



The 2026 PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal Development (PNLG) and PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC) Joint Learning Forum

8 September 2026
Busan Metropolitan City
Republic of Korea

**The 2026 PEMSEA Network of Local Governments for Sustainable Coastal
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Joint Learning Forum**

**‘Empowering Coastal Cities for a Blue Future’
Busan, Republic of Korea, 8-10 September 2026**

1. PNLG-PNLC JOINT LEARNING FORUM

1.1. The PNLG-PNLC Joint Learning Forum commenced at 13:30 UTC+9, following the opening ceremonies. The Forum provides a platform for knowledge exchange, peer learning, networking, and collaboration among local governments, learning centers, and coastal and marine stakeholders. Organized under the PEMSEA framework, the Forum brings together PNLG and PNLC in collaboration with Korea Maritime Institute (KMI), Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST), Coastal 500, and the Metropolitan City of Busan, strengthening linkages among scientific knowledge, local experience, institutional practice, and policy implementation toward resilient and sustainable coastal and marine development.

1.2. The program was organized around two panel discussions:

- **Panel 1: Pathways for Blue Carbon and Nature-Based Solutions** examined local pathways for blue carbon and nature-based solutions, with emphasis on source-to-sea management, seagrass and tidal-flat conservation, wetland restoration, and community participation.
- **Panel 2: Capitalizing on Coasts: Financing and Innovating Local Blue Economies** discussed the financing and innovation needed to build local blue economies, drawing on cases from the local governments of Busan, Kep, Bataan, Gorontalo, and Guiuan.

Each panel was followed by an open forum and a synthesis of the lessons emerging from the presentations.

1.3. Opening Remarks

1.4. **Dr. Ma. Lucille Nava**, President of PNLG and Governor of the Province of Guimaras, Philippines described the forum as a convergence of policy and science, action and research, local leadership and academic rigor. She emphasized that coastal governments face immediate public demands during storms, fisheries decline, and other coastal pressures, while durable policies require sound science rather than trial and error. She presented the PNLC institutions as partners that can translate

research, mapping and spatial tools, and monitoring into local planning decisions. In return, local governments provide real settings where approaches can be tested, adjusted, and made useful to communities. Meanwhile, local governments offer real-world living laboratories: shorelines, coral reefs, mangrove forests, seagrass beds, salt marshes, waste systems, settlements, and local economies where researchers can test whether an approach works under actual legal, financial, and social conditions.

- 1.5. Dr. Nava called for practical and field-tested solutions, including science-based zoning, risk-informed planning, and community-centered blue economy initiatives. She encouraged deeper institutional ties, joint research, and policies that remain scientifically credible and locally relevant, with coastal communities at the center of resilience efforts.
- 1.6. She emphasized placing people at the center of resilience. The purpose of the network is to strengthen institutional relationships, encourage joint research, and help local leaders adopt policies that are scientifically sound and locally relevant.
- 1.7. **Dr. Yonvitner**, President of PNLC and Director for the Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies in IPB University, Indonesia, emphasized the urgency of strengthening regional cooperation to address shared coastal and marine challenges across the East Asian Seas region. He highlighted two key messages from the earlier discussions: “find your partner, not find your answer” and “take this moment as a turning point.” He explained that finding partners means strengthening collaboration among national and local governments, academic institutions, and other stakeholders across countries to jointly address marine, coastal, island, and disaster-related challenges.
- 1.8. Dr. Yonvitner also encouraged participants to use the PNLG Forum in Busan as a turning point for greater harmonization in regional working approaches, methodologies, technical standards, and implementation practices. He noted that regional challenges cannot be effectively addressed by individual countries or institutions working in isolation and emphasized the importance of active engagement among PNLC and PNLG members. He encouraged participants to actively discuss issues, identify potential partners, and develop stronger connections that could generate impactful, peaceful, and fruitful regional cooperation. He concluded by encouraging all participants to make full use of the learning forum as an opportunity to build partnerships and strengthen collaborative action across the region.

1.9. Context Setting

- 1.10. **Dr. Fang Qinhua**, Deputy Secretary-General of the PNLG Secretariat, Vice President of PNLC, and Deputy Director of the Coastal and Ocean Management Institute at Xiamen University, China, provided the context for the technical session.
- 1.11. *Overview.* He welcomed the participants and reflected on the origins of the PNLG partnership, recalling the first joint forum held in China in 2021, which was conceived to build collaboration between local governments and learning institutions. He noted that the session would examine, over the course of four hours, how coastal cities can move beyond coastline protection toward building thriving local economies around their coastal assets, under the overarching theme "Empowering Coastal Cities for a Blue Future."
- 1.12. Dr. Fang referenced the PEMSEA 2025 State of the Coasts report, highlighting that sea levels in parts of Asia are rising faster than the global average, along with accelerating habitat loss, biodiversity decline, pollution, and converging pressures on densely populated coastlines — compounded by natural disasters such as volcanic eruptions, flooding, and landslides. He stressed that these challenges can no longer be addressed as isolated problems handled by separate sectors and actors, but must instead be tackled through integrated approaches, framing risk and opportunity as interconnected, in line with the Chinese concept of "wei-ji" (危机), where crisis and opportunity coexist.
- 1.13. *Session Objectives.* He outlined five expected outcomes of the forum:
- Deepen understanding of blue carbon and nature-based solutions as practical tools for coastal resilience, and clarify the role of local governments in advancing them.
 - Provide a clearer picture of how smart financing, blue economy models, and technological innovation can convert coastal protection from a municipal cost into a sustainable economic opportunity.
 - Present concrete examples of PNLG member local governments implementing strategic action plans aligned with SDGs 6, 11, 13, and 14.
 - Identify practical entry points and partnership mechanisms for advancing Integrated Coastal Management (ICM) at the local level.
 - Develop a set of collective messages and commitments to feed into the Forum's joint declaration and future action.
- 1.14. *Session Structure.* Dr. Fang previewed the format of the afternoon, consisting of two panel discussions followed by a Q&A period and synthesis after each, and closing remarks from the PEMSEA Executive Director, Ms. Aimee Gonzales, synthesizing the afternoon's discussions and financing models going forward.

1.15. He encouraged participants to examine not only the environmental outcomes presented by each speaker, but also the governance arrangements behind them. These included the use of local ordinances and management plans, mechanisms for intergovernmental coordination, community roles in monitoring and enforcement, scientific support for site selection and evaluation, and financing models that linked public investment with private participation and local livelihoods.

1.16. **PANEL DISCUSSION 1: LOCAL PATHWAYS FOR BLUE CARBON AND NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS**

1.17. **Ms. Nancy Bermas**, Regional Project Manager of the Integrated Riverbasin Management (IRBM) Project at the PEMSEA Resource Facility, moderated the session. This session featured a keynote presentation followed by four on-the-ground case studies from the Philippines, China, and the Republic of Korea. The keynote provided the broader context and highlighted key opportunities and strategies for advancing nature-based solutions through government action, while the case studies presented practical experiences from science-based research and stakeholder- and community-based ecosystem restoration initiatives. Each speaker was allocated ten minutes for the presentation, followed by a joint question-and-answer session.

1.18. Participants were encouraged to consider two key questions throughout the session:

- What practical steps allow local governments to integrate scientific research and nature-based solutions into spatial and development plans?
- How can local governments and universities co-design solutions when fisheries, aquaculture, infrastructure, conservation, tourism, and community access compete for the same coastal space?

1.19. **Speakers**

Speaker	Position	Presentation
Usec. Jonas Leones	Chair, EAS Partnership Council Undersecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines	Scaling Blue Carbon and Nature-based Solutions through Government Action
Dr. Yasmin Primavera-Tirol	Professor, Aklan State University - New Washington, Philippines	From Source to Sea: Unlocking the Watershed–Estuary Nexus for Climate Resilience in Aklan

Speaker	Position	Presentation
Dr. ZHAO Linlin	Professor, Marine Ecology Research Center, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China Deputy Director, China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center	Qingdao Longwan Seagrass Bed Protection: Nature-based Solutions through Community Co-management
Dr. Young-Nam Kim	Department Head, Marine Protection and Restoration Department, Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation	Korea's Tidal Flat Restoration: Public-Private Collaboration and Resident Participation
Dr. Jinwon Seo	Director, Nakdong Estuary Eco Center, Busan	Ecological Restoration of Eulsukdo Island in the Nakdong River Estuary, Busan

1.20. **Keynote: Scaling Blue Carbon and Nature-based Solutions through Government Action**

1.21. **Usec. Jonas Leones**, Chair of the EAS Partnership Council and Undersecretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines, delivered his keynote message through a video. He began by addressing the local government leaders, scientists, and development partners gathered at the Forum, expressing regret that he could not join physically but noting his pleasure at being part of the discussion at what he called a decisive moment for the region and for the shared ocean.

1.22. He framed East Asia as sitting at the epicenter of both climate vulnerability and climate opportunity; home to more than 35 percent of the world's mangroves and to the Coral Triangle, the richest marine biodiversity on Earth, yet simultaneously on the frontlines of warmer seas, stronger storms, rising tides, and mounting coastal pressures. He acknowledged that much of the region's historical response to coastal vulnerability had relied on hard engineering: seawalls, rock armor, and grey infrastructure, which remains important where appropriate, but stressed that nature offers another form of infrastructure: living, adaptive, and self-renewing systems that protect shorelines while providing food, livelihoods, biodiversity, and climate benefits. Mangroves, seagrass beds, coral reefs, and wetlands, are not merely scenic landscapes but natural and increasingly strategic infrastructure. The regional imperative, he argued, is to stop treating nature as an afterthought to economic

growth and instead recognize it as essential infrastructure for resilient and sustainable development.

- 1.23. *From Regional Vision to Local Action.* Turning to the work of PEMSEA and PNLG, Usec. Leones noted that since 2016 the PEMSEA Blue Carbon Program has worked with partners to unlock the potential of blue-carbon ecosystems and to better understand the conditions for a sustainable blue-carbon economy, including supply and demand, certification, and harmonized measurement. Yet even as blue carbon becomes better understood from environmental and macroeconomic perspectives, he posed a set of unresolved questions: How is this knowledge translated into action at the local level? How can communities effectively participate in and benefit from blue-carbon opportunities? How can local governments work with the communities living around these ecosystems? And how can emerging initiatives be kept environmentally credible, socially inclusive, and beneficial to the people who depend on them? He characterized these as governance and development questions at their core, ultimately about connecting science, policy, local action, and finance — and identified fora such as PNLG as important precisely because they let local governments share experience, learn from one another, and engage scientific and technical institutions.
- 1.24. *The Philippine Context.* He then shared the Philippine experience as illustration, citing the country's more than 36,000 kilometers of coastline, approximately 327,000 hectares of mangroves, and extensive seagrass ecosystems as marking it a natural blue-carbon powerhouse. But he cautioned that natural wealth alone is not enough. Transforming this natural capital into credible, scalable climate solutions requires bridging scientific research, policy design, and the realities of local action; in his words, making science useful to policy, and policy actionable at the local level. He described DENR's efforts as resting on a simple principle: that NbS must work for nature, for people, and for climate resilience.
- 1.25. He outlined DENR's approach across five points:
- 1.26. *Scientific Integrity* — Adoption of the IUCN Global Standard for NbS, and initiatives such as the NbS Catalogue and National Blue Carbon Action Partnership (NBCAP), to correct past fragmented restoration practices and ensure interventions are scientifically sound and socially appropriate.
- 1.27. *Policy to Practice* — A need to strengthen internal DENR coordination and awareness, while recognizing that NbS success depends on LGUs, where national policy meets land use, livelihoods, and budget realities.

- 1.28. *Bridging Policy with LGU Projects* — Proposed reframing NbS planning to start from the local problem (erosion, flooding, degraded mangroves, declining fisheries) rather than a predetermined project, integrating NbS into local climate action, land-use planning, and disaster risk reduction.
- 1.29. *Learning by Doing* — Advocated testing a replicable NbS process with selected LGUs end-to-end, rather than assuming a national methodology applies uniformly, to identify what works and what can be adapted elsewhere.
- 1.30. *Sustainable Financing* — Cautioned against starting from "how do we sell carbon," proposing instead to first define the problem, place, and people, then match financing — carbon finance, Payment for Ecosystem Services, blended finance, sustainable tourism, or blue-economy enterprises — to the context.
- 1.31. *Closing*. Usec. Leones stated the region's goal should be more local governments capable of identifying, designing, implementing, monitoring, financing, and sustaining NbS — moving from isolated projects to institutional practice. He closed with three transitions: from policy to practice, from practice to proof, and from proof to scale, and called for continued collaboration among science, policy, local action, and responsible investment across the East Asian Seas region.
- 1.32. **From Source to Sea Unlocking the Watershed Estuary Nexus for Climate Resilience in Aklan**
- 1.33. **Dr. Yasmin Primavera-Tirol**, Professor at Aklan State University, Philippines presented research on Aklan province, located on Panay Island in the west-central Philippines. The province's economy relies heavily on agriculture, fisheries, and two key water systems: the Batan Estuary and the 97-kilometer Aklan River, which spans a 230-square-kilometer watershed. Together, these systems sustain more than 60% of the local population. However, Copernicus satellite data reveals that between 1990 and 2020, population growth and the conversion of forestland to agriculture significantly heightened soil erosion and sediment runoff across the area.
- 1.34. Despite this documented risk, she said the province was unprepared when Typhoon Nalgae struck in 2022 following several days of heavy rain. The typhoon prompted local governments to partner more actively with her university team, building on earlier, more limited engagement through a blue carbon project. Community consultations initially pointed to a mangrove area as a possible cause of flooding, but investigation instead identified a natural floodplain at a river bifurcation point, validated by 2017 LiDAR data with the University of the Philippines Cebu and a partner university, which had historically absorbed floodwater. By 2020, satellite and

Google Earth imagery showed that a bridge and revetment wall had blocked one of the two river branches, eliminating this floodplain and shifting flooding further downstream.

- 1.35. She explained that since 1985, local communities have expanded mangrove planting, mainly of *Rhizophora* species. Coverage grew from about 128,000 square meters to nearly 1,000,000 square meters, or roughly 100 hectares. This sequesters carbon, but it also alters local hydrodynamics and sediment transport. Consequently, sediment delivery to a downstream beach has decreased. The beach has eroded roughly 153 meters since 1985, including about 40 meters over the last 30 years. This leaves a sandbar less than a kilometer wide.
- 1.36. In the Batan Estuary, she said mangrove area fell from about 5,000 hectares in the 1950s to about 400 hectares by 2008. They were converted mainly to fishponds. This conversion has been linked to increased chlorophyll and turbidity between 2000 and 2020. It has also led to poor tidal flushing of internal waters. Across 12 monitored points, researchers recorded an estimated 29 to 30 tons of sediment per square kilometer per year. This affects larval and juvenile stages of key fishery species.
- 1.37. Simulating the removal of fishpond dikes, her team found that sediment would instead shift closer to the estuary mouth, worsening conditions, since the dikes now function as a proxy for the mangroves that once occupied that space. She cited the tiger shrimp fishery, *sugpo* or *Penaeus monodon*, which comprised about 90 to 95% of the local catch in 1978 but had by 2006 shifted toward smaller species such as *Metapenaeus*, with total daily catch falling from about 24 kilograms to under 5 kilograms per fisher.
- 1.38. Her team's response began with identifying non-operational fishponds for possible mangrove restoration using drone mapping and ground-truthing. In one restored, non-operational fishpond area, trees taller than the average person were recorded after seven years, restoring nursery, sediment-trapping, and carbon storage functions, and two locally endemic mangrove species, referred to as Patatpat and Api-api, were found to persist. Majority of fishponds are privately owned and held under tax declarations, titles, or Fishpond Lease Agreements. Because converting abandoned fishponds involves complex legal and land-tenure issues, her team helped institutionalize an Integrated Management Council through a provincial ordinance, bringing stakeholders together to plan implementing rules and regulations collectively rather than imposing a technical solution top-down. She closed by stressing that durable nature-based restoration depends on partnership on the ground, built through a transparent, inclusive process rather than technical or legal fixes alone.

- 1.39. **Qingdao Longwan Seagrass Bed Protection: Nature-based Solutions through Community Co-management**
- 1.40. **Dr. ZHAO Linlin**, Professor at the First Institute of Oceanography and Deputy Director of the China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center, presented a case study from Longwan, a seagrass area in Langya Town, Qingdao West Coast New Area, outside the Yellow Sea. The area supports native *Zostera marina* seagrass important for fisheries, biodiversity, water quality, and blue carbon storage. He said the seagrass beds face pressure from agricultural runoff, abandoned fishing gear, and beach-community damage, and identified four local challenges: a data gap, since the extent and health of the seagrass beds were unknown; pollution and unsustainable fishing activity; low awareness of the seagrass's importance among fishermen and residents; and weak governance to address these pressures.
- 1.41. In response, he shared that the local community established a governance framework shifting from government-led to social co-governance, bringing in the Ocean University of China for research, local government, local community members, and NGOs, including a newly formed NGO, the Qingdao West Coast New Area Blue Bay Ecological Environment Public Service Center. The university conducted baseline surveys, including sonar survey, on-site survey, and laboratory analysis, to map the exact distribution of the seagrass beds, identify pollution sources, and understand life-cycle timing, incorporating local fishermen's and residents' knowledge alongside the scientific survey.
- 1.42. Community outreach measures included eco-friendly beach-cleaning promotion and the establishment of a Community Marine Guardians group of 25 local fishermen from three fishing villages, alongside meetings, media, education activities, and a Seagrass Conservation and Langya Fishing Culture Science Museum.
- 1.43. He reported that these efforts have reduced damage from human activity, increased public awareness, and shown early signs of fishery recovery linked to reduced habitat loss. He then summarized three takeaways: that a small, technical, nature-based intervention can address specific local pressures through science-based assessment, behavior guidance, and public education; that it can shift the local community from rule-followers to active guardians of the resource; and that it depends on sustained multi-stakeholder collaboration and governance, with ongoing scheduled monitoring going forward. He highlighted that Longwan shows how a small coastal ecosystem can become a practical model for nature-based, community-centered, and replicable local governance.

1.44. **Korea's Tidal Flat Restoration: Public-Private Collaboration and Resident Participation**

- 1.45. **Dr. Young-Nam Kim**, Department Head of the Marine Protection and Restoration Department at the Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM), explained that Korea's tidal flats, known as *getbol*, were inscribed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in phases, beginning about five years earlier with an initial set of sites and expanding further in May 2026. He described the tidal flats as a critical stopover on the East Asian–Australasian Flyway, which spans from Siberia to Australia. He noted that Korea has more than 2,000 kilometers of tidal flats and operates 40 Marine Protected Areas, 18 of which are tidal flat areas, with around 60% of the tidal flat area along this coastline now designated as World Heritage.
- 1.46. He said that while tidal flat area declined historically due to reclamation, area figures have stabilized over the last 20 years, reflecting a shift in use from decline toward conservation, reinforced by growing recognition of tidal flats' role in climate change adaptation and blue carbon. Korea enacted a dedicated Tidal Flat Act in 2020, alongside the Marine Ecosystem Conservation and Management Act, to formalize a restoration process that begins with scientific baseline assessment and diagnosis of degradation before construction or restoration activity. Local governments submit project proposals to the central government and participate throughout, including forming local committees with stakeholders and residents; more than 13 restoration projects were ongoing as of date, out of more than 30 completed or in progress overall.
- 1.47. He outlined KOEM's tidal flat restoration master plan that narrowed from five restoration types over the last five years to four current types: ecosystem restoration; habitat preservation, including maintaining seawater flow at World Heritage sites; climate-change-focused restoration, covering vegetation planting and blue carbon; and transition to "marine healing," or recreational and wellness use.
- 1.48. On private-sector collaboration, he described a 2022 memorandum of understanding between the Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF) and Kia for tidal flat recovery and restoration, motivated in part by Kia's ESG and carbon-offset goals. Their first project, in the Hwaseong area, covered about 27,000 square meters with a modest initial budget, while a second phase beginning this year scales the area roughly tenfold and the budget roughly threefold, with MOF providing additional oversight.
- 1.49. He closed by stressing that tidal flat restoration is important for both NBS and blue carbon management, but requires deliberate effort to build public and private-sector interest, including creating local jobs and participation opportunities.

1.50. **Ecological Restoration of Eulsukdo Island in the Nakdong River Estuary Busan**

- 1.51. **Dr. Jinwon Seo**, Director of the Nakdong Estuary Eco Center, explained that the Nakdong River, about 525 kilometers long and the longest of the Republic of Korea's four major river systems, meets the sea at Eulsukdo Island. It is part of the East Asian–Australasian Flyway and a wintering, breeding, and stopover site for roughly 180 bird species, among the most diverse in South Korea, including the whooper swan, a natural monument and endangered species. He said an estimated 11,000 whooper swans travel the Siberia-to-Korea migration route, with 2,500 to 3,000 typically present at the Nakdong Estuary.
- 1.52. He traced Eulsukdo's history: it first appeared on a cadastral map in 1916 and was designated Natural Monument No. 179 in 1966, when the protected area covered about 232 square kilometers. The area is now also covered by the Wetland Conservation Act, the National Heritage Act, the Marine Environmental Management Act, and the National Land Planning and Utilization Act. However, industrialization and development in Busan have since reduced the protected area to about 62% of its original extent. He described the island's shifting land uses over time: green onion farming from the 1960s to the 1990s; a night-soil, or human waste, processing and disposal facility from 1992 to 2005, where waste was shipped out and dumped at sea; and use as a sanitary landfill, including Korea's first waste-compaction system to reduce landfill volume.
- 1.53. He recounted that the Eulsukdo Bridge was redesigned into a C-shaped curve rather than a straight line in response to environmental protests over its planned route through whooper swan habitat. In the late 1990s Busan Metropolitan City began restoring wetland areas on the island, now zoned into an education and public-access zone, a core conservation zone reserved for wildlife, and a buffer zone between them. Restoration has focused on the whooper swan and its main food source, the flat-stem clubrush, a marsh plant whose tubers the swans dig for. Interventions include monitoring, supplemental feeding with sweet potatoes, nursery cultivation, planting, and education programs. Comparing 2004 and 2020–2023 data, he reported that clubrush habitat area increased by about 72%, with earlier declines linked to salinity intrusion attributed partly to development-related changes in water flow.
- 1.54. He noted that the project received the Global Gold Winner award at the 2025 Green World Awards, received from approximately 350 outstanding environmental best practices from 56 countries across 20 categories. The center also hosted a tour for the 48th Session of the World Heritage Committee meeting held in Busan in August 2026.

1.55. **Q&A**

- 1.56. **Ms. Anabelle Cayabyab**, Provincial Environment Officer of Cavite, Philippines, asked Dr. Tirol on Aklan's process for converting abandoned fishponds, many of which are privately owned, and how the associated costs are budgeted, noting that Cavite faces a similar situation.
- 1.57. **Dr. Primavera-Tirol** responded that the legal process in the Philippine system is tedious, requiring exact coordinates to be matched against legal documents such as tax declarations, titles, or Fishpond Lease Agreements. Her team's approach was to first institutionalize an Integrated Management Council so that all stakeholders move forward together and transparently, rather than navigating the legal process piecemeal. The university's role is focused on providing technical data through assessments and drone surveys conducted with permission from local government and site stakeholders, and sharing reports publicly so the community and local government jointly decide next steps. She noted that the Council has since been formally established through a provincial ordinance and is now developing implementing rules and regulations, which will take time given the number of stakeholders and the size of the area, and that national agencies, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and DENR, are also holding discussions on how to handle non-operational fishponds nationally.
- 1.58. **Ms. Cayabyab** also asked Dr. Seo how Busan has addressed river waste and transboundary garbage issues affecting the estuary and its migratory birds, noting that Cavite experiences similar problems.
- 1.59. **Dr. Seo** replied that the issue is complex, and that Busan Metropolitan City has struggled with how to manage a sanitary landfill area where waste has been buried for over 30 years. A decision point is expected around 2027–2028 that may be deferred another decade. He said development near or within natural monument areas was historically possible but has become increasingly difficult as environmental NGOs push back even as local officials seek development, and that the way forward is continued, good-faith communication among stakeholders rather than confrontation, balancing city development with protection of natural habitat as a legacy for future generations.
- 1.60. **Dr. Kazumi Wakita**, of Tokai University, Japan, and Technical Session Co-Chair of the EAS Partnership Council, asked Dr. Young-Nam Kim to share more about job creation across KOEM's marine restoration projects, referencing his point that making such projects profitable and beneficial to people is important.

- 1.61. **Dr. Kim** explained that restoration projects are categorized by focus, such as "climate change" or "landscape," and typically center on planting vegetation. When designing site-specific projects, organizers consult local residents on planting priorities. Rather than treating funds as a pure grant, a fixed portion of the budget directly pays local residents and private-sector partners for their work. Local committees meet every three to four months to set agendas for each tidal flat restoration site. Additionally, short-term work opportunities—lasting one to two weeks during planting—have provided well-received support for surrounding communities.
- 1.62. **Dr. Aryanto Husain**, from Indonesia, asked Dr. ZHAO how co-management worked smoothly under the Chinese administrative system.
- 1.63. **Dr. ZHAO** replied that survey work combined multiple methods to precisely locate the seagrass beds and capture the range of ecosystem services they provide, recognizing that seagrass supports many other species, drawing on both scientific survey and community and fisher knowledge. This produced a combined report identifying the location and ecosystem services of the seagrass beds in the Longwan area, which was then shared with local community and fishing organizers in accessible language so fishermen would know the location and importance of the seagrass beds, enabling them to organize a team to safeguard the resource, with the academic findings providing the basis for the protection approach. He highlighted that co-management succeeds by using scientific data to bridge top-down administrative governance with bottom-up community action.
- 1.64. **Ms. Bermas** asked Dr. ZHAO on how local governments and universities co-design solutions when fisheries, aquaculture, infrastructure, conservation, tourism, and community access compete for the same coastal space.
- 1.65. **Dr. ZHAO** explained that in coastal ecosystem governance, different agencies and departments carry different responsibilities: the government's role is to establish regulations, while research institutions' role is to generate credible academic findings and submit them to the government. The government's decisions should be grounded in that research. At the same time, decisions must reflect the reality that communities living around protected areas, such as a marine protected area, depend on the ecosystem and must be involved, or regulations will not be implementable or sustained over time. Ultimately, co-management succeeds because each agency and stakeholder fulfills a distinct role, rather than any single actor trying to manage the ecosystem alone.

1.66. **Synthesis and Closing of Panel 1**

1.67. **Ms. Nancy Bermas** thanked the panelists and the audience for their engagement and offered a synthesis of the session's five presentations, including the keynote, returning to its framing that nature-based solutions must work for nature, for people, and for climate resilience.

1.68. She noted that the four ground case studies demonstrated local pathways for conserving and protecting mangroves, seagrass meadows, tidal flats, and wetlands, and their associated biodiversity, backed by science-based tools and knowledge, and that across the case studies, on-the-ground efforts are generating increased community engagement, increased public awareness and advocacy, increased job opportunities including private-sector participation, and increased ecosystem resilience to climate change.

1.69. From the Q&A, she highlighted communication as a critical attribute for ensuring all stakeholders are engaged, informed, and part of government decision-making, alongside the continued importance of scientific knowledge in informing policy. She suggested that the logical next step is scaling, using the PNLG–PNLC platform to replicate good practices generated both in this session and across members' own experience, and that local actions should be explicitly connected to global agenda contributions, reinforcing the sustainability and recognition of local governments' role in coastal development.

1.70. **PANEL DISCUSSION 2: CAPITALIZING ON COASTS FINANCING AND INNOVATING LOCAL BLUE ECONOMIES**

1.71. **Dr. Kazumi Wakita**, Professor at Tokai University and Technical Session Co-Chair of the EAS Partnership Council moderated the second panel. The session shifted the discussion from ecosystem conservation to the economic dimensions of coastal management.

1.72. She invited the participants to consider three guiding questions throughout the session:

- What self-sustaining business models can effectively finance long-term coastal conservation?
- How can cities combine public budgets with private-sector or philanthropic capital?
- How can energy, food, and ecosystem needs be balanced in practical implementation?

1.73. Speakers

Speaker	Position	Presentation
Dr. Suk-Jae Kwon	Technical Session Chair, EAS Partnership Council Principal Research Scientist, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology	Financing the Blue Future: Driving the Local Blue Economy
Hon. Bun Yaung	Deputy Governor, Kep Province Spokesperson, Kep Provincial Administration, Cambodia	Sustainable Marine Resource Management and Blue Economy in Kep Province
Hon. Jose Enrique S. Garcia III	Provincial Governor, Province of Bataan, Philippines	Blue Partnerships: Stakeholder Convergence in Bataan's ICM Program
Dr. Aryanto Husain	Head, Marine Affairs and Fisheries Service, Provincial Government of Gorontalo, Indonesia	Sustaining Tomini Bay, Gorontalo's Strategy Towards a Blue Economy
Hon. Annaliza Gonzales-Kwan	Mayor, Municipality of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, Philippines	Resilience Beyond Borders: The Power of Local Government Partnerships

1.74. **Keynote: Financing the Blue Future Driving the Local Blue Economy**

- 1.75. **Dr. Suk-Jae Kwon**, Technical Session Chair of the EAS Partnership Council and Principal Research Scientist at the Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST), served as keynote speaker for the panel session. He first addressed distinguished leaders, mayors, and champions of coastal development, and introduced the central premise of his presentation: that the answer to the ocean's biggest challenges will not come from Seoul, Tokyo, or Jakarta, but from the towns and cities sitting right on the coastline — from the officials, the farmers, and the small enterprises who know these waters best. He said he wanted to talk about growth that starts local and scales from there.
- 1.76. He described the seas of East and Southeast Asia as not merely offering scenery but as the heartbeat of heritage, food security, and local economies. Yet coastal communities, as previous speakers had noted, stand on the frontlines of climate change, facing rising seas, fiercer storms, and degraded marine life. He said that where others see vulnerability, leaders must choose to see opportunity, and that the path forward lies in a bold, inclusive Blue Economy where ecological health and

economic prosperity reinforce one another. He stressed that this transformation does not start in distant conference halls but in provinces, cities, and coastal municipalities.

- 1.77. He framed local governments as the guardians of the coast that translate global climate pledges into real action, and identified Blue Small and Medium Enterprises (Blue SMEs) as the true secret weapon in this effort: the seaweed farmers replacing single-use plastics, the artisanal fishers using smart tracking technology, the eco-tourism guides restoring mangroves, and the waste innovators keeping plastic out of reefs. He said Blue SMEs are agile, rooted in communities, and fiercely protective of their home waters, and that when a local Blue SME thrives, it creates jobs, builds social cohesion, and strengthens natural barriers against climate shocks, making them the true shock absorbers of coastal towns.
- 1.78. To enable these innovators to replicate and scale up, he outlined four key pillars that local leaders must build:
 - Smart Zoning through Integrated Coastal Management — clear policies protecting marine space and de-risking eco-friendly ventures.
 - Incubation — local training hubs helping traditional workers transition into sustainable aquaculture or eco-tourism, which is where the PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers works hand in hand with local governments.
 - Data Integration — combining traditional ecological knowledge with modern marine science.
 - Sustainable Finance — turning conservation from a cost into a bankable asset.
- 1.79. On finance, he called for moving beyond short-term grants toward three instruments of Sustainable Blue Financing: Municipal Blue Bonds, to raise capital for resilient water infrastructure; Blended Finance, that mixes public seed funds with private capital to back local startups; and Parametric Insurance, that pays out immediately after major storms to restore coral reefs and coastlines. He cited pioneers across East and Southeast Asia as proof that coastal communities are already leading the way: Kitakyushu, Japan, which transformed from an industrial hub into a circular blue city helping SMEs pioneer port decarbonization and green marine technology; Sabah, Malaysia, which partnered with local entrepreneurs to scale up community oyster farming, generating resilient income while restoring natural coastal defenses; Iloilo City, Philippines, which built public-private partnerships with local hatcheries to co-manage Marine Protected Areas; Bali, Indonesia, which is incubating circular economy SMEs that turn ocean plastic waste into commercial products backed by blended finance; and Busan, where blue technology SMEs are being empowered by

scaling land-based smart aquaculture clusters using closed-loop water recirculation systems to produce sustainable seafood without polluting coastal waters.

- 1.80. He closed with a direct message to mayors, governors, and local leaders: the sea does not divide us, it connects us. He encouraged them not to view their shoreline as the end of their jurisdiction but as their greatest economic asset — to invest in local entrepreneurs, build the financial pipelines that turn small coastal ideas into scalable solutions, and protect mangroves and reefs, because a healthy ecosystem is a natural sea wall from storm surges and sea level rise.

1.81. **Sustainable Marine Resource Management and Blue Economy in Kep Province**

- 1.82. **Hon. Bun Yaung**, Deputy Governor of Kep Province, presented the province's marine resource management and blue economy priorities. He described Kep as a coastal province in the southeast of Cambodia with a land and sea area of about 255 square kilometers, a population of approximately 45,401, and annual tourist arrivals of 1,747,622. The province holds 1,005 hectares of mangroves along the coast, about 3,095 hectares of seagrass, and over 52.5 hectares of coral reef, and is home to diverse marine biodiversity including sea turtles, dolphins, dugong, seahorses, and crab. He described the local economy as resting on artisanal fishing, eco-tourism, and local seafood processing, with the taste of Kep crab described as one of the unique specialties among coastal destinations.

- 1.83. He explained that before laws and regulations were enacted, Kep's biodiversity was under serious threat: mangroves were cut to make charcoal, water was polluted, seagrass and other biodiversity including rare species such as the dolphin were degraded or found injured. After the government launched conservation and education initiatives, the ecosystem began showing signs of recovery: mangroves were replanted, seagrass returned, coral reefs recovered, crab bands were established, and populations of seahorses and dolphins — including mothers with young — were documented. He said the government set up a legal framework for marine protection, with over 30,000 hectares protected from 2018 to protect the marine ecosystem and coastline, and undertook law enforcement against illegal fisheries and destructive practices such as trawling, which he described as causing wholesale destruction to seagrass, coral reef, and all marine species large and small.

- 1.84. He described the government's community-centered response: setting up strategic benefits for both people and the environment by establishing four fisheries community management committees, with about 4,000 hectares of mangrove area divided into four community zones. Through these committees, the government built infrastructure, replanted mangroves, set up aquaculture, and developed other

facilities to promote ecosystem recovery. He reported that following this reform, communities benefited significantly, with fishers choosing to join community management and practice artisanal fishing rather than destructive methods.

- 1.85. He described additional governance mechanisms: a national marine management committee working jointly with local government to coordinate command and enforcement against illegal activities; subnational diplomacy and alliances including sister-city relationships with Vietnam and with Beihai and Linchang in China; and a partnership with an NGO called NCC, which assists in enforcing and applying laws in marine areas, including through the construction of block structures to prevent destructive boat practices and support biodiversity recovery.
- 1.86. He closed with three calls to action: first, that national and local government must explain and enforce laws and regulations in marine preservation areas; second, that clear dissemination and promotion of participation by all stakeholders are essential for the benefit of communities and marine conservation, including fisheries and blue restoration of marine ecosystems; and third, that strong relationships and cooperation at national and international levels are needed, especially technical and financial support from NGOs and partners such as PEMSEA, which he cited as a present and valuable partner providing technical support and learning opportunities.
- 1.87. **Blue Partnerships: Stakeholder Convergence in Bataan's ICM Program**
- 1.88. **Hon. Jose Enrique S. Garcia III**, Governor of Bataan in the Philippines presented the province's long-term use of public-private partnership to sustain integrated coastal management (ICM). He described Bataan as a peninsula in central northern Philippines composed of 11 municipalities and one city, most of which run along the coastal area, with municipal waters almost as large as its land area. He said Bataan's east coast serves as a port hub where many maritime industries are located, while the west coast is its tourism destination. He framed Bataan's natural resources, from its uplands down to its coastlines and seas, as making ICM a suitable governance framework and the Blue Economy a logical development pathway.
- 1.89. He traced Bataan's ICM history: it began in 1999 when Petron Foundation partnered with the provincial government to conduct *Kontra Kalat Sa Dagat*, a series of coastal cleanup activities in three towns. Petron subsequently linked the province with UNDP, GEF, and PEMSEA, and in 2000 Bataan officially became an ICM demonstration site. That same year, the Bataan Coastal Care Foundation (BCCF) was formed as a consortium of corporate partners supporting ICM implementation. With PEMSEA's help, the Bataan Sustainable Development Strategy was developed in 2006, and the coastal land and sea use zoning plan was formulated in 2007. Bataan

achieved Level 1 ICM certification in 2015, and in 2017 published its first State of the Coasts report with BCCF support. In 2016, however, management and personnel changes within member companies became a challenge to BCCF's continued operation.

- 1.90. He said that in 2023, private sector support for ICM was revitalized when Bataan was selected as a pilot local government partner for the DENR flagship initiative Project TRANSFORM. It is a transdisciplinary approach for resilience and environmental engagement that enables the business sector and civil society organizations to advance environmental and disaster resilience initiatives across Philippine LGUs. Among key corporate partners, GM Power adopted 37 hectares of mangroves and sponsored publication of Bataan's second State of Coasts in 2023. He reported that from 2000 to 2015, BCCF allocated a total of about PHP30 million in counterpart funding for ICM-related projects, while corporate partners under Project TRANSFORM have since provided at least PHP76 million in counterpart support covering air quality monitoring, electric or green mobility, mangrove rehabilitation, sea turtle conservation, upland reforestation, and alternative livelihood support to people's organizations.
- 1.91. He described the public-private-people partnership model that sustains Bataan's ICM: the public sector provides the enabling environment through policies, plans, strategies, and governance mechanisms; the private sector contributes to sustainable financing by investing in various programs; and the people sector, including people's organizations and academic and civil society organizations, is treated not as mere project beneficiaries but as project partners involved throughout the project cycle from planning to monitoring and evaluation. He noted that Bataan's vision and strategy align with the PNLG strategic action plan and the priority management programs under SDGs 6, 11, 13, and 14, contributing to the goal of a highly livable province where resilient families live.
- 1.92. He cited pioneering local policies. Bataan is the first province in the Philippines with an integrated coastal land and sea use plan, which provided a framework for comprehensive land and water use plans in two LGUs: Balanga City and the municipality of Abucay. In 2025, Bataan became the first province in the Manila Bay region to pass local legislation establishing a network of coastal greenbelt zones, and a few months later the Department of the Interior and Local Government issued Memorandum Circular 2025-066 mandating coastal LGUs across the Philippines to establish mangroves and/or beach forests as coastal greenbelt zones.
- 1.93. He described ICM implementation across sectors. From only three towns in 1999, Bataan now conducts province-wide cleanup drives with more than 26,000

participants in the previous year. Fisher folk and coastal communities are frontliners in the conservation of about 27% of Bataan's mangroves, with partner people's organizations installing fences to prevent damage from marine litter and illegal fishers, conducting monthly cleanup drives, assisting mangrove outplanting, and managing mangrove nurseries as alternative livelihood. With private sector partners, the province introduced electric shuttles for a free ride program, deployed highway patrol electric vehicles (EVs), and rolled out solar- and battery-powered charging stations, with financing options for transport groups to acquire EV through EV dealers, financial institutions, and cooperatives. Academic and research institutions support ambient air quality monitoring and public awareness on air quality data. Local communities lead sea turtle conservation across three distinct nesting species; several conservation groups are spearheaded by former poachers. These initiatives have added over 5,000 sea turtles to the global population since 2008.

- 1.94. He described early economic results. EV drivers earn an average daily income of PHP1,400, about 135% higher than the minimum wage in Bataan. People's organizations managing mangrove nurseries generate supplemental income by selling seedlings at PHP20-30 each, yielding annual revenue of PHP50,000 to PHP100,000 — a vital safety net for fisher folk communities during poor weather when fishing is not possible. He closed by emphasizing that no single actor can drive ICM alone, and that everything Bataan has achieved over the past two decades is made possible through strong public-private-people partnerships, which he described as enabling the province to navigate complex coastal challenges and lay the groundwork for a thriving blue economy.

- 1.95. **Sustaining Tomini Bay, Gorontalo's Strategy towards a Blue Economy**

- 1.96. **Dr. Aryanto Husain**, Head of Marine and Fisheries Office at the Provincial Government of Gorontalo described Gorontalo not only by its geographic features but as life, livelihood, and culture — not only for Gorontalo's people but also for the two neighboring provinces of North Sulawesi and Central Sulawesi. He noted that Gorontalo is located at the center of the Coral Triangle, along the equatorial line, with Tomini Bay covering about 137 square kilometers, a coastline of almost 1,350 kilometers, borders with river basins, and about 11 districts along the coastline.
- 1.97. He outlined two main economic potentials from Gorontalo's marine environment. The first is the fisheries sector: the sustainable yield is about 300,000 units per year, mainly located in Fisheries Management Area 715, which remains largely unexploited, demonstrating significant untapped potential. He said fisheries in Gorontalo are not only economic but also part of the social fabric and daily activity of coastal communities. The second is marine and coastal tourism, with destinations

such as Olele, Botubarani, and Saronde, where coral reefs can be found in Tomini Bay and along Gorontalo's coastline. He acknowledged that the potential of both fisheries and marine tourism is threatened by the rise of macro and micro waste and destructive fishing practices that weaken both the ecological foundation and the economic future of coastal communities.

1.98. He described Gorontalo's response through an agro-maritime umbrella program, an interconnected system between agriculture and fisheries, under which his office developed three strategic pillars for the blue economy:

- First pillar is inclusive fishing, covering the updating of the database of fishers and fishery data, a local program called the Fishing Boat Taxi, and empowering coastal communities to use marine resources successfully.
- Second pillar is value-added enhancement: since Gorontalo is the smallest province in Sulawesi with the smallest fiscal capacity, the government is working to increase value-added contributions, including improving fishing ports and quota systems, supporting national and local programs, improving ease of doing business in the marine sector, and using local law to make it easier for investors to participate in marine production.
- Third pillar is blue economy development, emphasizing sustainability for both present and future generations, and strengthening institutional cooperation in the management of MPAs, with Gorontalo's MPA covering more than 76,000 hectares.

1.99. He described two major programs supporting these pillars. At the national level, the Kampung Nelayan Merah Putih (Red and White Fishing Village) program seeks to modernize traditional fisheries into integrated economic hubs, with planned infrastructure, future fishing stations being built, and efforts to minimize half-wasted resources. At the local level, a co-management system between government and cooperative sector brings three parties together, allowing elimination of the burden of initial operating costs so that fishers can go directly to sea, while providing more shared opportunities for the cooperative sector. A complementary equipment program — cool boxes and motorcycles for fish delivery — works to stabilize fish prices, boost economic well-being, and bring fish directly to the point of consumption and to the doors of households.

1.100. He described community-based management at Olele Marine Park, where local communities conduct monitoring and build awareness among tourists visiting the area, informing them of applicable regulations. He noted that Gorontalo's strategy is linked to SDG Goals 13 and 14, and closed with the key message that sustaining community is not a choice between conservation and development — it is a matter

of collaborating to design one integrated system in which clean water, safe settlements, climate resilience, and healthy marine ecosystems reinforce one another. He said collaboration is the key to a sustainable future.

1.101. **Resilience Beyond Borders: The Power of Local Government Partnerships**

1.102. **Hon. Annaliza Gonzales-Kwan**, Mayor of Guiuan, Eastern Samar in the Philippines and a Coastal 500 member, presented the Alliance of Seven Municipalities, or A7, as an inter-local government approach to managing shared fisheries and coastal ecosystems in Eastern Samar. She thanked PEMSEA and RARE Philippines for the opportunity and described it as a great honor to represent her coastal hometown in the Forum. She described Guiuan as a coastal municipality at the southeasternmost tip of Samar Island, surrounded by water: the Pacific Ocean to the east and Leyte Gulf to the west. She said that in many ways Guiuan is more water than land, with a total land area of approximately 17,549 hectares but municipal waters covering approximately 313,897 hectares; of 60 barangays, 41 are located along the coast, and about 80% of the population depends on the sea for their livelihoods. Guiuan is home to the nationally legislated Guiuan Marine Resource Protected Landscape and Seascape. She highlighted that protecting the coastal environment is not simply an environmental concern but a matter of livelihood, food security, economic development, and ultimately community survival.

1.103. She gave a brief historical context: Guiuan is historically associated with the arrival of Ferdinand Magellan and his expedition in the Philippines in 1521, and its geography made it strategically important during the Second World War as one of the major naval and air bases of the Allied forces in the region. She said these chapters of history reinforce that Guiuan has always been a gateway — shaped by the sea, connected to the world, and open to people beyond its shores — and that this connection to history, culture, and natural environment led to fisheries and tourism becoming flagship development programs. She noted, however, that Guiuan's location beside the Pacific Ocean also means it lies along the path of some of the strongest tropical cyclones entering the Philippines, and that this risk does not stop at municipal boundaries: municipalities share interconnected coastlines, ecosystems, fisheries, climate risk, and ultimately shared responsibility.

1.104. She said this shared reality led to one important realization — that no municipality can do it alone — and to the creation of the A7 for ICM along the Northern Leyte Gulf, recognizing that challenges in fisheries, coastal resource management, climate change, and disaster risk are not confined to individual jurisdictions. The A7 is supported by various government agencies and partners and serves as a cooperation platform providing an institutional mechanism for attracting private investments and

partnerships. Shared resources and those dedicated to coastal resilience are managed by the Guiuan Development Foundation, Inc., the convenor of the Alliance. The vision is empowered coastal communities, healthy and productive coastal ecosystems, and sustainable fisheries and livelihoods, requiring three things working together: conservation, good governance, and community participation.

- 1.105. She described the A7 Fisheries Management Plan for 2024 to 2030, developed using scientific data and stakeholder participation in response to observed declines in mainstream species, including blue swimming crabs, rabbitfish, and parrotfish, due to unregulated fishing, increasing fishing pressure, and fish stocks already approaching limit reference points.
- 1.106. The A7 identified three key measures: gear regulation, size regulation, and fishing restrictions including temporal and spatial closures to protect spawning grounds, nursery areas, and critical habitats. She stressed that these measures are not about taking away livelihoods but about protecting the resource that livelihoods depend on, and that the real challenge is turning shared public objectives into enforceable local policies that communities understand, accept, and support. Another milestone was the A7's participation in the Coastal 500 pledging and memorandum of agreement signing, framing this not as a ceremonial commitment but as a public affirmation that the work of the A7 is part of a much larger global movement to help oceans and sustainable coastal communities.
- 1.107. She outlined four strategic goals:
 - First, ensuring healthy coastal ecosystems: beach forests and other coastal ecosystems protect coastlines, sustain livelihoods, and keep fisheries productive; Guiuan is a critical source of larval dispersal for the wider region, and the LGU works closely with the DENR Protected Area Management Office to advance sustainable ecotourism, establish strict protection zones, and strengthen land use policies.
 - Second, empowered communities: eight marine protected areas in Guiuan are community-managed through civil society organizations with LGU support, and communities around these areas experience increased fish stocks and improved fishery resources, earning national awards and recognition.
 - Third, renewable energy: solar-powered ice plants and solar-powered ranger houses in marine sanctuaries help reduce dependence on fossil fuels and ensure essential services and livelihoods continue even during disasters.
 - Fourth, driving a sustainable blue economy: the LGU hosts national surfing competitions and supports community-led surf schools for a growing surf tourism industry; a partner NGO has invested in community-led mangrove

ecotourism; a fish catch monitoring program guides management decisions and measures conservation impact; and the A7 promotes an inclusive 15-kilometer municipal water zone for local fishers.

- 1.108. She closed with the message that Guiuan has something more important than numbers — one shared coastal future. She said the simple message of the A7 is that faith is their virtue, sustainability is their commitment, and resilience is their brand, and that because challenges are shared, so must be the solutions: to protect oceans, strengthen communities, sustain livelihoods, and build a more resilient future for Guiuan, for the oceans, and for their shared future.
- 1.109. **Q&A**
- 1.110. **Dr. Yasmin Primavera-Tirol**, Professor at Aklan State University in the Philippines, directed her question to any of the local government leaders. She asked whether they had been able to quantify revenue at any level for their LGU from blue economy activities undertaken through the years, whether those revenues had been increasing, and how they envisioned expanding and growing those benefits so that communities could truly harvest results.
- 1.111. **Governor Garcia** responded that aside from livelihood projects generating income for communities, which, while not in the millions, represent another source of income, the more impactful gain for Bataan has been the increase in tourist arrivals resulting from working with private sector partners to improve the environment. Particularly through mangrove conservation, ensuring that the sea turtle conservation center and wetland park are managed properly. He said that given Bataan's proximity to Metro Manila in Central Luzon, there has been a notable increase in tourists coming to enjoy the province's coastal areas, forests, and mountains, which he believes has had a significant impact on the overall provincial economy.
- 1.112. **Mayor Gonzales-Kwan** shared that when she became mayor of Guiuan in 2004, it was a fourth-class municipality, and that through collaboration with the A7, there was an increase in the income of the people. She said that with 80% of the population depending on the sea as their livelihood, and as a result of deepened focus on protecting the sea, Guiuan is now a first-class municipality and is even applying to become a city, which indicates that community income has been growing. She said simply: "There is money in protecting our seas."
- 1.113. **Governor Yaung** responded that the government's goal is to help communities make better and more sustainable lives. He said this includes building infrastructure, and

technical and additional partnerships to promote community members to take greater part in provincial life. Although he acknowledged that quantifying this precisely is difficult and that the scale of benefit depends on how well communities can be engaged.

- 1.114. **Dr. Husain** said he could not give a specific number, but that if he tried to describe the trend, budgeting for the blue economy has grown, drawing not only from the regional budget but from combined national interventions and contributions from other stakeholders. He noted that the trend looks good and that following the governor's establishment of marine and fisheries sector programs under the agromaritime umbrella, the budget supporting activities in both fisheries and tourism is expected to grow. He cited the LAUTRA or Oceans for Prosperity Project as a significant support mechanism through which the government provides local people with infrastructure and financial support for economic activities, with many villages in Gorontalo already designated as LAUTRA program locations. He said that with Gorontalo joining PEMSEA, he believes local leaders will place increasing focus on the blue economy.
- 1.115. **Ms. Anabelle Cayabyab**, Provincial Environment Officer of Cavite, Philippines asked about the specific percent targets or way-forward milestones for the initiatives presented, given that budgets and investments have been capitalized on coastal preservation, improvement, and innovation to achieve blue economy goals.
- 1.116. **Dr. Wakita**, as moderator, helped rephrase the question to ask what the prioritized flagship project or program is for each locality and local government to achieve a specific goal.
- 1.117. **Ms. Cayabyab** further clarified that in Guiuan, conditions are quite different from her province, which is part of Manila Bay, so while Guiuan focuses on preservation, her area focuses more on rehabilitation. For Bataan, she noted that the provincial approach highlights corporate social responsibility and is initiating projects targeting the blue economy, and asked what percent targets have been set to achieve those goals.
- 1.118. **Dr. Husain** responded that under the Marine and Fisheries Sector Program established during the governor's term, the target for blue economy objectives will be achieved through a combination of growing regulation support and stakeholder collaboration. He cited the national program, the Red White Fishermen Village program, or Kampung Nelayan Merah Putih — under which fishers are being provided with modern GPS equipment, modern public lighting, and other technology

at no cost, and said that the budget for these efforts is large and has the potential to grow further.

- 1.119. **Mayor Gonzales-Kwan** shared that her vision for the A7 is to make the collaboration stronger and more improved across all seven municipalities. She recounted the origin of the alliance: upon becoming mayor, she grew tired of apprehending fishers from other municipalities who came to Guiuan to fish, and since the mayors of those municipalities were her friends, she approached them with a proposal to collaborate, invoking the local government code that allows local governments to consolidate for a beneficial purpose. She said her vision includes more research and training for communities across all seven municipalities to improve their capacities, and that she specifically envisions rehabilitating the Pearl Island that was productive in the past, for the benefit not only of Guiuan but of all seven municipalities.
- 1.120. **Governor Garcia** responded that as a pilot province for DENR's Project TRANSFORM, Bataan is fortunate to depend on the resources of private partners and stakeholders, since part of the province is industrialized and the locators and plants operating in the province share the goal of protecting the environment and building resilience. Through these resources, the province is able to pursue the expansion of mangrove areas, helping companies in terms of their corporate image but more importantly helping fisherfolk communities have sustainable livelihoods through fishing. He noted that the coastal side of the peninsula facing Manila Bay is susceptible to storm surges, particularly during the monsoon season, and that mangrove expansion on that side also helps protect against storm surges and flooding affecting coastal communities. He said the province's role is to help mobilize and channel the funds from private sector partners so that their effect for the people is maximized.
- 1.121. **Panel Reflections, Synthesis and Closing of Panel 2**
- 1.122. **Dr. Kazumi Wakita** noted that while the audience likely had more questions, time was limited. She invited short closing comments from the panelists, particularly any reflections from the session, future perspectives, and expectations or requests for the network — for the PNLG, for collaboration between local governments, and between local governments and academic institutions.
- 1.123. **Governor Garcia** shared that Bataan has been trying to take advantage of carbon credits but has not yet been able to set up the necessary system in the Philippines. He said the province has been looking for partners and experts who can help local governments take advantage of carbon credits for conservation and preservation efforts being undertaken across the Philippines, and appealed to PEMSEA or anyone

present who might be able to help, so that conservation and preservation can be made more economically viable.

- 1.124. **Mayor Gonzales-Kwan** thanked PEMSEA for the invitation and said it was her first time in Busan and that she had learned a great deal. She expressed confidence that upon returning home, something great would happen in her municipality. She emphasized one key point: that when the A7 collaborated and grouped together, they did not surrender their autonomy. As local governments, they retain separate political jurisdictions, but use that autonomy to consolidate and collaborate. And as a result, they are being recognized by funding entities such as RARE, Coastal 500, and various NGOs, and have signed a memorandum of agreement with the provincial government that commits resources to the collaboration. She said that the fishermen are happy because they have a sustainable future, and that there is now hope for the seven municipalities collaborating and funding together. Her advice to other LGUs: rather than beginning the conversation by asking what is within their jurisdiction, they should ask what resources they have, because if sharing responsibility and resources is necessary, the more the better for the people.
- 1.125. **Governor Yaung** expressed happiness at attending the forum and said he has learned much and is happy to meet all those present. He expressed deep gratitude to PEMSEA for enabling collaboration and for the ideas and material support for the sea. He mentioned NGOs including NCC that have helped Kep, and cited support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He said he and his colleagues look forward to seeing the real practice in the field during the field visit planned for the following day, which he expects will help Kep develop better action plans going forward.
- 1.126. **Dr. Husain** noted that it was his second time attending the PNLG Forum, having first joined in 2023 in Thailand while in a previous government role, and that he was at that time also part of an MOU signing. He said he can see that PEMSEA's support strengthens his key belief in collaboration and that he intends to call on other regions to join, so that Gorontalo's collaboration can expand. He reiterated that collaboration is the key strategy for sustainability.
- 1.127. **Dr. Kwon** reflected that coming from an economics background, the concept of the blue economy had previously been something he could not quite touch or see. He said he has learned many lessons from local governments at this forum that are helping translate that concept into tangible reality. And that as an economist, he believes the key step is to impose a price on public-sector ecosystem services, because this is the way to link conservation efforts smoothly into formal financing systems. He said that successful and growing programs will find their way to global

foundation financing and formal banking mechanisms, and expressed gratitude to the local governments for the lessons they shared.

- 1.128. **Dr. Wakita** closed by thanking all the panelists. In response to Governor Garcia's comment on carbon credits, she noted that PEMSEA has been working on blue carbon and that more information would be available in the sessions planned for the following day. She then invited the audience to join in thanking the speakers.

1.129. **CLOSING OF THE JOINT LEARNING FORUM**

- 1.130. **Ms. Aimee Gonzales**, Executive Director of the PEMSEA Resource Facility, delivered the closing remarks. She thanked the organizers of the Joint PNLG and PNLC Learning Forum, namely the PNLC Secretariat, PNLC Secretariat, KMI, KIOST, Coastal 500, PRF, and the host, the Metropolitan City of Busan. She noted that the presentations and discussions shared by local government units, academic partners, and think tanks over the course of the Forum illustrated what coastal provinces, cities, and towns can achieve through dedication and strategic vision.

- 1.131. ED Gonzales observed that the Forum, held under the theme "Empowering Coastal Cities for a Blue Future," had demonstrated the core strength of the PNLC–PNLC partnership: bridging policy with science. She highlighted that the synergy between local government units and academic and scientific institutions transforms scientific data into actionable coastal policy, and that discussions on nature-based, locally driven approaches had advanced sustainable, climate-resilient local blue economies. She further noted that the exchange of best practices, spanning blue carbon ecosystems to integrated coastal and river basin management—had provided participants with concrete paths forward.

- 1.132. She emphasized, however, that the success of the Forum would ultimately be measured not by the presentations delivered, but by the actions participants carried back to their respective coasts. In closing, she called on delegates to carry forward three commitments as they departed Busan:

- Strengthen Local Action – to implement the governance frameworks and technical tools discussed at the Forum within their respective local coastal management plans;
- Sustain the Synergy – to maintain active links between local governments and local learning centers, ensuring that policies remain grounded in rigorous science; and

- Deepen Knowledge Sharing – to continue city-to-city and institution-to-institution exchanges beyond the Forum.

1.133. ED Gonzales concluded by again thanking the host, the organizers, the interpreters, and all delegates for their time and insights, and expressed hope that the Forum's shared efforts would continue to yield resilient, thriving coastal communities across East Asia.

ANNEX 1. AGENDA

Time	Agenda
13:30-17:30 PNLG-PNLC Joint Learning Forum, 8 September 2026 In collaboration with KMI, KIOST & Coastal 500 MC: April Ann Tigulo, Secretariat Coordinator, PEMSEA Resource Facility	
13:30-13:40	Opening Remarks Dr. Ma. Lucille Nava President, PNLG; Governor, Provincial Government of Guimaras, Philippines Dr. Yonvitner President, PNLC; Director, Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies, IPB University, Indonesia
13:40-13:50	Context Setting Dr. FANG Qinhua Deputy Secretary-General, PNLG Secretariat; Vice President, PNLC; Deputy Director, Coastal and Ocean Management Institute, Xiamen University, China
Session 1 Theme: Local Pathways for Blue Carbon and Nature-Based Solutions Moderator: Ms. Nancy Bermas, Regional Project Manager, PEMSEA Resource Facility	
13:50-14:05	Keynote Presentation (Video Message) Scaling Blue Carbon and Nature-based Solutions through Government Action Mr. Jonas Leones Chair, EAS Partnership Council Undersecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines
14:05-14:15	From Source to Sea: Unlocking the Watershed–Estuary Nexus for Climate Resilience in Aklan Dr. Yasmin Primavera-Tirol Professor, Aklan State University - New Washington, Philippines
14:15-14:25	Qingdao Longwan Seagrass Bed Protection: Nature-based Solutions through Community Co-management Dr. ZHAO Linlin Professor, Marine Ecology Research Center, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China Deputy Director of China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center

Time	Agenda
14:25-14:35	Korea's Tidal Flat Restoration : Public-Private Collaboration and Resident Participation Dr. Young-Nam Kim Department Head, Marine Protection and Restoration Department, Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)
14:35-14:45	Ecological Restoration of Eulsukdo Island in the Nakdong River Estuary, Busan Dr. Jinwon Seo Director, Nakdong Estuary Eco Center, Busan
14:45-15:15	Q&A and Synthesis Moderator: Ms. Nancy Bermas
15:15-15:40	Break
Session 2 Theme: Capitalizing on Coasts: Financing and Innovating Local Blue Economies Moderator: Dr. Kazumi Wakita, Professor, Tokai University, Japan	
15:40-15:55	Keynote Presentation Financing the Blue Future: Driving the Local Blue Economy Dr. Suk-Jae Kwon Technical Session Chair, EAS Partnership Council Principal Research Scientist, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology
15:55-16:05	Kep Marine Resource Management Mr. Bun Yaung Deputy Governor, Kep Province Spokesperson, Kep Provincial Administration, Cambodia
16:05-16:15	Blue Partnerships: Stakeholder Convergence in Bataan's ICM Program Hon. Jose Enrique S. Garcia III Provincial Governor, Province of Bataan, Philippines
16:15-16:25	Sustaining Tomini Bay, Gorontalo's Strategy towards a Blue Economy Dr. Aryanto Husain Head of Marine and Fisheries Office Provincial Government of Gorontalo, Indonesia
16:25-16:35	Resilience Beyond Borders: The Power of Local Government Partnerships Hon. Annaliza Gonzales-Kwan Mayor Municipality of Guiuan, Eastern Samar, Philippines
16:35-17:05	Q&A and Synthesis

Time	Agenda
	Moderator: Dr. Kazumi Wakita
17:05-17:15	Closing Remarks Ms. Aimee Gonzales Executive Director, PEMSEA Resource Facility
18:30-20:30	Welcome Dinner Hosted by: Mr. Chun Jae-soo , Mayor, Busan Metropolitan City, RO Korea

ANNEX 2. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
Regular Members			
Cambodia			
1	Kep Province	Bun Yaung	Deputy Governor of Kep Province, Cambodia
2	Koh Kong Province	Chhi Va	Governor of Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
3		On Sothearith	Deputy Governor of Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
4		Ouch Touch	Director of Administration, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
5		Heng Kimchan	Deputy Director of Administration, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
6		Vin Sareth	Director of HRM Division, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
7		Ouch Punlork	Director of Planning and Investment Division, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
8		Phouthang Sereyvuthy	Mayor of Khemrak Phumin City, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
9		Chea Chankanha	Governor of Sre Ambel District, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
10		Krouch Boreyseyha	Governor of Botum Sakor District, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
11		Hun Marady	Director of Environment Department, Cambodia
12		Sok Sotheavy	Director of Women Affair Department, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
13		Khloem Koky	Director of Department, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
14		Saychhun Singhaphan	Vice Chief of Chamber of Commerce, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
15		Svay Sokunthea	Deputy Director of DEF, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
16		Leng Bunthea	Deputy Director of Business Department, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
17		Sam Vannvorleak Thyda	Koh Kong Governor's Assistant, Koh Kong Province, Cambodia
18	Preah Sihanouk Province	Prak Visal	Director, Division of Public Relations and International Cooperation, Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia
19		Moeung Sopheap	Acting Director, Provincial Department of Environment, Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia
20		Sreng Haysok	Chief, Prek Koang Kang Eco-tourism Community, Koh Rong City, Preah Sihanouk Province, Cambodia
China			
21	Xiamen City, China/PNLG Secretariat	LIN Huaiyuan	Level II Bureau Rank Official, Xiamen Municipal Bureau of Ocean Development, China; Executive Deputy Secretary-General of PNLG Secretariat
22		ZENG Haiyu	Staff, Xiamen Marine International Cooperation Center, China; Coordinator of PNLG Secretariat

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
Indonesia			
23	Gorontalo Province	Aryanto Husain	Head of Marine and Fisheries Office, Provincial Government of Gorontalo, Indonesia
24	Tangerang Regency	Prima Saras Puspa	Assistant for Government Affairs and Public Welfare, Tangerang Regency, Indonesia
25		Anton Soeharsono	Intermediate Planner at the Regional Development and planning Agency, Tangerang Regency, Indonesia
26		Agustin Hari Mahardika	Head of Waste, Waste and Hazardous and Toxic Materials Management Division Environmental and Sanitation Agency, Tangerang Regency, Indonesia
27		Fina Nuroctaviyana	Junior Policy Analyst, Cooperation Subdivision, Tangerang Regency, Indonesia
Philippines			
28	Bataan Province	Jose Enrique Garcia III	Governor, Provincial Government of Bataan, Philippines
29	Batangas Province	Marivic Esmas	Officer-In-Charge, Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office, Batangas Province, Philippines
30		Fe Dimaandal Fernandez	Officer-In-Charge, Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office, Batangas Province, Philippines
31		Beverly Faraon Balahibo	Supervising Environmental Management Specialist / Chief, Environmental Quality Management Division, Batangas Province, Philippines
32		Rochelle Panganiban Amboya	Supervising Environmental Management Specialist / Chief, Ecosystem Management and Planning Division, Batangas Province, Philippines

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
33		Pensri Sumalapao Farol	Environmental Management Specialist II / Chief, Management Services Section, Batangas Province, Philippines
34	Cavite Province	Anabelle Loyola Cayabyab	Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer, Cavite Province, Philippines
35	Guimaras Province	Ma. Lucille L. Nava	Governor, Provincial Government of Guimaras, Philippines; PNLG President
36		Leonard S. Pasiderio	Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer, Guimaras Province, Philippines
Republic of Korea			
37	Ansan City	BYEON Hee-ju	Team Leader, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Division / Marine Conservation Team, Ansan City, Republic of Korea
38		LEE Ju-min	Officer, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Division / Marine Conservation Team, Ansan City, Republic of Korea
39	Busan Metropolitan City	CHUN Jae-soo	Mayor, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
40		OH Seok-keun	Vice Mayor for Future Innovation, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
41		NAM Myung-sook	Vice Chairperson of the Maritime City and Safety Committee of the Busan Metropolitan Council, Republic of Korea
42		CHO Yeong-tae	Director General, Bureau of Maritime Affairs, Agriculture and Fisheries, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
43		CHO Jin-suk	Director of Maritime Capital Policy Division, Bureau of Maritime Affairs, Agriculture and Fisheries, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
44		SONG Eun-jung	Head of Marine Environment Team, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Bureau of Maritime Affairs, Agriculture and Fisheries, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
45	Changwon City	TAE WOONG KIM	Team leader, Changwon City Hall
46		HO CHEOL WON	Team member, Changwon City Hall
Timor-Leste			
47	Atauro Island	Mateus Belo	President, Ataúro Administrative Authority, Timor-Leste
48		João Gomes	Director of Public Works, Transport, Water, Hygiene and Environment, Ataúro Administrative Authority, Timor-Leste
49		Jose Baptista	Advisor of the Good Governance, Ataúro Administrative Authority, Timor-Leste
50		Eliasefa Barreto	Third Secretary of the Ataúro Administrative Authority for Social Affairs and Community Organization, Timor-Leste
51		Maria Madalena do Carmo Gomes	Secretary of President, Ataúro Administrative Authority, Timor-Leste
52	Dili City	Francisco dos Santos	President, Dili Municipality Authority, Timor-Leste
53		Sebastiao do Rego Guterres.	Senior Corporate Service Adviser, Dili Municipality Authority, Timor-Leste
54	Manatuto City	Luis Inacio Henriques Fernandes	President, Authority of Manatuto Municipality, Timor-Leste
55		Sebastiao Soares PINTO	ICM -PEMSEA Coordinator, Authority of Manatuto Municipality, Timor-Leste
56		Duarte da Costa	ICM -PEMSEA Secretary, Authority of Manatuto Municipality, Timor-Leste

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
57		Faustino Manuel Lopes da Cruz	Director, Direction of Municipality Water, Sanitation and Environment, Authority of Manatuto Municipality, Timor-Leste
58		Sergio da Silva	Director, Direction of Municipality Social Action Services, Authority of Manatuto Municipality, Timor-Leste
Associate Members			
59	Coastal and Ocean Management Institute, Xiamen University	FANG Qinhua	Associate Director, Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) , Xiamen University; Deputy Secretary-General, PNLC Secretariat; Vice President, PNLC
60		KE Xiaolin	International Coordinator, Coastal and Ocean Management Institute (COMI) , Xiamen University
61	Dongying Huanhai Institute of Marine Conservation and Development	LIU Pei	Director, Dongying Huanhai Institute of Marine Conservation and Development
62		SU Ziwen	Staff of Dongying Huanhai Institute of Marine Conservation and Development
63		CHENG Kexin	Staff of Dongying Huanhai Institute of Marine Conservation and Development
64	First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China	ZHAO Linlin	Professor of Marine Ecology Research Center, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China; Deputy Director of China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center
65		ZHU Xiaotong	Program Manager of China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center
Ministry of Oceans and Fisheries (MOF), Republic of Korea			
66	MOF	SEO Jeong-ho	Deputy Minister, Marine Policy Office, Preparatory Office for UNOC4
67		CHOI Jaeyong	Chief / Senior Deputy Director, Marine Climate and Environment Strategy Team

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
68		CHOI Jinsol	Deputy Director, Marine Climate and Environment Strategy Team
69		NAM Heechae	Assistant Director, Marine Climate and Environment Strategy Team
70		KIM Minchul	Driver, General Affairs Division
Speakers			
71	Speakers and Moderators	Peter Thomson	UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean (Video Message)
72		Jonas Leones	Chair, EAS Partnership Council; Undersecretary, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Philippines (Video Message)
73		Yasmin Primavera-Tirol	Professor, Aklan State University – New Washington, Philippines
74		ZHAO Linlin	Professor of Marine Ecology Research Center, First Institute of Oceanography, Ministry of Natural Resources of China; Deputy Director of China-PEMSEA Sustainable Coastal Management Cooperation Center
75		Young-Nam Kim	Department Head, Marine Protection and Restoration Department, Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)
76		Jinwon Seo	Director, Nakdong Estuary Eco Center, Busan
77		Nancy Bermas	PRF Regional Project Manager - IRBM Project
78		Suk-Jae Kwon	Technical Session Chair, EAS Partnership Council; Principal Research Scientist, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
79		Bun Yaung	Deputy Governor of Kep Province, Cambodia

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
80		Jose Enrique Garcia III	Governor, Provincial Government of Bataan, Philippines
81		Aryanto Husain	Head of Marine and Fisheries Office, Provincial Government of Gorontalo, Indonesia
82		Annaliza Gonzales-Kwan	Mayor, Municipality of Guiuan, Eastern Samar Province, Philippines
83		Kazumi Wakita	Technical Session Co-Chair, EAS Partnership Council; Professor, Tokai University, Japan
Observers			
84	Secretary of State of Fisheries, Timor-Leste	Rafael Pereira Goncalves	MALFF / Advisor, Secretary State of Fisheries Office, Timor-Leste
85	Rare Philippines	Leonardo Bautista	Project Implementation Manager
86	Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)	LEE Tei	Global Cooperation Section, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
87		KIM Ji-young	Global Cooperation Section, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
88		Kyung-tae Kim	Principal Research Scientist, Marine Environment Research Department, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
89		Jin young Choi	Principal Research Scientist, Marine Environment Research Department, Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
90		An Jieun	Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
91		Suhui Han	Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
92		Lee Ji Hee	Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
93		Joong Ho Moon	Korea Institute of Ocean Science and Technology (KIOST)
94	Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)	Chang Joon-young	General Manager, Climate and International Affairs Dept., Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)
95		LEE Joo-won	Assistant Manager, Climate and International Affairs Dept., Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation (KOEM)
96	Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)	Yeajin Jung	Associate Research Fellow, Marine Environment Research Dept., Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)
97		Jiun Ha	Research Assistant, Marine Environment Research Dept., Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)
98		Do Dajeong	Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)
99		Yelim Kim	Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)
100		Han Deuk Hoon	Korea Maritime Institute (KMI)
PEMSEA Resource Facility (PRF)			
101	PRF	Aimee Gonzales	PRF Executive Director
102		Nancy Bermas	PRF Regional Project Manager - IRBM Project
103		April Ann Tigulo	PRF Secretariat Coordinator
104		Ma. Niña Yambao	PRF Secretariat Assistant
105		Kim Hunguen	PRF Senior Manager - Marine Plastic ODA
106		Maida Aguinaldo	PRF Special Projects Coordinator
107		Kristina Ticman	PRF Blue Carbon Specialist
PEMSEA Network of Learning Centers (PNLC)			
108	PNLC Secretariat	Yonvitner	President of PNLC; Director of Center for

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109		Isdahartati Ibnu Izhar	PNLC Secretariat Coordinator; Researcher of Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies, IPB University
110		Lusita Meilana	PNLC Secretariat Staff; Researcher Fellow of Center for Coastal and Marine Resources Studies, IPB University
Organizing Committee/Other Participants			
111		Chang Uk Shin	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
112		Yu-deok Seo	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
113		Minkyung Shin	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
114		Taeyong Jang	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
115		Chang won Choi	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
116		Hyun soo Kim	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
117		Chang soo Park	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
118		Min seok Kim	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
119		Moon sung Kim	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division,

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121		Seok Jin Ryu	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
122		Su Bin Hyeon	Officer, Maritime Affairs & Urban Panning & Safety Committee, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
123		Park seo jin	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
124		Hyeok-gi Jo	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
125		Myung Wan Jung	Marine Natural History Museum, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
126		HWANG SO JIN	Technical Review Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
127		Yujae Mou	Convention Marketing Department, BEXCO
128		Yong Jun Cho	Environmental Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
129		Mi Kyeong Ye	Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
130		Yu Jin Lee	Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
131		Ji Yun Mun	Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
132		Hye Won Jeon	Officer, Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
133		Younghwa Kim	Officer, Fisheries Policy Division, Busan

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			Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
134		Jeong Ah Park	Officer, Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
135		Hyeonjin Moon	Officer, Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
136		Minhwa Kang	Team Leader, Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
137		Lee, Seung Hwa	Fishing Village Settlement Consultant, Blue Ocean guide/Korea Fisheries Infrastructure Public Agency, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
138		Changnyeung LEE	Officer, Environmental Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
139		Jongin Park	Officer, Environmental Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
140		Miyeon Kim	Team Leader, Fisheries Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
141		HYE JEONG SONG	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
142		Seo Kwanghyun	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
143		moon je hwan	Officer, Maritime Capital Policy Division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
144		YONG-CHUN YOON	Team Leader, Carbon Neurtrality policy division, Busan Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
145		Jouyoung YI	Assistant Manager, Resource Recirculation Division, Busan

No.	Member	Name	Affiliation and Title
			Metropolitan City, Republic of Korea
146		Lim Deok Han	Busan Fisheries Policy Forum
147		Park Yoon Seo	The K Blossom
148		Bae Jong Tae	Break News
149		A Young Son	The K Blossom
150		David Jang	Busan Development Institute
151		Moon Hyun Jin	Busan City Hall
152		Moon Ji Yoon	Busan City Hall
153		Ye Mi Kyung	Busan City Hall
154		Kim Mi Young	Busan City Hall
155		Jung Sun Kim	Principal Investigator (PI), SJWATER
156		Kim Jin Ho	Busan City Hall
157		Wang Dong Won	Korea Ports & Harbours Association
158		Kim Na Ri	PSI STUDIO
159		Seong Miran	Busan City Hall
160		Han Mi Nyeo	Busan City Hall
161		Joo Ha Yoon	Busan City Hall
162		Kim Ye Joo	Busan City Hall
163		Park Sang Hyun	Busan City Hall
164		Joungsil Lee	President, Busan Tourism Organization (BTO)
165		Yugyeong Jeong	Director, Convention Bureau, Busan Tourism Organization (BTO)
166		Jihyun Ha	Manager, Convention Bureau, Busan Tourism Organization (BTO)
167		Eonyoung Park	Manager, Convention Bureau, Busan Tourism Organization (BTO)

ANNEX 3. PRESENTATIONS

[Presentations](#)

ANNEX 4. PHOTOS

[Photos](#)

