



AGENDA 9:

RESULTS OF THE 9TH GEF INTERNATIONAL WATER CONFERENCE AND SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Fisheries *Refugia* PCU

BACKGROUND

- The GEF Biennial International Waters Conference (IWC) is the signature event of the GEF IW Portfolio;
- Objectives are to facilitate cross-sectoral and GEF IW Portfolio-wide learning and experience sharing;
- About 300 participants—comprising GEF IW project managers, representatives of beneficiary countries, NGOs, transboundary management institutions, UN Agencies and the private sector
- 84 active GEF IW projects, 80 countries and the various GEF Agencies



AGENDA AND RESULTS OF THE IWC9 (1)

- 1) FILM FESTIVAL <>
- 2) PORTFOLIO STRATEGY AND METHODOLOGY
- 3) VIEWS FROM POLICYMAKERS ON SUSTAINING INTERNATIONAL WATERS COOPERATION
- 4) SHOWCASE ON SUSTAINING INTERNATIONAL WATERS COOPERATION <>
- 5) BUILDING TRACTION OF THE TDA-SAP PROCESS TOWARD 2030 AND BEYOND: FROM FORMULATION THROUGH IMPLEMENTATION
- 6) PARTNERSHIPS AND SYNERGIES
- 7) PARTNERSHIPS TO SCALE UP COMMUNITY-BASED INTERNATIONAL WATERS MANAGEMENT. <>
- 8) TOWARD A GENDER PROTOCOL FOR THE TDA-SAP PROCESS
- 9) USING PLANNING TOOLS TO SUPPORT THE TDA-SAP DEVELOPMENT AND UPDATES <>
- 10) FROM ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURES TO INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS USING THE TDA-SAP AND GEF PROGRAMMATIC APPROACHES

STORIES FROM THE SCS



OVERVIEW



SHORT MACKEREL



LAND-BASED POLLUTION



GENDER EQUALITY



SCS : LEARN

Stories from the South China Sea



Stories from the South China Sea : Overview

Southeast Asia is renowned as one of the most culturally diverse parts of the world. The region's diversity of religions, languages, dialects, and cuisines have challenged visitors to the region for centuries past, and surely for those to come. It is however the diversity which defines the region and is celebrated by all. The seas of the region are equally as diverse but there is one that dwells all others, particularly in terms of importance to national economies, as a transitional route in the supply of oil and gas and, contributions to global protein supply from seafood, and the more than 300 million people that live on its coast - this is the SOUTH CHINA SEA.



Stories from the South China Sea : Short Mackerel

This short film presents the issue of the overexploitation of one of Southeast Asia's iconic small pelagic species. Actors of governments, fishing communities and civil society organisations to safeguard short mackerel (*Rastrelliger brachyomus*) stocks in the South China Sea are highlighted. Threats associated with global demand for seafood from Southeast Asia are discussed briefly in the context of the need to think globally, and act locally. Please share the film with your colleagues and other ocean leaders to help spread the word of the many successes being achieved here in Southeast Asia.



Stories from the South China Sea : Land-Based Pollution

This short film presents the issue of land-based pollution in the South China Sea. Actors of governments, coastal communities and civil society organisations to help plan infrastructure investments, using scientific tools developed for the South China Sea are highlighted. The crucial aspect of this initiative is that it aims to provide tools for better management of land-based pollution in order to bring about transformational change in how countries manage wastes associated with their burgeoning economies. The environmental costs of meeting global demand for seafood, high-end electronics, and solid holiday gateway destinations from the global community are presented and discussed briefly in the context of the need to think globally, and act locally.



Stories from the South China Sea : Promoting Gender Equality in Fisheries

Seafood supply systems of Southeast Asia are unique. Often whole families are involved in the activity of fishing, act as market analysts, construct fishing vessels and gear, and often operate small seafood outlets that are enjoyed by the 200+ million people that live in coastal areas of the South China Sea. This film highlights the role of women in fisheries when, among other things, often possess incredibly valuable information and knowledge about fish stocks and markets for seafood products, work as commentators of information about seas and regulations to protect family financial interests, and interface with administrations to support strengthened small-scale fisheries management.

COASTAL COMMUNITIES BORDERING THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AT THE HIGHEST RISK GLOBALLY OF COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION



Implementing the Strategic Action Programme for the South China Sea

ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A REGIONAL SYSTEM OF FISHERIES REFUGIA IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA AND GULF OF THAILAND

HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

30% INCREASED SEAGRASS

16% INCREASED MANGROVES

20% INCREASED VESSELS APPLYING IMPROVED GEARS

50% REDUCTION IN FISHING PRESSURE WITHIN REFUGIA

16% INCREASED CORAL REEFS

FISHERIES REFUGIA AND FISH LIFE CYCLES

269,500 ha OF FISH REFUGIA HABITAT CONSERVED AND EFFECTIVELY MANAGED

OUTCOMES

- 1) Reduced stress on fish stock and coastal habitats;
- 2) Increased Institutional Capacity for the designation and operational management of Fisheries Refugia;
- 3) Strengthened knowledge management & information sharing and access;
- 4) Cost-effective and efficient coordination of national and regional level cooperation for integrated fisheries and environmental Management

Project Supports Achievement of the SDGs:

- By 2030, ensure that all fishers, in particular the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to natural resources with appropriate new technology.
- Enhancing food security of vulnerable, small-scale fishing communities of Southeast Asia and supported partially via the ASEAN-SEA/PEC Resilience and Plan of Action on Sustainable Fisheries for Food Security for the ASEAN Region Towards 2030*
- By 2030, achieve the sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources. In addition, support developing countries to strengthen their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- By 2030, sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems to avoid significant adverse impacts, including by strengthening their resilience, and take action for their restoration in order to achieve healthy and productive oceans.

Scope : Regional
Countries : Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Viet Nam
Partners : SEA/PEC, UNEP, National Fisheries and Environment Agencies

GEF Grant : \$3 million
Co-finance : \$12.5 million

UN environment gef SEA/PEC

AGENDA AND RESULTS OF THE IWC9. (2)

- 11) TOOLS AND PRACTICES FOR IW PRACTITIONERS
- 12) NEW PRACTICES AND TOOLS FOR MORE INFORMED DECISIONS AND BETTER MANAGEMENT OF SYSTEMS
- 13) ENHANCING ACCESS AND DISSEMINATION OF KNOWLEDGE TO IMPROVE SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION
- 14) MSPGLOBAL - SUPPORTING INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING
- 15) TRANSFORMATIONAL SOLUTIONS FOR LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF ONGOING AND NEW INTERVENTIONS
- 16) TRANSFORMATIONAL SOLUTIONS: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS
- 17) TRANSFORMATIONAL SOLUTIONS: CIRCULAR ECONOMY <>
- 18) TRANSFORMATIONAL SOLUTIONS: BLUE ECONOMY <>
- 19) ADOPTING THE WATER FUNDS MODEL FOR SUSTAINABLY FINANCED SOURCE WATER PROTECTION OF GEF IW PROJECT BASINS

AGENDA AND RESULTS OF THE IWC9. (2)

- 20) ANALYSIS OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATER ECOSYSTEMS AND GREEN/BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE: A BOTTOM-UP APPROACH
- 21) LEARNING FROM THE PAST FOR NEXT GENERATION SOURCE-TO-SEA IN ASIA AND BEYOND
- 22) INTEGRATED RIDGE-TO-REEF APPROACHES IN PACIFIC SIDS: PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES

ACTION BY THE PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

- ❖ The committee is requested to take note on the results of the GEF-IWC9.
- ❖ The committee is also invited to provide suggestion/comments on lessons learnt from the Conference to be applied to project implementation