









INTRODUCTION

The objective of the UNEP GEF Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand (SCS SAP Project) is:

"To assist countries in meeting the targets of the approved Strategic Action Programme (SAP) for the marine and coastal environment of the South China Sea (SCS) through implementation of the National Action Plans in support of the SAP, and strengthening regional co-ordination for SCS SAP implementation."

Participating Countries: Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam

Implementation Agency: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Executing Agencies: United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Southeast

Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)

Funding Agency: Global Environment Facility (GEF)

Funding: 15 million USD (with approximately 83 million USD in co-financing)

Web-links: https://scssap.org

The Objective of the SCS SAP Inception Phase was further elaborate on the detailed regional and national level activities, workplan and budget of the SCS SAP, as well as approaches to be undertaken regarding execution and coordination, stakeholder involvements, partnerships, communication and reporting. It also allows for some review of the project outputs, in order to ensure they are fully in line with the current status of SAP implementation and in line with national and regional strategic priorities and also ensure links to new approaches, tools and best practices within and beyond the region. During this Inception Phase of the project three regional inception phase meetings have been held and more than 30 bilateral and national meetings and consultations.

The Inception Phase will be concluded with the adoption of the Inception Phase reports including detailed workplan and budget by the 1st Steering Committee meeting (29-30 June 2021) and the launching of the project with key partners at the Inception Workshop (1 July 2021).

The objectives of this Inception Workshop include:

- 1. Present the SCS SAP project expected outcomes, outputs and planned activities to all key partners and stakeholders, including national and regional activities; and
- 2. Discuss partnerships and exchange with stakeholders on additional synergies and opportunities for cooperation.

The Inception Workshop will be attended by the SCS SAP Steering Committee with representatives of participating countries, UNEP, UNOPS and SEAFDEC, key partners in the region and national teams and stakeholders. It will also be open for any interested persons to register and attend.

PROVISIONAL ANNOTATED AGENDA

09.00– 09.20 **1. Opening and Welcome**

The following welcome addresses will be given:

- Dr. Pornsri Suthanaruk, Deputy Director General of Thailand's Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, MONRE
- Ms. Isabelle Vanderbeck, UNEP/GEF International Waters Task Manager
- Ms. Malinee Smithrithee, Secretary General of SEAFDEC
- Ms. Katrin Lichtenberg, Vienna Representative and Head of Programme, Water and Energy Cluster of UNOPS

2. Project presentation

A presentation will be given on the overall vision and objectives of the "UNEP GEF Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand" (SCS SAP) Project, as well as the planned activities for 2021-2024 by Virginie Hart, the Senior Project Manager

09.40–10.00 **3. Project organization**

A brief presentation will be given on the executing arrangement of the SCS SAP project and roles of UNOPS, SEAFDEC and the Project Coordination Unit (PCU), and the organogram of regional and national level Working Groups and Committees to ensure full engagement of all key institutions and stakeholders.

10.00–11.00 4. Country presentations

Lead agencies for the SCS SAP project will present briefly main areas of activities to be executed at the national level. The NTWG Chairpersons from the participating countries will present.

- Cambodia: Mr. Kim Nong, Director General of General Directorate of Administration for Nature Conservation and Protection, Ministry of Environment
- China: Dr. Liu Guozhi, Director of Department of International Cooperation, Ministry of Ecology and Environment
- Indonesia: Mr. Dida Migfar Ridha, Director of Coastal and Marine Pollution and Degradation Control, Ministry of Environment and Forestry
- Philippines: Mr. Edilberto DC Leonardo, Undersecretary and OIC Director of Biodiversity Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- Thailand: Mr. Ukkrit Satapoomin, Director of Coastal Resources Conservation Division, Department of Marine and Coastal Resources, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
- Viet Nam: Mr. Luu Anh Duc, Deputy Director of Department of Science, Technology and International Cooperation, Viet Nam Administration of Seas and Islands, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

11.00–11.10 **Short break**

11.10–11.20 **5. Regional Activities**

The project components and activities to implement the Strategic Action Programme at the regional level will be presented by Virginie Hart, the Senior Project Manager, followed by questions and discussion

11.20–12.40 **6.** Key partnerships and synergies

Key to the success of the SCS SAP is the partnerships to ensure the most efficient and effective use of resources, build upon existing efforts and initiatives, establish joint and common objectives and targets for the longer term, and design a plan for the sustainability of all actions, from monitoring, scientific studies, policy reforms and capacity building. Some of the key SCS SAP partners will present their priorities for the coming years and how to maximize synergies:

- Ms. Katrin Eitrem Holmgren, Secretariat of the Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia (COBSEA)
- Ms. Aimee Gonzales, Executive Director of Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA)
- Ms. Sulan Chen, GEF Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP)
- Mr. Mish Hamid, IWLEARN
- Dr. Somboon Siriraksophon, UNEP/GEF Fisheries Refugia Project

12.40–13.00 **7. Closing Remarks**

The Project Manager will call for the closing of the meeting, and will invite the Chairperson of the Project Steering Committee to give the closing remarks on behalf of the participating countries.