



Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND GULF OF THAILAND (SCS SAP) Project

## INCEPTION WORKSHOP

Teleconference, 1 July 2021, 09.00 – 13.00 Indochina time (ICT)

Agenda Item 2 and 3.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE SCS SAP PROJECT







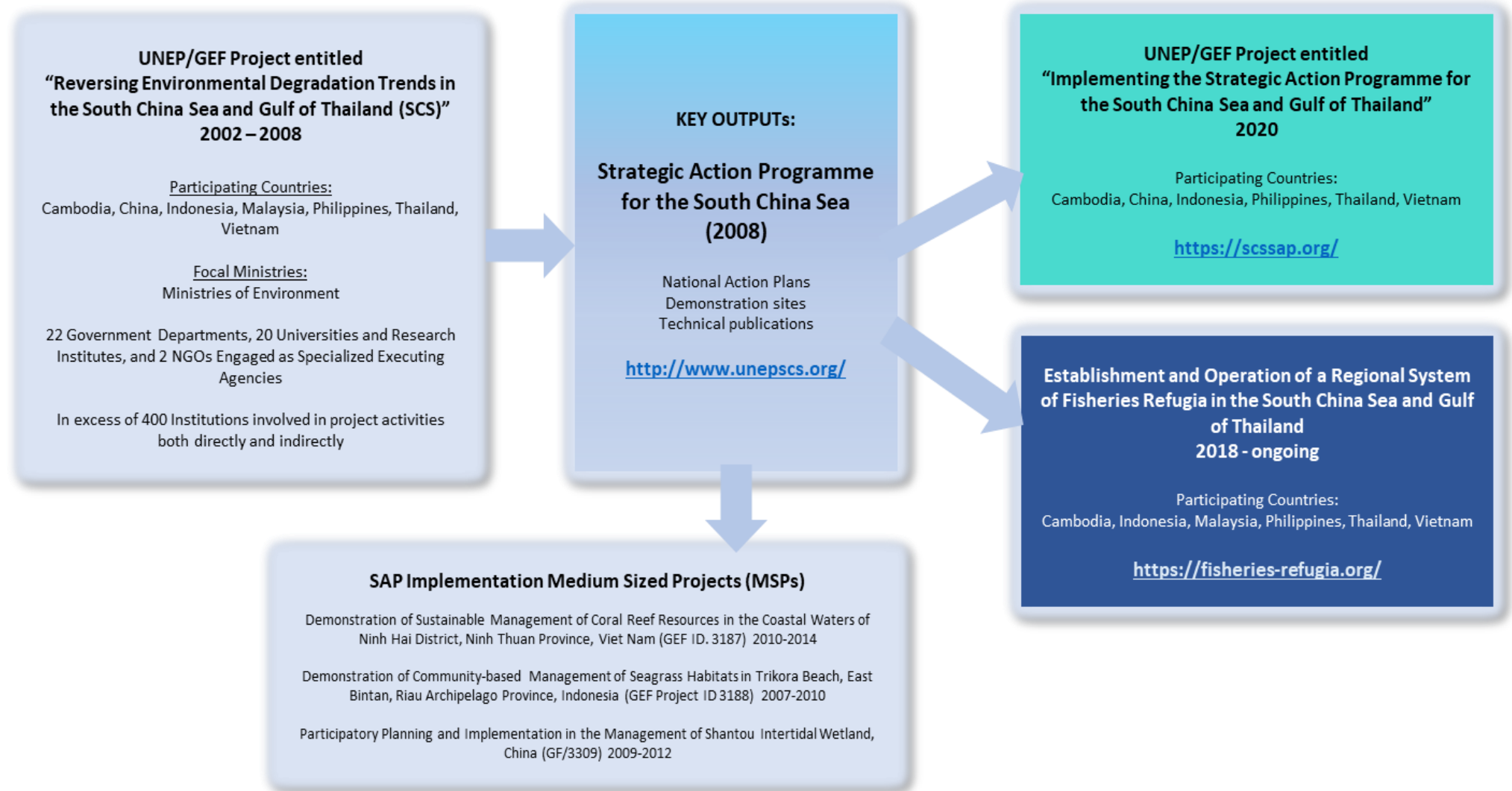
# The Challenge

The South China Sea is a semi-enclosed sea, which supports a number of unique habitats and ecosystems that are amongst the most biologically diverse shallow water marine ecosystems globally. The richness and productivity of the South China Sea and associated environments are, however, seriously threatened by high population growth, pollution, overharvest and habitat modification, resulting in high rates of habitat loss and impairment of the regenerative capacities of living resources. The socio-economic impacts of environmental deterioration are significant for the economies of this region.

Recognizing that actions were urgently needed to halt degradation of the environment of this marine basin, the countries of the region sought the assistance of UNEP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in preparing a **Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis** of the issues and problems and their societal root causes as the basis for development of a **Strategic Action Programme (SAP)** which was inter-governmentally adopted in 2008. The SAP established a series of objectives and priority costed actions for coastal habitats, land-based pollution management, and the over-exploitation of fish stocks in the South China Sea.

- ✓ Continuing trends in mangrove, coral reef, seagrass and wetland habitat degradation and loss
- ✓ Over-exploitation of living aquatic resources
- ✓ Increasing pollution from land based sources
- ✓ Need for continued regional coordination to address transboundary issues
- ✓ Increasing stress on the marine and coast from Climate change, sea-level rise and acidification

# Working together with the GEF since 2002







# Summary facts

<b>Participating Countries:</b>	Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam
<b>Implementation Agency:</b>	United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
<b>Executing Agencies:</b>	United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) and the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC)
<b>GEF Funding:</b>	15 million USD (with approximately 83 million USD in co-financing)
<b>Timeline:</b>	2018-2024
<b>Web-links:</b>	<a href="https://scssap.org">https://scssap.org</a>

The objective of the 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.”***

This will be achieved through the cooperation of participating countries, intergovernmental organizations, regional organizations, public-private sectors partnerships, civil society and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), leading scientists from the region. The project will also contribute to global targets such as the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2030 and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Post 2020 Biodiversity Framework.

# SCSSAP Component 1 Outcomes

## **Component 1. Reducing habitat degradation and loss via national and local reforms to achieve Strategic Action Programme targets for coastal habitat management in the South China Sea**

- Outcome 1.1 Appropriate forms of sustainable management established for 860,000 ha of mangrove
- Outcome 1.2 110,430 ha of coral reef at 46 priority sites managed sustainably
- Outcome 1.3 Conservation, management and sustainable use of 15,848 ha of known seagrass area in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand
- Outcome 1.4 Integrated management of 783,900 ha of coastal wetland at 19 sites, including habitat restoration and protection strengthened at priority locations
- Outcome 1.5 National and regional level cooperation in tracking results of SAP actions for coastal habitat management

- ✓ Supporting SAP implementation at the priority sites identified in the sites
- ✓ Led by National Lead Agencies
- ✓ Resulting in improved habitat management and restoration, increased capacity, knowledge exchange, monitoring and reporting status
- ✓ Integrating best-practices from within and beyond the region to achieve long-term impact and sustainability
- ✓ Contributing to key SDG targets and Convention on Biological Diversity Post 2020 targets







# SCSSAP Component 2 Outcomes

## **Component 2. Strengthening knowledge-based action planning for the management of coastal habitats and land-based pollution to reduce environmental degradation of the South China Sea**

- Outcome 2.1 Enhanced information-base for coastal habitat management, monitoring and action planning
- Outcome 2.2 Effective integration of regional science in the management of land-based pollution
- Outcome 2.3 Strengthened and harmonized national policies and laws, and supporting financial mechanism, for the management of habitats and land-based sources of pollution
- Outcome 2.4 Improved national and regional values for the Updated Total Economic Values of coastal habitats for use in development planning and decision-making and blue economy
- Outcome 2.5 Regionally appropriate tools and mechanisms to guide the development of sustainable management systems for coastal habitats and land-based pollution
- Outcome 2.6 Updated and Ministerially adopted Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis and Strategic Action Programme, including prioritization of national management actions to address climate variability and change

- ✓ Update of National Reports and National Action Plans
- ✓ Update to the TDA and SAP
- ✓ Number of key assessments on pollution
- ✓ State of Coastal Habitats
- ✓ Economic evaluation of coastal habitats and
- ✓ Support to policy and legislation reforms
- ✓ Publications on best-practices

# SCSSAP Components and targets

## **Component 3. Facilitating regional and national level integration and cooperation for implementation of the South China Sea Strategic Action Programme**

- Outcome 3.1 Regional and sub-regional co-operation in the integration of scientific knowledge and research outputs with management and policy making
- Outcome 3.2 Capacity for civil society and community organization participation in SAP implementation strengthened via operational partnership with GEF SGP
- Outcome 3.3 Relationships between central and local governments and the private sector strengthened and formalized
- Outcome 3.4 Revitalization of regional mechanisms for communications, knowledge exchange, and information and data management and sharing
- Outcome 3.5 Agreed arrangements for strengthened regional cooperation in the management of the marine and coastal environment of the South China Sea

- ✓ Regional Scientific & Technical Committee meetings, scientific conferences, mayors round tables
- ✓ Small Grants Program
- ✓ Private Sector Partnerships, National Investment Plans and SAP financing mechanism
- ✓ Communication and Knowledge Management
- ✓ Regional coordination





# From Local to Regional

## *Site specific*

- 1.1. Mangroves
- 1.2. Coral Reefs
- 1.3. Seagrass
- 1.4. Wetlands
- ✓ On site management/restoration
- ✓ Reporting, monitoring and site data (1.1.6, 1.2.4, 1.3.4, 2.1.2) and remote sensing data analysis (2.1.1)
- ✓ Identify gaps, capacity building and future needs
- ✓ Local teams and stakeholders
- ✓ GEF Small Grants (3.2)

## *National level*

- ✓ Review on SAP implementation (1.5.4)
- ✓ Review and outline elements for regional monitoring (1.4.3, 2.1.5, 2.1.6, 2.3.3)
- ✓ Updated national reports and NAPs (2.6.1, 2.6.2, 2.6.4, 2.6.5)
- ✓ Policy and legislation reforms (2.3.2, 2.3.4)
- ✓ National Coordination (IMC, NTWG and Committees)

## *Regional Level*

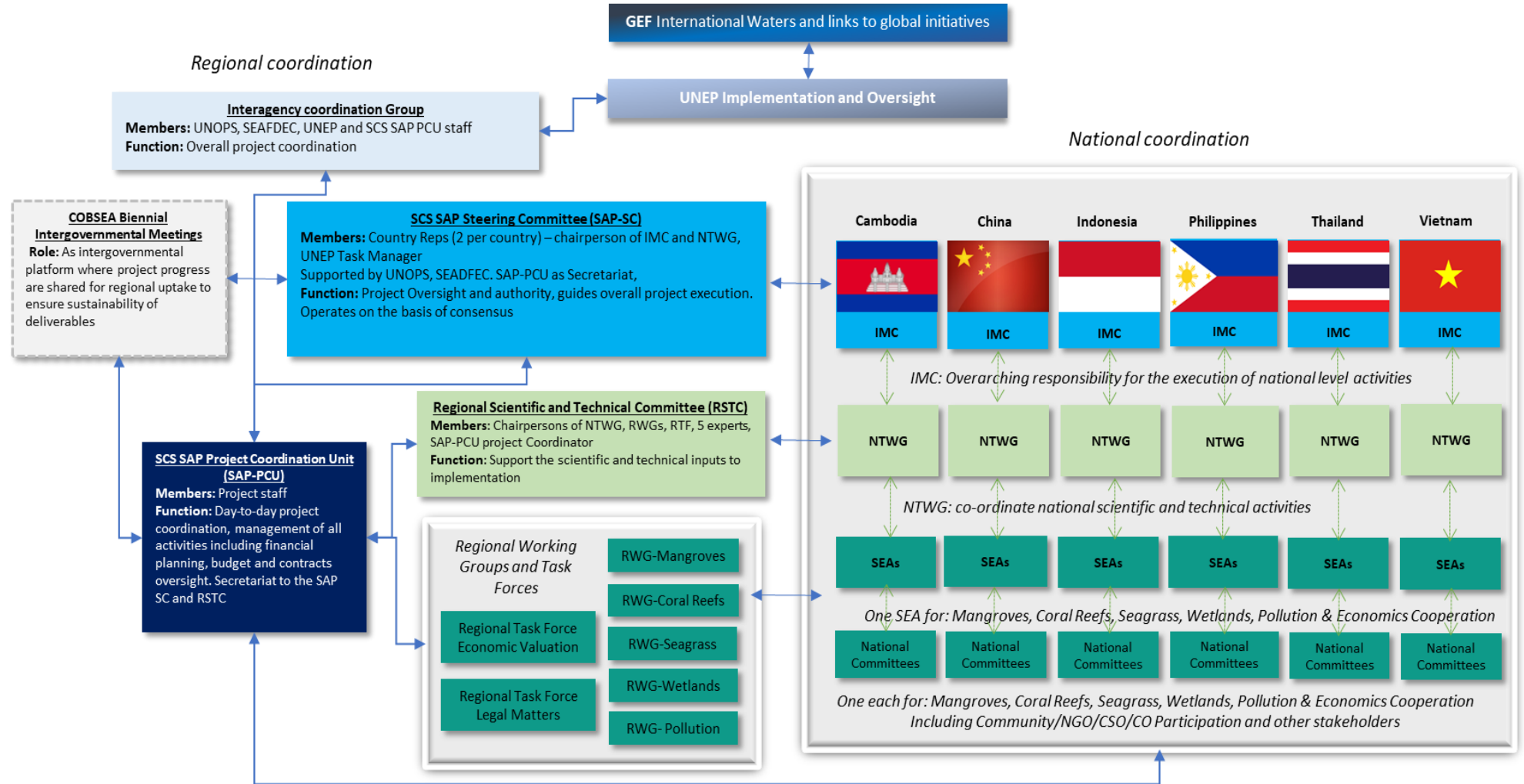
- ✓ Updated TDA and SAP (2.6.1, 2.6.3)
- ✓ State of Coastal Habitats (2.6.2)
- ✓ Regional Committees and working groups (PSC, RSTC, habitat working groups) (3.1.1)
- ✓ Regional Scientific Conferences (3.1.1)
- ✓ Annual Mayors roundtable (3.1.3)
- ✓ Private sector engagement and opportunities (3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4) and financing (3.3.5)
- ✓ Strengthened regional cooperation (3.5)

- ✓ Assessments: (2.1.4, 2.1.4, 2.1.3); Model/effluent volumes (2.2.1, 2.2.3); Economic evaluation (2.4)
- ✓ Best-practices (2.3.1, 2.5.1); Best practices award program (3.1.6); Capacity building/training (2.5.2)

*Project Coordination, Monitoring and reporting, Web-site and database management; Support to publishing of reports, communication strategy*



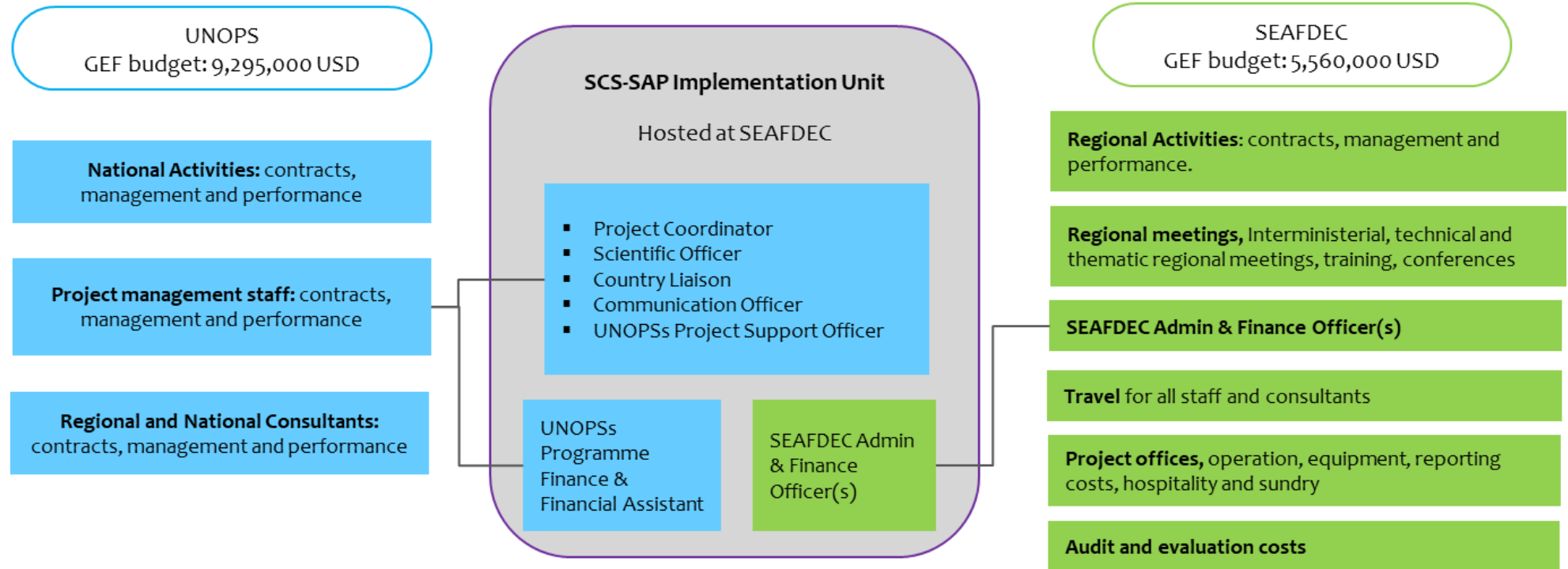
# Coordination structure



IMC = Inter-Ministry Committee; NTWG = National Technical Working Group; National Committee = Specialized Executing Agency; RWG= Regional Working Group

# Role of UNOPS and SEAFDEC

Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand  
SEAFDEC and UNOPS execution





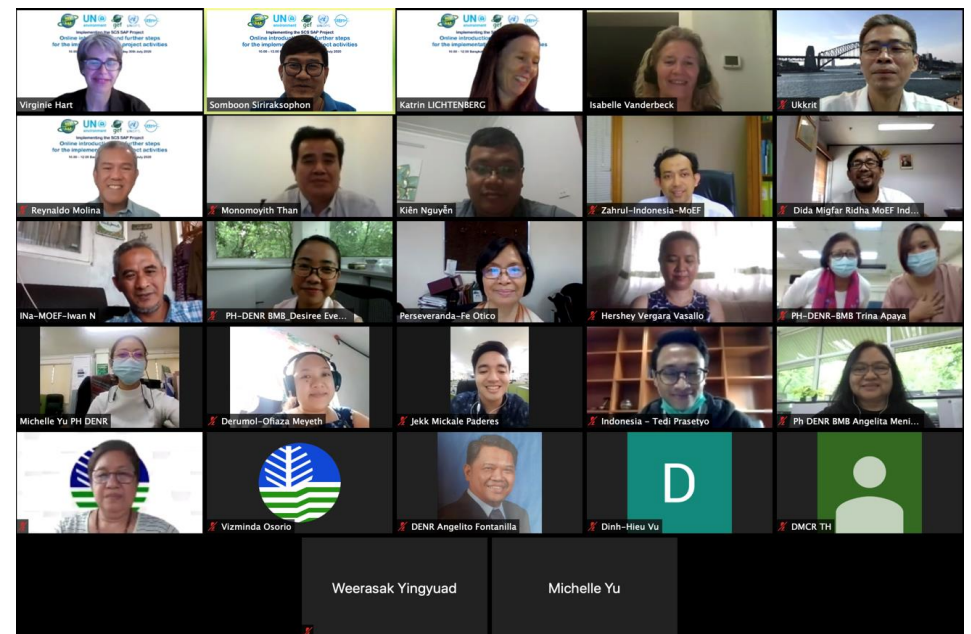


# 2020-2021 Inception Phase

- ❑ Project Coordination Unit (PCU) and project office hosted by SEAFDEC
- ❑ Three regional meetings: (30 July, 4 December, 2020 and 15 March 2021)
- ❑ Over 30 national meetings and bilaterals
- ❑ National coordination mechanisms in process and development of national activities.
- ❑ Project web-site updated: <https://www.scssap.org/>
- ❑ Identification of stakeholders and key partnerships
- ❑ Key Inception documents finalized: Regional Implementation Report, workplan, budget, TORs and Rules of Procedure, National Profiles

The team so far: Virginie Hart, Senior Project Manager ([virginieh@unops.org](mailto:virginieh@unops.org)) and Reynaldo Molina, Program Support & Country Liaison ([reynaldo.molina@scssap.org](mailto:reynaldo.molina@scssap.org), [reynaldom@unops.org](mailto:reynaldom@unops.org)).

SCS SAP Project Office: The Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center (SEAFDEC), Training Department, Samut Prakan, Thailand







## LIST OF DOCUMENTS

### Meeting documents

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) members are required to review these documents with the aim to adopt during the 1<sup>st</sup> Steering Committee meeting

SCSSAP PSC.1/1	Provisional Agenda
SCSSAP PSC.1/2	Annotated Provisional Agenda
SCSSAP PSC.1/3	Draft Inception Phase Regional Report
SCSSAP PSC.1/4	Draft Terms of Reference for the Project Steering Committee
SCSSAP PSC.1/5	Draft Rules of Procedure for the Project Steering Committee
SCSSAP PSC.1/6	Draft Terms of Reference for the Regional and National Committees and Working Groups
SCSSAP PSC.1/7	Draft Proposed Workplan for 2021
SCSSAP PSC.1/8	Draft Budget
SCSSAP PSC.1/9	Report of the Meeting (to be prepared following the meeting)

### Information documents

SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.1	Provisional list of documents (this document)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.2	Draft List of Participants
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.3	Cambodia Summary Profile (draft)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.4	China Summary Profile (draft)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.5	Indonesia Summary Profile (draft)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.6	Philippines Summary Profile (draft)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.7	Thailand Summary Profile (draft)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.8	Vietnam Summary Profile (draft)
SCSSAP PSC.1/Inf.9	UNEP GEF Project Implementation Report (PIR) Fiscal Year 2020





# THANK YOU!

