



Implementing the SCS SAP Project
**Online introduction and further steps
for the implementation of project activities**

10.00 – 12.00 Bangkok Time, Thursday 30th July 2020

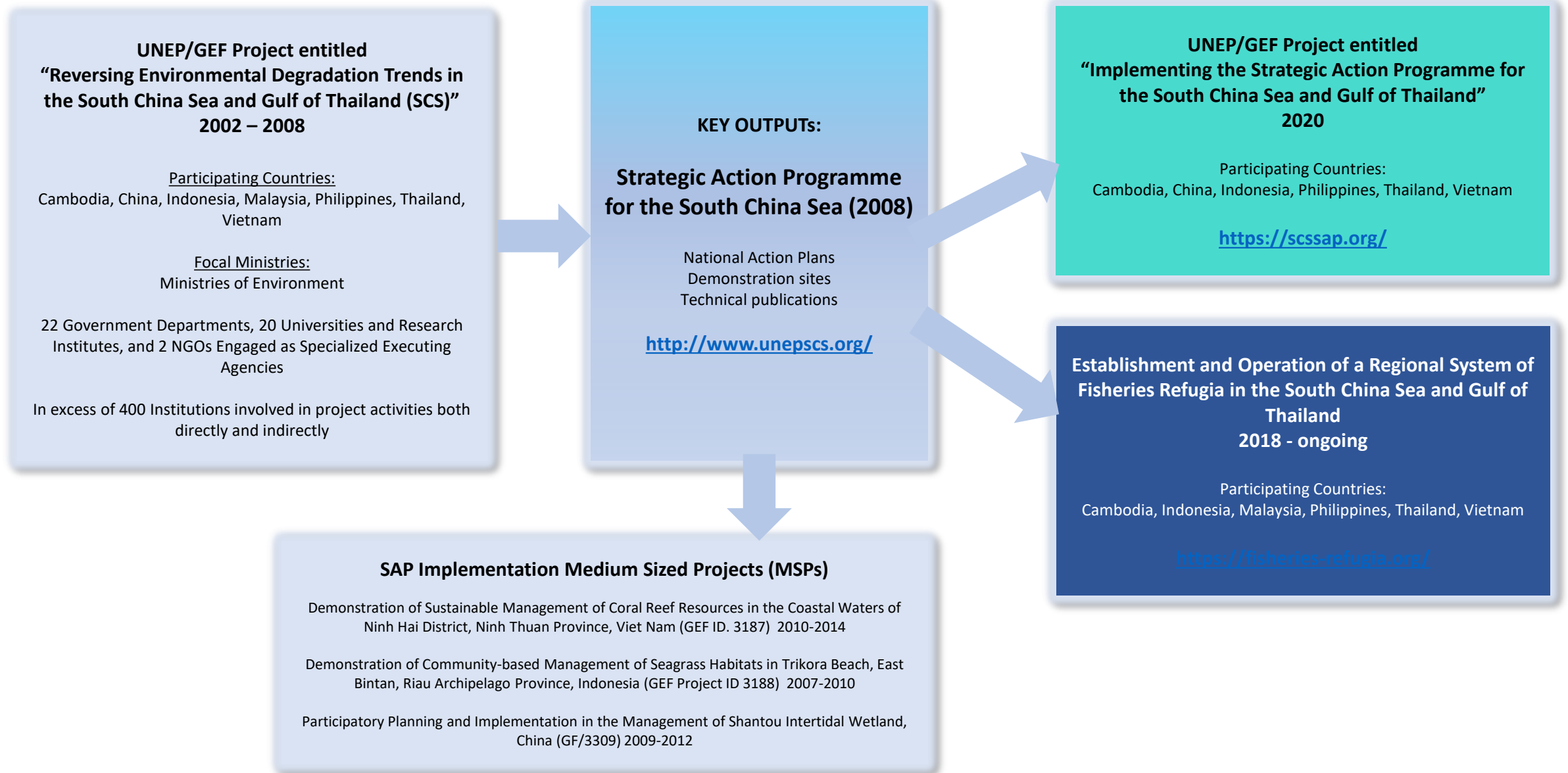
Meeting objectives and Inception Phase update

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To ensure the full engagement and exchange on the most efficient and effective steps to implement the SCS SAP project, considering new national, regional and global priorities and processes and challenges of working due to COVID 19.

- 1st of several meetings planned over the next months, with bilateral discussions in-between
- Ensure national teams of focal points are updated, and overall roles of national working groups are discussed
- Discuss any comments, challenges and recommendations to strengthen activities in line with new priorities
- To agree on the next steps for the further elaboration of national activities in preparation of the 1st Steering Committee/Inception Meeting of the SCS SAP project

South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand, from original project and SAP, to current implementation



Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea (SCS SAP) - Targets

MANGROVES (National Actions)

- Area to be transferred to National Parks and Protected Area status - 57,361 ha; Non-conversion of mangrove but sustainable use - 166,600 ha; Improved management relating to sustainable use - 602,772; Replanting of deforested mangrove land - 21,000; Enrichment planting to increase mangrove biodiversity - 11,200

CORAL REEFS (National Actions)

- At least 70% of the existing area of coral reefs in the 82 target coral reef sites (153,000 ha) to be put under an appropriate form of sustainable management;
- Reduce the regional decadal rate of degradation in live coral cover from the present rate of 16% to 5%.

SEAGRASS (National Actions)

- Twenty-one managed areas totalling 26,576 hectares (approximately 33% of the 78,332 hectares identified as seagrass sites) in the South China Sea, to be brought under sustainable management; Government recognition of the ecological importance of seagrass through amendment of the management plans for seven existing MPAs with significant areas of seagrass habitat, to include specific seagrass-related management actions; Adoption of 7 new Marine Protected Areas specifically focussing on seagrass habitats identified in the prioritised listings of the SCS Project

WETLANDS (National Actions)

- to set up or update management plans for at least three lagoons, nine estuaries, five tidal flats, one peat swamp and one non-peat swamp in the South China Sea; to increase by at least 7 wetland areas, the number of sites or specified wetland areas with protection status (i.e. non-hunting area, nature reserves, protected areas, Ramsar Sites, etc); to have a regional estuary monitoring scheme implemented in the participating countries

LAND BASED POLLUTION (Regional actions)

- estimate total contaminant loading to the South China Sea; agree and adopt regional criteria for contaminants in sediment and biota; characterise and prioritise all hot spots surrounding the South China Sea; review and prepare recommendations for application in amending national/provincial, legislation/regulations in support of all Land-based Pollution targets of the SAP.
- to meet ASEAN seawater quality (14 parameters) criteria (except pollutants from scientifically identified natural sources, if any) for: - 90% of monitoring stations in the 17 hot spots characterised by the RWG-LbP between 2002 – 2004;- 80% of other monitoring stations (more than 400 at present) in coastal waters of the South China Sea.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC VALUES AND COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF SAP ACTIONS

Regional actions, science, tools, guidelines and capacity building for habitats

REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

Objective to create an environment at the regional level, in which collaboration and partnership in addressing environmental problems of the South China Sea, between all stakeholders, and at all levels is fostered and encouraged; and to enhance the capacity of the participating governments to integrate environmental considerations into national development planning

FISH HABITAT AND FISH STOCKS

- to have established a regional system of a minimum of twenty refugia for the management of priority, transboundary, fish stocks and endangered species;
- to have prepared and implemented fisheries management systems in the identified refugia based on, and consistent with, the ASEAN SEAFDEC Regional Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries in Southeast Asia.

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

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 by Yr
- Outcome 1.2 153,000 ha of coral reef at 82 priority sites managed sustainably by Yr 5, including a reduction in the decadal rate of degradation in live coral cover from 16 to 5%
- Outcome 1.3 Conservation, management and sustainable use of 25,900 ha of known seagrass area in the South China Sea by Yr
- 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

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

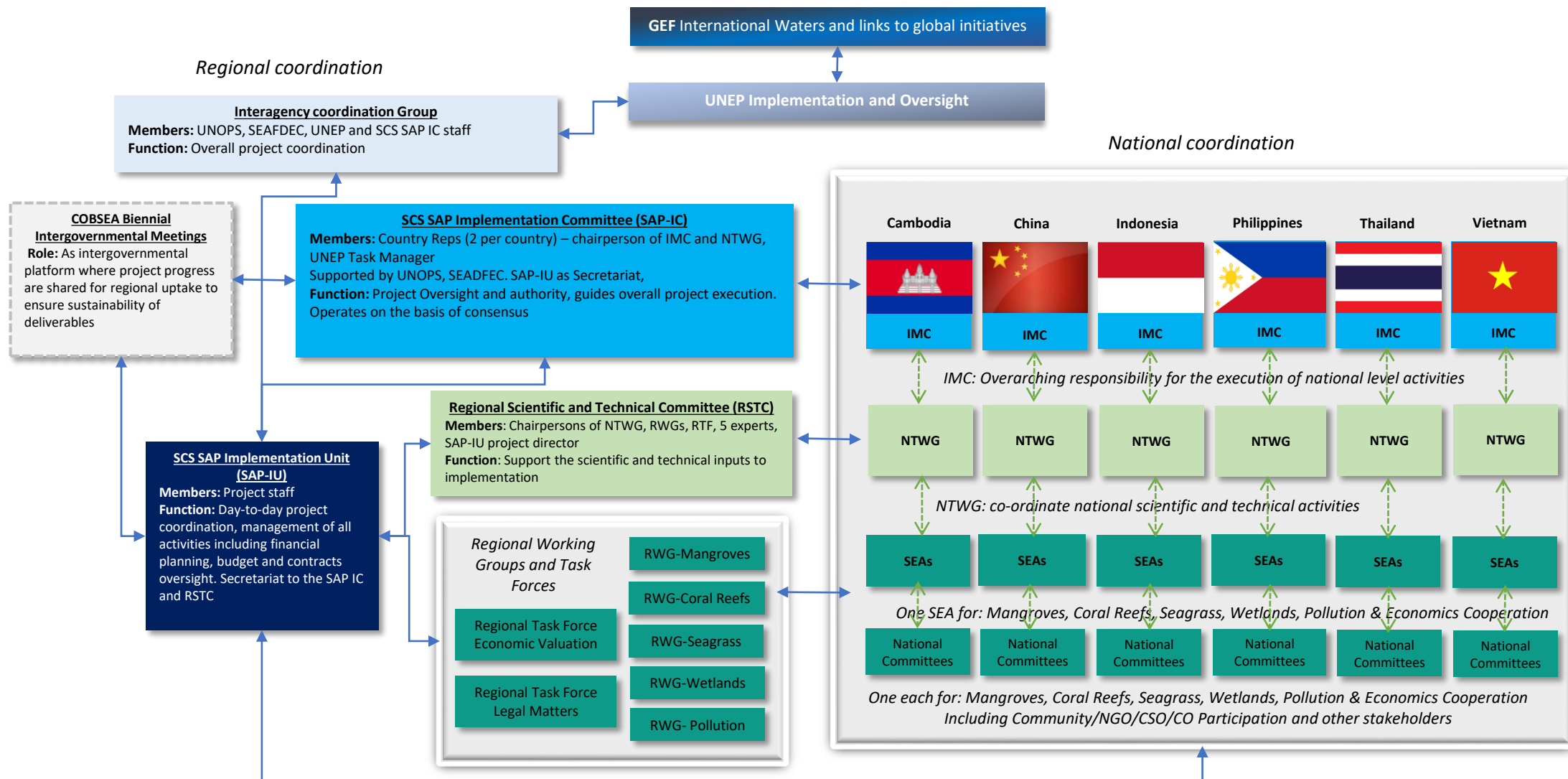
- Outcome 2.1 Enhanced information-base for coastal habitat management, monitoring and action planning
- Outcome 2.2 Effective integration of regional science in the management of land-based pollution
- Outcome 2.3 Strengthened and harmonized national policies and laws, and supporting financial mechanism, 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

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

Establishment and Operation of a Regional System of Fisheries Refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand

This specific project objective is 'to operate and expand the network of fisheries refugia in the South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand for the improved management of fisheries and critical marine habitats linkages in order to achieve the medium and longer-term goals of the fisheries component of the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea



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

SCS-SAP Organogram

Specialized Executing Agencies (SEAs) for mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, wetlands, land-based pollution and economic valuation

36 SEA's each responsible for execution of the national activities and coordination of the national Committees

1. Assume overall responsibility for the execution of the national-level activities in their respective areas of expertise for the UNEP/GEF project entitled 'Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea' in accordance with the results framework contained in the regional UNEP Project Document;
2. Provide Secretariat support to the operation of the National Committees for mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, wetlands, land-based pollution, and economic valuation and convene quarterly meetings of these bodies, respectively;
3. Nominate a National Focal Point to (a) act as the main point of contact with the SCS SAP Implementation Unit and UNEP; (b) act as Chair of the his/her respective National Committee; (c) act as a member of NTWG; and (d) act as a member of the respective Regional Working Group or Task Force;
4. Plan and implement activities based on the results framework, work plan and timetable contained in the UNEP Project Document aimed at achieving the national-level goals and targets of the project and the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea;
5. Prepare and facilitate endorsement, by the National Inter-Ministry Committee (IMC), quarterly costed work plans to guide the execution of national and site-based activities of the project;
6. Submit endorsed quarterly national costed work plans to the Project Director of the SCS-SAP Implementation Unit within five (5) working days before the end of each quarter (i.e. Quarter 1 is January-March, Quarter 2 is April-June, Quarter 3 is July-September, Quarter 4 is October-December).
7. Prepare and submit quarterly progress reports, expenditure reports, and cash advance requests for endorsement by the National Inter-Ministry Committee and subsequent submission to the Project Director of the SCS-SAP Implementation Unit within five (5) working days before the end of each quarter;
8. Prepare annual progress reports on national-level activities and results of efforts to meet SAP targets;
9. Maintain accurate and up-to-date records and documents in respect of all expenditures incurred with the funds made available to ensure that all expenditures are in conformity with the provisions of the endorsed costed work plans. For each disbursement, proper supporting documentation shall be maintained, including original invoices, bills, and receipts pertinent to the transaction.
10. Provide the SCS-SAP Implementation Unit with certified periodic financial statements, and with an annual audit of the financial statements relating to the status of project funds advanced to the Specialized Executing Agency;
11. Be responsible for the proper custody, maintenance and care of all equipment purchased for use at the national level;
12. Lead national-level efforts to secure co-financing committed to this project and to leverage additional funding required to replicate and scale-up best practices in coastal and marine environmental management generated through this project; and
13. Ensure that the work of the parties under this agreement is suitably promoted as part of the UNEP/GEF project entitled 'Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea', including labelling of outputs with agreed logos.

<i>Cambodia</i>	<i>China</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Philippines</i>	<i>Thailand</i>	<i>Vietnam</i>
Specialized Executing Agency for Mangroves	Specialized Executing Agency for Mangroves	Specialized Executing Agency for Mangroves	Specialized Executing Agency for Mangroves	Specialized Executing Agency for Mangroves	Specialized Executing Agency for Mangroves
Specialized Executing Agency for Coral Reefs	Specialized Executing Agency for Coral Reefs	Specialized Executing Agency for Coral Reefs	Specialized Executing Agency for Coral Reefs	Specialized Executing Agency for Coral Reefs	Specialized Executing Agency for Coral Reefs
Specialized Executing Agency for Seagrass	Specialized Executing Agency for Seagrass	Specialized Executing Agency for Seagrass	Specialized Executing Agency for Seagrass	Specialized Executing Agency for Seagrass	Specialized Executing Agency for Seagrass
Specialized Executing Agency for Wetlands	Specialized Executing Agency for Wetlands	Specialized Executing Agency for Wetlands	Specialized Executing Agency for Wetlands	Specialized Executing Agency for Wetlands	Specialized Executing Agency for Wetlands
Specialized Executing Agency for Land-based pollution	Specialized Executing Agency for Land-based pollution	Specialized Executing Agency for Land-based pollution	Specialized Executing Agency for Land-based pollution	Specialized Executing Agency for Land-based pollution	Specialized Executing Agency for Land-based pollution
Specialized Executing Agency for Economic valuation	Specialized Executing Agency for Economic valuation	Specialized Executing Agency for Economic valuation	Specialized Executing Agency for Economic valuation	Specialized Executing Agency for Economic valuation	Specialized Executing Agency for Economic valuation

National Level – Specialized Executing Agencies (SEAs)

National Technical Working Groups (NTWG)

One National NTWG per country including all SEA National Focal Point

1. Review and co-ordinate national scientific and technical activities of the UNEP/GEF project entitled "Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea" in [country name];
2. Review and evaluate, from a scientific and technical perspective, progress in the achievement of Strategic Action Programme targets, and provide guidance for improvement when necessary;
3. Provide the National Inter-Ministry Committees with recommendations on proposed national and site-based activities, work plans, and budgets;
4. Provide the National Inter-Ministry Committees with technical guidance and suggestions to improve project activities where necessary, including the reform of policy, legislation and institutional arrangements;
5. Facilitate co-operation with relevant national and provincial organisations and projects to enhance the information and science base for use in achieving Strategic Action Programme targets and in preparing updated National Action Plans and a revised Strategic Action Programme in [country name];
6. Compile and evaluate national level sources of information and data for sharing at the regional level;
7. Receive, and review reports, data and information from site-based activities of the project and oversee the national synthesis of this information to identify overall needs and priorities for individual sites and future targets for mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, wetlands, and land-based pollution management in [country name];
8. Ensure that planned national level project activities are consistent with the national results framework for the project, and that the subsequent monitoring and reporting of project results is undertaken in a standardized and consistent manner;
9. Agree at their first meeting:
10. a) the membership, meeting arrangements, and terms of reference of the committee; and
11. b) such standing orders and manner of conducting business as may be considered necessary by the committee.

Cambodia NTWG	China NTWG	Indonesia NTWG	Philippines NTWG	Thailand NTWG	Vietnam NTWG
Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson	Chairperson
SEA National Focal Point - Mangroves	SEA National Focal Point - Mangroves	SEA National Focal Point - Mangroves	SEA National Focal Point - Mangroves	SEA National Focal Point - Mangroves	SEA National Focal Point - Mangroves
SEA National Focal Point - Coral Reefs	SEA National Focal Point - Coral Reefs	SEA National Focal Point - Coral Reefs	SEA National Focal Point - Coral Reefs	SEA National Focal Point - Coral Reefs	SEA National Focal Point - Coral Reefs
SEA National Focal Point - Seagrass	SEA National Focal Point - Seagrass	SEA National Focal Point - Seagrass	SEA National Focal Point - Seagrass	SEA National Focal Point - Seagrass	SEA National Focal Point - Seagrass
SEA National Focal Point - Wetlands	SEA National Focal Point - Wetlands	SEA National Focal Point - Wetlands	SEA National Focal Point - Wetlands	SEA National Focal Point - Wetlands	SEA National Focal Point - Wetlands
SEA National Focal Point - Land-based pollution	SEA National Focal Point - Land-based pollution	SEA National Focal Point - Land-based pollution	SEA National Focal Point - Land-based pollution	SEA National Focal Point - Land-based pollution	SEA National Focal Point - Land-based pollution
SEA National Focal Point - Economic valuation	SEA National Focal Point - Economic valuation	SEA National Focal Point - Economic valuation	SEA National Focal Point - Economic valuation	SEA National Focal Point - Economic valuation	SEA National Focal Point - Economic valuation
Other experts as required	Other experts as required	Other experts as required	Other experts as required	Other experts as required	Other experts as required

National Technical Working Groups (NTWG)

National Inter-Ministry Committee (IMC)

1. Assume overarching responsibility for the execution of national level activities
2. Receive, review, and approve reports from the National Technical Working Groups and National Committees for mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, wetlands, land-based pollution, and economic valuation regarding the outputs and outcomes of efforts to achieve Strategic Action Programme targets;
3. Meet on a **biannual basis** during the operational phase of the project to guide the timely execution of project activities, particularly activities at the site level, and to consider, amend and endorse quarterly work-plans, narrative progress and financial reports for submission to the regional SCS-SAP Implementation Unit;
4. Provide direction and strategic guidance to the National Technical Working Group and National Committees for mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, wetlands, land-based pollution, and economic on the national and local reforms to achieve SAP targets and mainstream best practices in to natural resource and environmental management of the South China National Committee and Gulf of Thailand marine basin;
5. Review planned and ongoing coastal and marine environment projects being operated along the South China National Committee and Gulf of Thailand coast with the aim of minimising duplication of efforts, and to identify opportunities for cooperation and the sharing of examples of best practices in reversing environmental degradation trends;
6. Assess stakeholder involvement in national level execution of the SCS SAP Implementation project and take action where necessary to ensure appropriate levels of government, civil society and community organisation, environmental NGOs, Women's groups, and private sector engagement in project activities.
7. Ensure compatibility between site-based activities of the SCS SAP Implementation project and other National, provincial and municipal activities in coastal and marine environmental management;
8. Approve annual progress reports for transmission to the COB National Committee Intergovernmental Meetings, UNEP and the GEF Secretariat;
9. Assist the National Committees for mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass, wetlands, land-based pollution, and economic valuation in securing co-financing committed to the project and in leveraging additional funding that may be required from time to time.
10. Agree at their first meeting:
 - a) the membership, meeting arrangements, and terms of reference of the committee; and
 - b) such standing orders and manner of conducting business as may be considered necessary by the committee.

<i>Cambodia IMC</i>	<i>China IMC</i>	<i>Indonesia IMC</i>	<i>Philippines IMC</i>	<i>Thailand IMC</i>	<i>Vietnam IMC</i>
Chairperson Ministry of Environment	Chairperson Ministry of Ecology and Environment	Chairperson Ministry of Environment and Forestry	Chairperson Department of Environment and Natural Resources	Chairperson Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment	Chairperson Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
Other Ministries' Membership will be discussed and agreed at the first IMC meeting	Other Ministries' Membership will be discussed and agreed at the first IMC meeting	Other Ministries' Membership will be discussed and agreed at the first IMC meeting	Other Ministries' Membership will be discussed and agreed at the first IMC meeting	Other Ministries' Membership will be discussed and agreed at the first IMC meeting	Other Ministries' Membership will be discussed and agreed at the first IMC meeting

National Level – Inter-Ministry Committee (IMC)

*Inception
Phase
deliverables*

Regional Implementation Report

Including detailed activities, workplan, theory of change, results framework and indicators, stakeholder analysis, communication strategy and synergies with global, regional and national initiatives, projects and processes

National Implementation Reports

Including detailed activities (in particular under Component 1), workplan, stakeholders, synergies with national initiatives, projects and processes

Revised Detailed Budget

Both at the regional and national level as per UNEP budget template. Including co-financing

New issues to consider such as:

- ✓ Alignment with SDGs
- ✓ CBD Post 2020 framework
 - ✓ Climate Change
- ✓ New initiatives blue/green growth and circular economy, economic evaluations
- ✓ New technology in monitoring, data management and assessments
- ✓ New regional and national strategic priorities and initiatives

Approximate Timeline

30 July 2020

SCS SAP
Introduction
online meeting



August 2020

- ✓ Participating countries reconfirm focal points
- ✓ Review intervention sites
- ✓ **Further develop national activities within the National Implementation Reports**
- ✓ Review SCS SAP outputs for possible minor revision



Sept 2020

Online meeting to discuss any needed revisions to project outputs and draft regional implementation report, budget and co-financing



Sept - Oct 2020

Finalization of regional and national implementation reports and budgets



Nov/Dec 2020

Adoption at Inception Meeting/1st Steering Committee Meeting



Nov/Dec 2020

Implementation

August – October 2020

National consultations, IMC, NTWG meetings to discuss and approve national implementation reports and align with national priorities and initiatives

SCS SAP Deliverables for 2020