



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)

COBSEA

COORDINATING BODY ON THE SEAS OF EAST ASIA



Mandate

- COBSEA one of 18 Regional Seas programmes
 - Intergovernmental body, nine countries in East Asian Seas region
 - Secretariat is administered by UNEP
- Sole decision-making body of the East Asian Seas Action Plan
 - Protecting the marine and coastal environment in the region
- COBSEA Strategic Directions 2018-2022
 - Addressing marine pollution
 - Enhancing marine and coastal planning and management
 - Strengthening regional governance
- COBSEA Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter (2019)
 - Prevent/reduce marine litter from land and sea-based sources
 - Strengthen monitoring, create enabling conditions for action





Relevant COBSEA activities

- Marine pollution
 - Harmonize/strengthen national marine litter monitoring programmes, policies
 - Assess waste leakage hotspots and establish monitoring baselines
 - Promote inclusive market-based solutions
 - Integrated solid waste management pilots
 - Regional knowledge management and networking
 - Nutrient assessment
- Marine and coastal planning and management
 - Marine and coastal spatial planning (MCSP) policy review
 - Trainings: MCSP and Sustainable Ocean Economy
 - Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework input and discussion
 - COBSEA network of marine protected areas including focus on critical habitats
- Regional governance
 - Leverage synergies
 - Minimize duplication

Capacity building, assessments, providing recommendations

Future priorities

- Marine Pollution
 - East Asian Seas Regional Node of the Global Partnership on Marine Litter
 - Harmonized monitoring – regional guidance, status and trends
 - Nutrient pollution activities
- Marine and coastal planning and management
 - Community of Practice
 - Regional guidelines for ecosystem-based approach
 - Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework implementation
 - Evaluate effectiveness of management of marine protected areas
 - Sustainable blue economy elements
- Regional governance
 - New Strategic Directions post-2022
 - Ocean-related SDG implementation and follow-up
 - Strengthened coordination with partners





Cooperation with the SCS SAP

- Marine Pollution
 - Support robust monitoring, assessment and implementation of land-based sources of pollution
- Marine and coastal planning and management
 - Marine protected areas and MCSP activities
 - Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework-implementation
- Regional governance
 - Delivery of actions in SDG Outlook
 - Alignment of strategic documents (SD, RAP MALI etc)
- Meetings, events
 - COBSEA IGM 25 part one September 2021, part two Q1 2022
 - COBSEA Meetings of the Working Group on Marine Litter