



*Eight countries, connected by one ecosystem,  
working together to secure its future.*



Report of the  
**2011 BOBLME Work Plan Development Meeting**  
9-10 February 2011 • Phuket Thailand

**Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project**



The designations employed and the presentation of material in this information product do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) concerning the legal or development status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The mention of specific companies or products of manufacturers, whether or not these have been patented, does not imply that these have been endorsed or recommended by FAO in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned.

For bibliographic purposes, please reference this publication as:

BOBLME (2011) Report of the 2011 BOBLME Work Plan Development Meeting. 9-10 February 2011. Phuket, Thailand. BOBLME-2011-Project-02

Report of the  
**2011 BOBLME Work Plan Development Meeting**  
9-10 February 2011 • Phuket Thailand

---

**About the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem Project:**

Over 400 million people in the Bay of Bengal area are dependent on coastal and marine resources for their food, livelihood and security. Rapid population growth, high dependence on resources and increased land use has resulted in over exploitation of fishstocks and habitat degradation, and has led to considerable uncertainty whether the ecosystem will be able to support the livelihoods of the coastal populations in the future.

Despite the large number of international, regional and sub-regional bodies and programmes operating in the Bay, none have a clear mandate, geographical scope and/or capacity to support a regional initiative that would effectively address the issues confronting the coastal communities of the BOB. Furthermore, the current existence of many ineffective policies, strategies and legal measures at the National level would likely impede the development of any regional arrangements. Other major constraints include weak institutional capacity at national levels, insufficient budgetary commitments, and lack of community stakeholder consultation and empowerment.

Maldives, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia, have declared their willingness to work together through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project and lay the foundations for a coordinated programme of action designed to improve the lives of the coastal populations through improved regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The BOBLME Project is funded principally by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Norway, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA with a total estimated budget of \$USD 31 million. FAO is the executing agency.

For more information, please visit [www.boblme.org](http://www.boblme.org)

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ABBREVIATIONS ..... 4

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ..... 5

**1. AIMS OF THE WORKSHOP ..... 6**

**2. DEVELOPMENT OF A 2011 DRAFT REGIONAL WORKPLAN ..... 6**

2.1 implementation of the project to-date ..... 6

2.2 the 2011 plan ..... 6

**3. MONITORING AND EVALUATION..... 6**

**4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS ..... 7**

4.1 observations and comments from the workshop..... 7

**APPENDIX I LIST OF PARTICIPANTS..... 8**

**APPENDIX II MEETING AGENDA ..... 10**

**APPENDIX III DRAFT 2011 BOBLME WORKPLAN ..... 12**

**ABBREVIATIONS**

AECEEN	Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network
ADCP	Asian Disaster Preparedness Center
APFIC	Asia-Pacific Fishery Commission
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BOBLME	Bay Of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem
BOBP-IGO	Bay Of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation
CBD	Convention on Biodiversity
CCRF	FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries
COBSEA	Coordinating Body on the Seas of East Asia
EA	Ecosystem Approach
EAA	Ecosystem Approach to Aquaculture
EAF	Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries
EASP	UNEP East Asian Seas Programme
EBM	Ecosystem Based Management
EEZ	Economic Exclusive Zone
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAO RAP	FAO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific
GCRMN	Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GETF	Global Environment and Technology Foundation
GOOS	Global Ocean Observation System
GPA	UNEP Global Programme of Action
ICSF	International Collective in Support of Fishworkers
INCOIS	Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)
IOGOOS	Indian Ocean Global Ocean Observing System
IOSEA-Turtle	Indian Ocean South East Asia Turtle Memorandum
IOTC	Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IUU fishing	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
IW-LEARN	International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network
MCS	Monitor, Control and Surveillance
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MFAR	Ministry of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources
MFF	Mangroves For the Future
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NACA	Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific
SACEP	South Asia Cooperative Environment Programme
SASP	South Asian Seas Programme
SEAFDEC	Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Center
SIFFS	South Indian Federation of Fishermen Societies
SEA-RLC	Southeast Asia Regional Learning Centre
SSF	Small-Scale Fisheries
WorldFish	WorldFish Centre
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

One of the major activities each year for the Regional Coordination Unit of the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project is to produce a Regional Work Plan that identifies the work to be funded and undertaken over the forthcoming calendar year.

Input from the Project's National Coordinators and National Technical Advisers in the development of the work plan is essential from a technical perspective, and with respect to its approval by each Project country. The work plan (and budget) is a major output for the RCU annually that is submitted to the Project Steering Committee in March for its consideration.

BOBLME Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisers met in Phuket, Thailand on 9-10 February 2011. The overall aims of the workshop were:

(i) To produce a draft Regional Work Plan for the BOBLME Project in 2011; and subsequently

(ii) to produce draft National Work Plans for each country for the same year.

The draft Regional Work Plan is provided in this report.

## **1. AIMS OF THE WORKSHOP**

1. One of the major activities each year for the Regional Coordination Unit of the BOBLME Project is to produce a Regional Work Plan that identifies the work to be funded and undertaken over the forthcoming calendar year.
2. The work plan (and budget) is a major output for the RCU annually that is submitted to the Project Steering Committee in March for its consideration. Input from the Project's National Coordinators and National Technical Advisers in the development of the work plan is essential from a technical perspective, and with respect to its approval by each Project country.
3. Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project National Coordinators and National Technical Advisers met in Phuket, Thailand on 9-10 February 2011. The meeting was chaired by the Project Regional Coordinator Dr Chris O'Brien.
4. The list of participants is attached as Appendix I. And the Agenda for the meeting is attached as Appendix II.
5. The overall aims of the workshop were:
  - (i) To produce a draft Regional Work Plan for the BOBLME Project in 2011; and subsequently
  - (ii) to produce draft National Work Plans for each country for the same year.

## **2. DEVELOPMENT OF A 2011 DRAFT REGIONAL WORKPLAN**

### **2.1 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT TO-DATE**

6. As background to discussions, National Coordinators provided verbal updates on Project implementation in their respective countries; in particular, progress on National TDA consultations and Policy review consultations. The RCU provided an overview of the work and outputs from the Project to-date.
7. Eight regional workshops were implemented in 2011 and the first quarter of 2011 on a range of Project theme areas. These included: Oceanography, ICM, Ecosystem Indicators, Fisheries Stock assessment, Fisheries Statistics, Pollution, Marine Protected Areas. The recommendations relating to future work from these fora were reviewed and discussed.

### **2.2 THE 2011 PLAN**

8. The workshop discussed each Project subcomponent in detail, reflecting on the work already carried out, the outputs required by the Project Logical Framework, recommendations from the regional workshops and national activities.
9. The workshop produced a draft work plan for 2011, including some guidance on the nature and extent of activities (research, training, studies, reviews etc), major outputs, which regional institutions might undertake particular activities, and the locations and timings of meetings. The draft Work Plan is given in Appendix III.
10. The Workshop entrusted the RCU to finalise the work plan for consideration by the PSC in March 2011.

## **3. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

11. As part of its preparations for the mid-term evaluation of the BOBLME Project, the RCU is undertaking a stock take to clarify its progress with respect to the project objectives, to obtain basic and up-to-date information and material likely to be required in the evaluation, identify



areas of operation for adjustment; and start preparing Project counterparts for their likely role in the evaluation.

12. The RCU aims to use structured interviews with the National Coordinators (and the Project Steering Committee members) to assess the impact that the BOBLME Project is having on the Project implementing agencies in each country; and develop training needs for M&E in each country (in advance of what is expected to be a comprehensive package of national activities undertaken in each country in 2011).
13. Dr David Laroche is assisting the RCU in this area of work. He informed the meeting about what is involved and what needs to be prepared for the mid-term evaluation, and the likely requirements on national counterparts. To this end, Dr LaRoche took the opportunity to interview as many National counterparts as possible during the two days of the meeting.

#### **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **4.1 OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE WORKSHOP**

14. The RCU informed the workshop that the plan of work being proposed for 2011 will be demanding on both the RCU and national counterparts. This being the case, it would be particularly important for national counterparts to respond to the requests for assistance from the RCU in a timely fashion — especially nominations for meetings and workshop (which require travel to be organised). The RCU also acknowledged the need to have invitations out more than one month before events so NC have adequate time to meet country approval processes.
15. The workshop requested that the RCU consider using national consultants to the extent possible in the course of the Project.
16. The national counterparts agreed that the work plan planning meeting was highly informative and overall beneficial to the Project, and as a consequence should be held annually. In addition they agreed that a second meeting, at the end of the year, would be useful to monitor the work undertaken and to exchange experiences. To this end, the meeting requested that the two meetings of the National Counterparts be added to the work plan for the consideration by the PSC.

## APPENDIX I LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

### BANGLADESH

**National Coordinator**

Dr M Gulam Hussain  
Director General  
Bangladesh Fisheries Research  
Institute  
Mymensingh  
Bangladesh

hussain.bfri@gmail.com  
Tel: +880 91 65874  
Mob: +88 01711 544919  
Fax: +880 91 55259

**National Technical Advisor**

Dr Yousuf A K Haroon  
Bangladesh Fisheries Research  
Institute  
Mymensingh  
Bangladesh

dharoon@ymail.com  
Mob: +8801716624485

### INDIA

**National Coordinator**

Dr Vijayakumaran Kandachamy  
was unavailable

**National Technical Advisor**

Dr V V Sugunan  
10 A, Green Hills  
Kunnumpuram, Kakkanad P. O.  
Kochi, Kerala 682030  
India

Vasu.sugunan@yahoo.com  
Tel: +91 484 2108918  
Mob: +91 9868965130

### INDONESIA

**National Coordinator**

Mr Hary Christijanto was  
unavailable

**National Technical Advisor**

Ms Heni Agustina  
Head of Coastal & Marine  
Environment Degradation  
Control Division  
Assistant Deputy for Coastal and  
Marine Environment Degradation  
Control  
Ministry of Environment  
Jakarta  
Indonesia

heni.agustina@gmail.com  
Tel: +622185904929  
Mob: +81399207937  
Fax: +622185905638

### MALAYSIA

**National Coordinator**

Mr Ismail Bin Ishak  
Coordinator, International Affairs  
Fisheries Research Institute  
Department Of Fisheries  
Pulau Pinang  
Malaysia

anasofiah@hotmail.com  
Tel: +604-6263925/26  
Mob: +60164384392  
Fax: +604-6262210

**National Technical Advisor**

Dr Alias Bin Man  
Research Officer  
Department of Fisheries  
Perak  
Malaysia

aliman01@yahoo.com  
Tel: +6056914752  
Fax: +6056914742

### MALDIVES

**National Coordinator**

*Alternative to National  
Coordinator, Dr Mohamed Shiham  
Adam*

Dr Abdulla Naseer  
Permanent Secretary  
Ministry of Fisheries and  
Agriculture  
Malé  
Maldives

abdulla.naseer@fishagri.gov.mv  
Tel: +9603339231  
Fax: +9603326558

**National Technical Advisor**

Ms Khadheeja Ali  
Senior Research Officer  
Marine Research Centre, Ministry  
of Fisheries and  
Agriculture  
Marine Research Center  
(H.Whitewaves)  
Malé  
Maldives

kali@mrc.gov.mv  
Tel: +9603322242  
Mob: +9607704574

## SRI LANKA

### **National Coordinator**

*Alternative to National Coordinator, Dr. S.S.K. Haputhantri*

Ms Deishini Herath  
Research Officer  
National Aquatic Resources  
Research & Development Agency  
(NARA)  
Colombo  
Sri Lanka

deishini.herath@yahoo.com  
Tel: +94 112521000-6  
Mob: +94714497224  
Fax: +94112521914

### **National Technical Advisor**

Mr Prabath Jayasinghe  
Research Officer  
National Aquatic Resources  
Research & Development Agency  
(NARA)  
Colombo  
Sri Lanka

prabath\_jayasinghe@yahoo.com  
Tel: +94 112521000-6  
Mob: +94714415788  
Fax: +94112521914

## THAILAND

### **National Coordinator**

Ms Praulai Nootmorn  
Director  
Marine Fisheries Technological  
Research and  
Development Institute  
Marine Fisheries Research and  
Development Bureau,  
Department of Fisheries  
Bangkok  
Thailand

Nootmorn@Yahoo.Com  
Tel: +6629406559  
Mob: +66850706589  
Fax: +6629406559

### **National Technical Advisors**

Mr Weera Pokapunt  
Senior Expert on Marine Fishery  
Department of Fisheries  
Bangkok  
Thailand

Weerap@fisheries.go.th;  
Weera\_poka@hotmail.com  
Tel: +6629406525  
Mob: +66850706490  
Fax: +6625620571

Mr Somkiat Kho kiattiwong  
Senior Marine Biologist  
Department of Marine and  
Coastal Resources  
Phuket  
Thailand

skhokiattiwong@gmail.com  
Tel: +6676391128  
Mob: +66815353113  
Fax: +6676391127

## Regional Coordination Unit

Bay of Bengal Large Marine  
Ecosystem Project  
77 Moo 7, Sakdidej Rd.  
Makham Bay  
Amphur Muang, Phuket 83000  
Thailand  
Ph: +66 76391 861  
Fax: +66 76391 864

Dr Chris O'Brien  
Regional Coordinator  
chris.obrien@boblme.org  
Mob: +66 844 395 210

Dr Rudolf Hermes  
Chief Technical Advisor  
rudolf.hermes@boblme.org  
Mob: +66 844395209

Dr David LaRoche  
M&E Consultant  
dal1727@gaw.com  
dal1727@yahoo.com  
Tel: +18027549308  
Fax: +18027549308

Ms Sucharat Tong-on  
Secretary  
Sucharat.TongOn@fao.org  
Tel: +66 2 697 4173  
Fax: +66 2 697 4445

Mr Nishan Deepal  
Sugathadasa  
Technical Officer  
nishan.sugathadasa@boblme.  
org  
Mob: +66 819360955



Figure 1: Photo of the participants at the Work Plan Development Meeting

## **APPENDIX II MEETING AGENDA**

### **BOBLME 2011 WORK PLAN DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP**

Phuket THAILAND, 9 – 10 February 2011

One of the major activities each year for the Regional Coordination Unit of the BOBLME Project is to produce a Regional Work Plan that identifies the work to be funded and undertaken over the forthcoming calendar year.

Input from the Project's National Coordinators and National Technical Advisers in the development of the work plan is essential from a technical perspective, and with respect to its approval by each Project country. The work plan (and budget) will be submitted to the Project Steering Committee in March for its consideration.

The workshop will be chaired by the Regional Coordinator. The overall aims are:

1. To produce a draft Regional Work Plan for the BOBLME Project in 2011; and subsequently
2. to produce draft National Work Plans for each country for the same year.

#### **DRAFT Agenda**

1. Verbal updates from National Coordinators on:
  - Project implementation
  - National consultations on TDA
  - Policy review consultations
2. Briefing from the RCU on the role of NC's and NTA's in the Project's mid-term review.
3. Review work undertaken by the Project to-date.
4. Review the recommendations made by the BOBLME working groups in 2010-2011.

*Recommendations from the Ecosystem indicators, Fisheries Statistics, Fisheries Assessment, ICM, MPA, Oceanography and Pollution meetings are attached.*

5. Provide input into draft work plan for 2011 (for consideration by the PSC in March), including the nature and extent of activities (research, training, studies, reviews etc); advice on which regional institutions might undertake particular activities; and the locations and timings of meetings.

*Refer to the attached draft 2010 Work Plan for National Coordinators. In particular, the meeting will scope the general direction of activities for the year, the desired outputs, and the national actions.*

6. Any other business.

## APPENDIX III DRAFT 2011 BOBLME WORKPLAN

**DRAFT Actions summary for 2011 (from the BOBLME Project Annual Work Plan development meeting)**  
v10Feb2011. O = output

Component 1: Strategic Action Programme												
2011												
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
<b>Subcomponent 1.1 TDA Preparation: Build on the BOBLME's existing draft TDA and complete the Programme's TDA</b>												
1. National consultations: ongoing up to 31 May 2011					X							
2. Analysis of the issue of migratory and transboundary fishers				X	X							
3. Outputs of the national consultations synthesised						X						
4. Regional workshop to review results of National consultations 0-WS report with TDA revisions							X					
5. TDA revised. O= Final TDA							X					
Possible consultations												
6. TDA submitted to PSC for adoption. O=adopted TDA								X				
7. Communications on TDA (and SAP) – inter-ministry												
<b>Subcomponent 1.2 BOBLME Institutional Arrangements</b>												
<b>Subcomponent 1.3 Financial Sustainability</b>												
-												
<b>Subcomponent 1.4 SAP Preparation</b>												
1. Creation of SAP team. May include: Regional SAP Coordinator, Regional SAP Champions, Country coordinators, writers												
2. SAP team meeting. O=Meeting report with roadmap for SAP process												
3. Analysis of institutional options – financial mechanisms / partnership strategy. Use of regional think tanks. Review of SAP experiences. O=analysis												
4. SAP team meeting. O= progress report												
[Draft framework for SAP completed]												
<b>Component 2: Coastal/Marine Natural Resources Management and Sustainable Use</b>												
<b>Subcomponent 2.1: Community-based Integrated Coastal Management (regional)</b>												
1. RCU to send out request for pilot sites – due 2 <sup>nd</sup> week in March for application of budget. Sites confirmed by Regional WS. – e.g. sites with past history of coastal mgt that needs strengthening – or a site that would be new to the introduction of coastal mgt. O=list of pilot sites			X									
2. Joint ICM workshop (SA/SEA): outreach activities, confirmation of pilot sites, advice to SC2.2 Participants: Institutions in charge of coastal management. senior level, local govt if appropriate, sub-regional workshop leaders, Fisheries, Environmental. O=Meeting report with work plan for outreach and pilot sites				X								
3. Development of outreach materials O=outreach materials												
4. Outreach activities - National workshops, training (economic valuations, marine spatial planning) at all levels, schools (influencing school curricula), communications – environmental awareness and climate change messages O= progress reports, measures of impact												
5. Implementation of work in selected pilot sites. O=progress reports												
<b>Subcomponent 2.2: Improved Policy Harmonization (regional)</b>												
1. Preparatory work. Scoping possible areas of work (e.g. 3 hilsa countries/Indian mackerel countries contributing to the hilsa Mgt Plan (mesh size, closed seasons etc); MPAs as a fisheries and or environmental management tool (sc3.2); MCS). EIA. Identifying what levels to focus on – national or local. ) O = Report												
2. Preparatory work. Analysis policy harmonisation in other LMEs. O= analysis												



8. Small-scale Fisheries – depends on outcomes from COFI – international instrument																											
Subcomponent 2.4 Collaborative Critical Habitat Management: Promote multi-national approaches to management and address issues affecting transboundary-coastal marine ecosystems																											
<i>Mergui Archipelago</i>																											
1. Establish management framework (Executive, Advisory Group, Technical WGs) in accordance with recent stakeholder WS recommendations																											
2. Undertake inventory; produce a resource users map. Ecological, socio-economics info Small scale projects / capacity building. O= report																											
3. Meeting of the MA Advisory Group to review information. O= Advisory document																											
4. Meeting of the MA Executive. –O=draft Bi-national Mgt plan (participants from all countries).																											
<i>Gulf of Mannar</i>																											
5. Proposal for work to scope and identify partners to lead the process. O=report																											
6. Workshops (3) O=reports																											
7. IUCN /SRL Univ / MFF work – continue to support capacity building and environmental awareness indicatives. O=report																											
8. Disseminate Resource mapping information produced by NARA																											
<i>Sundarbans</i>																											
9. Review by NCs/NTAs on current/previous work and identify where project can contribute to existing initiatives. O=report																											
10. Support work from above (e.g. policy harmonisation; lessons learnt; bi-lateral management). IUCN could also be a partner. WorldFish Centre. O=report																											
<i>Malacca Straits</i>																											
11. Review by NCs/NTAs on current/previous work; identify where project can contribute (e.g. in pollution management). O=report INS / MAL / THA NCs to make a proposal for possible work. Focus on existing mechanisms O=report. MIMA and Universities are possible partners. GEF-IMO – marine electronic highway – reduce oil spill. Modelling has been completed – results at end of year.																											
<i>Small Islands</i>																											
12. Review by NCs/NTAs and proposals for areas of work with respect to small island management. ICRI could be a partner. O=report																											
Component 3: Improved Understanding and Predictability of the BOBLME Environment																											
																2011											
																J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Subcomponent 3.1 Improved Understanding of Large-scale Processes and Dynamics affecting the BOBLME																											
1. Large Grid monitoring system – contribute to BOB sensor array by providing equipment (biogeochemical sensors. And possibly dipole research.																											
2. Support relevant studies on hypoxic zones To be explored by RCU in conjunction with IOGOOS																											
3. Support to countries with respect to participation in IOGOOS																											
4. Inclusion of environmental information in stock assessments (relevant to 2.3)																											
5. Support studies on effects of climate change on the BOB. E.g. What will the data being collected tell us about the BOB. E.g. water temperature / Monsoon timing. Effects on fisheries (especially hilsa and Indian mackerel, sharks). Build on the WorldFish Report on projecting what will happen. O=reports																											
6. Training with SEAGOOS and IOGOOS to build up oceanographic capability. E.g. onboard training (SACEP initiative / SEAFDEC vessel / Apply for RV Nansen to come to BOB ?). O=reports																											
7. Meeting of the Oceanography WG. O=Meeting report																											
8. Study on the Influence of Malacca Strait on Mergui Archipelago – develop a proposal, building on GEF-IMO work (also relevant to 2.4). O=proposal																											
Subcomponent 3.2 Marine Protected Areas in the Conservation of Regional Fish Stocks																											
[moving fwd from the January 2011 workshop]																											
1. MPA managers WG meeting: NC's Each country nominate 1-2 sites for BOBLME support (wrt review, implementation of best practices, monitoring using FAO Guidelines) and validate a selection of MPAs of Transboundary interest i.e. that generate important ecosystem processes for BOB. This is capacity building and develops a framework for the better management of MPAs and contributes to the better selection of MPAs in the future																											







Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand are working together through the Bay of Bengal Large Marine Ecosystem (BOBLME) Project and to lay the foundations for a coordinated programme of action designed to improve the lives of the coastal populations through improved regional management of the Bay of Bengal environment and its fisheries.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is the implementing agency for the BOBLME Project.

The Project is funded principally by the Global Environment Facility (GEF), Norway, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, the FAO, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the USA.

For more information, please visit [www.boblme.org](http://www.boblme.org)



Sida



Norad

