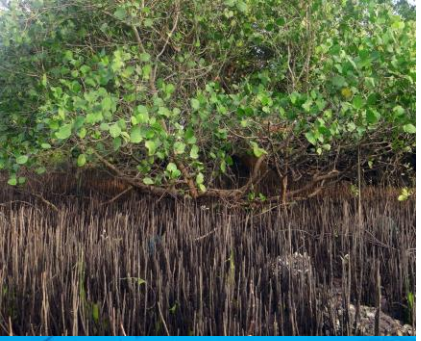
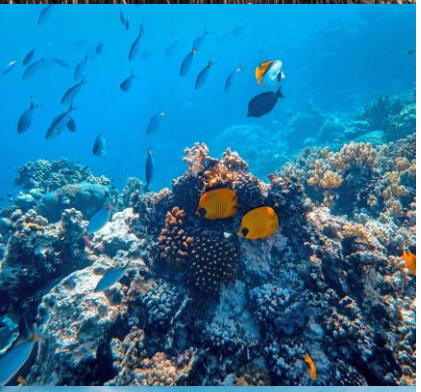
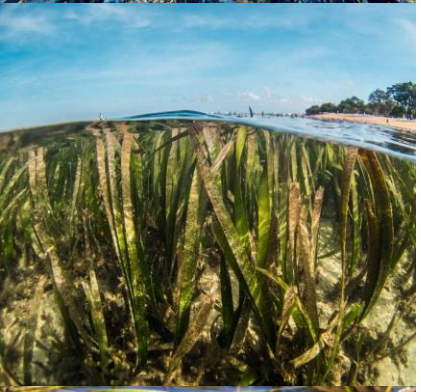
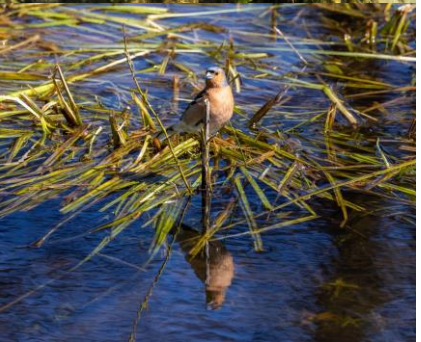
Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (SCS SAP) Project

Second Meeting of the SCS SAP Project Steering Committee

23-25 Jul 2024, 09.00 – 16.00

Bangkok, Thailand

VIETNAM

National Coordination and Oversight

Political partner: Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

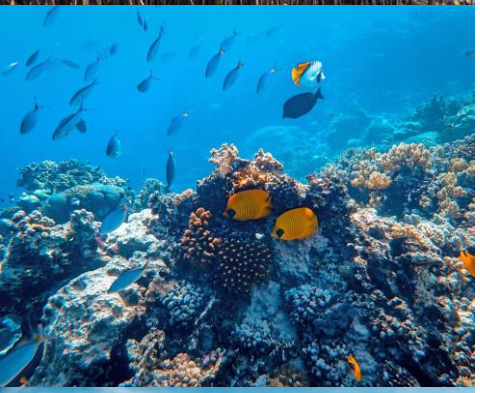
Project Owner: Vietnam Environmental and Marin Scienc Institute.

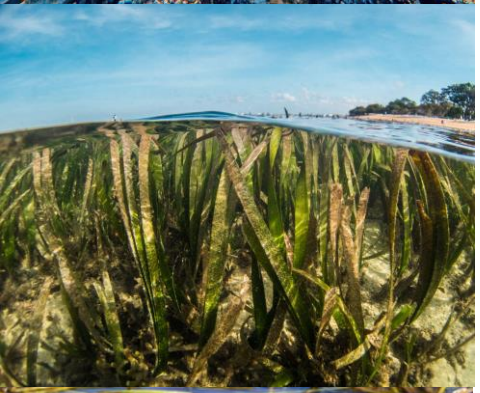
Sponsor and Co-sponsor: Global Environmental Facility – GEF and Viet Nam Government

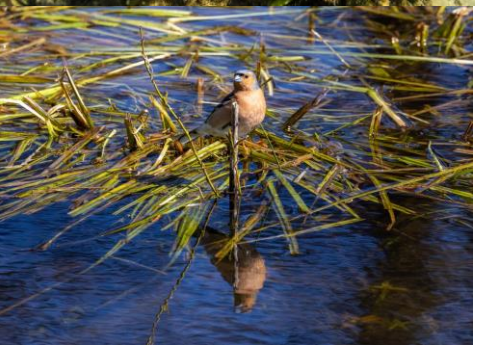
Expected Duration of implementation phase: 1/2024 – 1/2026

Area of project implementation : 28 provinces and coastal cities in Viet Nam

Project financing: Total budget 822.644 (USD)





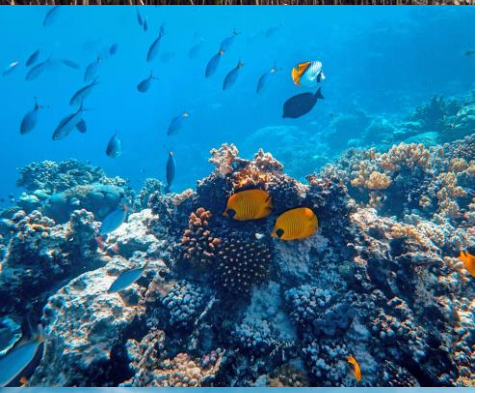


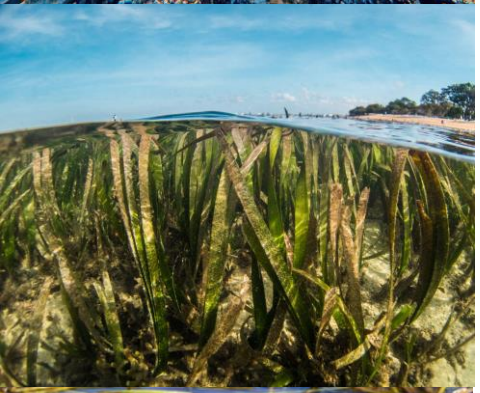
Main content

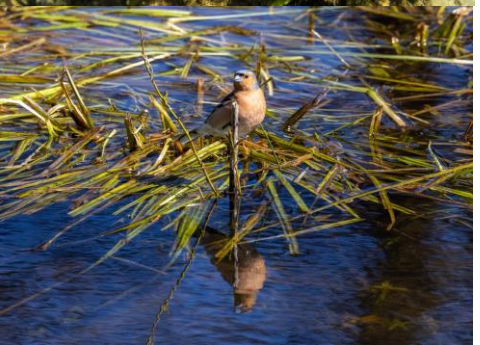
I. Component 1: Minimize environmental degradation through administration reform at national and local levels.

II. Component 2: Acting on knowledge to restore coastal marine areas, and reduce soil pollution to minimize environmental degradation

III. Component 3: Create favourable conditions for integration and cooperation at national and regional levels







Component 1:

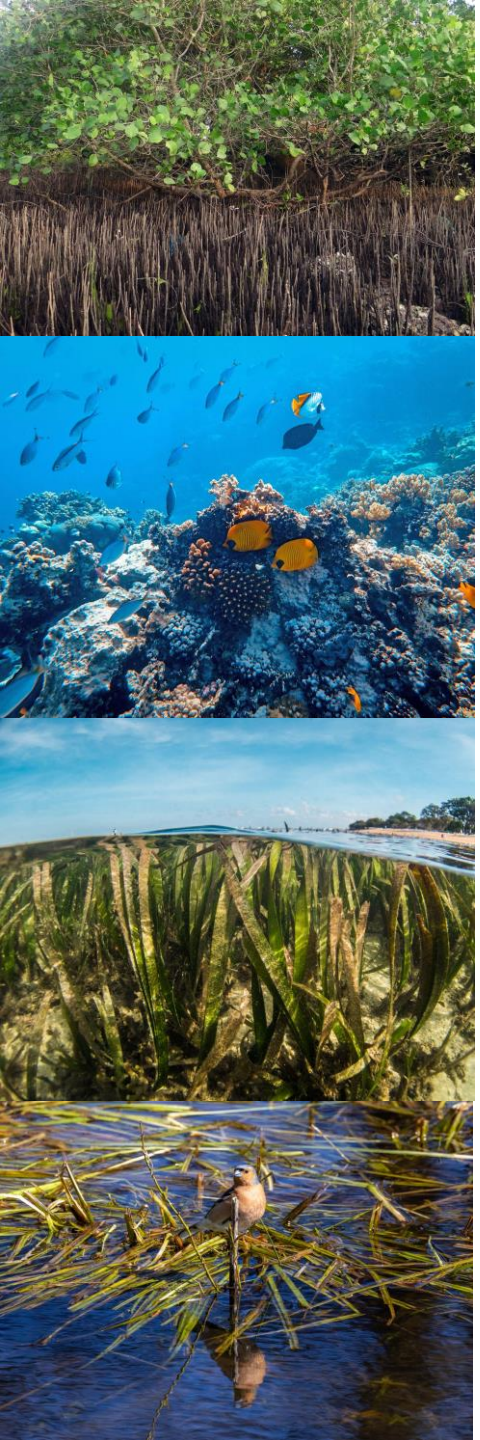
1.1. Mangroves Targets and Sites

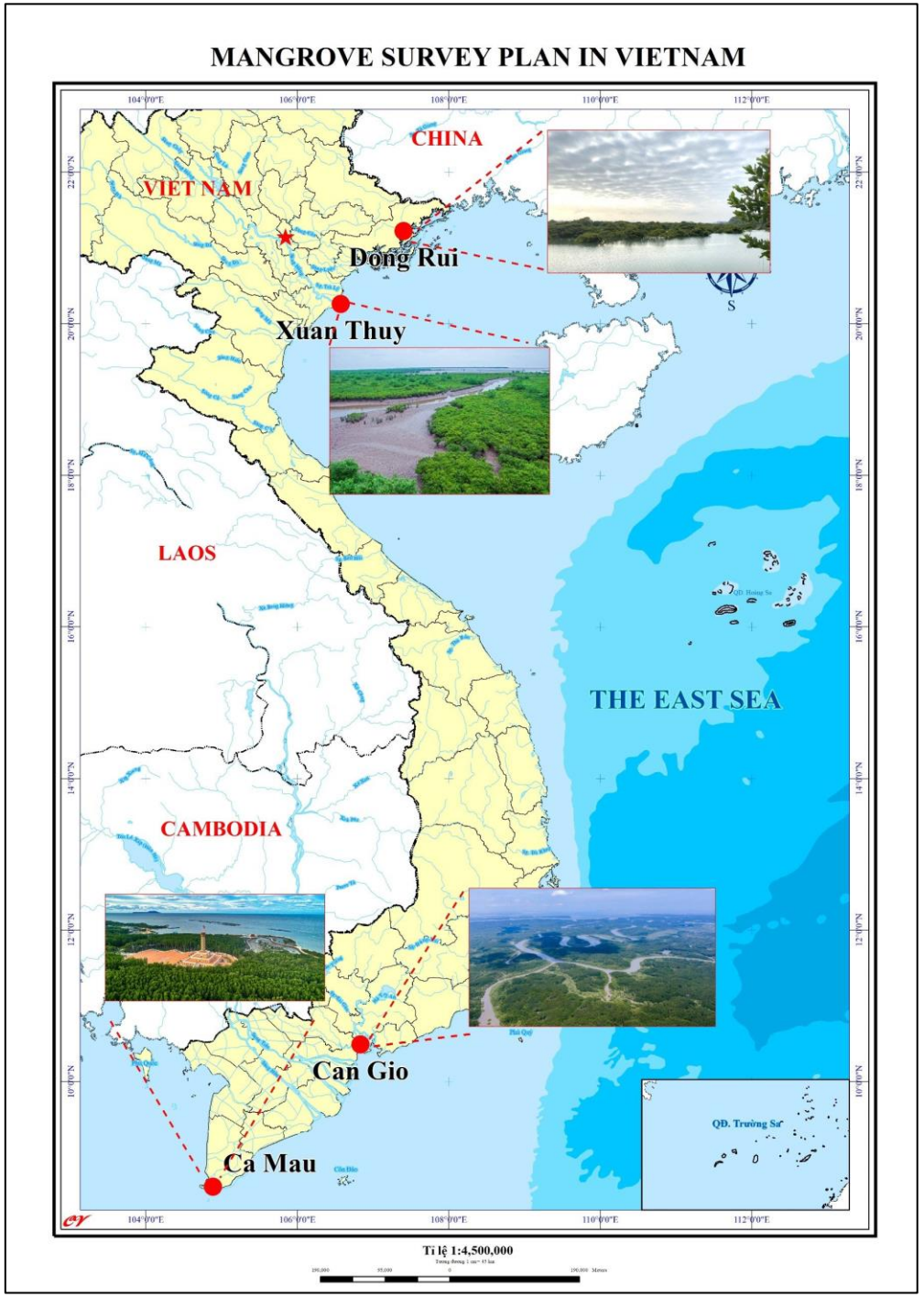
The total area of Vietnam's mangrove forest is now about 200,000 ha. This part focuses on establishing sustainable management forms suitable for 860,000 ha of mangroves.

In this part, in Viet Nam, the project would implement 7 scheduled activities as follows

1) Assessing the current administration status, policies and activities related to the management and restoration of mangrove systems, identify priority areas for management and restoration Mangrove forests (about 113,800 ha);

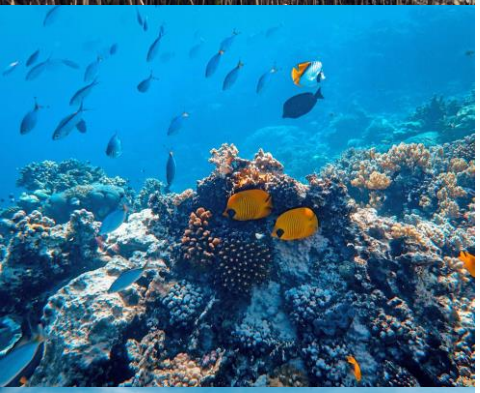
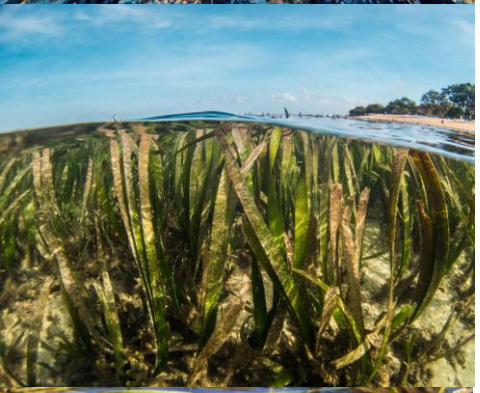
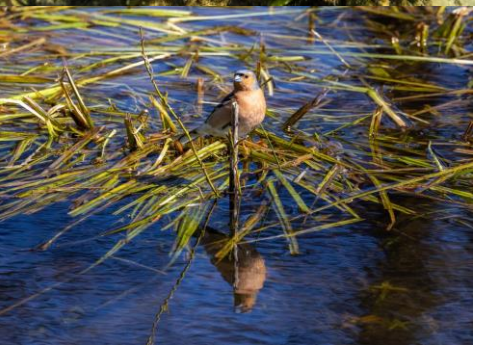
2) Assessing the level of biodiversity in the coastal estuarine mangrove ecosystem of Viet Nam (about 113,800 ha);





3) Use some valuable mangrove species as nurseries in the coastal zone of Nam Dinh province (3 species, about 1 ha);

4) Creating mechanism collaboration across sectors, and strengthening law enforcement capacity for sustainable management of mangrove ecosystem;

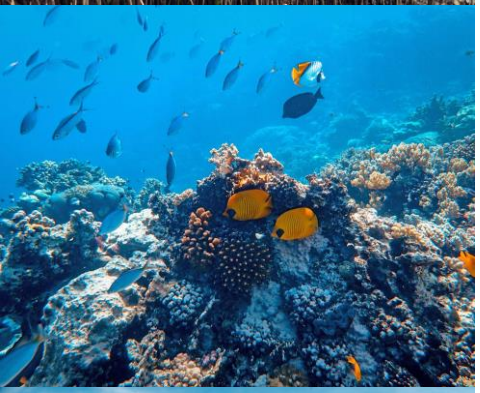
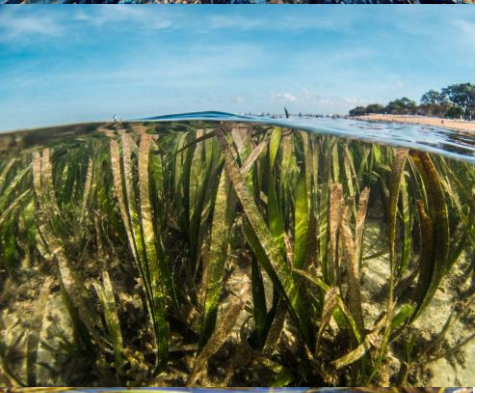
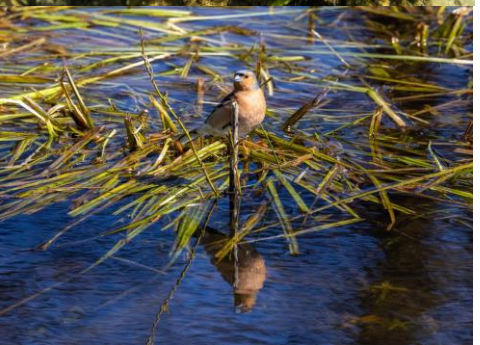





1.1. Mangroves Targets and Sites

5) Developing sustainable management models and reasonable exploitation of mangrove ecosystems rely on community suitable to local conditions;

6) Capacity – developing and planning for sustainable use of Mangrove ecosystem, integrating forest management with coastal mangroves in the National Land Use at the provincial level;

7) Annual management and monitoring of the ecological and socio - economic indicators based on the SAP results framework.

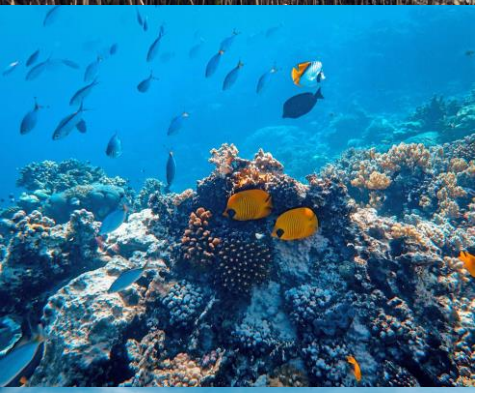
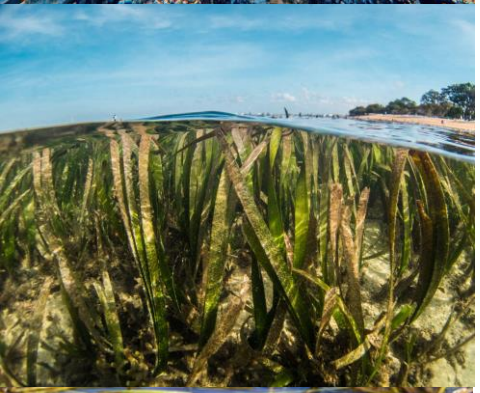
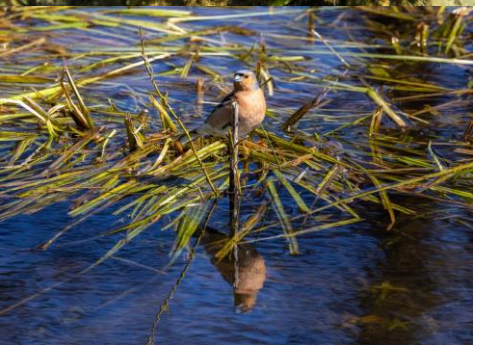
1.1. Mangroves Targets and Sites

The products of Mangrove sustainable Management Activities are expected to be as follows:

1) A report of the current administration status, policies and activities related to management and restoration of mangroves systems, identify priority areas for management and restoration mangrove forests;

2) A report the level of biodiversity in the coastal estuarine mangrove ecosystem of Viet Nam;

3) Nursery of 5000 seedlings of three species (*Rhizophora stylosa, Avicennia marina* và *Kandelia obovata*) in the coastal zone of Nam Dinh province;

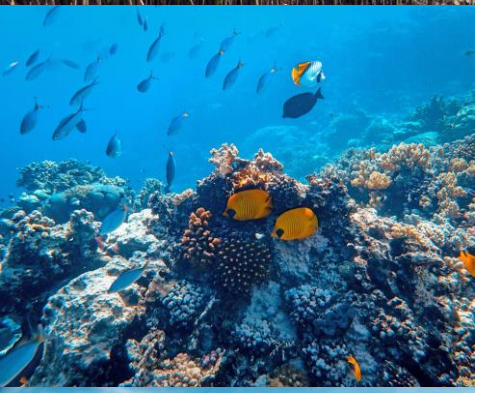
1.1. Mangroves Targets and Sites

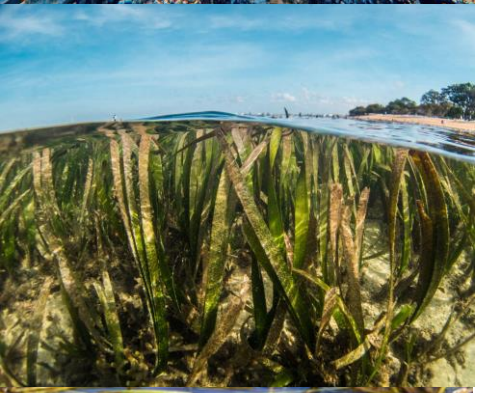
4) Interdisciplinary management regulation of mangrove ecosystems (Draft);

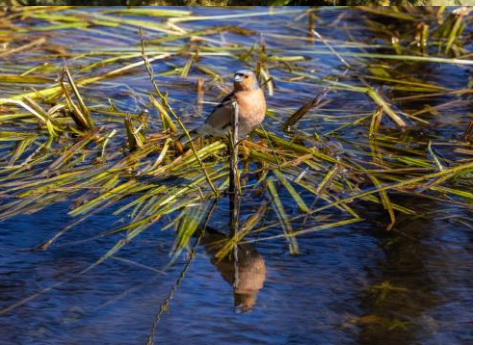
5) Management regulation, and reasonable exploitation of mangrove ecosystems rely on community suitable to local conditions (Draft);

6) Guideline for management and reasonable exploitation of mangrove ecosystems rely on community;

7) A report of governance, ecology, social economy using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix in the coastal mangrove area of Nam Dinh province;





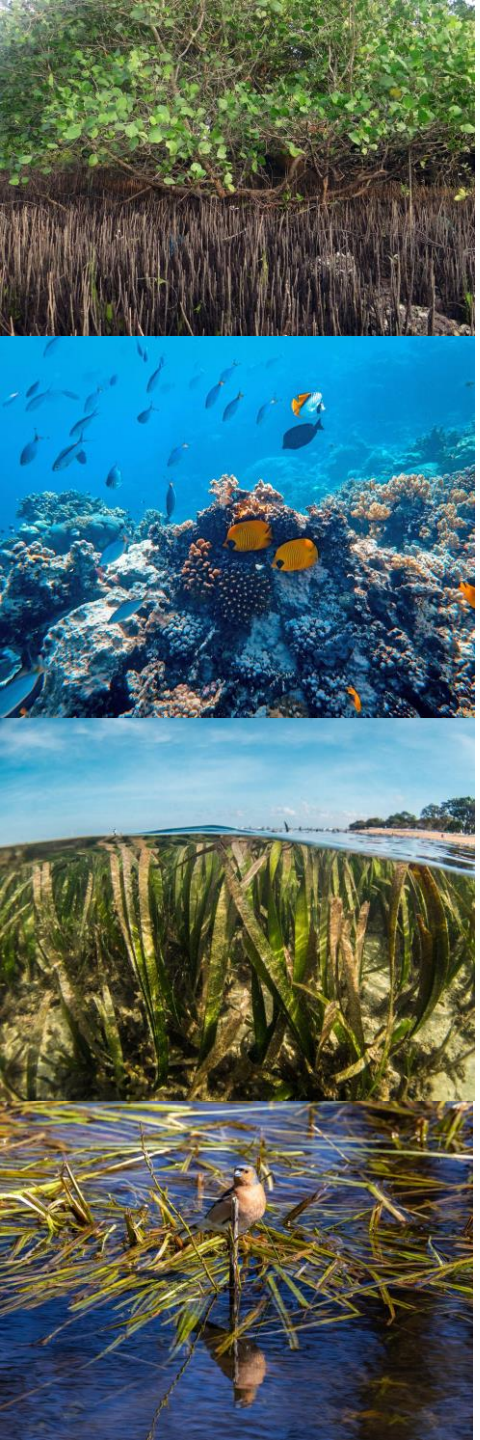


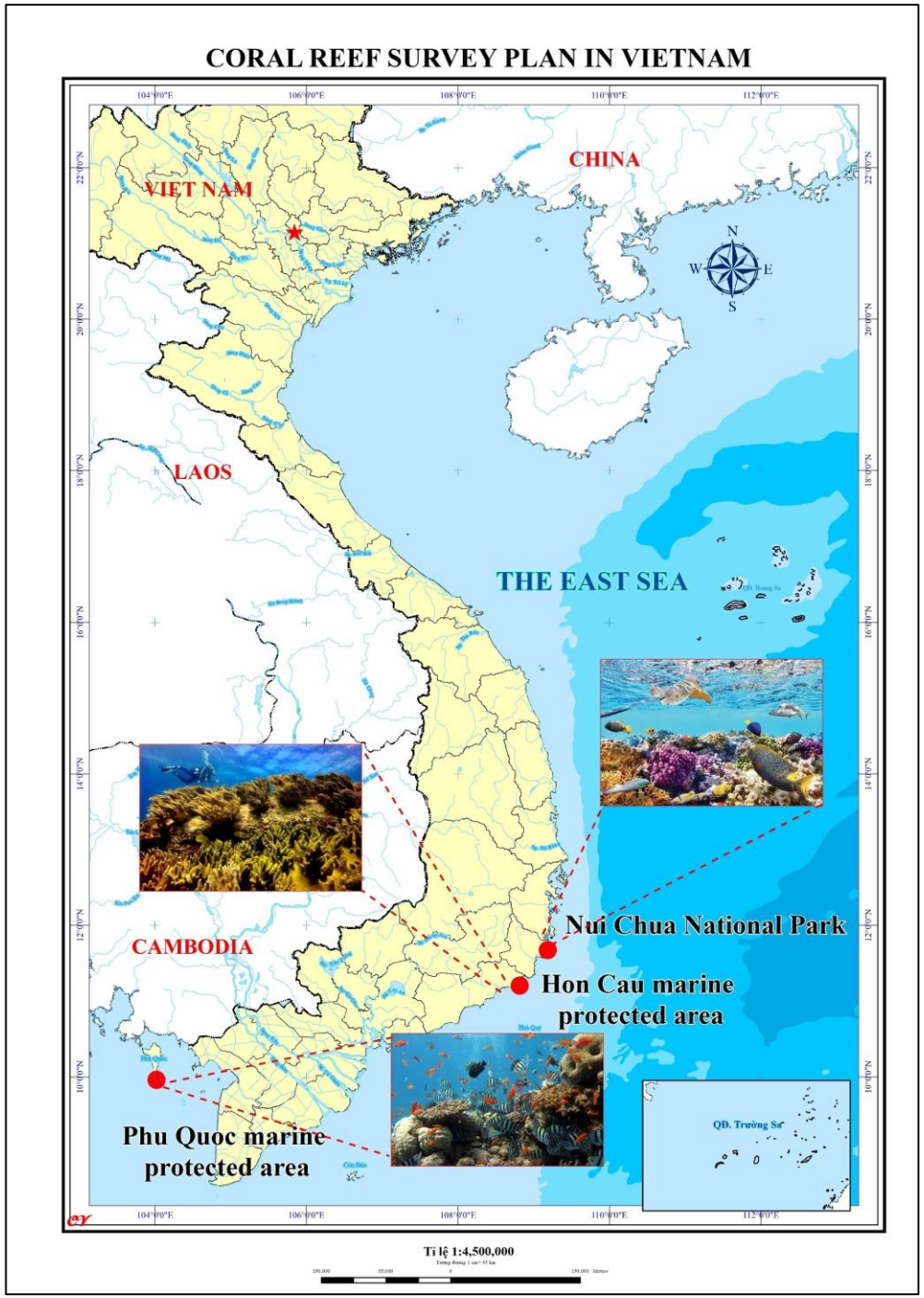
1.2. Coral Reef Targets and Sites

The total area of coral reef in the Vietnam Sea is about 13.335 ha with more than 400 species. This part emphasizes establishing appropriate forms of sustainable management for 110.430 ha of coral reef in 44 areas. In Viet Nam, the following expected activities will be carried out:

1) Nui Chua National Park (more than 106,646 ha), Ninh Thuận province:

- Develop a community-based management model for sustainable use of seaweed resources combined with coral reefs conservation;
- Assessment of the status of the implementation of current sub-zone planning regulations and propose solutions to enhance the effectiveness of management of marine protected areas;
- Annual monitoring of coral reefs using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;

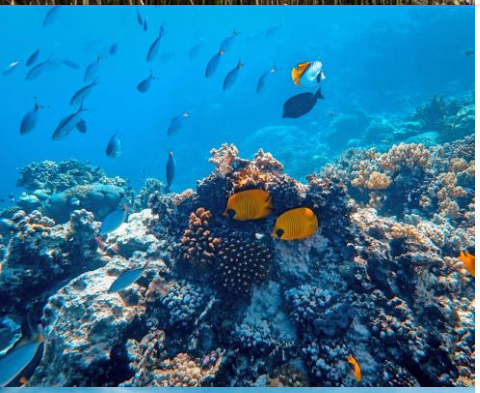
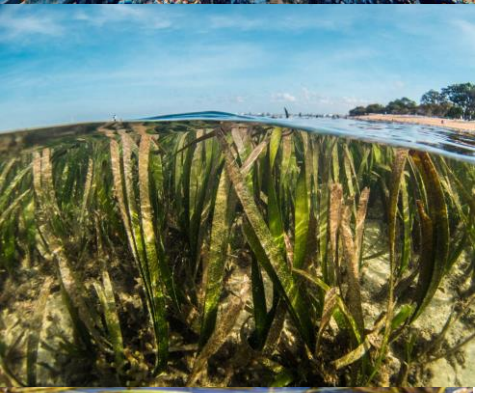
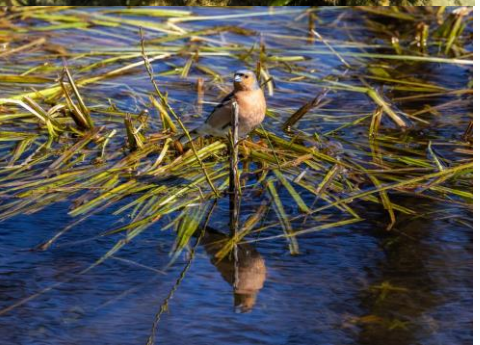




1.2. Coral Reef Targets and Sites

2) Hon Cau Marine Protected Area (about 12,500 ha), Ca Na bay, Binh Thuan province:

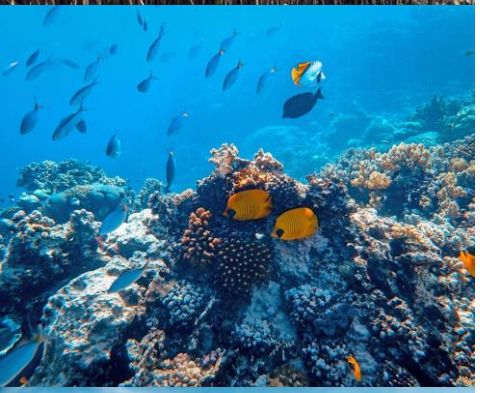
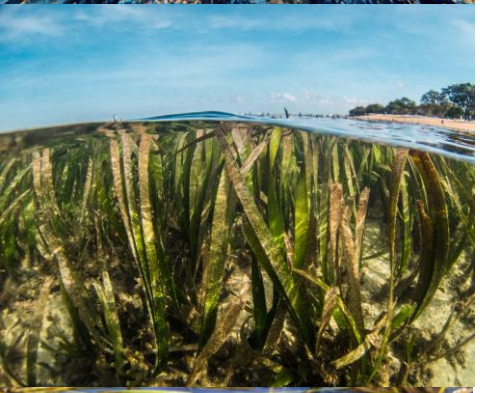
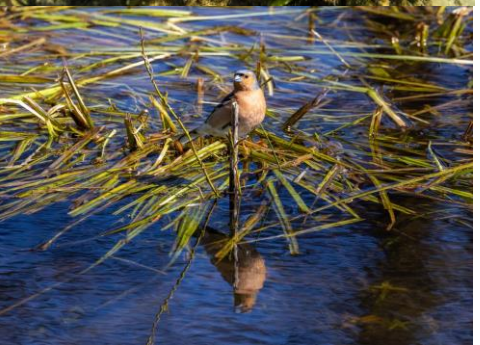
- Assessment of the status of the implementation of current sub-zone planning regulations and propose solutions to enhance the effectiveness of management of marine protected areas;
- Annual monitoring of coral reefs using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;

1.2. Coral Reef Targets and Sites

3) Phu Quoc Marine Protected Area (about 473,9 ha), Kien Giang province:

- Assess the effectiveness and provide sustainable management solutions and coral-reef resource restoration at demonstration models administrated by private sector
- Assessment of the status of the implementation of current sub-zone planning regulations and propose solutions to enhance the effectiveness of management in marine protected areas;
- Annual monitoring of coral reefs using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;

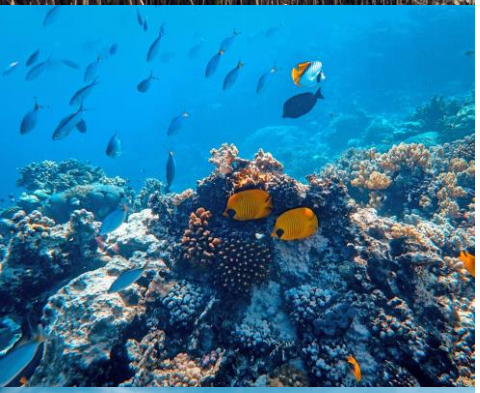
1.2. Coral Reef Targets and Sites

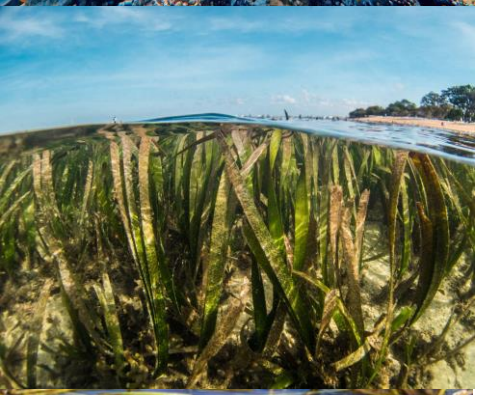
The products of Coral Reef sustainable management activities are expected to be as follows:

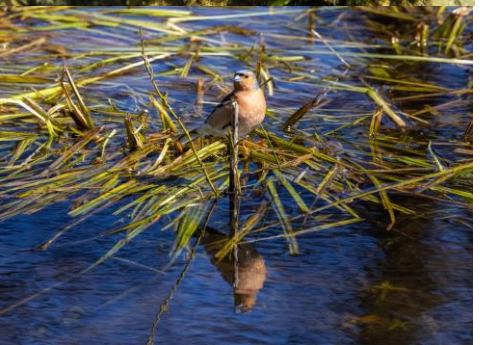
- A implementation report of the current sub-zone planning regulations and propose solutions to enhance the effectiveness of management of the marine protected areas;

- Annual report on regional coral reef management to share with the national network and RWG-CR at Nui Chua National Park, Hon Dau and Phu Quoc marine protected areas;

- 01 instruction materials on coral reef ecosystem's community-based management model;

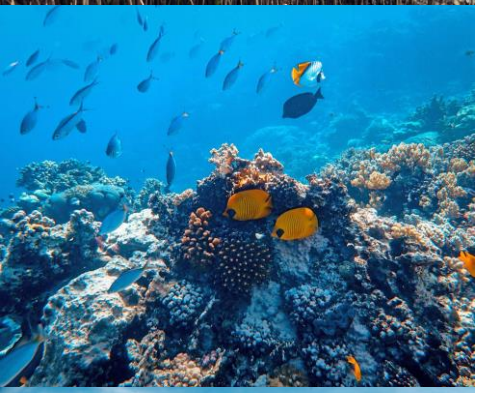
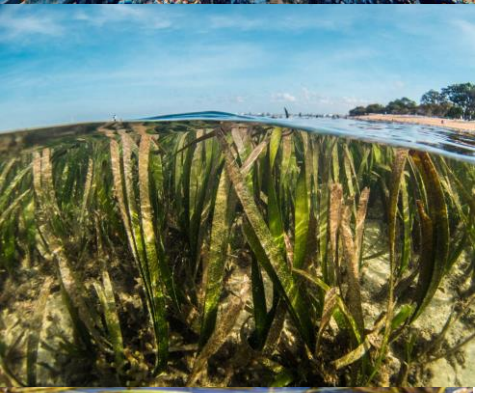
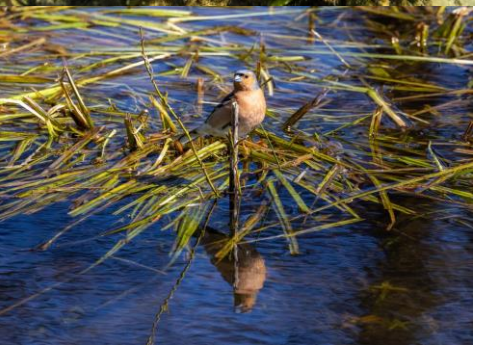






1.3. Seagrass Targets and Sites

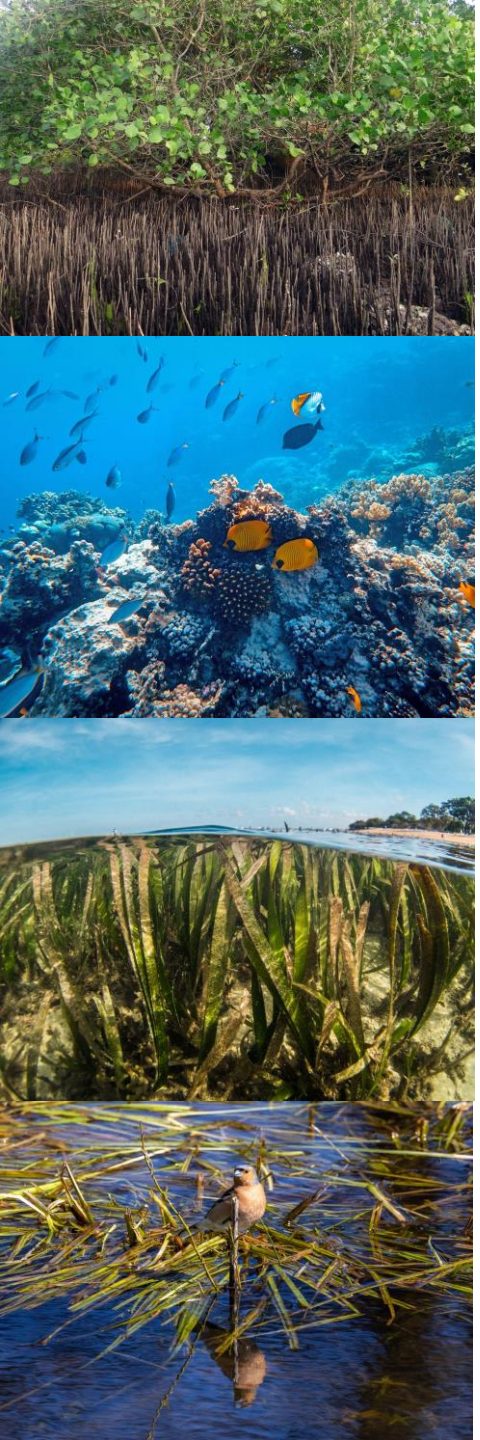
The total area of Viet Nam seagrass is about 17.000 ha. Scientists have counted about 14 species belonging to 4 groups Hydrocharitaceae, Cymodaceaceae, Zoosteraceae, and Ruppiaceae. This part focuses on establishing sustainable management methods for the 15.848-ha seagrass area. The activities expected to be conducted in Viet Nam as follows:

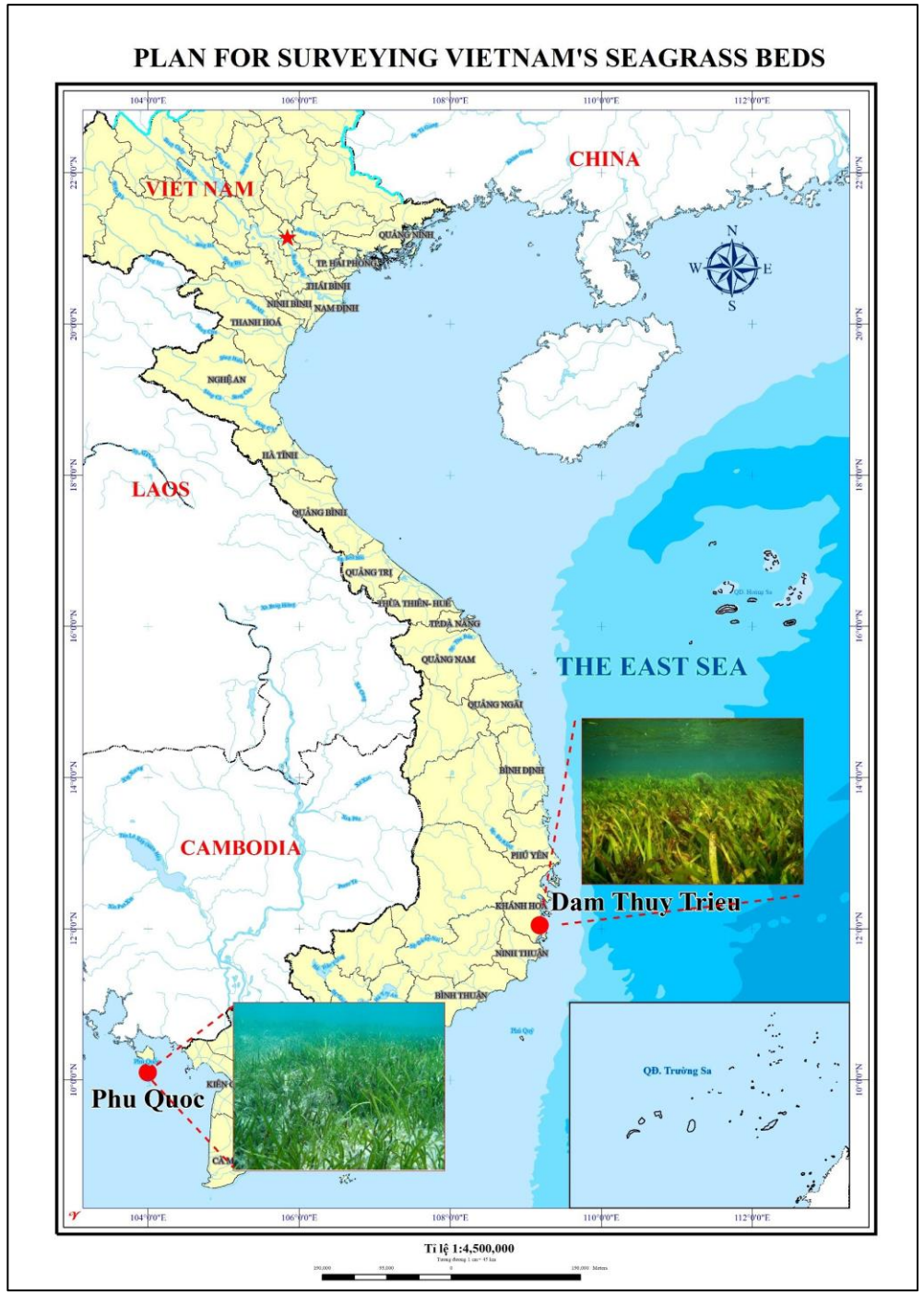





1.3. Seagrass Targets and Sites

1). Thuy Trieu Lagoon (about 548 ha), Nha Trang city, Khanh Hoa province:

- Assess the actual status of the management and use the marine resources related to seagrass in Thuy Trieu Lagoon;
- Identify the functional subdivision and propose integrated management solutions for Thuy Trieu Lagoon;
- Pilot sustainable aquaculture designs in seagrass with the participation of the private sector and local farmers;
- Conduct monitoring using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;

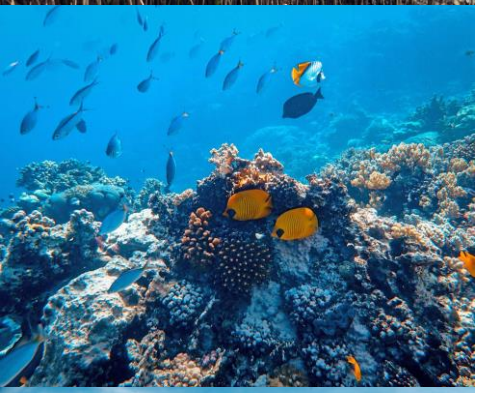


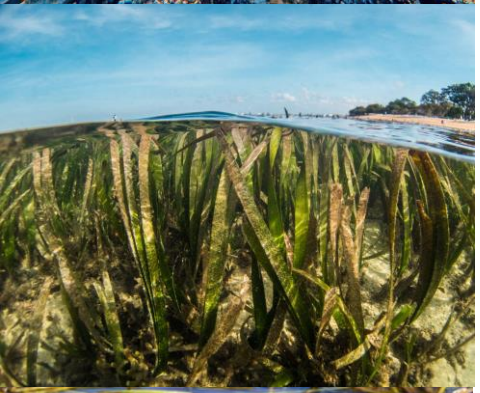


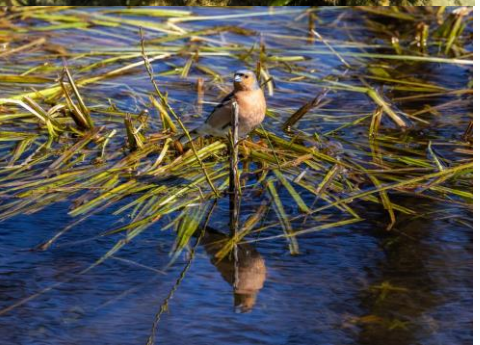
1.3. Seagrass Targets and Sites

2). Phu Quoc (about 5.670 ha), Kien Giang province:

- Access the actual status of the management and use the marine resources related to seagrass in Phu Quoc island;
- Pilot seagrass management model combined with eco-tourism;
- Conduct monitoring using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;







1.3. Seagrass Targets and Sites

The products of seagrass sustainable management activities are expected to be as follows:

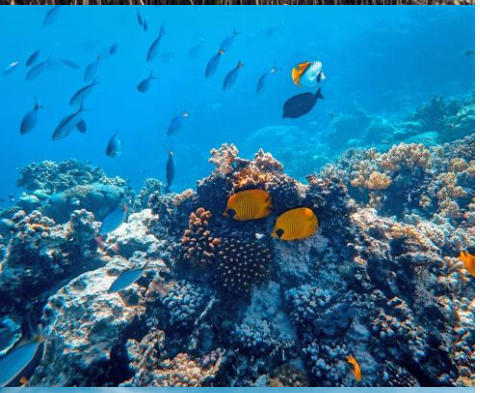
- 01 Assessment report the actual status of the management and use of the marine resources related to seagrass, sustainable restoration solution of seagrass in Phu Quoc;

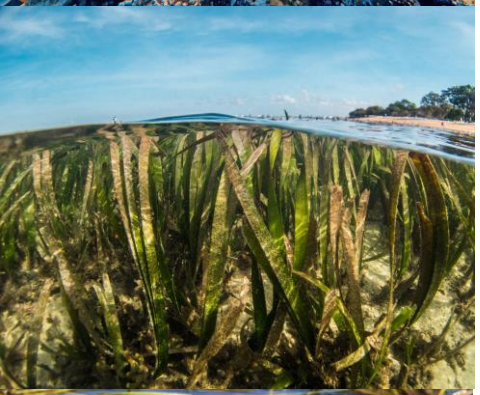
- 01 Annual report of local seagrass administration for sharing at national and regional levels as well as developing a regional database in Phu Quoc;

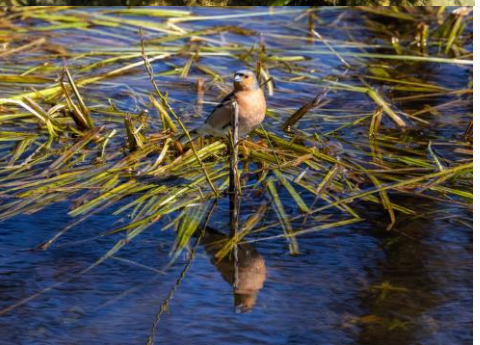
- 01 Assessment report the actual status of the management and use of the marine resources related to seagrass, sustainable restoration solution of seagrass in Thuy Trieu Lagoon;

- 01 Report of functional subdivision, integrated management and sustainable development guideline in Thuy Trieu Lagoon

- 01 Assessment report of local seagrass administration for sharing at national and regional levels as well as developing a regional database in Thuy Trieu Lagoon;

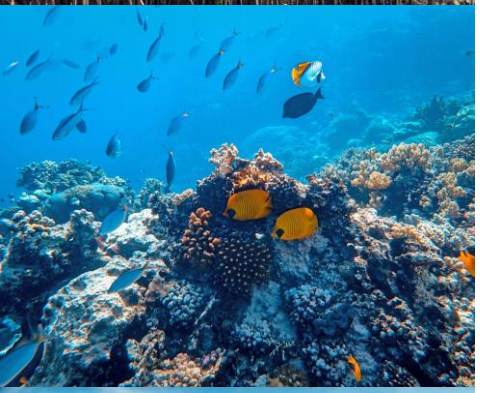
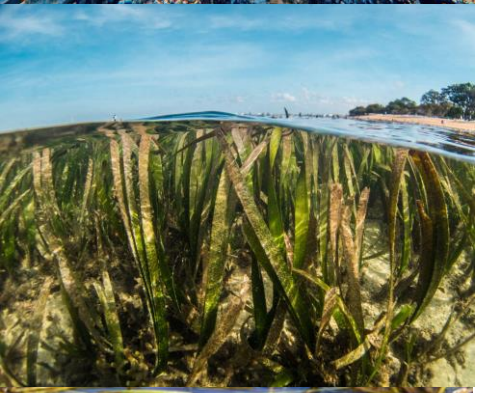
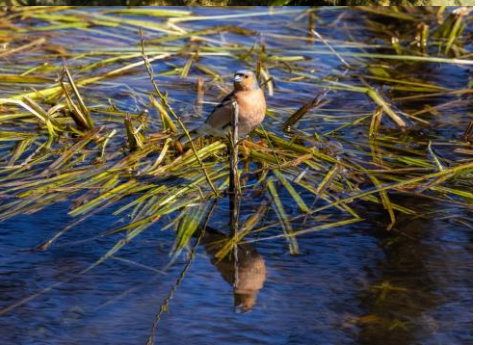






1.4. Wetlands Targets and Sites

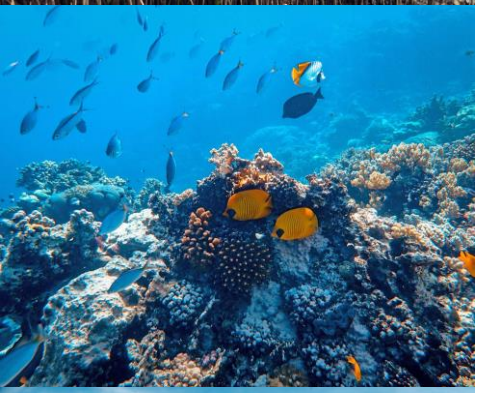
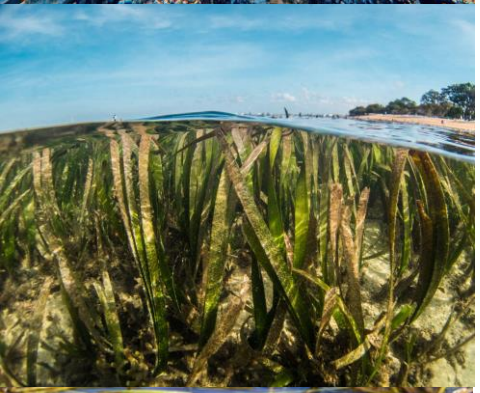
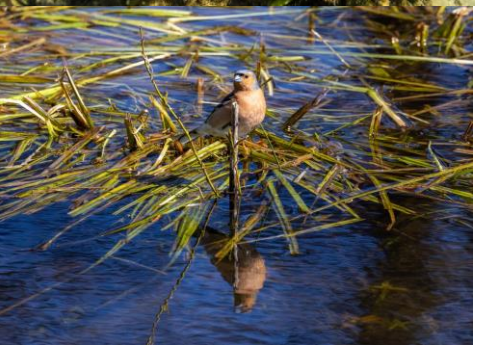
Coastal saline wetlands are distributed along the East Sea, the southwest Ca Mau peninsula and Thai Lan Bay. Of which, coastal saline wetlands (regularly flooded 879.644 ha and irregularly flooded 756.425 ha). This part concentrates on establishing sustainable management methods for 783.900 ha of coastal wetlands in 19 places. The activities expected to be conducted in Viet Nam as follows

1.4. Wetlands Targets and Sites

1). Wetlands Protected Areas (WPA) Thai Thuy (about 6.560 ha):

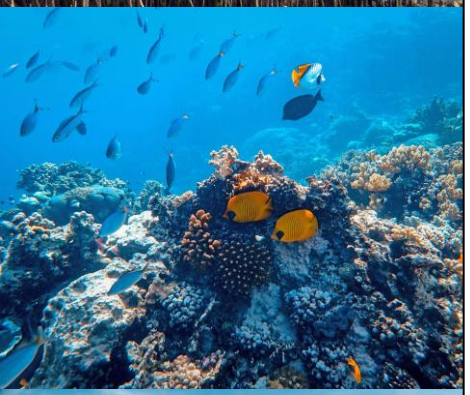
- Quickly accessing the current WPA;
- Developing integrated management plan WPA;
- related to environment protection, biodiversiStrengthen ability on legal implementation ty, and sustainable finance in WPA Thai Thuy;
- Pilot community-based eco-tourism models using the value of wetlands;
- Conduct monitoring activities using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;

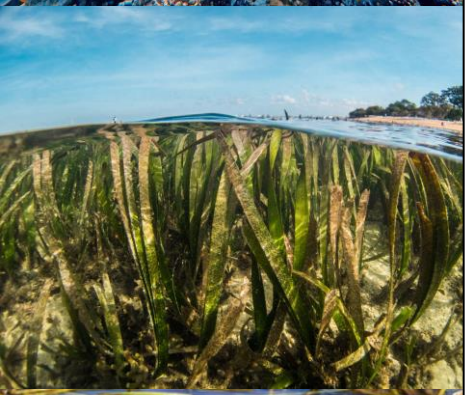





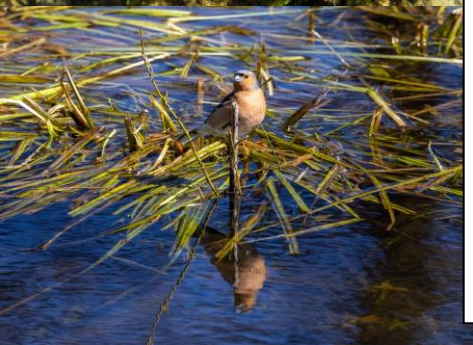
1.4. Wetlands Targets and Sites

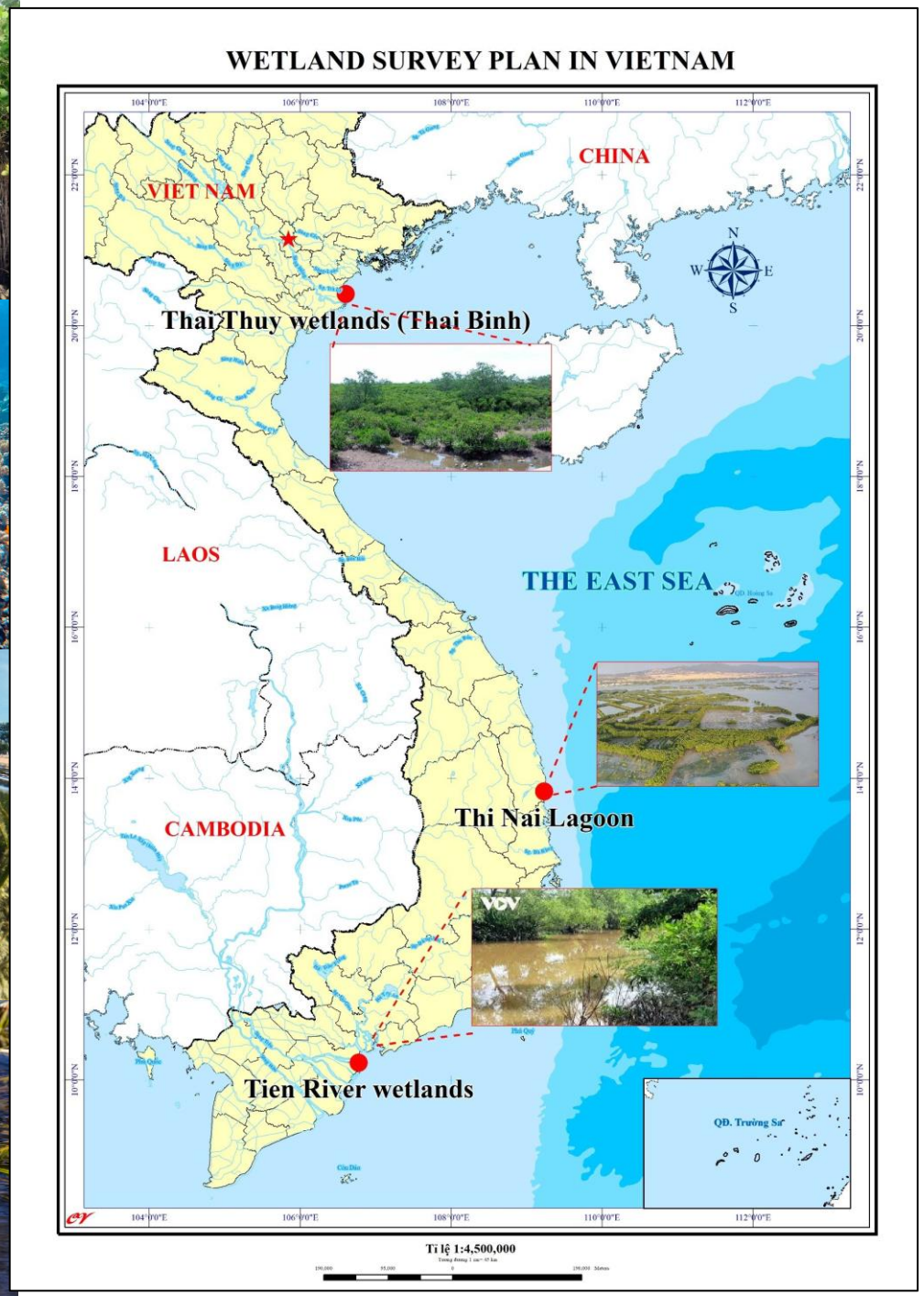
2). Thị Nại Lagoon (about 5.000ha), Quy Nhon city, Binh Dinh province:

- Quicky review the current state of Thi Nai Lagoon;
- Developing integrated management plan for Thi Nai Lagoon;
- Strengthen ability on legal implementation related to environment protection, biodiversity, and sustainable finance for Thi Nai Lagoon;
- Pilot community-based eco-tourism models using the value of wetlands;
- Conduct monitoring activities using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;



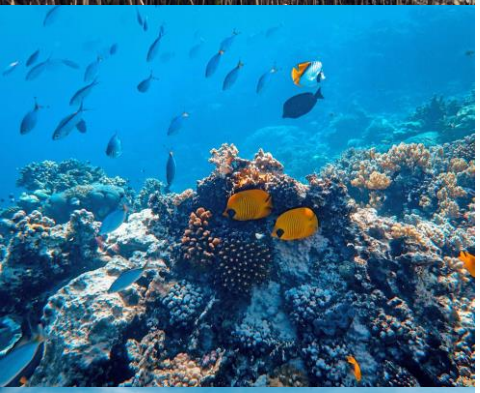


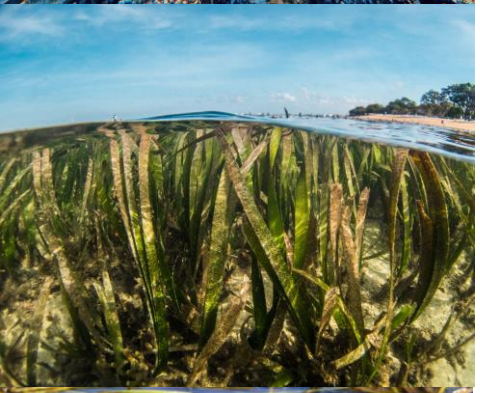


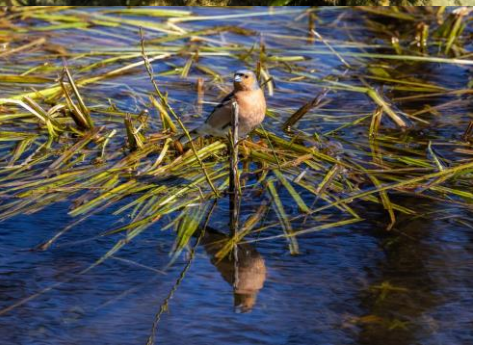


3). Tien Giang wetland belongs to the Tien River Westlands:

- Quicky review the current state of wetlands in Tien Giang;
- Developing integrated management plan for wetlands in Tien Giang;
- Strengthen ability on legal implementation related to environment protection, biodiversity, and sustainable finance for wetlands in Tien Giang;
- Pilot community-based eco-tourism models using the value of wetlands;
- Conduct monitoring activities using selected indicators based on the SAP management matrix;







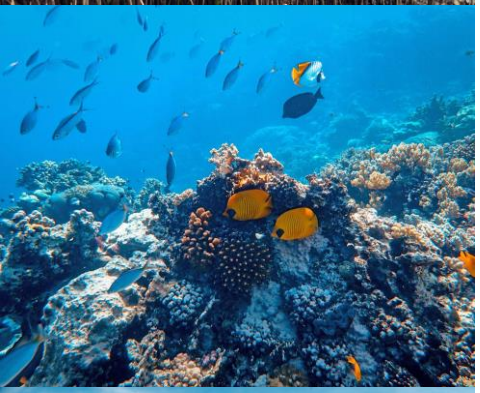
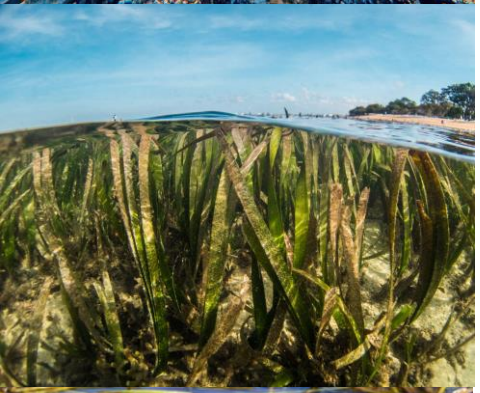
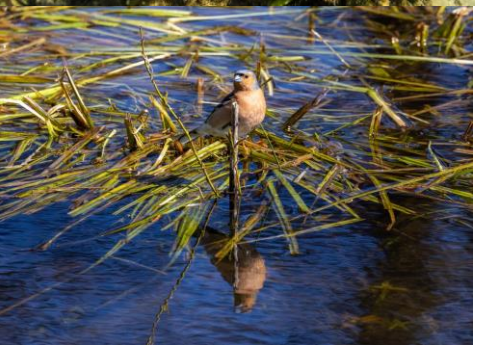
1.4. Wetlands Targets and Sites

The products of Wetland sustainable management activities are expected to be as follows:

1) A report of the actual status of natural conditions, social-economic, environment, biodiversity, subsistence, management and policies of Thai Thuy wetlands;

2) Annual monitoring report and wetlands management report; sustainable management plan for Thai Thuy wetlands;

3) A report of the actual status of natural conditions, social-economic, environment, biodiversity, subsistence, management and policies of Thi Nai Lagoon;

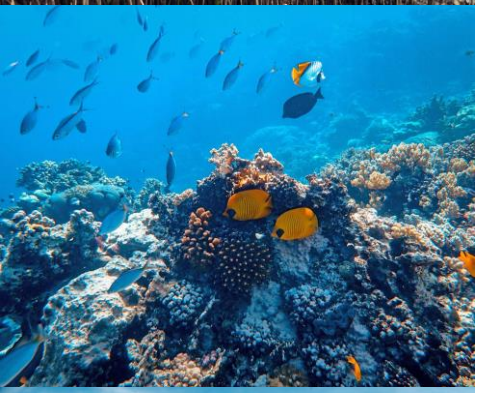
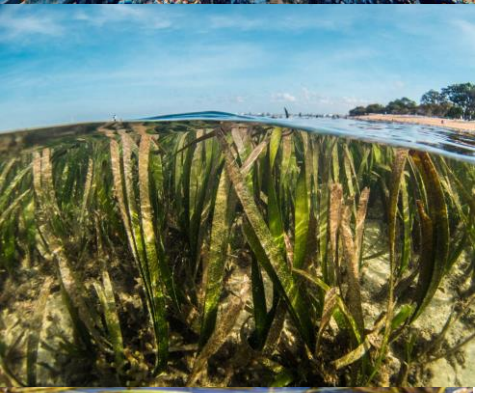
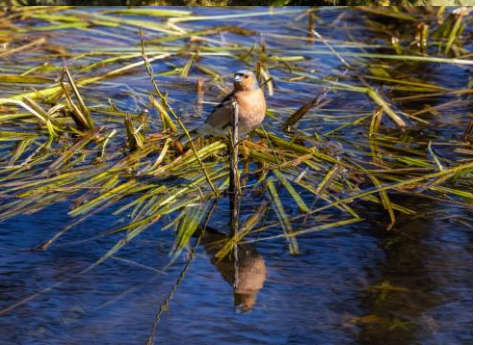





1.4. Wetlands Targets and Sites

4) A annual monitoring report and wetlands management report; sustainable management plan for Thi Nai Lagoon;

5). A report on the actual status of natural conditions, social-economic, environment, biodiversity, subsistence, management and policies of Tien Giang Wetlands;

6). A annual monitoring report and a wetlands management report; sustainable management plan for Tien Giang Wetlands;

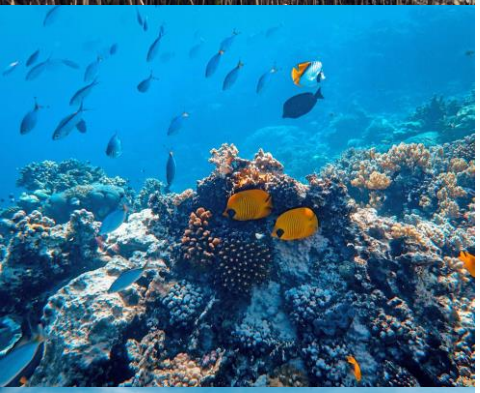
Component 2: Pollution Management

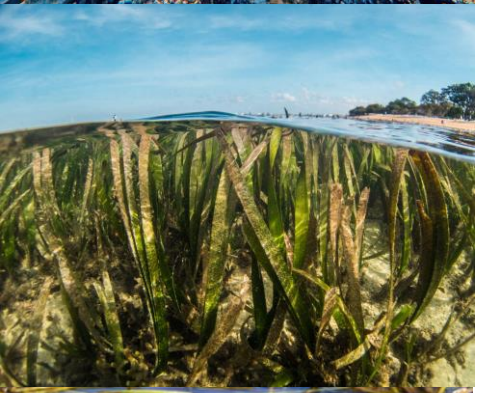
The goal of this component is to establish the information base to support action planning, and rehabilitation and restoration of coastal areas, strengthen, support the development of policies and financial mechanisms in management the of pollution resources. In Viet Nam, the following planned activities will be carried out:

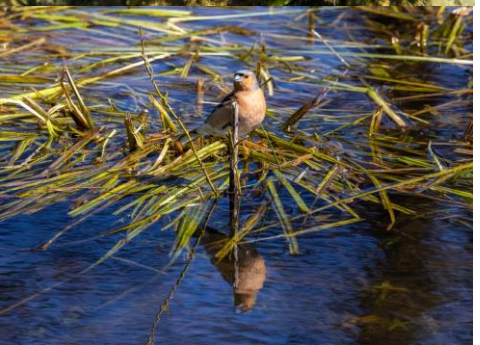
1) Improve coastal ecosystem governance information systems, monitoring and developing action plans;

2) Effectively integrate science into land-based pollution management;

3) Support the improvement of national-level policies and regulations, support financial mechanisms to improve, and restore the environment and control the pollution resources on land;







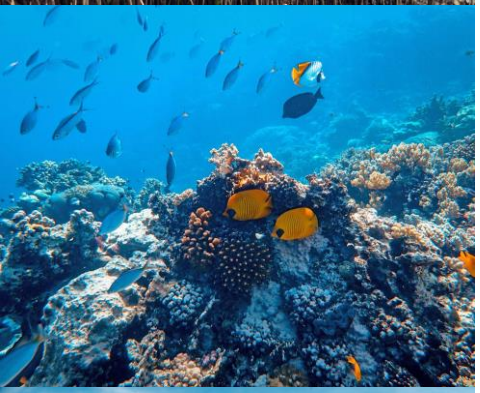
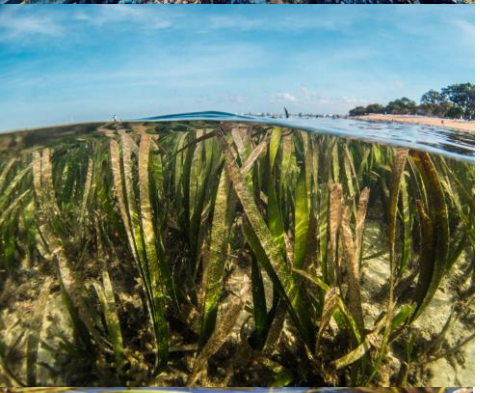
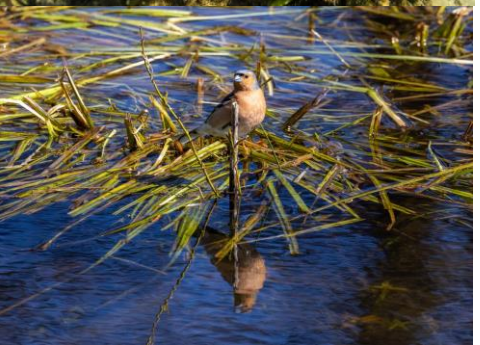
Component 2: Pollution Management

3) Support to complete national policies and legislation, as well as support financial mechanisms for environmental rehabilitation and control the sources of land pollution;

4) Up-to-date total economic value of coastal environment used in development planning and decision-making in green economy development orientation;

5) Suitable tools and mechanisms for building sustainable management systems for coastal ecosystems and control land pollution;

6) Up-to-date and approved Strategic Action Program and cross-border analysis including priority activities in national governance to reduce the impacts of climate change;

Component 2: Pollution Management

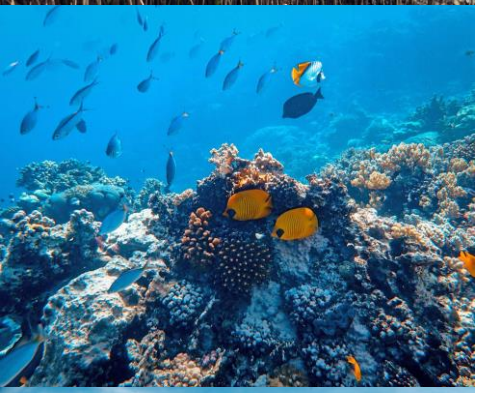
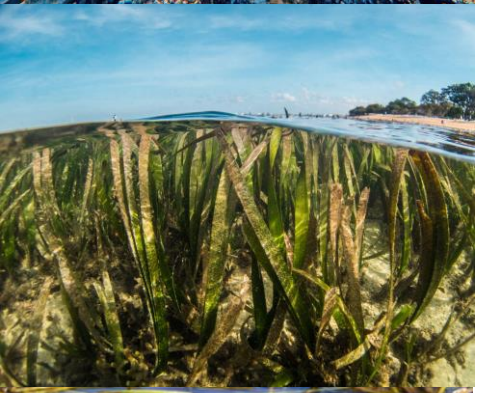
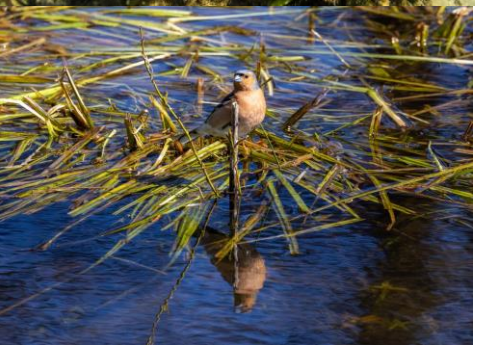
Main products of component 2:

1) A assessment and analysis report on monitoring systems, waste source management in coastal cities; evaluate waste sources would be the risk of causing pollution; assess the actual state of information, data about waste sources from the land;

2) A report on the impacts of aquaculture operation on the ecosystem, environment and human;

3) A report on the current regulations on the management and control of environmental land pollution; identify the gaps within government policies; propose the legal framework for management; control marine pollution comes from land

4) 01 synthesis report, analysis models, lesson learned from other countries and regions of control marine pollution comes from land. Gather the lesson learned of good and service economy pricing of coastal ecosystems;

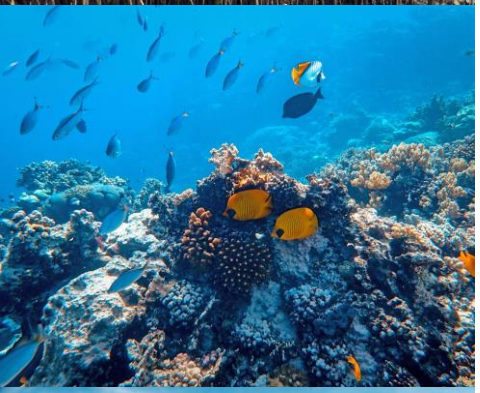





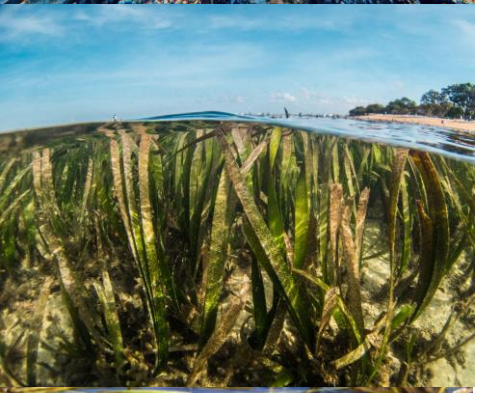
Component 3: Overall Status and Challenges

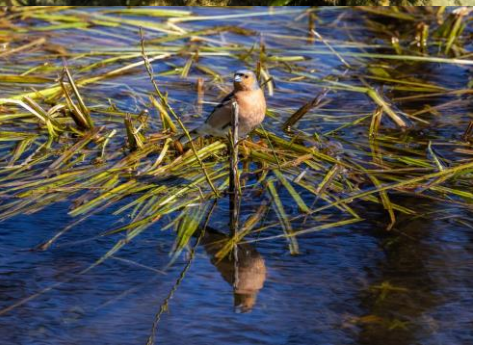
The objective of this component is regional and subregional cooperation in integrating scientific knowledge and investigation results with management and policy-making; and capacity building for socio-political organizations and communities in the SAP implementation through partner activities with GEF SGP. The activities expected to be conducted in Viet Nam as follows:

1) Regional and subregional cooperation in integrating scientific knowledge and investigation results with management and policy - making;

2) strengthen ability for socio-political organizations and communities in the SAP implementation through partner activities with GEF, SGP;





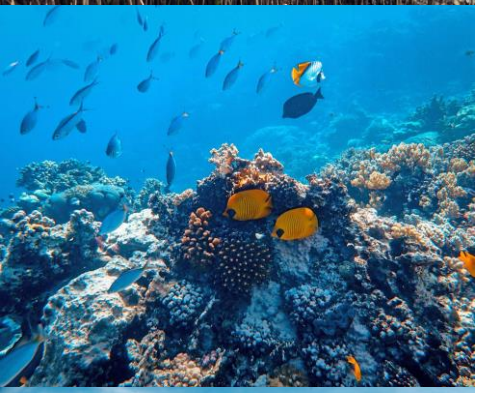


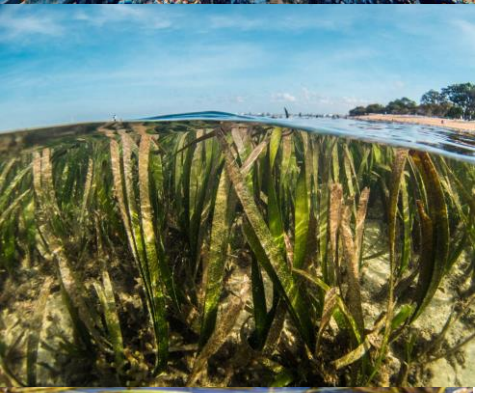
Component 3: Overall Status and Challenges

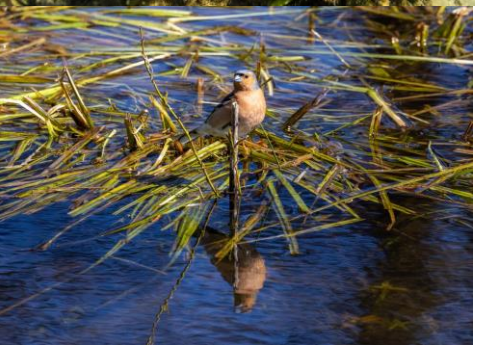
3) Reinforce and officialize the relationship between central and local government and private;

4) Modify zone mechanism for communication, knowledge exchange, management and sharing of data and information;

5) Discussed and approved the Agreement about Enhancing regional cooperation in marine and coastal environment management in Eastern Sea and Thailand;







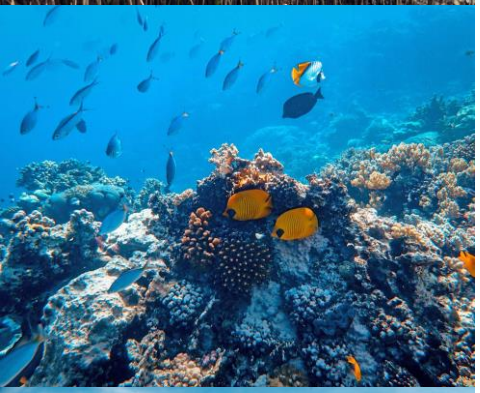
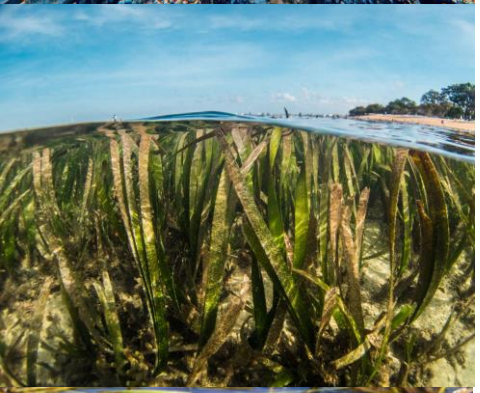
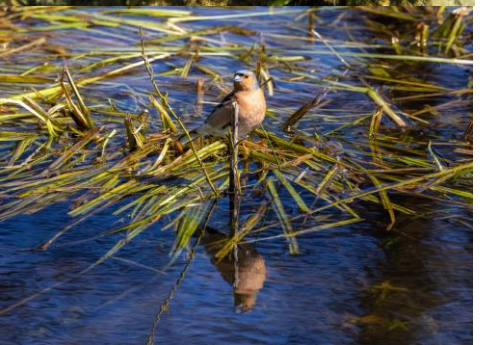
Component 3: Overall Status and Challenges

Products of Component 3:

1) Reports on participation in meetings and workshops within the framework of the Project;

2) Reports on consultations with stakeholders within the framework of the project;

3) Draft of the National Plan for Land-based Pollution Control and Environmental Management in the South China Sea;

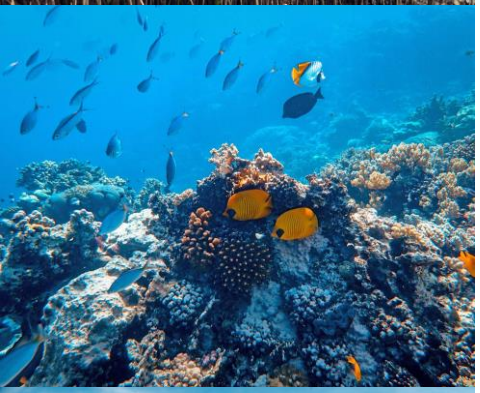
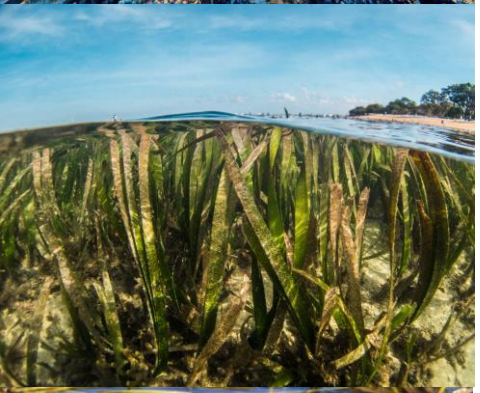
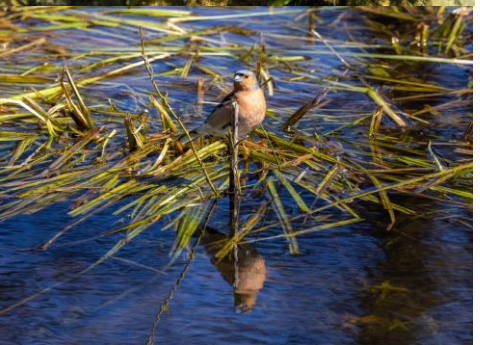
Highlights on the country report on achievements in implementing the SAP during 2008-2021

1. Time of adoption for publication: 2008-2021

2. Key achievements in the management of mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass beds, coastal wetlands and LbP

2.1 Mangroves

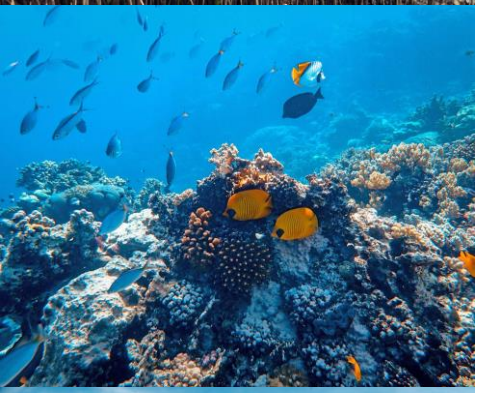
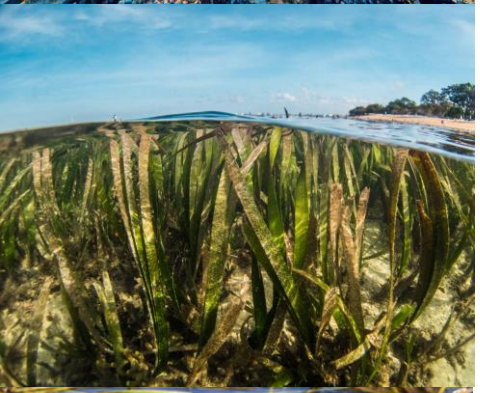
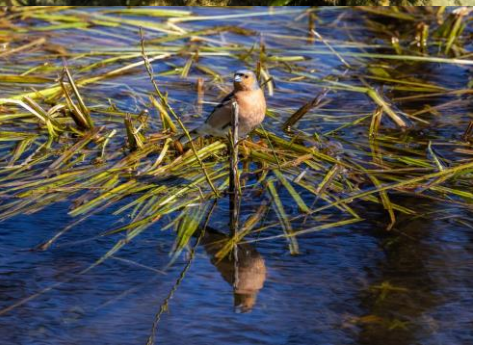
- Declaration of 57,400 ha of mangroves as National Parks and Protected Areas
- Designation and plans for the management of 166,600 ha of mangrove as non-conversion, sustainable use areas
- Reform of laws and regulations for the sustainable use of 602,800 ha of mangrove forest
- Replanting of 21,000 ha of deforested mangrove land
- Biodiversity increased for 11,200 ha of mangrove forest via enrichment planting

Highlights on the country report on achievements in implementing the SAP during 2008-2021

2.2 Coral leaf

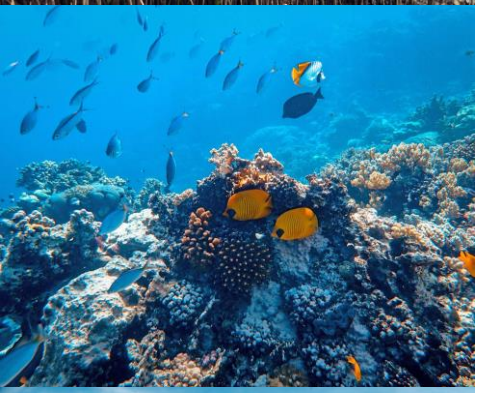
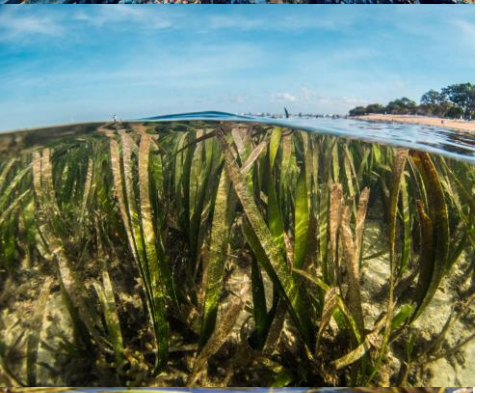
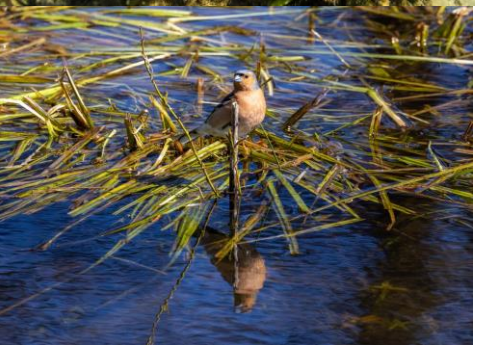
- 110,430 ha of coral reef at 46 priority sites managed sustainably
- Management capacity (number/levels of human resources, facilities and equipment, and sustainable financing mechanisms) built for 46 coral reef sites
- Management approaches and policy, legal & institutional reforms (integrated, community-based, multiple-use) improved at 46 coral reef sites
- Established mechanism for monitoring coral reef management

Highlights on the country report on achievements in implementing the SAP during 2008-2021

2.3 Seagrass

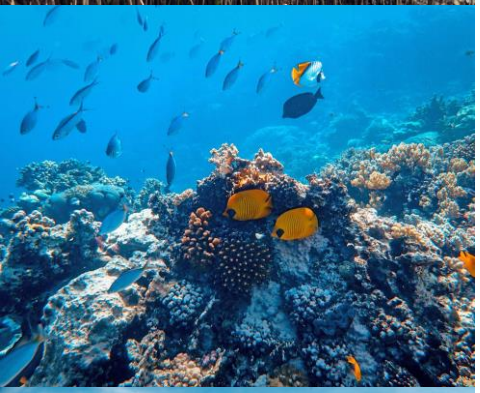
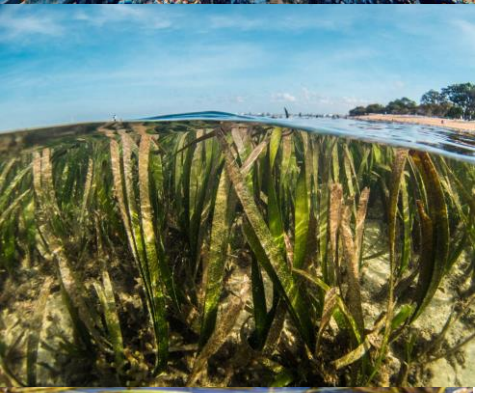
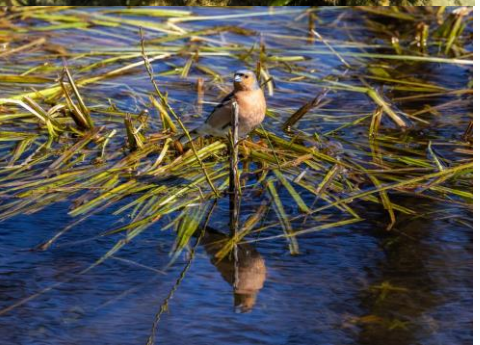
- Twenty seagrass areas totalling 26,036 ha under sustainable management with supporting laws and regulations
- Amended management plans for 7 existing MPAs with significant seagrass areas, to include specific seagrass-related management actions and policy, legal and institutional reforms
- Designation of 7 new Marine Protected Areas focusing on seagrass areas identified in the prioritised listings of the SCS Project
- Established mechanism for monitoring seagrass habitat management

Highlights on the country report on achievements in implementing the SAP during 2008-2021

2.4 Wetlands

- Integrated management plans developed and under implementation for at least 2 lagoons (21,818 ha), 10 estuaries (639,418 ha), 5 tidal flats (96,903 ha), 1 peat swamp (45,700 ha) and 1 non-peat swamp (9,808 ha)
- Declaration of wetland areas with protection status (i.e., non-hunting areas, nature reserves, protected areas, Ramsar Sites)
- Monitoring scheme for wetland management

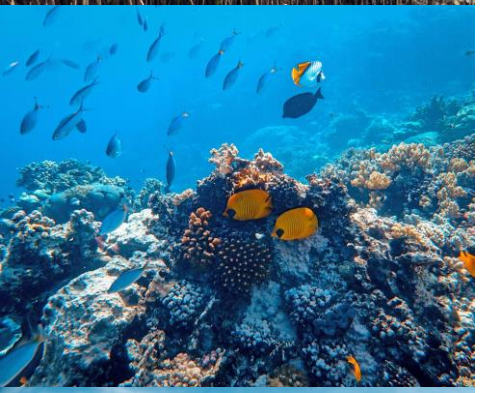
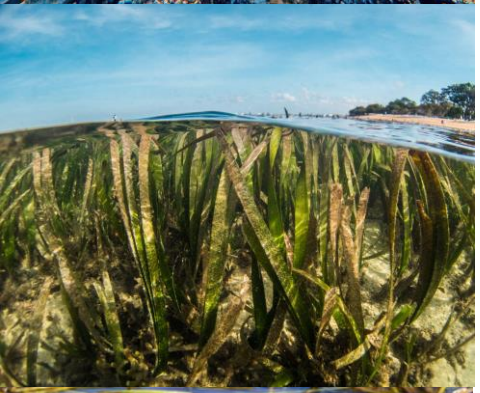
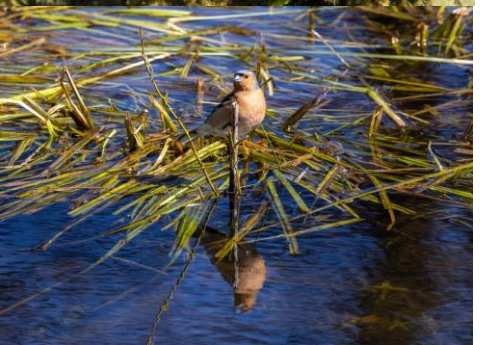
Progress in implementing the signed PCA/GSA

According to the current Vietnamese regulations and policies, to officially approve the regional project, it is necessary to follow two different stages:

- stage 1 is the Prime Minister approving the project in principle;
- stage 2 is the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment approving the detailed project document. That will be the final legal to implement the project.

Viet Nam has made a great effort to get approval from the Prime Minister, it is required to get official comments from line Ministries and selected localities under the project proposal, due to internal procedures. According to the current Vietnamese regulations, a Project Cooperation Agreement is only signed by both sides after the project is officially approved by the Government.

Challenges: The project only extends until December 2026, the time left in order to get approval from Government is quite challenged

THANK YOU!