing of community management experiences, technologies for biodiversity conservation, prospects for the MPA Network development, and introductions to community-led law enforcement efforts in MPAs. four innovative achievements on China's management of marine nature reserves and biodiversity conservation were introduced.
- 1.5 Four innovative study reports on the effective management of MPAs and biodiversity conservation were released during the workshop, featuring the marine OECM criteria, MPA monitoring plan, MPA Patrol and conservation gaps and initiatives.
- 1.6 The efforts made by this workshop align closely with the goals outlined in the regional framework of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) 2023-2027, aiming to enhance the biodiversity conservation and management by developing National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans (NBSAPs) that incorporate post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework targets for ocean, coastal, and marine management.

## **2.0 Opening Ceremony**

- 2.1** The opening ceremony was chaired by Dr. LI Li, the Director of the International Cooperation Department of FIO, MNR. She congratulated the convening of the workshop and welcomed all participants on behalf of FIO. The Executive Director of PEMSEA Resources Facility, Ms. Aimee Gonzelas, and the Deputy Director-General of the International Cooperation Department of MNR, Mr. WANG Antao delivered welcome remarks.
- 2.2** Ms. Aimee stressed the urgency of achieving the 30x30 global targets and highlighted the importance of protected areas in maintaining essential ecosystem services. She praised all organizers, especially the long-standing partner CPC, for hosting the workshop aimed at exploring MPA management and identifying potential collaborative actions. She mentioned the dynamic nature of integrated coastal and marine management and emphasized the role of knowledge sharing through events like the EAS congress. She also aligned the workshop with PEMSEA's joint project with the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, encouraging transformative changes in MPA network management. Finally, she expressed her confidence that PEMSEA and its projects would benefit from the best practices shared at the workshop and looked forward to the outcomes of this event.
- 2.3** Mr. WANG highlighted the significance of a healthy, resilient, and sustainable ocean for the East Asian Seas region, which boasts rich marine biodiversity and dynamic economic development. Facing challenges from climate change and human activities, urgent collaboration and joint response are necessary. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, with its TARGET 3 aiming for 30% marine conservation by 2030, serves as a guiding vision. MPAs and OECMs are crucial tools in this effort. Progress has been made, but more work is needed globally. He stressed that China has attached great importance to biodiversity conservation, integrating it into national plans and implementing significant measures, and MNR will continue to strengthen MPA systems and promote

effective marine biodiversity conservation through regional cooperation. He hoped that the workshop will facilitate understanding, identify cooperative actions, and contribute to achieving the 30 by 30 target, with PEMSEA playing a key role.

### **3.0 Session Highlights**

- 3.1** The morning session was chaired by Dr. LIU Shenghao, the Deputy Director of Marine Ecology Research Center of FIO. He expressed great gratitude to all the organizers and supporting units for making the workshop a reality.
- 3.2** In the morning session, the first presentation was given by **Dr. Mark CARR**, the Professor of University of California, on the **Science of Designing MPA Networks**. He introduced that by better developing MPAs, we can leverage the natural larval dispersal and population connectivity of most marine invertebrates and fishes, optimize conservation and fisheries benefits in heavily used coastal zones, and facilitate species responses to environmental change. By the network design principles: ecosystem representation, MPA size, Spacing, MPA conservation levels, a MPA Network can be finalized with the best expected effectiveness. He also clarified the whole process with California's MPA network as a case study. Followed by Dr. Mark is **Dr. Petch MANOPAWITR**, the advisor of WILDAID Thailand Program. He shared how **Thailand safeguards their marine biodiversity through scaling up the network of MPAs and OECMs** by highlighting the capacity building programs such as the smart trainings and smart patrol. By implementing the SMART programs, they are able to make incentive-based and community-based conservation in MPAs. He also made a kind reminder that the continued expansion of marine protected areas around the globe without adequate investment in human and financial capacity could limit marine conservation outcomes. **Mr. Dou Rui**, the Program Director of Ant Group Sustainability Department and the Deputy Secretary-General of the Ant Forest Foundation, presented **How Internet Public Welfare Platforms Participate in Marine Conservation Practices**.

The Ant Forest Foundation is a non-public fundraising foundation established by Ant Group in China. It has supports marine protection by engaging users of “Ali Pay” through interactive digital platforms, which promotes virtual participation in marine conservation activities. The foundation's educational content and green energy incentives foster a broader commitment to environmental stewardship, including the protection of marine life and habitats. In his presentation, he introduced the pattern they've established to engage enterprises and the public in contributing to marine protection, hoping to create a model for any enterprise wishing to join this cause.

- 3.3 In the morning session, two research reports were released. They are the 《**MPA Patrol Framework**》, prepared by FIO and WildAid and released by **Ms. YU Chong**, the Chief Representative of WildAid Beijing Office, and the《**Conservation Gaps and Initiative of Spotted Seals**》, prepared by FIO and SEE Foundation and released by **Dr. ZHUANG Hongfei**, FIO of MNR. The《MPA Patrol Framework》gives clear definition of different types of patrols, patrol process, patrol system and patrol personnel, while the 《Conservation Gaps and Initiative of Spotted Seals》makes suggestions for improving the conservation of spotted seals based on the research of their current status.
- 3.4 The afternoon session was chaired by Dr. ZHANG Zhaohui, the chief scientist of the research team on MPA Management and Eco-typic Development in FIO and the Director of CPC. He shortly summarized the discussion in the morning combining with the current MPA initiatives and policies in China.
- 3.5 The first presentation in the afternoon was made by **Ms. Elizabeth PIKE**, the Director of Marine Protection Atlas, Marine Conservation Institute, on **Scientific research on OECMs and case studies**. She mentioned that MPAs have pitfalls and OECMs can be useful. However, OECMs carry their

own risks, but there are opportunities when proper solutions can be provided to help avoid shortcomings. **Mr. ZHANG Yimo**, the Director of Sustainable Blue Economy Priority Project, WWF-China, has shared the experience of **Community-based Management in Chongming Dongtan National Natural Reserve**. He emphasized the importance of community in biodiversity conservation. In the presentation of **Mr. Gary Maidment-Conserving Marine Ecosystems with Technology**, the Communications Manager for the TECH4ALL Program Office, Huawei, he, from another perspective, shared the role of AI technology in making conservation.

3.6 Before the afternoon coffee break, two research reports were released. They are the **《Study Report on Marine OECMs Identification in China》**, prepared by FIO and NRDC, and the **《Studies on Marine Protected Areas: Summary of Monitoring Programs within Papaānaumokuākea Marine National Monument》** finished by NRDC. The former one was released by **Ms. LI Shuyun** of FIO, which dives into the criteria and standards of identifying marine OECMs in China specifically. The later one was released by **Ms. YAO Yue**, the Project Manager of Conservation Project, NRDC. It shares experience and lessons learned of the monitoring program in the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

3.7 After the coffee break, **Ms. Mi-jin LEE** from the East and North-East Asia office of UN-ESCAP, introduced **North-East Asia MPA Networks (NEAMPAN)**, a regional MPA network under the framework of the North-East Asian Subregional Programme for Environmental Cooperation. She expressed the willingness to explore further cooperation with more MPAs in the EAS region. **Dr. LIU Zhenghua** of TIO shared his experience in developing **Marine Protected Areas Networking in China-Southeast Asia Countries**. He emphasized the effective MPA management in China-Southeast Asia via science-based methods, coverage improvement, networking in Blue Economy, ecosystem health, services, food security, and

livelihoods, along with enhancing ocean literacy, Blue Citizenship, and sharing activities through networking. The last presentation was given by **Mr. Gregg CASAD**, the Senior Compliance Advisor of WildAid. He explained **How to Support Community-Led Enforcement of MPAs: Success Stories from WildAid's Global Programs**. He introduced their unique approach, encompassing discovery partnership, enforcement design, implementation, mentorship, and regional leadership, which significantly enhances marine enforcement and conservation efforts. The programs also enable partners to manage their compliance and enforcement systems independently, with a tailored enforcement system for each project/partner.

#### **4.0 Panel Discussion**

4.1 Four experts were invited to join the Panel Discussion. They are **Mr. Yinfeng GUO** of NMHMS, **Mr. Patrick YEUNG** from the Climate Action Platform, Asian Venture Philanthropy Network, **Mr. Akbar A Digdo**, the CEO of Yapeka, Indonesia, Representative of Local NGO and Fishery Community, Blue Partnership Action Fund Partner, and **Dr. Zhiwei ZHANG**, the Director of Research Center for Coastal Science & Marine Planning of FIO.

4.2 The discussion was led by Mr. GUO, and focused on 3 questions: what are your reflections on the value of launched toolkits and products to support MPA or marine OECM? What insights do you have on wider use of ICM, MSP or other area-based management processes to contribute to Target 3 of GBF in East Asian region? What is the cost-effective monitoring approach of GBF target 3 implementation in EAS region at country level?

4.3 Mr. GUO, the Chief of International Cooperation at NMHMS, has recently returned from Cali, Colombia, where he attended the 16th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP16). With deep reflections on biodiversity conservation after attending this crucial event, he shared insights from his discussions with international experts.



These discussions focused on specific gaps and areas that require additional attention within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) to support the implementation of the KMGBF concerning marine and coastal biodiversity, as well as island biodiversity. He also expressed his opinions on the current indicators used to monitor KMGBF Target 3. During the discussion, the experts shared their viewpoints on each question, drawing on their working experience, national backgrounds and specialized area. It is recommended that a working group comprising biodiversity experts be established for the EAS region to better achieve 30x30 target.



Group photo



Panel discussion

## ANNEX 1. Agenda



# EAS 2024

## ST1.2 Workshop

# **Sharing Experiences and Best Practice in Sustainable Management of MPAs**

**(7 November 2024, Xiamen)**

## **1. Rationale and objectives**

Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as the common vision for global biodiversity conservation, is a major and important achievement for international cooperation on the biodiversity conservation. The TARGET 3 of the Framework indicates that at least 30 percent of marine and coastal areas are effectively conserved and managed through protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures by 2030.

Marine protected areas (MPAs) are a crucial and effective measure to protect marine ecosystem, provide ecosystem services and goods, mitigate climate change, conserve marine biodiversity, and support blue economy in coast and ocean. While Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) are one of the important area-based management tools for marine on-site conservation. In recent years, OECMs have gradually gained international attention and are considered as new powerful tools that can significantly increase the protected areas both in land and oceans.

Such efforts align closely with the goals outlined in the regional framework of the Sustainable Development Strategy for the Seas of East Asia (SDS-SEA) 2023-2027, aiming to enhance the biodiversity conservation and management by developing National Biodiversity Strategic Action Plans (NBSAPs) that incorporate post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework targets for ocean, coastal, and marine management.

This Experience and Practice Sharing Workshop for Sustainable Management of MPAs aims to promote MPA's management effectiveness, understand international commitments for marine biodiversity conservation, and exchange the excellent management practice of MPAs and OECMs. The workshop will discuss the international best practice and tools for MPA management, share experiences among regional MPAs, identify marine conservation gaps and hotspots, foster networking of MPAs in the EAS region, and explore potential pathway to realize the 3030 Target in the EAS region.

## **2. Expected outputs**

By promoting the exchange of MPA management information, expertise, and experiences, this workshop is expected to facilitate the understanding of MPA management despite differences in types and sizes; identify potential cooperative actions for regional cooperation among MPAs and OECMs; and enhance the managing capacity and effectiveness of MPA and OECM through the release of four important outputs.

## **3. Conveners**

China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center (CPC)  
Partnership in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)  
First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources (FIO)

## **4. Supported by: (in alphabetical order)**

- Ant Forest Foundation
- Beijing Office of WildAid
- Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd.
- National Marine Hazard Mitigation Service, MNR (NMHMS)
- Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) Beijing Representative Office
- SEE Foundation
- Third Institute of Oceanography, MNR (TIO)
- World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Beijing Representative Office

## 5. Venue and Time

November 7, 2024 | 10:00 AM - 5:30 PM

**1D Meeting Room, Xiamen International Conference Hotel**

Xiamen, Fujian Province, China

## 6. Official Link

<https://eascongress2024.pemsea.org/programs/sharing-experiences-and-best-practice-in-sustainable-management-of-mpas-workshop/>





### **7 Contact Information**

- Ms. ZHU Xiaotong, China-PEMSEA Center, 15666528639 (English)
- Ms. LIU Yidan, First Institute of Oceanography, 18653245759 (Chinese)

## Workshop Schedule

<b>7 November 10:00 - 12:00, Best Practice &amp; Tools for MPA Management</b>			
Time	Event/Activity	Delivered by	Chaired by
<b>Session 1</b>			
10:00-10:20	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Antao WANG Deputy Director-General, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources of China</li> <li>Ms. Aimee Gonzales PEMSEA Executive Director</li> </ul>		Mr. Shenghao LIU  Deputy Director of Marine Ecology Center, FIO
10:20-10:40	The Science of Designing MPA Networks	Mr. Mark CARR, Professor of University of California, Santa Cruz	
10:40-11:00	Safeguarding Thailand's Marine Biodiversity through scaling up the network of Marine Protected Areas and OECMs	Dr. Petch MANOPAWITR, Advisor of WILDAID Thailand Program	
11:00-11:20	Eco-Region Based Identification of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas in China for Conservation Planning	Ms. Jing WANG, Director of Marine Conservation Program, SEE FOUNDATION	
11:20-11:40	Internet Charity Impower Marine Protected Area: Tongguling National Nature Reserve Case	Mr. Rui DOU, Program Director of Ant Group Sustainability Department, Deputy Secretary-General of the Ant Forest Foundation	
11:40-11:50	New Outputs Releasing: 《MPA Patrol Framework》	Ms. Chong YU, Chief Representative of WildAid Beijing Office	
11:50-12:00	New Outputs Releasing: 《Conservation Gaps and Initiative of Spotted Seals》	Mr. Hongfei ZHUANG, First Institute of Oceanography, MNR	

<b>7 November 14:30 – 17:30, MPA &amp; OECM for 3030 Target in the EAS Region</b>		<b>Delivered by</b>	<b>Chaired by</b>
<b>Session 2</b>			
14:30-14:50	Scientific research on OECMs and case studies	Ms. Elizabeth PIKE, Director of Marine Protection Atlas, Marine Conservation Institute	Ms. Ning HUA  Director of Conservation Project, NRDC China
14:50-15:10	Community-based Management in Chongming Dongtan National Natural Reserve	Mr. Yimo ZHANG, Director of Sustainable Blue Economy Priority Project,	

		WWF-China	
15:10-1 5:25	How to technically support Sea Turtles Protected Areas – Experience Sharing from Huawei	Mr. Gary Maidment, Communications Manager for the TECH4ALL Program Office, Huawei	
15:25-1 5:35	New Outputs Releasing: 《Study Report on Marine OECMs Identification in China》	Ms. Shuyun LI, First Institute of Oceanography, MNR	
15:35-1 5:45	New Outputs Releasing: <i>Studies on Marine Protected Areas: Summary of Monitoring Programs within Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument</i>	Ms. Yue YAO, Project Manager of Conservation Project, NRDC China	
15:45-1 6:00	Coffee Break		
<b>Session 3</b>			
16:00-1 6:20	Perspectives on North-East Asia MPA Networks	Ms. Mi-Jin LEE, East and North-East Asia office of UN-ESCAP	Mr. Zhaohui ZHANG
16:20-1 6:40	Perspectives on China-ASEAN MPA Network	Dr. Zhenghua LIU, Third Institute of Oceanography, MNR	Deputy Director of China-PEMS
16:40-1 7:00	How to Support Community-Led Enforcement of MPAs: Success Stories from WildAid’s Global Programs	Mr. Gregg CASAD, Senior Compliance Advisor of WildAid	EA Coastal Sustainable Management Center
17:00-1 7:30	<p>Panel Discussion on Realizing 3030 Target for the EAS Region</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yinfeng GUO, National Marine Hazard Mitigation Service (NMHMS), MNR</li> <li>• Patrick YEUNG, Climate Action Platform, Asian Venture Philanthropy Network</li> <li>• Akbar, CEO of Yapeka, Indonesia, Representative of Local NGO and Fishery Community, Blue Partnership Action Fund Partner</li> <li>• Zhiwei ZHANG, Director, Research Center for Coastal Science &amp; Marine Planning, FIO MNR</li> </ul>	<p>Discussion focusing on 3 questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what are your reflections on the value of launched toolkits and products to support MPA or marine OECM?</li> <li>- what insights do you have on wider use of ICM, MSP or other area-based management processes to contribute to Target 3 of GBF in East Asian region?</li> <li>- what is the cost-effective monitoring approach of GBF target 3 implementation in EAS region at country level?</li> </ul>	<p>Mr. Yinfeng GUO</p> <p>Chief of Internation Cooperation, NMHMS</p>



## ANNEX 2. List of Participants

### SHARING EXPERIENCES AND BEST PRACTICE IN SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF MPAS

7 NOVEMBER 2024, XIAMEN

#### List of Participants

**Mr. WANG Antao**

Deputy Director-General, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Ms. Aimee Gonzales**

PEMSEA Executive Director

**Ms. YU Xinwei**

Director, International Cooperation Department, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Ms. LI Li**

Director, Department of International Cooperation, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Dr. ZHANG Zhaohui**

Deputy Director of China-PEMSEA Coastal Sustainable Management Center, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Mr. LIU Shenghao**

Deputy Director of Marine Ecology Center, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Mr. Mark CARR**

Professor of University of California, Santa Cruz

**Dr. Petch MANOPAWITR**

Advisor of WILDAID Thailand Program

**Ms. WANG Jing**

Director of Marine Conservation Program, SEE FOUNDATION

**Mr. ZHANG Jing**

SEE FOUNDATION

**Ms. GUAN Zehua**

SEE FOUNDATION

**Ms. ZHANG Jingxin**

SEE FOUNDATION

**Mr. DOU Rui**

Program Director of Ant Group Sustainability Department, Deputy Secretary-General of the Ant Forest Foundation

**Mr. LI Chunming**

Shenzhen Dapeng Coral Conservation Volunteer Federation

**Ms. YU Chong**

Chief Representative of WildAid Beijing Office

**Ms. MA Jiangnan**

WildAid Beijing Office

**Ms. ZHANG Wenting**

WildAid Beijing Office

**Dr. ZHUANG Hongfei**

First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Ms. Elizabeth PIKE**

Director of Marine Protection Atlas, Marine Conservation Institute

**Mr. ZHANG Yimo**

Director of Sustainable Blue Economy Priority Project, WWF-China

**Mr. YU Zibo**

WWF-China

**Mr. Gary Maidment**

Communications Manager for the TECH4ALL Program Office, Huawei

**Mr. LI Wei**

TECH4ALL Program Office, Huawei

**Mr. HUANG Hai**

TECH4ALL Program Office, Huawei

**Ms. LIU Mingju**

TECH4ALL Program Office, Huawei

**Ms. LI Shuyun**

First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Ms. HUA Ning**

Director, Conservation Project, NRDC China

**Ms. YAO Yue**

Project Manager of Conservation Project, NRDC China

**Ms. LIANG Shuyuan**

Project Manager of Conservation Project, NRDC China

**Mr. LI Lunyang**

NRDC China

**Ms. LI Wei**

Senior Project Manager, Conservation Project, NRDC China

**Ms. LV Yixuan**

Shan Shui Conservation Center

**Ms. Mi-Jin LEE**

East and North-East Asia office of UN-ESCAP

**Dr. LIU Zhenghua**

Third Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Mr. Gregg CASAD**

Senior Compliance Advisor of WildAid

**Mr. GUO Yinfeng,**

National Marine Hazard Mitigation Service,  
Ministry of Natural Resources of China

**Mr. Patrick YEUNG**

Climate Action Platform, Asian Venture  
Philanthropy Network Platform, Asian Venture  
Philanthropy Network

**Mr. Akbar Ario Digdo**

CEO of Yapeka, Indonesia, Representative of  
Local NGO and Fishery Community, Blue  
Partnership Action Fund Partner

**Dr. ZHANG Zhiwei**

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**Mr. WANG Shouqiang**

CHINA-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal  
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**Ms. ZHU Xiaotong**

CHINA-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal  
Management Cooperation Center

**Mr. LIU Haidan**

CHINA-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal  
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**Ms. WANG Wenzhuo**

Ocean to climate Seamless Forecasting system  
Project Office

**Ms. XUE Mingmei**

Ocean to climate Seamless Forecasting system  
Project Office